

From County Councillor Amanda Hack - Braunstone Division

12<sup>th</sup> June 2019

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## Annual Report 2018- 2019

### Review of the Year

I was pleased to continue in my role as Health Spokes for the Labour Group for 2018/19. It is a brief that I feel that I have been able to expand on my knowledge, but also where I can work with other colleagues across the Council. I have found that being able to provide a consistent voice has been useful, it also enables me to chart the progress that has been made. A significant issue for Health Scrutiny in 2017/18 was the 'Delayed Transfers of Care,' and it was great to understand the real progress that had been made when this report was re-presented in 2018/19.

The Role of Health Spokes, does include engagement with **Joint Health Scrutiny** with Colleagues from Rutland and Leicester City. There have been many elements of Health Services that have been presented to this panel, the most significant being the frustration from Councillors and the Public at the lack of public consultation on the changes in Intensive Care Services across the 3 main Hospitals. I'm pleased that by working with colleagues from the City that the approach to ensure the NHS locally provided engagement with the public on these changes was a step forward from the initial proposal.

September saw the scrutiny of the impact on Health if Leicestershire decided to take forward **Unitary Status** and I was pleased to put forward the realities that the conversation currently is in Leicestershire & the Districts control.

### Proud Moments for the Community



The Community of Braunstone Town has had a significant year and I have been honoured to have played a very small part of the process in supporting my community. November 2018 saw 100 years since the end of the First World War and the amazing volunteers locally and beyond made over 14,000 poppies to create an amazing cascade down the side of the Braunstone Civic Centre.

I was thrilled to be able to be part of an evening where Braunstone Town Council held a thank you reception for the Braunstone Community Poppy Cascade Volunteers.

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## Main Activities throughout the Year

- Continued to work with local people to manage the impact of industrial use of the residential part of Hazel Drive. The Weight Restrictions applied for by the residents were implemented by the County Council in May of 2018. A local community letter was issued to provide information to the local residents.
  - Wrote to ENVA, Audi and Ford & Slater to ensure that they were reinforcing the message of the weight restrictions.
- Continued to work with local health partners and was pleased to attend the opening of the Branch of Kingsway Surgery in the Neighbouring Division in May 2018. This culminated in further work to increase capacity of Kingsway to expand the Branch Surgery to 5 days per week by March 2019.
- A significant piece of work was implemented in the Division in April 2018, which was an Experimental Clear Zone around Millfield School. In order to process all of the comments, concerns and feedback received I arranged for Two County Councillor special surgeries at the Braunstone Civic Centre, with Council colleagues in attendance. There were at least 50 people who attended. The feedback provided significant information on the use of the scheme and the future developments.
  - Following the consultation the Clear Zone was suspended during the School Holidays in the Summer whilst evaluation took place
  - In December 2018 a revised scheme was implemented
  - Continued work will be done in 2019/20 to ensure that the issues we are still having locally can be worked through with the residents, Highways and the school.
- Worked with the local beat team on crime issues across the beat.
- Working with Social Services on specific pieces of localised casework.
- Worked with the District Councillors on Environmental and Planning enforcement casework.
- School Places support for appealing families
- Many one-to-one sessions with local people on individual casework.

## Committees

As a member of the **Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee** I am involved in scrutinising a wide range of Health issues. This year we have looked at:

- LeDer Review, which is the Learning Disabilities project looking at mortality rates
- Performance of Mental Health Services
- Report on Budget Savings within the CCG's
- TASL – the patient transport service
- EMAS – Ambulance services
- 62 day Cancer waiting performance
- Public Health Directors Annual Report

During my time on **Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee** it became clear that there was very little information being released on developments of the Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP) since the original proposals. The Labour Group put forward a motion to Full Council on NHS Finance and Sustainability which committed that the Council would:

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- To challenge the strategic direction of the financial and service transformation plans for all LLR CCGs;
- To work to protect NHS community hospitals and district nursing services;
- Engage in national discussions on a medium term financial settlement for health and social care with the aim of achieving genuinely sustainable, adequately funded, integrated health and social care system for the LLR area.

Other committees I attend include **Child Protection Panel**

I have acted as a substitute on the **East Midlands Council Employers Board**, which enabled me to challenge the Authorities in the East Midlands and their approach to short-term, low hours roles advertised by our organisations.

I have also acted as a substitute on the **Children and Families** overview and scrutiny committee where we looked at:-

- Proposed changes to Sure Start Centre

As a previous user of Sure Starts I have first-hand knowledge of the value of these centres. I was pleased that the Sure Start based in Braunstone town was given a reprieve, but frustrated that the current Government doesn't support Councils adequately enough to fund these invaluable facilities for new parents and carers.

Alongside being a County Councillor, I am also Deputy Leader of Braunstone Town Council and attend, Corporate Governance, Policy and Resources, Community Development and Full Council.

## Communication

I continue to provide an update of activities to the Braunstone Life, our Community Newsletter and provide an update to Braunstone Town Council.

In addition to my regular report to Parishes, I will put out a Councillor Newsletter and provide local residents with letters for localised issues. I will also ensure that I undertake a number of street surgeries.

In addition, like in 2018/19 I will arrange special issue Councillor Surgeries. I have under taken 6 Councillor Surgeries in 2018/19. I work with the local media and share press releases with all the local newspapers.

## Community

The main piece of work that is still outstanding for Braunstone is the transfer of its Library from County Hall to a Community supported approach to running the service by the Town Council. A significant number of local people have been instrumental in their efforts to retain a library in Braunstone. There are a number of initiatives that will be delivered from the Library once it transfers including, working with local partners and volunteers on tackling 'Loneliness' and isolation using the Library as a safe space for people to come together.

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