

Cabinet Lead Reports – Full Council 26th September 2018

Councillor Michael Wilson - Leader of the Council

Corporate Strategy

Since the last Cabinet Meeting the Cabinet and Chief Executive and Directors have met to discuss the evolution of the Corporate Strategy; as you are aware there is now a renewed focus on regeneration and we are progressing the regeneration strategy, recognising the need for us to play a greater role rather than leaving leadership and investment provision to the private sector.

Devolution

The issue of devolution or combine authorities has re-emerged over the summer. This appears to be very much communities rather than treasury lead this time. A meeting between Solent Leaders and Jake Berry MP Parliamentary Undersecretary of State for the Northern Powerhouse and Local Growth was illuminating: the Minister indicated that the Government were looking for an industrial strategy as a centrepiece of any combined authority deal and reinforced the value placed upon the LEPs as a vehicle for investment. Whilst there could be a significant fund for infrastructure in the region there are no plans for greater powers or autonomy to be devolved to the regions.

External Relations

Continuing my series of meetings with key partners in the region, I met with the new Leader of Portsmouth City Council, Gerald Vernon-Jackson and his CEO together with Sandy Hopkins and the Deputy Leader. We identified key areas where we could work together for the benefit of our residents particularly where our authorities and jurisdiction overlap. I look forward to putting that goodwill into practice. Key discussions concerned our vision for the regeneration of Havant, the Local Plan 2036 and its implications and the possibilities for Leigh Park housing and the impact of changes to the retail market in the region.

I also met with Roy Perry, Leader of Hampshire County Council and his CEO. The meeting reinforced our strong ties and commitment to working in close partnership.

HIOW LGA

The next meeting of Leaders at the Hampshire & Isle of Wight (H&IOW) Local Government Association takes place on 21st September.

The following items are on the agenda:

- Demise of RSG, New Homes Bonus and the NNDR
- Lord Gary Porter, Chair of LGA attending

- Implications for all Planning Authorities of the new NPPF6.
- District and Unitary Councils Taxi Licensing Standards
- Combined Fire Authority Consultation

You're A Star

On 10th September I attended my second You're A Star award ceremony. 14 members of staff received a nomination for this quarter providing an insight to me of the work over and above expectations provided by staff to this Council and residents. I was impressed by the variety of ways in which staff have excelled and progressed their own initiatives; well done all.