

Annual Report 2018

Councillor Dave Stewart – Chale, Niton and Whitwell Ward

This is my first annual report following my re-election as ward councillor for Chale, Niton and Whitwell. It is also my first annual report as Leader of the Isle of Wight Council.

At a local level I have maintained my engagement with both Parish Councils in my ward - attending meetings and addressing local planning matters, pursuing work towards re instating Undercliff Drive and supporting initiatives such as road resurfacing and safety plans through the CARS road safety organisation. I have also actively participated in Chale Show which helps with funding support for many voluntary organisations from across the Island.

At Isle of Wight Council level I have led the administration in preparing and implementing its Corporate Plan. I have also actively participated in the recent Corporate Peer Review which overall is very positive and is shortly to be presented and discussed at our Cabinet meeting in May 2018.

We are now focused on ensuring financial sustainability for the future as well as improving housing provision, particularly affordable housing and extra care for our elderly residents.

The cabinet team are very active on Regeneration in places such as Newport Harbour and Sandown Bay. I am also working with colleagues to improve schools and education.

The year has not been without challenges such as the Floating Bridge and the Fire Service Review. As leader I have been determined to address these difficult matters and achieve a positive outcome for the community.

One area of success I am pleased to have been involved with is our drive towards the digital economy. I helped organise our digital conference and am progressing the outcomes of this initiative.

Finally I am leading on our aim of having integrated public services through our One Public Service project and have already achieved support across our strategic partnerships.

Dave Stewart
May 2018