

Report to the Council

Subject: Leader's Portfolio

Date: 24 July 2007

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Mrs D Collins

Item: 6(a)

Recommending:

That the report of the Leader be noted.

Tour of Civic Offices

I recently toured part of the Civic Offices with John Scott and the Deputy Leader. The Deputy Leader and I learnt much about Council services and enjoyed meeting the staff. We will be completing the tour on 19 July.

Roydon - Traffic Issues

I recently met with Bill Rammell MP concerning a number of traffic issues in the Roydon area.

The Broadway, Loughton Town Centre Partnership

The Portfolio Holder for Planning and Economic Development and myself recently met members of the Broadway Town Centre Partnership to discuss a range of issues affecting the Broadway shopping area. The Council support for the work of the Partnership was clearly very important and I will be consulting with the Portfolio Holder about how we take some of the issues raised forward.

Waste Management Contract

I attended the interviews with potential contractors in respect of the waste management contract. The arrangements for the day worked very well and on tonight's Council agenda there are proposals for approving a tender and inaugurating a new service.

Blunt's Farm, Theydon Bois

The Blunt's Farm Site in Theydon Bois continues to concern local residents and I have taken part in a meeting with the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Economic Development and officers to review the current position.

Newham College - Construction Students

I am pleased to report that a group of construction students from Newham College have spent three days in the Epping Forest District touring our building sites and attending an all day lecture on local issues.

Joint Meeting with MPs and County Councillors

I recently chaired a meeting of MPs and County Councillors to discuss a wide range of topics of joint interest affecting the District.

Use of Resources and Value for Money Audit

I am meeting with officials of the Audit Commission regarding our use of resources and value for money audit. I am working closely with officers to ensure that the Council puts across the right message at this important event.

Interview for Deputy Chief Executive

I am due to chair the Interview Panel for the post of Deputy Chief Executive and will report further at the Council meeting.