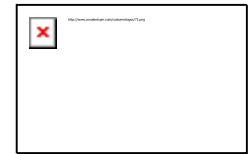


COMMUNITIES AND WELLBEING PORTFOLIO STATEMENT 2014-15

Councillor Lynne Weatherly



1. Portfolio responsibilities

My portfolio covers communities and wellbeing. I am responsible for the Council's priorities in relation to Housing, Health and rural communities.

2. Functions and services

As Portfolio Holder for Communities & Wellbeing, I am responsible for all services covering a 2013/14 revenue budget of £4,610,590, that relates to:

- Housing
- Health
- Community Development
- Rural Communities

I am also the Lead Cabinet Member on a range of partnerships, namely:

- Borough Housing Partnership (sub-group of the Tunbridge Wells Local Strategic Partnership)
- West Kent CCG & Kent Health & Wellbeing Board
- Local Children's Trust
- LGA Rural Commission

3. Our achievements in 2013-14

- Undertook a programme to promote public health that saw £137,000 received for healthy weight and mental health and community cohesion initiatives
- Provided a programme of health assessment and assistance in reaching a healthy weight through general health assessments, advice, providing a weight loss and smoking cessation programme that saw 281 people directly improve their health
- Worked with Kent County Council and other partners to deliver intensive support to 49 families that were most in need across the borough
- We supported 75 households to remain in independent living in their homes through the provision of Disabled Facilities Grants in 2013-14
- Supported the residential regeneration of Ramslye and Cranwell Road through the re-housing of all affected tenants, and completed 75% of the moves required in Sherwood
- Dealt with 95 homelessness applications and worked to prevent homelessness in a further 156 families

4. Key plans and strategies

Specific plans for which I have responsibility:

- Housing Strategy
- Homelessness Strategy
- Housing Allocation Policy
- Housing Renewal Assistance Policy
- Empty Property Strategy

5. Our priorities for 2014-15

- Managing homelessness demand and implementing new powers to make greater use of the private rented sector
- Working with our partners (including GPs) to agree a budget and deliver a programme of public health promotion
- Enabling a range of events to take place across the borough to support a year of local anniversaries
- Encourage parish and town councils to develop community facilities
- Encouraging all parts of the community to become more involved in service design and provision
- Start on the remaining 25% of Sherwood household moves to enable the final phase of regeneration to be commenced

6. Contact

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