

Executive Annual Report 2017/18

Councillor Margaret Pattison

Cabinet Member and Portfolio Holder with responsibility for Markets, Voluntary Sector, Older People and Rural Affairs



Executive Membership

- Cabinet
- Planning Policy Cabinet Liaison Group

Executive Appointments to Outside Bodies etc

- Lancaster Community Fund Grants Panel
- Yorkshire Dales National Park Board

Overview of Portfolio Responsibilities

Responsibility for Markets, Voluntary Sector, Older People and Rural Affairs

Corporate Plan Key Outcomes/Success Measures

Outcomes	Success Measures
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Communities are brought together and the major issues affecting the district are addressed through working in partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Determine the future delivery and funding of voluntary, community and faith sector services groups• Improve performance and effectiveness of partnerships in delivering corporate priorities• Improve neighbourhood working by engaging with communities to understand their needs and build resilience

Progress made during 2017/18

Older People

This has been an interesting and enjoyable year with Older People's Portfolio working and supporting so many different groups in the Morecambe, Lancaster District. I have been invited to attend so many groups and Parish Councils tackling loneliness, isolation and safety in the home, media safety right through to keeping fit over 50s.

Last May I organised a football match between my team, Lancaster and Morecambe Bay Rovers, and a team from Liverpool Sefton, men over 45years, this was great fun bringing lots of people together raising £1.334 for Defying Dementia, research into Dementia as there are 105 different forms of Dementia.

I am part of the Elected Member Champions Network contributing to the lives of Older People to maintain independence, support their rights to services, whilst feeling safe and

well in their community. This has connections in and outside the home for example:- Jo Cox Loneliness Commission, Cyber Security in Later Life, Lancashire Skills and Employment Hub-Value of Older Workers, Safe Trader Scheme, Health and Fitness advice in later life.

I am honoured to be part of “The Bay Dementia Hub” which is held on the first Friday in the month, with lots of help and advice in one room from solicitors to help with home care; Age UK, the Pension group, A Life More Ordinary at the Dukes Theatre, N Compass, Samaritans and many more.

I will be hosting the Elected Members Champions Network on March 21st 2018 at Lancaster Town Hall inviting elected members from around the Northwest, sharing good practice with what we do in our beautiful area. My speakers will be Dr Andy Knox from Ashtrees Surgery Carnforth, N Compass Northwest, and myself jointly with Anne Oliver from Age UK Lancashire. We will talk about the fantastic day we had at Lancaster Town Hall last November concentrating on “Loneliness.” That day was very well organised by Jenny Kay and Stephen Metcalfe, with lots of stalls of different servers and schools attending with elected councillors. The day started early with BBC Radio Lancashire broadcasting live from Lancaster Town Hall. They interviewed myself about how I tackle loneliness and isolation in my ward, they also interviewed Nia from Galloways and Anne Oliver From Age UK Lancashire. Thank you to everyone involved.

Lancaster City Council are very proud of the over 50s housing. This year has seen the Government announcing another policy review and it will be publishing a green paper on care and support for older people in the summer of 2018. The paper will set out plans for how government proposes to improve care and support for older people and tackle the challenge of an ageing population. From my involvement with older people and organisations that support them there is a real challenge to find and fund a long term solution for care and support for older people to enable them to maintain their dignity and security in old age. The Council is still a major provider of sheltered housing accommodation with 575 units of accommodation and it is pleasing to report that the Council continues to maintain these services. The Council also has a larger stock of accommodation that can meet older people’s needs and we also provide adaptations both within the council housing and the wider housing stock in the district to help older people to live in their homes.

Markets.

The Council operates 3 Markets each with their own different feel. These are the Festival Market in Morecambe, the Assembly Rooms and the Charter Market in Lancaster. They provide the opportunity for independent traders to sell an eclectic range of products. Lancaster’s Charter Market is developing a reputation for its street food, as well as popular goods and products. The Assembly rooms provide affordable space, in a listed building, for smaller traders. The Festival Market is a traditional Market housed undercover and remains popular with residents and visitors. Rents at all the Markets are very reasonable and the cost of managing and staffing the Market is covered by income generated.

The prudential for Markets to attract visitors is recognised as is the need to ensure the balance with shop based businesses and other attractions.

As such Market Officers have spent the last few months visiting other Markets to learn from best practice. The intention is to use this learning to help develop options that could improve the Council's offering and compliment the wider development of Lancaster and Morecambe Centre. Work on the feasibility of these options, including engagement with traders, will take place in 2018/19.

Voluntary Sector

Our Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector commissioning grants will stay the status quo as set out by Cabinet, the steering group from Overview and Scrutiny will look at the grants again to see where there are any gaps.

I work alongside many fantastic voluntary groups supported with funding, and also get out there on our streets organising "Weed Our Street" with Heysham High students, councillors and local groups kindly helping us to make our area look clean and tidy. I am leading a group to transform 64 back alleys in the Morecambe area hopefully to make communal, safe areas making Morecambe blooming again working with the council and voluntary groups.

Rural Areas.

I feel very honoured to be on the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority.

Following the establishment of the National Park in 1954, the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority became an independent body, within the framework of local government in 1997. We provide some services similar to those provided elsewhere by district and county councils. For example, we are the local planning authority. Most of the things we do, however, are particular to national park authorities.

Our Purposes.

Our role is clearly defined in Parliament by our two statutory purposes. These are:

- to conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the National Park.
- to promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the area by the public.
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In pursuing these purposes, we are also required:

- to seek to foster the economic and social well-being of local communities within the National Park.

To sum up, we are here to conserve and enhance the National Park and to help others to share in and enjoy it.