

CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL

Date of Meeting: 15th August, 2013

Subject: Leader's Briefing

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 end of June and July 2013.

2.0 National Issues Affecting Clackmannanshire

CoSLA

- 2.1 I attended the CoSLA Convention on 28th June. Items discussed were:
- Local Government Vision Lobbying Strategy
 - Commission on the Delivery of Rural Education
 - Health and Social Care Integration Bill
 - Children and Young People Bill
 - Proposed Duty on Ministers to Promote Local Self-Governance
 - Local Government Funding Pressures
 - Welfare Reform Update
 - Social Care (Self-Directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013 - Regulations and Guidance
 - Distribution Issues
 - National Planning Framework 3 and Scottish Planning Policy
 - EU Scottish Funds 2014-2020 Consultation
 - CoSLA's Audited Final Statements for the Year ending 31st March, 2013
- 2.2 Associated papers for the meeting have been placed on the members' portal for members to access.

3.0 Partnership Working

- 3.1 I am pleased to advise Council that I have received a letter from the Minister for Local Government & Housing advising that he has signed off the Clackmannanshire Alliance's **Single Outcome Agreement** further to the quality assurance process which was agreed by COSLA and the Scottish Government. The President of

COSLA has also written to me to confirm that the work of the quality assurance team is complete and that there is confidence to sign off the SOA.

3.2 The **Clackmannanshire and Stirling Partnership Board** met in Clackmannanshire on 11th June, 2013. Items for discussion were:

- Health and Social Care Integration
- CHP Sub-Committees
- Early Years Collaborative
- Welfare Reform
- Clackmannanshire and Stirling Partnership Board Annual Report

3.3 The Clackmannanshire CHP Committee met on the same day and discussed similar items.

3.4 Associated papers for the meetings have been placed on the members' portal for members to access.

3.5 In July, along with two other councillors from Clackmannanshire and three from Stirling, I attended the first shared services **joint appointments committee** which made an appointment to the post of Head of Education. The Chief Executive has advised that the successful candidate will start in October.

4.0 Staff and Other Visits

4.1 On 18th June, together with the Chief Executive and officers representing all services, I attended the Quality Scotland Awards for Business Excellence where the Council received a 4 star Recognised for Excellence Award. The Scottish Awards for Business Excellence are widely regarded as the most rigorous and prestigious business awards in Scotland. Only 3 organisations achieved Recognised for Excellence this year.

4.2 I visited the OI plant in June and met with senior representatives of the company. We had a very positive discussion around the company's future plans and there is ongoing dialogue at officer level. I undertook to write to Scottish Enterprise outlining the Council's support for the Company.

Signed: G Womersley

Councillor Gary Womersley
Council Leader
August, 2013