

Cabinet Lead Reports – Full Council 11 July 2018

Councillor Michael Wilson

Leader of the Council

Corporate Strategy

I have been working closely with the Management Team to liaise with Hampshire County Council on their work to develop a vision to 2050. You may have seen this in the press recently. I have asked the Leader of Hampshire County Council for HBC to be involved and I am looking forward to those discussions. I wish to ensure that our Borough is fully engaged in the work of the County Council to reflect our strategy for Havant within the resulting report.

Members will be aware that we currently have a rolling Business Plan to 2020, which was devised under the previous administration. As part of the changes to reflect the current Cabinet's vision for the future, we shall have a Cabinet Strategy day on the 11th July comprising Cabinet, Chief Executive and Management Board members. The purpose is to begin the annual review of the current 5-year rolling Business Plan and the Medium Term Financial Strategy to be extended to 2020/2023. This strategy day will inform the annual Autumn round of Business Planning for 2019-20.

External Relations, (including my role as PUSH, HIOWLA and Solent LEP representative for HBC)

I am keen to build on existing relationships with neighbouring Authorities and key key local organisations. With this in mind I have a series of meetings, either set up or in process, including the following organisations:

- Health Organisations such as the Clinical Commission Groups
- Chairman of PUSH
- Solent Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)
- Our Local Colleges
- Police and Crime Commissioner
- Local businesses
- Key Community Groups

I attended the Annual meeting of the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) Leaders on 5th June 2018. Key items discussed were the following: -

- PUSH Co-ordinators report
- PUSH Budget Report
- Integrated Water Management Study
- Hampshire Branch Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE Hampshire)

I have subsequently written to Councillor Woodward, the Chairman of the meeting in order to emphasise Havant Borough's strong drive for economic

growth and a successful business environment for existing and new companies. I am looking forward to expanding on this when I meet the Chairman of PUSH in due course.

On 15th June I attended the Hampshire & Isle of Wight (H&IOW) Local Government Association AGM. Items on the agenda included:

- Hampshire Waste Partnership – a key issue of policy and debate in the coming months across all Hampshire Leaders given the changes in the market globally as well as the pressures to improve all Hampshire's position in recycling statistics.
- New Statutory Guidance on Corporate Parenting for Care Leavers – I am in discussion with the Chief Finance Officer how Havant Borough is able to provide additional support to care leavers within the Borough, being mindful of our statutory obligations.
- Business Rate Pilot – Our Chief Finance Officer has already undertaken some work in discussion with other S151 Officers across Hampshire with a view to bidding to Government for participation. This could return some financial benefits to the authorities involved and participants in a successful bid for a pilot have been guaranteed that they will not be worse off than their current return from the current income stream.
- The Association's Annual Report and Action Plan 2017/18, Budget Report and Subscriptions 2018/19 and the Appointments to Outside Bodies Report

Corporate Performance

Cabinet Leads will be compiling information regarding the performance across their portfolios having regard to the Corporate Business Plan. I am mindful of the importance of adhering to the Corporate Business Plan, particularly to maintain sound financial management and, as Leader, I am working with the Chief Executive to review the quarterly 'Healthchecks' that provide a clear overview of the organisation's performance. I refer you to the financial health checks which are distributed through the Councillor newsletters each quarter. I am aware that the Chief Finance Officer has been busy working on the End of Year (2017-18) accounts with our new Finance provider, Capita and our external auditors Ernst and Young. The new Governance Audit and Finance Board have already considered the first draft of this work.

Local Plan 2036 and Regeneration

The preparation of a new Local Plan for the Borough remains a key corporate priority and significant progress has been made. The next formal stage in the plan's preparation, the pre-submission consultation, will be considered by Cabinet in January 2019. There is more detail in the Cabinet Lead's update for Planning and Place-Making.

In looking to push forward with the regeneration of key sites in the Draft Local Plan, including the Borough's town centres and Hayling Island seafront, a new senior management structure has been put in place. A new 'Head of

Regeneration' post is in place to drive forward the development of these key sites which are central to the Borough's regeneration and future economic growth. The Planning Service is now managed by a joint Head of Planning with East Hampshire District Council.

The Deputy Leader, Councillor Tim Pike is taking the democratic and strategic policy lead for this work. The greatest challenge for the regeneration of these four areas will be to create viable schemes in light of increasing build costs compared to relatively low sales values. Securing a development partner who will deliver what we need will be a challenge in this market. This will mean that as a Council we will need to positively intervene and invest our resources in the Borough to shape it into a place fit for the future of our communities.

'You're a Star' – I was delighted to be involved in this quarterly event that recognises paid staff of the Council who have 'gone the extra mile' in their work and delivered excellence. The next 'You're a Star' event will be held on 3rd September to recognise staff who excel in performance. It is open to Councillors to nominate members of staff. The democratic services team can assist you with the relevant forms for nominations.

Other events attended as Leader

I was very pleased to be involved in the flag raising ceremony to mark this year's Armed Forces Day was held on Monday 25th June. The service was led by the Mayor with representatives from our armed forces, veterans, cadets, fellow councillors and members of the public who had gathered outside the Plaza. The ceremony was well attended and appreciated by all.

St George's flag raising – I was asked to raise the flag of St George outside the Plaza on 3rd July, to mark England's football team getting through to the World Cup 2018; it clearly assisted them getting through to the last 16. This was filmed and posted onto HBC's Facebook page on the morning of England's first knockout match since 2010.

Shortly after my election I was invited to speak at Warblington Residents Association AGM. I regularly attend the Hayling Island Residents Association and I am looking forward to talking to residents at the various Associations across the Borough.