

County Councillor Annual Report

This report summarises the activities of the following member of the County Council during 2018/19

Name of Councillor

Mr Blake Pain CC

1) Electoral Division activities

Main Activities and the impact during the past year:

The 2018/19 civic year has been eventful.

We're now half way through the current term, preparing for county elections in 2021.

I represent one of the largest geographical divisions in Leicestershire that cuts across two parliamentary constituencies.

I try to attend as many parish council and other community meetings as possible throughout the year although given the size of the electoral division and the days upon which these meetings fall, it is impossible to attend them all. I am however regularly contacted via telephone by individuals and representatives from other organisations, to assist them with their specific issues.

In addition to my case work, I often deal with a lot of issues raised by parish councils and residents. The majority of these include planning and development control, speeding, parking and other highways related concerns, passenger transport, environmental issues and children's and adult social care safe guarding issues.

I undertake meetings and communicate with the division's MPs and their staff as and when necessary. We work very closely to try and resolve the casework that is raised with us.

My main activity during the year has mostly been related to my duties as the Lead Member for the Environment and Transport (E&T) Department.

As Lead Member for the E&T department at LCC, my role is to represent and lead the important functions of Highways, Passenger Transportation, Waste Management and the Environment on the Cabinet at LCC. We all use the roads, our rubbish needs disposing and recycling, we need to invest in our transport and infrastructure and we need to promote Leicestershire to the wider world as a great place to live, work, visit and bring up a family.

Particular areas of focus this year have been the introduction of :

The new Passenger Transportation Policy which seeks to use the limited resources of the council

in the most efficient and effective way to ensure that Leicestershire communities still have access to vital transportation solutions.

The introduction of a new risk based approach to highways maintenance and operations. I attended a Parliamentary Transport Select committee as part of a Leicestershire delegation invited to offer evidence and insight as to how Government policies need to change to support the demands of looking after local authority roads.

The planning and delivery of major road and other infrastructure schemes such as the Melton Mowbray Distributor Road and the M1 junction 23 improvements.

The implementation of better communication and community reporting systems.

The insourcing (public authority run rather than commercially operated) of 13 out of 14 Leicestershire Recycling Household Waste Sites.

There are still big cost pressures on Leicestershire County Council's finances and budgets. This means we have to make tough decisions and strike a fine balance between the council tax you pay and the services we provide or commission.

This is why we are still collectively fighting for a fairer funding formula for Leicestershire. Despite being the lowest funded county council in the country, we continue to provide excellent services, and this can only be achieved by planning ahead and making the right decisions.

Priorities for the immediate future are:

- Prepare and deliver a new Environment Strategy that pledges to commit the authority to achieve 'net zero carbon' by 2030.
- Continue to improve the E&T Department's communication and service level with the communities it serves through a new initiative called 'Delivering for Parishes and Communities.'
- Deliver a new Recycling and Household Waste site offer with a focus on setting up new 'Re-Use' centres.
- Deliver the new Passenger Transport offer making sure that the council takes advantage of technology and new transport solutions, so that Leicestershire residents can get about for their essential needs.
- Support the rollout of the largest ever transport capital programme worth £160M, raising a further £100M supporting investment in Leicestershire, working with the LLEP, Midlands Connect and the Midlands Engine for Growth to drive economic growth, jobs, housing and infrastructure projects to support development.
- Continue to help make Leicestershire County Council the best performing and productive council in England. For the last 2 years, the IMPOWER national survey of 150 upper tier councils has rated LCC number one.
- Continue cracking down on speeding and irresponsible parking outside schools, keeping our communities safer.
- Continue to maintain Leicestershire's status as having some of the best maintained roads in the country despite reducing resources.

2) Council Activities

Briefing Note

Please specify any particular issues of note that you have been actively involved in connected with the following bodies.

Committees you serve on at County Hall

Cabinet- Lead Member for the Environment and Transport Department (E&T.)

Cabinet Briefing- E&T lead.

Cabinet Strategy & Co-ordination Group- attend as and when E&T business is raised.

The E&T Scrutiny committee – attend as lead member to be scrutinised.

Local committees/Outside Bodies

Local Government Association General Assembly- member.

Leicester & Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership- Substitute member.

Leicester and Leicestershire Transport Board- member.

County Councils Network- member.

Cotesbach/Shawell Liasion Committee.

Other bodies – School governors/community and charity organisations etc

N/A

3) Learning and development:

I always look at ways to better my understanding and appreciation of issues and the people affected by the decisions we take at the County Council. I continue to learn from experience and undertake training and seek advice as and when needed.

4) Other Matters:

Social Media

www.facebook.com/LeicsConservatives

Twitter- @LeicsCC_Cons

www.leicestershireconservatives.org.uk

Signed by Councillor Blake Pain

Date 17th June 2019