

Report to:

Council

Agenda
Item:

11(b)(i)

Meeting Date: 6th March 2018

Public/Private*: Public

Title: **Leaders Portfolio Holder's Report –
Councillor Colin Glover**

BORDERLANDS

Discussions on the detail of the Borderlands Growth Deal are ongoing with UK and Scottish Governments, triggered by a meeting with the two UK Government Ministers championing the Deal in January. Consultation is planned with businesses and stakeholders to further explore the detail of the Deal.

COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT FOR CARE LEAVERS

A meeting has taken place to discuss a countywide scheme to provide council tax support for young people leaving care. All of the District Councils were represented at the meeting as was Cumbria County Council. All six of the Districts and Cumbria County Council are supportive of a scheme and the Police & Crime Commissioner has also indicated support. All of the authorities are in agreement to provide council tax support for Care Leavers from April 2018.

Now that the principle has been confirmed, a further meeting will take place to agree what the scheme will be and how it is implemented and funded.

CARLISLE DEMENTIA ACTION ALLIANCE

The Carlisle Dementia Action Alliance held a development day at the Civic Centre, following the successful launch event in May 2017. Stakeholder representation included: Asda, Active Cumbria, Alzheimer's Society, Botcherby Community Centre, Carlisle City

Council, Churches Together in Cumbria, Cumberland Building Society, Cumbria County Council, Cumbria Partnership Trust, Rotary Club of Brampton & Longtown and Tullie House.

Attendees presented ideas, policies and best practices that they have implemented. The aim was to cultivate ideas from across the Dementia Action Alliance and beyond to move us towards the goal of transforming Carlisle into a Dementia Friendly City.

Two examples of great work across the City were presented by Cumbria County Council Library Services and Cumberland Building Society.

It was explained how Carlisle Library Service is evolving to better serve and improve the experience of those both with dementia and caring for those with dementia. Initiatives included improving library facilities in order for the library to function better for those with dementia, hosting reading groups and providing dementia resource bags which were full of information and free stimulating books, audio books, puzzles, films, music, smell pots and quizzes.

Cumberland Building Society demonstrated how the organisation continues to build awareness and understanding of dementia into its everyday practices and thinking. The Cumberland Building Society now has at least one 'Dementia Friend' in every branch (34 branches), has successfully implemented the 'mother test' (Treat everyone how you would like your own mother to be treated) and has raised £19,896 for the Alzheimer's Society.

The presentations were truly inspiring and a testament to the outstanding work being done by the Dementia Action Alliance.

The next meeting will coincide with the first anniversary of the launch of Carlisle Dementia Action Alliance. The aim is to use the anniversary to celebrate and share the innovative work demonstrated at the development day with a wider audience and encourage other businesses and organisations across the city to join the Dementia Action Alliance and drive the transformation of Carlisle into a Dementia Friendly City.

PLASTIC FREE CARLISLE

The Council's announced intention to move towards becoming Plastic Free has been warmly welcomed by partners and residents. Plastic Free Cumbria is one of the fastest growing campaigns in recent years and the city is keen to play its part. Long established practices and attitudes towards single-use plastic will not be changed overnight, but this is the start of a journey to improve the local environment for generations to come.

A number of people and organisations have said that they are keen to join us in this work and we look forward to various initiatives and activities that are being planned. The work will include reducing the amount of single-use plastics and packaging being used, dealing with litter in and around the district and encouraging more people to use recycling facilities.

ROUND-UP OF EVENTS

The events were delivered very successfully at Christmas and well received by the public and visitors.

There were over 1000 people attended the Santa's Grotto and Winter Wonderland in the City Centre from the 16th – 21st December 2017.

Plans are being made for the Christmas events for 2018 including a brand-new Christmas lights scheme.

The Chinese New Year Festival took place on 16th February. The event included a Dragon Dance, Music and Drumming workshop, arts and crafts demonstrations and acrobatic performances in the City Centre.

The Easter Fair returns to Castle Car Park from the 29th March to 7th April, along with the Easter International Market from the 29th March to 2nd April and there will be an Easter Pantomime at the Sands Centre.

The Carlisle Farmers market, which is held in the city centre, moved to the first Saturday of each month, is growing and working well.

NEXT EVENTS PLANNED

Carlisle Events 2018

Thursday 29 March – Saturday 7th April 2018 Easter Fair at Castle Car Park

Thursday 29 March - Monday 2 April Easter International Market, Carlisle city centre

Tuesday 22 May - Sunday 8 July Weeping Window Installation, Carlisle Castle

Monday 28 May Upperby Gala, Hammond's Pond

Saturday 16 June Cumberland Show, East Park, Brisco

Sunday 17 June Lionel Richie, Carlisle United FC, Brunton Park

Saturday 30 June Armed Forces Day, Carlisle city centre

Saturday 7 July Unity Festival, Carlisle city centre

Saturday 7 July Paloma Faith, Carlisle Racecourse

Sunday 15 July Cancer Research UK Pretty Muddy and Race for Life, Bitts Park

Wednesday 18 July The Importance of Being Earnest open-air theatre, Talkin Tarn

Thursday 9 August Pirate Pearl and the Big Blue Monster, open-air theatre, Talkin Tarn