

Cabinet Lead Report – Council 10 December 2014

Councillor Mike Cheshire: Leader's Report & Finance

Finance: The Budget round is on track with all Departments looking at their requirements for the next municipal year. Once again, HBC will be adopting a “zero based budgeting” approach, which for the uninitiated means that each budget line is re-evaluated thoroughly, starting from a zero base.

Corporate Strategy: Our Corporate Strategy (2012 – 2017) with its three main strategic priorities of Financial Sustainability, Economic Growth and Public Service Excellence remains our focus. However, as we move towards 2015 and further, we are going to be reviewing our Strategic vision, particularly with the concept of Devolution to English Areas as a result of the recent Scottish Devolution arrangements. Clearly, our relationships with Hampshire CC, PUSH, the Solent LEP and all of our partnering arrangements will need to be taken into account as this issue moves on a pace. I will be making sure that whatever new devolutions are put forward, I will always ensure that Havant will get the best deal possible, and I will, of course, keep Council informed.

Partnerships: The partnerships that Havant are involved with are working well. Council should be aware that when partnering contracts come up for refresh or renewal, they will be scrutinized fully to ensure they are still effective and fit for purpose providing the best deal for Havant residents within the context of our 3 main strategic priorities. It is my intention to review my Chairmanship of the Safer Havant Partnership and place on the Police and Crime Commissioner's Panel, with a view to delegating that responsibility elsewhere.