

Executive Annual Report 2014/15

Councillor David Smith

**Portfolio Holder for Environmental Services – Community Safety
and Clean & Green**

Executive Membership

- Cabinet

Executive Appointments to Outside Bodies etc

- Lancashire Waste Partnership
- Community Safety Partnership

Overview of Portfolio Responsibilities

Environmental Services Community Safety Clean and Green

Corporate Plan Key Outcomes/Success Measures:

Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Impact of crime and anti-social behaviour across the district will be minimised• The Council's impact on the environment will be minimised

Success Measures
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work with the Police and Community Safety Partners to minimise the impact of crime and anti-social behaviour• Reduce hate crime and the fear of crime felt by minority communities• Amount of household waste reused, recycled or composted is maintained• Increase income from energy and recycling projects• Perception of people who live in, work in, or visit the district that streets and public spaces are safe and clean is increased• increased number of projects that directly involve local communities in improving local areas, parks and open spaces

Progress made during 2014/15

- In 2013/14 42.5% of all household waste in the District was reused, recycled or composted. This was a 1.7% increase on the previous year. In 2009/10 this figure was 35.86%. Lancashire wide reuse, recycling, composting statistics for 13/14 are below. In terms of the waste hierarchy of reduce, reuse, recycle what is especially significant is the Lancaster performs well in terms of amount of residual waste collected per head and the amount recycled.

	Residual per capita (kg)	Recycling rate %
South Ribble	193.3	50.5
Fylde	206.6	49.5
Wyre	202.2	49.2
Chorley	199.9	48.7
West Lancs	227.6	43.3
Lancaster	200.7	42.5
Preston	211.7	38.5
Ribble Valley	235.4	37.6
Pendle	231.7	36.7
Hyndburn	193.1	34.5
Burnley	224.6	32.7
Rossendale	238.6	32.1
WDA		
Blackburn with Darwen	225.6	40.1
Blackpool	261	41.1
Lancashire	231.1	47.4

- The key findings of the 2013 Living in Lancashire Survey (a pan Lancashire survey) were-
 - When asked how satisfied or dissatisfied respondents are with aspects of their local area, they are most likely to be satisfied with access to green areas (79%), with the cleanliness of the streets and pavements in their local area (62%), and the appearance of the buildings (61%).
 - Just under nine out of every ten respondents (87%) consider their local area to be safe, with only one in ten (11%) considering it to be unsafe.

- Of those respondents who consider their local area to be safe, the most common reasons given for this response are: having a good community or neighbours (26%), a low level of crime (15%) and living in a quiet area without trouble or crime (15%).
- Of those respondents who consider their local area to be unsafe, the most common reasons given for this response are: anti-social behaviour (52%), experience of crime (12%) and bad street conditions (9%).
- Four-fifths of respondents (81%) say that anti-social behaviour isn't a problem in their local area.
- Respondents are most likely to think that dangerous driving (42%) and rubbish or litter are problems in their local area (31%).
- More than half of respondents feel that the level of crime in their own area is better compared to both the UK and other areas of Lancashire (52% and 50% respectively).
- Just over a third of respondents (36%) believe that people using or dealing drugs is a problem in their area.
- In regard to the root causes of crime, respondents were most likely to say that drugs (81%) and alcohol (74%) are a problem.
- Just under two-thirds of respondents (63%) agree that crime is dealt with successfully by the police and other local public services, and over half of respondents (56%) agree that anti-social behaviour also is dealt with successfully.
- Almost nine out of every ten respondents (89%) say that they would report crime and anti-social behaviour to the police.

- Four-fifths of respondents (79%) disagree that offenders get tough enough sentences.
- In 2014/15 Reports were considered by Cabinet on the future of the Storey Gardens and the Happy Mount Park Masterplan. The decisions in both cases were significantly influenced by the views of local communities and 'Friends of' groups.
- A number of improvement projects were delivered in local parks and open space which were directly supported by Friends of Groups- eg Regent Park, Williamson Park, Ryelands Park, Happy Mount Park, Langridge Play Area.
- The Council continued its financial support of PCSOs, CCTV and a Lancashire wide project to reduce Domestic Violence
- The Community Safety Partnership continued to focus on safety priorities for the District.
- The Council signed up to the Lancashire Community Safety Agreement.
- The Council launched the Community Trigger process is reviewed at the Community Safety Partnership Executive Meeting on a Quarterly basis.
- The Community Safety Partnership continued to oversee the funding process for projects that tackle priorities in the district.
- The restructure of how the City Council's public realm functions are delivered was implemented. This generated cash savings for the Council but also enables the Council to deliver it's frontline services like cleansing, grounds maintenance, highways maintenance in a more efficient way.
- Based on the fact that the financial future for Local Government is bleak work is taking place to review how services are delivered with a view to bringing forward options for savings that can contribute to the 2016/17 budget and onwards. Work is also taking place to establish exactly what the impact of County's savings proposals will be especially with regard to the £1.2 million/ yr contribution to waste collection costs that County will no longer provide from 2017/18. This will be fed into the ongoing budget process and MTFS.

Finally.

A busy year for everyone concerned. It is very difficult meeting the expectations of the residents of the district at a time of reduced finance and more responsibilities and demands.

I would like to thank fellow councillors for their understanding when we can't always accede to their requests for assistance in their wards.

Direct services underwent a restructure last year. It is a tribute to everyone concerned how smooth the transition was.

Finally a thank you to Mark Davies and all officers and staff at L.C.C. For their help and advice over the past municipal year.