

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

24 August 2023

COUNCILLOR – JO RUST CABINET MEMBER FOR – PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES

For the period 1st August to 24th August

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

I was proud to take up this portfolio on Tuesday 1st August and I intend to embed and then build upon the work started by Cllr Kemp. I thank her for what she has started and look forward to continuing to work with her. I have been busy getting up to speed on my portfolio and have been glad that my history and experience previously has given me a solid grounding in the areas that I will be covering. I offer a huge thank you to all those officers who have taken the time to get in touch and provide me with comprehensive briefings and I will have met with all the teams shortly.

There is some overlap in the roles that I have with outside bodies and on other committees such as KLACC and the QEH. I have received my first lot of training at the QEH and it was good to get to know other governors and to learn about the community engagement work taking place. I will be working in partnership with them as portfolio holder, so the more opportunities to cement that relationship the better stand our community in.

Social inclusion is a part of my portfolio too, so to sit on the KLACC play areas sub committee, where we are working towards adding accessible play equipment to that already at The Walks, will definitely improve the area for our community.

Some groups have been in touch about proposals to promote healthier lives and I'll be working with Cllr Ring over this. I attended the Creating Communities event held in South Lynn Community Centre on Saturday 12th August and was so impressed with what our borough has to offer, whether it was beat the Bills or offering support to avoid loneliness, I think we can be proud of what was available. I look forward to working with them more closely in the future.

I had a meeting with our Housing Officers where they briefed me on some of the challenges the council is experiencing and working hard to resolve, in housing.

Housing figures are as follows:

Housing register

1378 live applications

1 Emergency

232 High

469 Medium

676 Low

233 new or change in circumstances received

Housing Options

123 applicants given housing advice, of these 74 progressed into new homeless declarations and/or are ongoing investigations.

Lets advised - 26

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

On Sunday 20th August I will be attending the Gaywood Community Centre Fun Day. Having attended such events there before, I know it's be a great day out where I get to hear from people in some of our communities.

I hope to attend the Ukrainian National Day on Thursday 24th August and meet members of our community there.

3 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled

Effective engagement 01/08/23

Cabinet briefing – 02/08/23

Portfolio meeting 03/08/23

Community grant training 03/08/23

County Deal Briefing – 04/08/23

LGS Cabinet Training 08/08/23

Portfolio meeting – 10/08/23

QEH meeting – 11/08/23

E&C briefing – 14/08/23

Cabinet Sifting – 14/08/23

Introduction to Place – 15/08/23

QEH training Representation and Health Inequalities – 15/08/23

Cabinet Briefing – 16/08/23

NHS Dentistry Briefing 17/08/23

Portfolio meeting – 17/08/23

RRT presentation – 18/08/23