

**Tom Barkley- Annual Report 2018/2019**  
**County Councillor for Syston Ridgeway**



The Division comprises of the Town of Syston and the Parish of Wanlip

## **Electoral Division Activities**

I was privileged to be elected as a County Councillor in June 2018 after winning a Bi-Election, following a vacancy left by the late Cllr. David Slater who I had known and worked with for many years. Syston Town and the surrounds are well known to me, as Syston is my home town. I am also a local Town and Borough Councillor.

I have been involved in numerous projects during the year many relating to highways and traffic issues, including the mini roundabout in the centre of Syston, traffic flow through the town and air pollution all of which issues I am working hard to improve. Economic development in the town and attracting business and job has featured heavily with meetings with businesses in the town to aid their growth plans and encourage local job creation. Additionally, the growth of housing in Syston has been a focus with meetings with developers to ensure that infrastructure and provision of School and health facilities within the town is given considerable attention. Our local Member of Parliament Edward Argar has been particularly supportive in the issues I have raised. I have run a monthly surgery to address residents' concerns. A Socio-economic review of the town has been carried out and a business plan developed in consultation with residents and local businesses which will be implemented over the next 5 years .

I am working with local community groups to support and enhance their contribution within the division and town.

## **Community Events**

I support the many activities within the town, which is fortunate to have a strong community spirit. The local carnival, Christmas fair, University of the third age, Methodist youth café, Syston and District Volunteer Centre and Syston Band and litter picks organised by the Town Council to improve the environment. We are also fortunate to have a local history group – Syston History Group which I attend .

## **Priorities for the immediate future**

- Health provision within the division
- Working in Partnership with the police to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour in the division
- Traffic calming solutions in the division
- Engagement with local health centre
- Engagement with Schools within my division
- Working with Local community groups to assist in obtaining grant funding
- Maintaining regular Councillor surgeries to address residents' concerns within the division
- Strategic Growth Plan and A46 corridor proposals

### **Council Activities – (Bodies served on at County Hall)**

- Corporate Governance Committee
- County Council
- Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Local Pension Committee
- Scrutiny Commission

### **Local Committees/outside bodies**

- Charnwood Health and wellbeing partnership
- Great Central Railway Liaison Group
- Deputy Leader Charnwood Borough Council. Finance and property services
- Vice Chair – Syston Town Council

### **Learning and Development**

- Induction Training at County Hall
- Corporate Governance training
- Local Pension Committee training

### **Social Media**

- Twitter and Facebook occasional user