

ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022 CHAIR'S REPORT

Firstly, my thanks to both Cllrs Winter and Hopkins for their assistance in inaugurating, I believe, the first Annual plan for this council, started whilst I was vice chair and fully developed as Chair, their assistance was invaluable and my thanks to them both.

It is a requirement of the LGE Legislation (referenced in the Annual Plan) that Community Councils produce Annual Reports from April 2022 onwards, so we are possibly in the vanguard again of anticipating change and innovation. Interestingly implementation of the LGE legislation was one of our 9 performance targets and I comment in a little more detail in a paragraph or two.

The Annual Plan can be referenced via the LCC website and in summary set out 6 objectives and 9 performance targets. This is in line with the legislative requirement (slightly by accident !) and the protocol also suggests the setting of priorities within the plan / report, and I leave the new Council to decide on and develop those priorities.

In summary, and again despite Covid, Zoom meetings etc, changes of Clerk all objectives have been progressed and performance targets achieved, I invite the new Council to confirm by reference to the prime document.

Regarding performance target 4 I would comment as follows.

I put it in as a catch all to anticipate actions required, and it is a very broad piece of legislation to provide for.

"The establishment of a new and reformed legislation framework for local Government elections, democracy, performance and governance"(in Wales)

Quite wide ranging and difficult to encompass within one performance target!
The act covers amongst other issues.

elections - out with our control
Hybrid meetings (implemented)
Annual Report (implemented)
Code of conduct/ training (on AGM agenda.)

The new council may want to give thought as to how to develop the response to the legislation in future years.

The additions I would propose to the Annual Plan/ Report, particularly in regard to governance, and I regret not including them in the current plan's performance targets are;

The Asset Register.
The Risk Assessment

Both are key governance documents and again have been the subject of major review during my tenure as Chair.

Asset Register

A significant review and rewrite was undertaken by Cllr Hopkins to ensure it was " fit for purpose" in the 21st Century. The rewrite also covered the addition of land data to the register, for the first time ever, an innovation never executed previously or attempted.

The whole project was undertaken on Cllr Hopkins own initiative, supported by council decision of course, and despite some misgivings from within the council! It provides an excellent structure by which to continue to effectively manage LCC land assets.

This stands as Judith's outstanding legacy in her time with us in my view, amongst many, please nurture it carefully.

The Risk Assessment.

Again, a review to ensure "fitness for purpose" carried out by Chair and Vice Chair and successfully completed, executed, and monitored. It was useful to ensure that we had identified all the risks to a Community Council, rated them and recorded them. Though the document extended to some 16 pages it can safely be noted that we are now "fit for purpose". And in full compliance with legislation relating to this area of activity.

I commend this report to Council as a successful year of activity, reflecting success against objectives and targets for decision and minuting.

Peter Sutherland.

Ex Cllr and Chair of the Council.