

## County Councillor Annual Report

**This report summarises the activities of Lee Breckon and Nick Chapman, Joint Divisional Members for Glenfield, Kirby Muxloe, Leicester Forests and Thurlaston for the County Council during 2023/24**

**Lee Breckon JP**



**&**

**Nick Chapman**



### **1) Electoral Division activities**

The workload has continued to be dominated by residents' concerns regarding the day-to-day issues that they see and report through to us, but we also have had queries regarding school placements, and Children and Adults social care matters, that we either pass on ourselves, or direct them to the best contact point within the County Council.

As with last year, Nick has retained the Chairmanship of Glenfield Parish Council and Lee Chairs the Finance and Resources Committee. On Blaby District Council, Nick, as the photo above shows, is now Chairman and will spend an interesting year as First Citizen of the District. His chosen charity is the Air Ambulance, a very worthwhile charity.

As with in previous years, Nick has continued to attend as many Kirby Muxloe, Leicester Forest East, and Thurlaston Parish Council meetings on our behalf. We will now share these duties, so we understand the issues they have, and any that involve the services that the County Council provide. We regularly meet up and discuss the issues being raised and share ideas and best practice.

We are both still of the opinion that the two divisional Member systems work well for the residents and the Division we jointly cover. Two minds are better than one at times. As touched on earlier, we deal with residents directly on personal matters affecting family members who use Children and Adult services that County Council provide. We also signpost many individual resident's issues across the four Parishes to the right authority to

get the problems sorted. We also take enquiries from our District Councillors to ensure progress is made.

Nick and Lee still have a clear mandate to support the Division, its parishes, and its residents. We are enjoying the challenges of doing this and we work well together.

The Members Highways Community fund given to us as Members to allocate across the division on highways improvement schemes are finally being implemented. Some delays were experienced but we are finally getting the schemes installed so that they can make a difference.

## **2) Council Activities**

In the year this report covers, Lee has now completed his third year as Lead Member for Resources, with responsibilities for the County Councils Financial position. Leicestershire is still the lowest funded County Council in the country, and the pressure on services is acute, and is being made worse currently by higher. This included talking to the BBC national news. We continue to deliver on behalf of residents with the funding that we have and will always prioritise the most vulnerable. We have had to make some hard choices as to where the money we do have, is spent, ensuring that we balance the books.

Lee continues as Chairman of the Investing in Leicestershire Program Board, the Employment Committee, as well as a Member of the Cabinet and Cabinet group, the Constitution Committee and represents LCC on the East Midlands Shared Services Joint Committee. He is a Member of the Board of the East Midlands Freeport representing the Council.

Nick remains Vice Chairman of the Adults and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee and is a key Member of the newly formed Environment and Climate Change Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Leicestershire has a commitment to be a net zero county and we are working hard to deliver this, for all our futures and Nick is playing a key role by taking part in this Committee.

After now completing his third year as a County Councillor, Nick has a full and in depth understanding of how the Council operates and more importantly what it delivers. His key strength is that he is fully supportive of the benefits of the Parish, District and County working together. Problems often cannot be solved in isolation and need a team approach. With his Chairmans hat at both Parish and District, he is well placed to make the team approach work.

## **3) Learning And Development**

Training has continued with regular mandatory training as well as informed briefings and all aspects of the work of the County Council.

#### **4) Other Matters**

Both Lee and Nick continue to show their commitment to the role of being a County Councillor. As we enter the last year of this four-year term, we are still delivering on behalf of our residents and parishes that we cover.

We have a good knowledge of all levels of local Government, and we will continue to support all residents of Glenfield, Kirby Muxloe, Leicester Forest East and Thurlaston.

You can be assured of our continued dedication to this important role, and we will both be standing again for the next May 2025 elections as prospective candidates, so we can continue the good work that we are delivering on your behalf.

Thank you for reading this report.

Please do not hesitate to contact us by email or by phone with any thoughts, experiences, or issues that you wish to share as we both enjoy listening and learning.

Full contact details can be found on the Leicestershire County Council website – link added below:

<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/about-the-council/how-the-council-works/councillors-and-conduct/find-your-county-councillor>

**Signed by Councillors**

*Lee Breckon & Nick Chapman*

**Date: 28<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

