



County Councillor Rosita Page Annual Report 2020-21

Since I wrote my last annual report, the world has changed and so has the way of working.

During the last year we had no physical meetings but constant virtual meetings and briefings on a regular basis.

My life stopped but by no means did any of the work stop. The telephone never stopped and the email traffic increased no end.

The County Council was heavily involved in the vaccine roll out, testing, advising, overseeing care homes and caring for the vulnerable and our Director of Public Health and team were absolutely brilliant and as elected members we benefitted from regular, frank updates.

Every department of the County Council provided detailed updates on a weekly basis and the pressures made us work more closely and effectively. The County Council lead by a very committed CEO, the service departments worked overtime providing Adult Social Care, Children's Services, Safeguarding, looking after the vulnerable and providing food parcels among many other things, but still continuing with road maintenance, flooding issues, education services and all the rest of our day to day issues.

All of this and much more you can find on our LCC website
www.leicestershire.gov.uk

Via the Resilience Forum we worked with the Police, Fire, NHS, PH and the districts on a co-ordinated joint approach to deal with this emergency.

Whilst on the face of it, it didn't look that impressive to the outsider but it was very impressive to be part of a very effective machine that delivered every day. Many hours were spent on increased responsibilities, whilst dealing with our own personal issues and struggling with our own mental and physical wellbeing.

Besides my back, neck and eyes having taken a toll, there was no respite and no getting away from the pressures and my thoughts go out to all the other workers behind the scenes. We all worked as a team which I am proud of being part of.

Other Issues

So, did I just sit at home glued to a phone and a computer, dealing with complaints, queries and replying to emails? No. There were many other things I dealt with and I will list a few I can remember.



There were Town and Parish council meetings. Much support was required with individual initiatives, securing grant funding and providing information, help and advice.

In Ullesthorpe a planning application was granted that ensued in a lot of residents concern. It took many months to get to grips with the details to ensure development was carried out in line with the permission granted. We ended up with a severely damaged road that required extensive repairs. The construction traffic had to be diverted which caused even more problems, which had to be managed.



I worked with the district and the county council to address all the issues. The road is repaired and we are now praying for a speedy completion of this development so that we can return this rural area back to normal.

I secured an evaluation of the road network to ensure that any damage caused by the development or the routing agreement will be made good after completion of the golf course development.

This was also a learning curve for all stake holders and a lot of additional work has gone in to evaluating internal processes to ensure future improved outcomes and better communications.

Across the villages and the town, we looked into s 106 issues and the grant process, which I have successfully addressed and we now have a more simplified grant application system in place in the district and I am working with officers at LCC towards continued improvements.

I helped to secure endless outside funding for my villages and the town to enhance and to deliver many projects.

We widened footpaths, cut hedges, planted trees, created new access and improved play grounds across the division. A lot of this funding came from the LCC EDF fund.



We reduced speed limits to 50mph, had visits of the enforcement car to our local schools and I secured yellow zig zag markings at the Claybrooke Parva school to enhance safety. We got a new traffic scheme in Ullesthorpe ,Ashby Road.

I supported the Lutterworth Town Estate in securing a very large grant bid to help to build a new museum in the town centre and I negotiated vast amounts of money for the LTE to host the Bittesby Heritage Centre in their new build.

I was instrumental in ensuring the LTC had a major input in the Lutterworth Master Plan and that there was money attached to the delivery.

I ensured that large planning applications like Aldi and Lutterworth East had proper scrutiny by Highways and other professional stake holders.

I opposed unnecessary, unsuitable speed bumps in Bitteswell, Ashby Lane and stopped the implementation.

I have taken a long standing interest and spent many hours having an input in the Lutterworth East planning application. I have tried my very best, in line with national requirements and planning policies, to secure positive outcomes to ensure a long term sustainable development.

I have made sure roads and gullies have been cleaned, potholes filled and our woblms supplied with free litter picking equipment.

I am grateful to have worked with our previous PCC Lord Bach to provide additional Police resources to our rural areas. I have worked with the police and the CSP to ensure a safe environment as much as possible for our residents.

On the back of that working relationship there are regular newsletters, better social media information, increased police patrols, police surgeries and enhanced victim support.

All Parties in our national Government have committed to a long term building agenda and the framework that underpins this is in favour of development. Therefore there are more and more houses being built and evaluating many applications with





hands tied behind your back is another large part of my remit. I cannot stop development but I can make sure it is suitable, properly conditioned and managed.

I had many meetings with the CCG, NHS and LPT to discuss the previous consultation on health services and local health provisions for my residents now and in the future, including matters concerning the Fielding Palmer Hospital. In conjunction with the leader of HDC, I have ensured that local residents and other stake holders are consulted and communicated with.

I was a member of the HOSC at LCC where I asked many questions on these matters which are all recorded and much of all information can be tracked down on websites.

As the chair of the pension board, I have ensured that proper governance is adhered to and as the vice chair and a lead scrutiny commissioner at LCC I have invested many hours to scrutinise very important issues.

Please click this link to look at the annual scrutiny report to underpin the work we have carried out [Annual Scrutiny Report](#)

Besides being a critical friend to the administration at LCC, evaluating decisions and forming policies. I hold the position as scrutiny commissioner at Harborough district where I fulfil the same role.

I sit on the Regional Armed Forces Reserve Committee and I support the Forces and our Veterans. We provide, signpost and take pride in our supporting role.

I have helped and supported some local businesses and both our district and the county council have not only provided advice but hard cash.

In the beginning of the year I visited businesses on Magna Park and during the lock down, I have made sure that workers concerns were addressed via our Environmental and Health/Safety teams.

I sit on the A5 partnership board and I have worked relentlessly to ensure the impact of increasing traffic is recognised and that safety features were introduced.

On the back of residents concerns, I have managed to secure the implementation of a 20mph speed limit on Maccauley Road and the surrounding roads in that area of Lutterworth.

On the request of residents and the parish council of CM, I managed to secure traffic calming measures as part of a planning application in Claybrooke Magna.



In Ullesthorpe we were very close to losing our play school which was built by outside grant funding, belongs to the community and is run by volunteers. In conjunction with a couple of residents and the support of a professional team from LCC, which I am most grateful for, we have turned everything around and are looking forward to a successful future.

Our villages were running out of cemetery provision. After unsuccessfully looking for additional land, we have finally managed to secure another half-acre to ensure our residents can be buried near their homes and loved ones rather than closing the churchyard and having to be buried in Lutterworth. I enabled this by securing a s106 grant. This project has been a great challenge and there is still much more to do but thanks to a committed Burial Board we are on the right track.

I supported and secured money for our churches so the volunteers could deliver valuable services to the vulnerable in the community, there was funding to ensure communication and I even got the money for our local radio station 92FM to buy their aerial so they could start broadcasting.

All in all, the money that has poured into our town and villages has been considerable.

Whenever I could, I tried to stay in touch with my residents, lend an ear and give advice. I was most thankful to all the volunteers who did a fantastic job in our community. I provided nearly a hundred chocolate cakes which were distributed to volunteers with my thanks and gratitude.

If nothing else this pandemic has shown that even in the face of adversity we carry on and our community spirit is the glue that holds us together.

Onwards and upwards.

I am not sure what the next year will bring. I am sure there will be many new challenges but a lot of the work going forward will be a continuation of the aforementioned.

For help and advice I can be contacted on 01455 209240 or e mail rosita.page@leics.gov.uk