

Executive Annual Report 2016/17

Councillor Darren Clifford

**Cabinet Member and Portfolio Holder with Responsibility for Leisure,
Culture and Tourism and Climate Change**

Executive Membership

- Cabinet
- Museums Cabinet Liaison Group (Chairman)

Executive Appointments to Outside Bodies etc

- Health and Wellbeing Partnership (Substitute)
- LGA Coastal Issues Special Interest Group
- Museums Advisory Forum

Overview of Portfolio Responsibilities

Responsibility for Leisure, Culture and Tourism and Climate Change.

Corporate Plan Key Outcomes/Success Measures

Corporate Plan - Key Outcomes	Success Measures
The impact on the environment from Council operations and services will be minimised.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintain and / or improve average Standard Assessment Procedure (SAP) rating in Council homes.• Implement programme of energy efficiency works in Council buildings.• Reduce business travel mileage across all Council services.• Maintain percentage of household waste reused, recycled or composted.
Sustainable economic growth and jobs will be created in key sectors, including energy,	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Determine Lancaster district's contribution to the emerging concept of the Northern Powerhouse.

<p>knowledge, health and the visitor economy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realise benefits to the Lancaster district of a combined authority for Lancashire. • Achieve the annual requirement for the availability of land for housing development. • Improve local conditions for business growth and skills development. • Sustain small businesses as important components of thriving retail centres.
<p>The attractiveness and offer of the district as a place to visit or invest in will be improved.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance Lancaster's urban centre through investment in the built environment, heritage assets and the public realm. • Improve inward investment through the attractiveness of the district as a place to live and work. • Evaluate economic impact, delivery and funding of the arts in the district.
<p>Lancaster and Morecambe Bay will be recognised as important visitor destinations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt visitor destination management plans for Lancaster and Morecambe Bay. • Increase the number of visitors to the district. • Increase visitor spend in the district. • Complete a detailed feasibility study of the potential to improve the quality and sustainability of the city's museums.

Progress made during 2016/17

Following approval at Full Council in March 2016 the following works have been completed at Salt Ayre Leisure Centre which form part of the £5m development project:

Redesign and new façade to main entrance including revolving door; Redesign and refurbishment of café area including new furniture; Provision of new kitchen

facilities; Refurbishment of changing rooms and toilets; Refurbishment of sports hall; Provision of new indoor play facility 'Energy'; Provision of new indoor climbing facility 'XHeight'; New fitness suite including 100 items of fitness equipment; New Immersive Spinning Studio – only Council operated facility in UK.

There are also functional training studio scheduled to open May 2017. New build of outdoor high tower 'Gravity' – first of it's kind in Europe. Spa build – due for completion in Sept this year. Outdoor fitness and family area – due to open Autumn 2017. New Customer Relationship Management system.

The project continues to be managed within budget and to scheduled timescales by officers from within City Council and the Development Partner, Alliance Leisure. Work has progressed with minimal disruption to core service where possible and has seen a transformation on a scale that has received national recognition in leisure journals.

The site is now regularly visited by Leisure organisations throughout the UK both public and private and is seen as an exemplar by both Development Partner (Alliance Leisure) and equipment providers – Precor (Fitness), Play Revolution (Play), Hangfast (Indoor climbing and High Tower) and Immersive Spinning (Les Mills).

The demographic of users is now as diverse as it could possibly be with people of all ages and abilities making use of the now excellent facilities at affordable prices. The success of Energy, XHeight and Gravity now includes for people visiting the Leisure Centre from outside the District and it is envisaged that this will only increase with the opening of the Spa facility in September of this year.

Active Lives Project

The new project has been operational for seven months having successfully tendered for a circa £200k project with Public Health. Weight management and working with children are part of the new project along with increasing physical activity for the wider community.

A new self referral scheme is also on offer to encourage people to be more active.

The project sees the team providing services outside of the leisure centre using community assets such as community centres and health centres.

Working with a range of partners including GP's, CCG, Better Care together, Wellbeing workers, NHS, school nurses and the CVS, to name but a few, the project helps people access additional services along with those services referring clients into our programmes to provide a holistic approach to lifestyle and behavioural change.

Using the new facilities at Salt Ayre has enabled over-weight children to exercise in a fun and challenging setting rather than traditional exercise sessions.

One to one lifestyle assessments, weight management classes, a range of exercise classes for all ages / abilities and health walks form part of the scheme to make Lancaster a healthier district.

Disability Sport

Salt Ayre Leisure Centre is the home of disability sport.

The centre offers:-

2 adapted cycling sessions that have around 30 attendances at each session

1 Multi sport session

A disability football session and a team that takes part in competitions

Wheel Chair Basketball team the Lancaster Bulldogs call Salt Ayre home. Since moving here they have been National league Division 3 winners gaining promotion.

Salt Ayre is also home to the Lancashire School Games Disability Swimming Gala which has around 150 competitors from special schools across the county

Swimming Lessons

This area continues to grow with major relaunch due for September 2017 where we intend to run lessons all year round and parents will be able to pay via direct debit and get instant progress reports via an online portal.

Currently there are 245 on the programme (220 last year) with 24 one – one lessons taking place. We now also have some adults on the programme for the first time in over 2 years.

Gymnastics

Salt Ayre Gymnastics continues to go from strength to strength. Over 450 children are now enrolled on the programme.

The Gymnasts now travel to competitions and have been very successful bring back lots of trophies and medal at all ages and all disciplines.

We had our annual display at Lancaster University this year due to the redevelopment. This worked very well with over 700 spectators over the 2 shows.

School sport partnership

Salt Ayre is a key partner within the partnership. We host the annual conference for all the P.E leads from all the schools within the district.

We also host then leadership conference for all the schools young leaders

We provide the facility for the annual sports festival in May which see around 800 young people taking part in a variety of sports and fun activities.

As part of the partnership we offer reduced rates for school to access the new facilities as an incetive to keep working with the partnership to improve school sport and physical activity levels

XHeight / Energy / Gravity group bookings

The Business Development Manager has secured a number of additional group booking for the new facilities over and above the general public access.

Uniformed groups including Rainbows, brownies, scouts, cubs, explorer, and guides have used the facilities

Nursery's, special schools, and local businesses have also used the facilities and this is an area of expected growth as we develop a team building offer.

Festivals

The council continues to support festivals through not only core funding but also advice, expertise and logistics support from a team of highly skilled professionals who work closely with our partners across the district. These efforts were recognised this year at the Marketing Lancashire Awards where the Vintage Festival won the best large festival accolade.

Climate Change

Our energy efficiency programme continues across our property portfolio. County Council are due to install 15 on street electric vehicle charging points this year and we will be installing off street infrastructure to complement this. We will continue to keep a watching brief on the financial viability of a solar farm at Middleton.