

PORTFOLIO:

**COUNCIL LEADER AND
PROMOTING CARLISLE**

Report of
Portfolio Holder:

**COUNCILLOR
MIKE MITCHELSON**

1. COUNCIL PUBLICATIONS

The Corporate Communications Unit has issued two new publications:-

- (a) The Carlisle Pocket Guide is a handy booklet containing contact details and other useful information regarding the services of this authority and other organisations.
- (b) Carlisle Focus is a new quarterly publication in magazine format that replaces the Civic newspaper. It aims to keep residents informed of news, views and events happening in the area.

2. LORD MAYORALITY

To celebrate the Golden Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II one city will be awarded Lord Mayoralty status. Carlisle's application for this prestigious award has been formulated and submitted, and the decision will be made in due course.

3. TOWN TWINNING

Between 12-15 July the Council participated in a successful three-way Town Twinning meeting in Flensburg. The programme included Flensburg's 5th Annual Steam Festival and a business meeting which discussed new projects for future co-operation.

On 18 August, 30 young people and 4 leaders from Flensburg and Slupsk arrived in Carlisle to participate with 15 local youngsters in the annual Youth Exchange. The 14 day programme of activities included culture, drama and sport.

Between 1-9 October a group from St Aidans County High School visited the KTS Adelby School in Flensburg. This visit was originally scheduled for May but was cancelled due to the Foot and Mouth disease.

Between 22-28 October the St Nikolai Kirche Choir are visiting Carlisle as guests of Carlisle Cathedral Choir.

4. BORDER VISIONS CONFERENCE

On 4 and 5 October I attended the Border Visions Conference at Peebles, accompanied by Councillors Firth, Prest G, Wilson and Guest, along with the Chief Executive and David Beaty.

5. LOCAL GOVERNMENT MINISTER

On 15 October the Council received a visit from Nick Raynsford, the Minister for Local Government. His visit coincided with the launch of the Council's successful Local Democracy Week activities.

6. NORTH WEST REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

On 11 October, Carlisle received a visit from the Leader and Chief Executive of the North West Regional Assembly, plus Phil Robinson from the North West Shires Policy Unit. Their visit to Carlisle and Eden districts included the Millennium Gallery, Kingmoor Park, and Longtown, where they met the Longtown task force.

7. FOOT AND MOUTH TASKFORCE

On 12 October I attended a meeting of the Cumbria Foot and Mouth Task Force along with the Chief Executive and the Deputy Leader. The Cumbria Rural Action Zone initiative was launched, and the meeting received a presentation from Lord Haskins on the rural recovery from Foot and Mouth disease. Copies of the Rural Action Zone report and the Haskins report are available in the Members' library.

8. CITY VISION

The draft City Vision document was agreed by the Executive at its meeting on 18 September, and has been forwarded to partners for their comment and endorsement. This features as a separate item on the agenda of the Council meeting on 30 October.