

## Derbyshire County Council

DCC continues to face financial challenges over the forthcoming years. The following consultations have been undertaken over the last year :-

- Hayfield visitor centre
- 2016 Community Transport - Local Bus Consultation
- Trusted Trader Scheme member satisfaction survey 2015-2016
- 2016 Children's Centre consultation
- Aiming High Derbyshire Offer
- Derbyshire Citizens' Panel Survey - February 2016
- The Children in Care Council survey
- Reducing funding for home to school transport
- Scrutiny review of child sexual exploitation - organisations
- Scrutiny review of child sexual exploitation - parents, guardians and grandparents
- Derbyshire Pension Fund Proposed Statement of Investment Principles
- Household waste recycling centres 2015
- Review of housing related support services
- Budget consultation 2016/2017
- Mental health community services
- Future of the town/parish council minor maintenance scheme
- Derbyshire children and young people's substance misuse services
- Derbyshire Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services
- Aiming High short breaks service
- 20mph speed limits on residential streets
- Public Rights of Way review
- Community transport
- Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 - pre-tender consultation - low level support
- NHS Health Checks Health Equity Audit
- Proposals for the future of residential care homes in Derbyshire
- Evaluation of the provision of emergency hormonal contraception by community pharmacists as part of the Integrated Sexual Health Service
- Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 - pre-tender consultation - Derbyshire Handy Van Network
- Ready for school in Derbyshire
- Developing the Recovery Communities in Derbyshire

Over the last year I have sat on the Resources scrutiny committee. This has looked at the Trusted Trader scheme, operated by the council, and how we can maximise income from advertising.

I, and many colleagues, have spoken against the unfair funding for Derbyshire, the significant effects that the proposed cuts will have, and against the proposed loss of bus services in the High Peak.

The Leader of DCC and some of her colleagues continue to push forward with plans for another tier of local government, that of a combined Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Combined Authority, with an elected Mayor. This would have powers over such things as regeneration, infrastructure funding, housing and health. In trying to convince members in High Peak the Leader emphasised the benefits that it would bring to the area including more housing and an improvement to the A50! Despite 6 of the 19 authorities in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire (including High Peak and Chesterfield) voting against this proposal, the ruling group continues to press ahead. (There has been no vote by DCC as to whether we would want to be a member of this.)

Locally DCC comments on planning applications. Highways often seem to make comments at odds with the views of local resident's knowledge of the highway network. It should be noted that many applications receive supportive comments because of the nearby access to public transport making the sites sustainable.

There are grave concerns over government plans to make all schools academies.

I include the council plan for 2016/17

#### **High Peak Borough Council**

In May 2015 I became Chair of the Development Control committee. It has been a difficult year as developers have continued to make speculative applications to develop green field sites across High Peak. I am pleased to report that the council can now demonstrate a 5 year supply of land for development and the long awaited local plan has been approved which will help the committee in its decision making.

A new study is to be undertaken for the "2<sup>nd</sup> bridge". This is making use of S106 money which would otherwise be lost. An application has been made to D2N2 to fund the construction of the bridge and surrounding infrastructure, which would help retain jobs on the industrial estate, allow further investment and employment opportunities and allow for improvement to the canal basin area.

As reported above, High Peak Borough Council has voted against joining the Derbyshire & Nottinghamshire Combined Authority, seeing little benefit in being linked to the North Midlands run by "the Sheriff of Nottingham", when we look more to the Manchester area.