

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 28TH JUNE 2017**POSITION STATEMENT FROM THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL****Grenfell Tower Fire and Terrorist Attacks**

Since the last meeting of this Council we have gathered together on four occasions to stand in silent tribute to the victims of the three terrorist attacks in Manchester, on London Bridge, at Finsbury Park and for the residents of Grenfell Tower who lost their lives in that terrible tragedy.

It was heartening to see so many people across Leicestershire paying tributes and the many members of staff who joined the Chairman and I for the minute's silence.

The attacks in London and Manchester have no doubt put a significant strain on our communities but we cannot let these extremists divide us. We must come together, stay strong and support each other. Members as community leaders have a key role to play in engaging with all sections of the community they represent and foster and promote understanding.

The tragedy at Grenfell and the shocking loss of life has had a profound impact on all and we need to learn lessons from this. In my capacity as a County Council representative and Chairman of the Fire Authority I have asked the Chief Fire Officer to

- provide such support as we can to the London Fire Brigade;
- undertake a review to make sure that public, firefighter safety and protecting buildings are our top priorities;
- promote the fire prevention and protection message to all housing providers and local authorities and urge them review their fire safety measures.

Elections

I am of course disappointed with the results of the general election but pleased to see that Leicestershire returned all Conservative MPs.

The failure to secure an outright majority is already having implications for local government. The Queen's Speech yesterday did not include plans to abolish revenue support grant and hand local government 100% of business rates. What this means for local government funding after 2020 is uncertain though I am heartened to see the Government is to continue with the funding review. In this regard we will continue our campaign for fair funding and over the summer will be engaging with stakeholders and public so that we can gather support to press our case with

Government. I will be meeting with all Leicestershire MPs so that they are fully aware of our fair funding proposals and seeking their ongoing support for our campaign.

I hope we can get clarity soon on issues relating to social care and education funding so that we can begin to plan for the future.

MTFS and Transformation

The County Council continues to face a difficult financial position. Over the medium term the combination of an aging and growing population and static income is going to put us under increasing financial pressure that means we need to continue to save money. The current MTFS includes £66m of savings of which £23m have yet to be identified.

I have no doubt all members will wish to minimise the impact of savings on front line services. To do this we need to marshal all the resources of the County Council to make sure we make as well informed decisions as possible. I am therefore very pleased that Dr Eynon and the Labour group have agreed to re-join the Transformation Board. I don't expect we will agree all the time, but I expect they will make a valuable input to the important work the Board does.

The invitation to re-join remains open to the Liberal Democrats. I do hope they focus on the bigger picture rather than narrow party politics and re-consider their earlier decision to leave.

Rolls Royce Investment in Loughborough

I was delighted to be present earlier this month for the 'turf-cutting' for the new National Centre in Combustion and Aerothermal Technology at the Loughborough University Science and Enterprise Park (LUSEP). The National Centre, which has Rolls Royce as a lead partner, will put Loughborough and Leicestershire at the heart of aerospace engineering and technology development in the UK. It will, when it is operational from 2019, focus on the development of future low emission aerospace combustion systems that will reduce the environmental impact of aircraft. It is the latest exciting development at LUSEP which is already home to 2000 jobs and has ambitious plans to expand further.

The County Council has actively supported the development and expansion of LUSEP, including by investing £450,000 which facilitated the building of an Advanced Technology Innovation Centre, now fully occupied; by committing a further £1m to support future developments, and by supporting the designation of the Science and Enterprise Park as part of the new Loughborough and Leicester Enterprise Zone. I will continue to work with the University, LLEP, Government and local businesses to build on the successes to date so that we provide high quality jobs for the future in the county.

Transport for the East Midlands (TfEM) and Midlands Connect

The first meeting of TfEM took place on the 16th June 2017 here at County Hall. City Mayor Sir Peter Soulsby was elected as Chair and Richard Davies from Lincolnshire County Council was elected as Vice Chair.

TfEM brings together senior leaders from the region's local transport authorities. It will provide regional leadership on strategic transport issues for the East Midlands such as the future of the Midland Main Line, the A46 and HS2, develop and agree transport investment priorities, and provide collective input into the Midlands Connect initiative, the Department for Transport and its delivery bodies.

In March Midlands Connect launched its transport strategy to drive the Midlands Engine. The proposals have the potential to unlock £5 billion in untapped economic potential and contribute to the wider Midlands Engine target of creating 300,000 new jobs over the next two decades.

Key early priorities include:

- The 'Midlands Rail Hub', which will help release up to an extra 85,000 train seats across the network every day and allow up to ten extra trains an hour through central Birmingham – currently a key bottleneck limiting east-west rail movements.
- A package of improvements along the A46 corridor running across the Midlands from Tewkesbury to the Lincolnshire coast to support the manufacturing sector – starting with improvements around Newark.
- A package of improvements along the A52 corridor between Derby and Nottingham including access to the East Midlands HS2 Hub Station at Toton and East Midlands Airport - to be delivered by the end of the 2020's as a critical part of improving east-west connectivity.
- A series of improvements to help relieve traffic pressures across the heart of the Midlands motorway network, including the future roles of the A42 and A5 corridors in improving east and west links.
- Over-arching all the projects is an ambition to increase intelligent connectivity across the Midlands. This could involve smart and digital travel applications as well as trials for connected passenger and freight autonomous vehicles.

Over the next three years Midlands Connect will use £17 million of Government funding to undertake the planning and design work on early priorities. It will also draw up the business cases needed to pursue a rolling 25-year programme of transport infrastructure investment. This long term approach is aimed at giving much needed certainty to businesses, communities and investors, whilst also improving the quality of life and skills with improved access to new opportunities both within the Midlands and beyond.

Key benefits for Leicestershire could include:

- Smart motorway from J19 to J24
- Improvements to the A46 including consideration of a route to the south and east of Leicester to the M69 including a new J20a
- Rail improvements between Leicester and Coventry and Leicester and Birmingham
- Improvements to the A5
- Classic compatible rail services connecting Leicester to HS2
- Improved connectivity between East Midlands Gateway and HS2 at Toton
- Improvements to the A42

All Member Briefings

I have been at some myself but I am pleased with the feedback that new members in particular have found the series of All Member Briefings, which the officers have provided in recent weeks, to be helpful. If you have further feedback, would like something to be repeated or refreshed, or followed up in a particular way, please let Mo Seedat know.

I have asked for the next round of briefings starting in September to include Resilience and Regulatory Services, both of which are now within my own Cabinet portfolio. They are examples of the sort of vital services which the Council provides and which do not always receive a lot of attention. I am sure there will be considerable member interest in these briefings.

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 28 JUNE 2017

POSITION STATEMENT FROM THE CABINET LEAD MEMBER FOR HEALTH

HEALTH AND CARE INTEGRATION

2017/18 marks the third year of our health and care integration programme. The Better Care Fund plan and pooled budget that operates between the Council and the two County CCGs increases from £40m in 2016/17 to £52m in 2017/18, primarily due to the additional adult social care allocation announced by the Government in March.

We have the full support of all our health partners and the programme is fully aligned with the five year plan to transform health and care across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. We are increasingly working across LLR to provide care and support in a more consistent way which is easier to navigate for our citizens, communities, and professionals.

Some of the more exciting changes are being led by the Leicestershire health and care integration programme. These include:-

- The development and implementation of the **Lightbulb Housing Service** – an integrated housing support service which brings together, through one point of contact, a range of support such as aids and adaptations, energy advice, home safety and home maintenance to help people stay safe and independent. This is being rolled out across the whole of Leicestershire during 2017, starting with Blaby District which has been instrumental in the development of the service. Lightbulb also includes a hospital housing discharge scheme that serves the whole of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.
- The implementation of **Integrated Locality Teams** whereby community nurses, GP practice and social care staff work hand in hand to support the same cohort of people in their locality. This delivers truly multiagency care planning and improved care coordination in the community, keeping people at home for as long as possible.
- A new area of work called **Home First** that focuses on the further improvements needed to hospital discharge and reablement. A new integrated discharge team is being implemented from July at the University Hospitals of Leicester, with plans to deliver the same approach in our community and mental health sites later in the year.

- **Integrated Points of Access** - An opportunity to design a new, integrated call centre for community based care. We are working to bring together health and social care call centres currently operated by the City, County and Rutland Councils, Leicestershire Partnership Trust, and University Hospitals of Leicester. This will not only create a more consistent and efficient service but will also support other programmes such as Home First and the Integrated Locality Teams.
- **Integrated data** – having adopted the NHS number across health and social care records, we can now go on to develop a summary care record that can be linked, viewed and edited by both the NHS and County Council staff, helping all professionals involved in patient care to have access to the most up-to-date information. We are also implementing new tools and data sets to analyse the population and our health and care system as a whole, to inform the planning and commissioning of services in the future.

I am very proud of the progress we have made locally and would like to extend my thanks to all the partners who have given so much of their time and expertise to lead this work over the past two years.

The challenges we continue to face are considerable, given increasing demands and expectations on public services and our ageing population.

I am committed to driving further collaboration across the partnership in my role as Chair of the Leicestershire Health and Wellbeing Board, as this is where we will achieve the best outcomes for residents and the best value for the Leicestershire pound.

I would like to invite all members to the briefing on 3 July at 2.00pm where you will hear more details about this fantastic programme. We will have the opportunity then to expand on the presentation which had to be curtailed at the briefing on Monday 19 June.

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 28th JUNE 2017

POSITION STATEMENT BY THE CABINET LEAD MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND HIGHWAYS

CONDITION OF ROADS IN LEICESTERSHIRE

Members who were here before the elections will be aware of an annual National Highways and Transport (NHT) Satisfaction survey. There are two surveys – one covering the public and the second public representatives, including members. The surveys provide a valuable and consistent source of public satisfaction information allowing us to benchmark ourselves against other authorities

The latest survey was undertaken in 2016 and a total of 106 authorities took part and included 28 authorities in the County Council comparator group. 1,497 surveys were completed in respect of Leicestershire.

Public Satisfaction Survey

The key highlights from the public survey show the County Council as:

- being the highest scoring County Council for satisfaction with road condition for the 8th time in 9 years;
- having the highest satisfaction rates regarding the condition of pavements and footpaths;
- being the in the top quartile for cycle routes & facilities, public rights of way, traffic management, road safety and highways & transport services overall.

Public Representative Satisfaction Survey

- Member satisfaction with Highways and Transportation services has remained relatively high and consistent over the last three years, and remains significantly higher across all Highways and Transportation services when compared to 2013;
- Services where Member satisfaction was particularly high included street lighting, pavements and footpaths, road condition and community transport.

These are very pleasing results and are supported by the recent Department for Transport (DfT) Road Condition Benchmarking which found that:-

- No authority in England had better road condition than Leicestershire across all three road classifications in 2015/16;
- All authorities with better Principal and Non-Principal road condition in 2015/16 are unitary authorities with significantly smaller networks;
- The majority of authorities with better Unclassified road condition are also smaller unitary authorities with considerably smaller unclassified road networks.

By focussing on proactive repairs, we have reduced the number of potholes from 8,478 in 2012 to 5,220 in 2015 – a 38 per cent decrease! This performance has been achieved despite reductions in funding for highway maintenance.

The two NHT surveys also asked respondents for 3 areas of service on which it was unacceptable to reduce spending and 3 areas where it was thought acceptable to reduce spending. The results are quite interesting and revealing.

Unacceptable to reduce spending

<u>Public</u>	<u>Public Representative</u>
Roads	Roads
Winter Maintenance	Road Safety
Gullies and Drains	Gullies and Drains

Acceptable to reduce spending

<u>Public</u>	<u>Public Representative</u>
Public rights of way	Public rights of way
Cycle paths and facilities	Cycle paths and facilities
Subsidies for buses and community transport	Subsidies for buses and community transport

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 28TH JUNE 2017

POSITION STATEMENT FROM THE CABINET LEAD MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

SUPPORTING LEICESTERSHIRE FAMILIES AND YOUTH OFFENDING

My position statement will cover the work of Supporting Leicestershire Families and the Youth Offending Service.

Supporting Leicestershire Families

As Members know the Supporting Leicestershire Families Service was set up in 2013 as Leicestershire's response to the national Troubled families programme. Through the development of a service made up of 51 family support workers based in the seven localities, the programme has had huge successes both nationally and locally.

Following the successful completion of phase one of the programme where Leicestershire was consistently one of the highest performing authorities, we entered phase two of the programme six months early. The new expanded programme requires the Service to demonstrate the families who are supported achieve sustained and significant change across 6 outcome areas; crime and anti-social behaviour, domestic abuse, children in need, children in education, progress to work and employment and health.

To date Leicestershire has achieved 25.4% of its target, with a further three years of the current phase remaining until 2020. 386 families had achieved significant and sustained progress across all identified outcome areas and a further 319 are now in continuous employment. This places Leicestershire in the top 5% of the country with only 6 other Local Authorities scoring above 25% of their 2020 target.

Alongside the national evaluation the Supporting Leicestershire Families has undertaken evaluation of its work at a local level to measure the outcomes for the families with whom they have worked through the use of the family star tool that measures change for families across a range of measures. In nine out of the ten assessed criteria, over 60% of families worked with have made positive progress.

Youth Offending

Dealing with young people who are on the cusp of, or enter the youth justice system is challenging, but outcomes for young people across Leicestershire remain exceptionally positive. As members will be aware the response to youth related offending is co-ordinated by the multi-agency YOS.

In addition to case managing young people subject to court orders, Leicestershire YOS provides preventative intervention to young people at risk of entering the criminal justice system. The YOS also deploys the IMPACT team who many Members are aware of. The IMPACT team undertake work in areas with higher levels or spikes in anti-social behaviour, through street level 1 to 1 contact with young people or through introducing group activities in these areas.

Through the local commitment to preventative working results continue to be exceptional when compared with the national picture. During 2016/17 the total number of first time entrants across Leicestershire were at their lowest point since recording began in 2005, following a year on year reduction. Many of the young people are diverted from the criminal justice system through contact with YOS case managers, YOS led programmes, or contact with the IMPACT team.

Nationally there has been a rise in reoffending rates, however in Leicestershire during 2016 reoffending rates began to fall for the first time since 2009 and are now significantly below national rates.

Finally through the work the Youth Offending Service undertakes focused on reducing reoffending and providing courts with credible alternatives to custody, the numbers of young people in custody across Leicestershire remains significantly lower than the national average.