

## **County Councillor Annual Report**

This report summarises the activities of the following member of the County Council during the year 2018-2019.

**Name of Councillor : Louise Richardson**

**Electoral Division activities for Enderby and Lubbesthorpe Division (including Enderby, St Johns, Thorpe Astley and Lubbesthorpe)**

### **Main Activities and the impact during the past year:**

Being a member of the Cabinet at Leicestershire County Council I, and other councillors, take responsibility for the strategic direction of the council and to try to ensure that services are delivered efficiently and effectively within the guidance issued by government and other regulatory bodies. We also ensure good budget scrutiny at the beginning and during the year and that policies and procedures are reviewed, updated and are current to new legislation and regulation.

I do my best to be accessible to ALL local residents listening and understanding their issues and taking steps to resolve them in a sensitive manner with parish, district and county councils or other bodies e.g. police, enforcement, businesses etc. I endeavour to explain the different responsibilities of each council and why certain decisions have been made. I also explain when issues require multi-agency approaches and I have a major, sensitive issue on-going in the division. I use Facebook, Linked In and Twitter to spot issues that are arising from residents' posts and to share information from LCC to residents.

I am a County, District and Parish councillor having been instrumental in setting up the new parish council at Lubbesthorpe, sitting on the Lubbesthorpe Strategic Forum prior to the formation of the council. I attend parish meetings in my division whenever I am available and attend any events I am invited to. I also attend the Business Breakfasts when I can for the whole district.

I have met with the Head teacher of a primary school in my division and the Leisure centre manager in Enderby regarding parking issues and possibly one-way systems, obtaining costings from LCC to see what would be required. Also discussing relevant insurance issues regarding bollards etc.

I have followed up on a number of complaints regarding lighting, road surfaces and markings, bus service reduction, a review of the traffic flow in Enderby and making suggestions resulting in a number of changes within Enderby, Thorpe Astley issues regarding speeding, parking, burglaries, assisting a local church in their communications with LCC regarding relocation, also the illegal positioning of equipment on the highway, antisocial behaviour and licensing issues. I have also been involved in Special Educational Needs issues for residents and questions and queries about the Fosse Park extension and Everards Meadows as these are within my division.

I attend all member training and information sessions unless I have other meetings already committed to and I attend cabinet briefings, cabinet meetings and full council meetings. I also attend group meetings.

I attend trustee meetings for RCC and chair the Leicestershire Rural Partnership which brings representatives from farming, small business, forestry, rural organisations such as the RCC, etc, ensuring that we do our best to protect the rural economy and lifestyle and look at ways to ensure that rural communities do not become isolated.

I attend Rural Services Network meetings in London with representatives from across the country and was called to give evidence at the House of Lords select committee on Rural Economy.

I am responsible for Equalities in LCC and have dealt with some equality issues regarding residents. I have responsibility for presenting Green plaque awards to recognise people and places that have made an impact on specific villages or done great things. We try to present 5 in each year. These are great community events that bring all generations along to learn about, hear about and recognise the achievements of these people engaging with schools, media, the Lord Lieutenant or his deputy, Chairman of LCC, Chairmen of district councils, family, friends and descendants of the successful candidates.

The Interfaith forum and work with veterans also comes into my portfolio which also entails invitations to various events and I have attended an RAF information evening, events at two mosques and attend the cathedral events when I can.

I have responsibility for the Shire Grants programme approving grants to assist communities and organisations to offer various ways of engagement, assistance, training, counselling to many groups of adults and children in our communities with specific needs. I have made to visits to some of the projects that were successful in obtaining funding.

I also sit on the LEADER programme committees both in East Leicestershire and also in North Warwickshire and Hinckley to distribute grants for specific sectors e.g. skills programmes, work programmes, to diversify in business, carbon reductions, forestry projects, start up business, tourism, etc.

I sit on ESIF sub-committee (European Structural and Investment Funds) working with EAFRD, universities, ESF, DWP and other sectors and organisations.

I am a trustee on SACRE (Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education) also and attend their meetings.

### **Priorities for the immediate future are:**

To ensure that the one-way system on Townsend Road in Enderby is completed and that parking restrictions are implemented.

To ensure parking restrictions in Thorpe Astley are completed.

To ensure a good outcome of multi-agency working on a sensitive issue in Enderby.

To look at community engagement in one particular area of my division.

To continue assisting the local church in dialogue with LCC to find a solution acceptable to all.

To continue work within my portfolio.

To monitor the impact of Fosse Park extension and Everards Meadow on traffic flow and air

quality

To monitor the growth of Lubbethorpe and any impacts within surrounding villages to ensure traffic flows smoothly and that facilities e.g. doctors' surgery, schools, shops, leisure centre keep pace with new build.

To monitor fly tipping and ensure enforcement is carried out when possible.

### **Local committees/Outside Bodies**

RCC – Trustee

SACRE – Trustee

Deputy Chair – District Planning Committee

Scrutiny Commission member at District Council

ESIF Sub-committee

LEADER programme committees – East Leicestershire and North Warwick and Hinckley committees

Lubbethorpe Parish Council

Blaby District Council

### **Other bodies – School governors/community and charity organisations etc**

Tumaini Jipya-New Hope – Trustee

Member of Rotary Club of Blaby

### **Learning and development:**

As many members' workshops, training, etc that I could attend.

### **Social Media**

Personal and charity accounts on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn and my email address as councillor. Used to pick up on problem areas and to share any messages or information from LCC.

**Signed by Councillor H L Richardson**

**Date 19<sup>th</sup> June 2019**