



Cabinet Member Report for Deputy Leader of the Council

Northampton Borough Council

24th April 2017

As Deputy Leader of the Council, I have been continuing to support the Leader and Cabinet colleagues across a variety of areas within the council, and can report on some of my specific responsibilities as below.

Market

Options to reconfigure the Market Stalls are currently being drawn up and will be presented to the new Sub Group when they are complete. There will then be full consultation with all Traders before any decision is made on which option to take forward for implementation.

A meeting of the Market Advisory Group will be arranged for June 2017

Councillor Training

The Councillor Development Group met on 22nd March, when we reviewed the recent training sessions. The following is the ongoing programme of events at the time of writing:

- **26/04/17 – Social Media Training** open to all Councillors. Two sessions one at 2.00 pm and the other at 6.00 pm. Provided by an external training provider.
- **24/05/17 - Dementia Friends Information Session** open to all Councillors. Two identical 2 hour sessions, one at 2.00 pm and one at 6.00 pm. To be delivered by Louise Musson
- **29/06/17 - Safeguarding Refresher** open to all Councillors. Two identical 2 hour sessions, one at 2.00 pm and one at 6.00 pm. To be delivered by Phil Harris.
- **17/07/17 - Performance Management** open to all Councillors. Two identical 1 hour sessions, one at 2.00 pm and one at 6.00 pm. To be delivered by Alice Turrell.

Further details regarding these sessions, all of which will be held in the Jeffery Room, can be obtained from Tracy Tiff.

Members are asked to register to attend these events with Tracy Tiff as soon as possible.

The following further topics for training were suggested and will be pursued:

- Audit training, when appropriate
- Further Personal Safety for Councillors

- Universal Credit
- Dementia Friendly Town
- Social Lettings Agency
- Section 106 Agreements and what they deliver

All Members are being asked through their individual groups for any further needs or ideas they have for further / future training and I would urge all Members to respond to this.

Sports Clubs

I have recently met with Sileby Rangers FC at Fernie Fields, and, along with Councillor Duffy, Thorplands Club 81. Sileby Rangers have needs with regard to the standard of their facilities while Thorplands Club 81 needs a permanent home with proper facilities. I'm working with Officers and colleagues to see how we can work with these valued and popular Clubs to help them meet their various needs.

Scrutiny

There are no Cabinet responses to Scrutiny Reports currently outstanding. Cabinet considered its response to the following report at its meeting on 15th March:

- Match Day Parking

Cabinet recommended that a Working Group be established, led by NBC, in partnership with NCC as the lead transport authority, to assess the recommendations made by O&S Group and their implementation where appropriate. This will be set up in the near future and include relevant Councillors.

A Scrutiny Planning event was held on 6th April. Unfortunately I was unable to attend, but I believe that the outcome of the event is a very good and relevant programme of work for 2017/18

Street Lighting

The first meeting of the Officer / Member Working Group took place on 7th March. Minutes of the meeting are available.

The priority is to establish a complete and accurate asset register of NBC / NPH owned street lights. The Working Group will consider how best to achieve this at its next meeting. When the timescale for completing the register is known, it may be necessary to review the timescale for the Working Group to deliver its required outcome.

All Members, Parish Councils, Residents Associations and the BID's will be contacted to ask if they know of or have any problems with street lights that are or may be NBC owned in their respective areas.

Tourism

Tourism is an important aspect of the town's economy.

I was pleased to attend the launch of Northamptonshire – Britain's Best Surprise on 27th March. This initiative, led by the County's Lieutenancy, is promoting the County as a tourist destination. It is promoting many tourist venues in Northampton, e.g. our parks, museums, festivals, churches, theatres, major sports clubs, Delapre Abbey, and 78 Derngate etc. I would urge members to visit <http://www.northamptonshiresurprise.com/> I will work with this new organisation to promote our town as a major tourist destination within the County.

I was also pleased to attend the Nene Valley Annual Stakeholder event, organised by Destination Nene Valley, at Delapre Abbey on 29th March. This organisation promotes the Nene Valley, from Northampton to Peterborough, as a tourist destination. It also promotes many tourist venues and events in Northampton. See <http://www.nenevalley.net/>

This was an excellent opportunity to showcase the renovated Abbey and its wonderful facilities. The Leader of the Council welcomed those attending the event and talked about the restoration of the Abbey.

Councillor Phil Larratt

Deputy Leader of the Council