

**CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL**

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**Date of Meeting: 5th March, 2015**

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**Subject: Leader's Briefing**

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**1.0 Purpose**

- 1.1 The purpose of this briefing is to inform all elected members of a range of issues and activities which I have been engaged with in the past quarter. It is also intended to assist in raising awareness amongst members of a number of matters which affect the Council or the area and, as such, inform future workstreams.
- 1.2 Should any member of the Council wish to discuss any of the issues in this report in more detail, I will be happy to meet with them.
- 1.3 The report covers the period December, 2014 - March, 2015.

**2.0 National Issues Affecting Clackmannanshire**

CoSLA

- 2.1 I attended the CoSLA Convention on 12th December and CoSLA Leaders' Meeting on 30th January, 2015. Items discussed at the meetings were:

**CoSLA Convention - 12th December:**

- Strengthening Local Democracy in Scotland
- Constitutional Protection for Local Government
- Lord Smith Commission
- CoSLA Convention Strategic Programme
- CoSLA Budget 2015/16
- Future Model for Community Justice in Scotland

**CoSLA Leaders' Meeting - 30th January:**

- Local Government Pay and Conditions Negotiations 2015/16
- Improving Wage Levels in the Social Care Sector
- Children's Hospice Association Scotland
- Funding of WithScotland
- Health and Social Care Partnerships: Investment and Improvement Expectations
- Charging Guidance for Non-residential Social Care 2015/16
- A 'Stronger Voice' - Engaging the Public and Service Users
- Commission on Alternatives to Council Tax
- Scottish Government's Economic Strategy
- Planning Penalty Clause
- Welfare Reform Update
- 2013/14 Local Government Benchmarking Framework - Key Messages
- Distribution Issues

- The Smith Commission: Update on Clauses and new Scotland Bill
- Proposed Constitutional Change by the Gender Balance Task Group

### **Special CoSLA Leaders' Meeting on 6th February in respect of teacher numbers.**

- 2.2 Associated papers for these meetings have been placed on the members' portal for members to access.

### **3.0 Partnership Working**

- 3.1 I attended the following **NHS FV meetings/events**:

- 13th January - Clackmannanshire and Stirling Transitional Board
- 3rd February - Clackmannanshire and Stirling Transitional Board
- 17th February - Clackmannanshire and Stirling Transitional Board

- 3.2 **A Special Board Meeting of Clackmannanshire Business** was held on 12th January, 2015. Item for discussion was a presentation to stakeholders on the budget/savings proposals.

- 3.3 Associated papers for these meetings have been placed on the members' portal for members to access.

### **4.0 Staff and Other Visits**

- 4.1 I attended the following events:

- 15th January - Tenants and Residents Federation - Council Budget Consultation 2015/16
- 21st January - Budget Consultation, Alloa Town Hall
- 26th January - Budget Proposal Union Representatives/SNP Group
- 29th January - Sauchie Community Group - Council Budget Consultation 2015/16
- 18th February - Alloa Day Home Trust

- 4.2 I would be happy to provide additional information on any of the above events.

Signed: Councillor Les Sharp

**Councillor Les Sharp**  
**Leader of the Council**  
**March, 2015**