



## **Councillor Mark Crane - Leader of the Council**

### **Report to Council - 16 July 2019**

This detail of the report covers the period from the Council meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2019,

The Executive received the Leisure Service annual report for 2018/2019 which included the following highlights:-

- 1,780 swimmers on the Learn to Swim programme, up from 1,560 last year
- Significant health improvements for residents taking part in the Move It and Lose It programme with over 1,500 participants now having completed the course
- Securing £135,000 of external funding to support a variety of wellbeing schemes
- Strengthening of partnership working with a variety of groups including the Safer Selby Hub, North Yorkshire Public Health and local GP's, North Yorkshire Sport, Age UK and Sainsbury's

North Yorkshire County Council Public Health service has nominated Inspiring Healthy Lifestyle's (IHL's) Wellbeing Manager for the Integration Partner of the Year Award. This is for her outstanding work in the Selby Health Matters partnership and making a difference to the health of the population of Selby District.

### **Review of council performance**

In the last month, the Executive has considered two aspects of the council's performance framework: the quarterly performance monitoring report and the annual report.

I presented the quarterly performance monitoring report, covering performance in quarter 4 of 2018/19, to Executive in June. Executive noted a number of positive aspects of performance including the processing of planning applications and housing delivery. Furthermore, we noted positive performance in relation to the number of missed bin collections and the number of visits to combined leisure centres. However, we are concerned with performance in a number of other areas such as the time taken to re-let council homes and the achievement of savings targets. We are confident there are plans in place to address these in 2019/20.

Given that quarter 4 is the last of the periods covering 2018/19, we also had the opportunity to look at the overall picture for last year and I am pleased to say that we achieved performance targets on 70% of performance indicators in 2018/19 and improved our performance on over 60% of measures compared to the previous year. Both of these showed a slight improvement on last year. More detail of overall performance is presented in the annual report which will be considered by the July Executive and which will be shared with residents and partners.

In addition to addressing any performance concerns in the short term, we will use our levels of performance as part of the evidence base for developing our next corporate plan which is due in 2020. As an Executive we have already decided to look carefully and strengthen some of the Environmental issues such as street cleansing, grounds maintenance , air quality and community safety to ensure that the services reflect what Selby District needs and that the service contracts deliver the appropriate. We will also address the low carbon agenda by setting up a cross party working party of 7 Members who will work with officers and report their recommendations to the Executive.

### **The new council and member development**

Following the May elections there has been a lot of ongoing work by the Democratic Services team, who I would like to thank for their hard work. They have ensured that Members are appointed to committees, issued with Members their tablet devices and offered support and training across a wide range of topics , including Standards and Code of Conduct, Data Protection and GDPR, Audit and Equalities to name but a few. Member Development opportunities will continue through 2019-20, most immediately with a session on Finance and Budgets on 18 July, on Prevent, Counter Terror and Personal Safety to be held on 24 July and a session on Media Awareness on 12 September.

In the coming months there will be a move towards a more 'paper-light' way of working for Members by reducing the number of paper agendas that are printed and circulated, these will be sent in an electronic format and can be accessed via the mod.gov app or on the Council's website. Democratic Services will be in touch with those Members who require support to move towards this way of working.

### **Police Opening**

On the 21<sup>st</sup> June I was pleased to host the official opening of the Selby Police Station collocated with the Council. I welcomed Chief Constable, Lisa Winward, the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, Julia Mulligan and a range of range of staff from Selby District Council and the Police who will expand and develop our existing joint working with the police. The event provided an opportunity to show what advantages collocation can bring to improve the way we can work together to support the communities we serve. This is in addition to the financial benefits to the public purse by sharing one site. The invite was extended to all Councillors and I was pleased to see a number of Councillors were able to attend.

I attended the LGA conference which was held in Bournemouth 2 -4 July. The conference provided a good opportunity to learn from other Councils. There were a number of speeches including a speech from the new LGA Chairman, Councillor James Jamieson, the Secretary of State, Rt Hon James Brokenshire MP, and Governor of the Bank of England Mark Carney. In his speech, Councillor Jamieson highlighted his hope that local government will be given the funding certainty and responsibilities to enable local communities to decide their own futures. He also launched the new #CouncilsCan report, which will form the basis of the LGA campaigning over the coming year

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**Leader of the Council**