

Executive Annual Report 2018/19

Councillor Margaret Pattison

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

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 Areas

Progress made during 2018/19

I feel so privileged to have served on Lancaster City Council Cabinet for the last 4 years and have visited and attended lots of different groups and networks over the last year.

Markets

Officers are working at how our markets can be best developed to complement our wider strategic plans. This includes looking at examples of best practice. A visit to Altrincham recently took place to see the now thriving market and gain an understanding of what led to its rejuvenation.

Voluntary Sector

Lancaster City Council do an amazing job supporting local small groups through the Community Foundation For Lancashire Funding, which supports projects which are key to creating a stronger, more resilient and vibrant community with long-term benefits to local people.

Last year I was asked to present staff awards at the City Council's "Celebrate Success" Event and was honoured to present an award to Environmental Health. Congratulations!

We are now on our second "Alley Project" working alongside lots of volunteer groups to transform the back alley of houses into communal gardens. The first alley we managed to paint walls white with the permission of the residents. Lancaster And Morecambe College, The Prop Up Project, The Cove and many more volunteers enjoyed painting artwork on the walls, making a bench, painting rocks, lots of lovely hand-made waterproof artwork and Community Payback kindly cleared the alley and put chippings on the ground to make the alley look inviting for the local residents to enjoy all year round.

To attend Armed Forces Day on 30th July was very moving, a beautiful service at St Barnabas Church Morecambe.

Supporting Healthy Living in Morecambe - Morecambe Parkrun will be starting up very soon supported by their local GP Practice, the run will start from the Battery Morecambe 9am every Saturday. 700 GP Practices across the UK in partnership with their local parkrun to signpost, staff and patients to take part for a healthy lifestyle.

Morecambe Town Council was all in favour of the Defibrillator I applied for last year for North West Ambulance. Morecambe Town Council payed the £500 towards the cabinet for the Defibrillator which I was so proud of and has now been placed outside the GPS Surgery at the Battery Morecambe; people can now feel safe knowing these life-saving machines are around our Town.

Older People

Last March I was honoured to host the Older Peoples Network at Lancaster Town Hall working alongside our network organiser David Halpin and Janet, Jenny Kay and the team from Lancaster City Council. Elected members from around the Northwest Elected Older Peoples Champions shared good practice. My speakers where Dr Andy Knox from Ashtrees Surgery Carnforth, who spoke about "living well" and "dying well". N Compass Northwest who care for

carers, and myself jointly with Anne Oliver from Age UK Lancashire spoke about tackling "Isolation and loneliness." This was a successful day with our leader Cllr Eileen Blamire speaking about her husband's experience living in care, which was very moving, thank you Eileen.

We have held Older Peoples networks throughout the Northwest which I have Chaired for the year. I was so happy to cover lots of projects with officers and Councillors, Public Health Medicine, Action Together, Ambition for Ageing and Miles Of Smiles, Safety in the Home, Safety Online, Safe Traders, Sefton Illustrative Good Practice, Sefton Older Peoples Forum, Age Friendly Network and World Health Organisation Global Network, Healthy living in later life.

Older Peoples Housing.

Final refurbishment will be completed at the end of March at Ripley Court. The project has converted bedsit flats into one bedroom accommodation and has greatly improved the living space for these units.

Work has started on site at Parkside Court to convert the old Scheme Manager's house into flats, and will continue with similar conversions at Melling House and Beck View.

We have improved our void performance in sheltered stock alongside our overall performance for re-letting our properties more quickly. We are ensuring that sheltered accommodation is matched to applicants who will benefit from the support of a scheme manager alongside the reassurance of the Lifeline system by ensuring that all applicants have an informed meeting with the scheme manager before they sign up to make sure it is the right move for them.

We will be starting to look at an upgrade to our Lifeline System during 19/20. This will upgrade the service to digital which should provide access to many improvements and enable team managers to have more options for keeping in contact with tenants via their telephone and tablets if they choose, as well as maintaining reassurance visits. We are looking to agree three pilot upgrades initially.

Our scooter store at Melling house has been popular and addressed many issues with limited space for residents. This has helped to maintain the independence of residents who would not otherwise have space for a scooter.

I am still proud to support "The Bay Dementia Hub" the first Friday of each month catering for anyone and their families and carers diagnosed with any illness.

Thank you to everyone involved for all their great work giving vital advice.

I was proud to support ALMO (A Life More Ordinary) supporting people with Dementia, showing old fashion films in a relaxed atmosphere.

It is lovely to see we are teaching sign language to young children through the CBeebies children's programme, Mr Tumble as everyone will know who have young children, this is fantastic for people with hearing problems to communicate.

Rural Areas

Arnside & Silverdale AONB

- The AONB Partnership have reviewed the 5-year statutory AONB Management Plan on behalf of the four responsible local authorities and produced a new plan for 2019-24 informed by extensive public consultation
- The AONB Partnership have played a key role in supporting the development of the AONB Development Plan Document, which has been prepared jointly by the City Council and South Lakeland District Council
- The AONB Partnership continues to provide landscape-related planning advice to both LCC and SLDC, reviewing 209 planning applications and providing comments on 77
- 2 woodland family fun days attracted over 200 people

"The children came last year with their grandparents. They haven't stopped talking about it, so this year we arranged our holiday so we could come too."

- 6 Land Art sessions at local Nature Reserve Trowbarrow attracted 82 people

"We liked playing in the forest and the walk through the forest. We haven't been to the AONB before."

- Completed a Geology Audit and Assessment with Natural England
- AONB Conference "The Geology of the Arnside & Silverdale AONB" attracted 102 delegates
- 1,727 Facebook followers, 2,936 Twitter followers and 30,000 unique visitors to the website

- AONB e-newsletter has 860 subscribers. An average of 60% of subscribers open the newsletter (compared with an industry average of 13.2%) and around 10% click links (compared with 1.5% industry average)
- AONB Partnership took part in Light Up Lancaster displaying bird lanterns and poetry in the Storey Gardens. To do the work we received £4,100 of Awards for All Lottery funding. Organised 11 participatory sessions with 90 schoolchildren from two local schools. A good number of the children who took part brought along their families to see the finished pieces of work displayed over the two nights of the festival
- Completed 56 practical volunteer tasks, amounting to 3,006 hours of volunteer time
- 1,281 face to face enquiries at the AONB office, and 705 people made telephone enquiries.