

South Lakeland District Council

Making South Lakeland the best place to **live**, **work** and **explore**

Annual Report 2016/17



May 2017



Introduction



“This report looks back at on the successes throughout 2016/17. It also offers a glimpse of the future as the council continues to focus on the four priority areas:

- Enabling and delivering opportunities for sustainable growth
- Providing homes to meet need
- Protecting and enhancing our environment
- Improving wellbeing, reducing health inequalities and supporting cultural activities

All the successes highlighted in this report support and develop the main Council Plan priorities. In upcoming years the council will continue to leverage resources and influence in the areas most needed.

The vision is to make South Lakeland the best place to live, work and explore. The ambition is to have a varied economy with a skilled workforce to support it, a balanced housing market to meet needs, great leisure services and a cultural offer that appeals to residents and visitors alike.

Over the past 12 months the council has continued to provide services and deliver its Council Plan through openness, excellence and valuing people. These values are central to the way the council operates in working for the residents of South Lakeland, providing services and seizing opportunities for new innovations which will be beneficial to the district.

Developing and strengthening relationships with other authorities and government organisations will be key to reducing health inequalities and meeting economic, housing and cultural needs across South Lakeland.

The UK Industry Strategy will help strengthen our foundations for a strong economy by encouraging businesses to invest in South Lakeland. We will continue to work with partners to develop a leading and influential role in the Northern Powerhouse.

Our digital innovation programme (Customer Connect) will give our customers digital access to all their dealings with the council. Customers are at the heart of everything we do.”

Lawrence Conway
Chief Executive



“This annual report provides an overview of South Lakeland District Council’s activities throughout 2016/17 as well highlighting our future projects. This report shows many of our achievements throughout 2016/17.

While the past year has been dominated by the recovery from storm Desmond, it is of enormous credit to officers and councillors that we have also been able to deliver successfully, many important projects. These projects were all part of a suite of Council Plan priorities the most important of which are to achieve our long term ambition for 1,000 new jobs and 1,000 new affordable homes to rent by 2025. The latest figures show we are on target to reach these goals.

My priority continues to be to help the council members and officers to do their very best for the residents of South Lakeland to make sure this is the best place to live, work and explore.

All SLDC councillors have a strong commitment to public service and we all work together to deliver our priorities. Localism has become a strong influence on the way we work. We believe in working collaboratively with communities. By working in partnership, we believe we can achieve the right outcomes for you.

We always ensure the best interests of South Lakeland determine the decision making process and continue to celebrate the achievements of all tiers of local government and the voluntary sector.”

Cllr Giles Archibald
Leader of the Council



Performance

The council is committed to delivering high quality, cost effective services that meet the needs of residents and improve quality of life. To help achieve its goals, SLDC measure performance frequently. The performance management process helps the council demonstrate how well it is doing. Monitoring the success of the Council Plan through scorecards informs improvements and ensures council services address the needs of residents in an open and transparent way. The Performance Measures page on South Lakeland District Council website informs residents of how SLDC are progressing with its Council Plan.

Transparency

SLDC is committed to open data and transparency. The council has made and continues to make its data freely available to everyone in a format that can be reused. Data is added to this directory on a regular basis, including information about council spending, senior salaries, car parks, grants and councillors allowances.

Localism and communities

The South Cumbria Community Safety Partnership focused on alcohol and acquisitive crime. The first Community Alcohol Partnership in Cumbria was launched in January 2017. A CAP is a partnership between the Police, local off licenses, supermarkets and residents designed to reduce underage drinking and provide alternative activities that do not involve alcohol. Complementing this the CSP also commissioned a series of performances in 9 secondary schools across the area to highlight the risks of alcohol for young people. The sessions included workshops, onsite advice and lesson plans.

A focus on rural crime saw the CSP distribute 2000 booklets to rural households on “avoiding scams”, along with local contact details for advice. In addition 1500 booklets full of information and tips on fire and crime prevention and personal health and safety have been handed out to farmers by Fire, Police and Trading standards officers.

SLDC works with groups of parish and town councils (Local Area Partnerships) to tackle local priorities. In 2016/17 LAPs have held meetings with the Police and the Cumbria Police and Crime Commissioner looking at ways to work better together to reduce rural crime. LAPs have worked with Cumbria Highways on ways of improving reporting and flagging up local Highways schemes. Other topics the LAPs have covered include rural healthcare provision, affordable housing in the Lake District and superfast broadband and mobile phone coverage in rural areas. The LAPs collective voice gets these important topics on the agenda for local agencies and means local concerns are given high visibility and a better chance of a successful outcome.

Improving health and reducing health inequalities

Public health benefits result from actions that promote and protect the physical and mental health and wellbeing of people to prevent illness, injury and disability. In South Lakeland we are fortunate that the majority of residents have a high level of healthy life expectancy, however there are areas of inequality within the district. There is also a greater reliance on councils and voluntary groups to deliver public health benefits with our partners. In 2016/17 South Lakeland District Council worked towards Health and Well Being Strategy and introduced health impact assessments which aims to ensure the continual improvement of the health and wellbeing of local residents and

keep public health at the heart of what SLDC and its partners do.

Protecting our environment

Safeguarding and enhancing the environment for future generations has been a priority for South Lakeland District Council over the last 12 months.

Amongst routine duties such as recycling, ensuring the safety of private water supplies and carrying out food establishment inspections, the council has been working to expand the recycling service, providing flood grants to make properties more resilience or resistance and improve community resilience, working with communities and individuals to improve energy efficiency and encourage active travel. Protecting the environment continues to be a priority in the Council Plan 2016-19.

Providing homes to meet need

The council recognises the gap between household income and house prices in South Lakeland and over the last year has continued to working towards increasing the number of affordable homes. Since 1 January 2014 a total of 319 new affordable homes to rent were completed in South Lakeland. SLDC and are on target to deliver 1,000 new affordable homes to rent by 2025. The council has recently been awarded £2.36m for Community Based Housing and is investigating innovative new means of affordable housing delivery.



April

- **New scheme focuses on equality in South Lakeland**

A new equality scheme was launched by South Lakeland District Council to promote equality throughout the district.

The scheme lays out the council's commitment to promoting equality throughout the district, by eliminating discrimination against people based on age, sex, religion, race and a range of other characteristics.

Key objectives of the scheme are to make sure people can access council services through a project to improve digital communications and using the Kendal town centre masterplan to improve access to the town centre for everyone.

This included the Handy Persons Scheme, which has seen its housing team help elderly and vulnerable people by carrying out essential work at their homes such as fitting light bulbs, or installing security measures.



- **Council's Cabinet goes 'out and about'**

South Lakeland District Council's Cabinet meeting was held in Old Hutton on Wednesday 29 April 2016.

Holding some Cabinet meetings at locations throughout South Lakeland has encouraged more local residents to go along and experience the Cabinet meeting process.

In previous years Cabinet meetings have been held at Staveley, Chapel Stile, Sedbergh and Ulverston.

May

- **Flood-hit community celebrated the opening of a new park**

South Lakeland District Council and partners supported the Sandylands Residents Association Trust in its two-year campaign to raise more than £135,000 to pay for the construction of a new park.

The project to rejuvenate Sandylands park was underway before the December 2015 flooding event. Since the event it became part of the community's re-building scheme and opened on the 2 May 2016.

The Sandylands Residents Association Trust worked with SLDC to raise funding and create a design for the park. The park now contains new play equipment and an outdoor gym for teenagers and older adults.

These features support SLDC's aims to improve the health and well-being of residents, as part of its council plan commitment to work to strengthen communities and improve people's lives.



SLDC investigated 380 reports of fly tipping across the district in 2016/17.



A total of 76 new affordable homes to rent were completed in 2016/17.

June

- Council flying the flag for Armed Forces Day



SLDC showed their support for Armed Forces Day by flying a specially commissioned flag to celebrate the essential role of the armed forces both past and present.

The flag was raised by Chairman Councillor Syliva Emmott and Army Captain Steve Firth supported by representatives from SLDC, Royal British Legion, Sea Cadets, Queen Katherine and Kirkbie Kendal Schools.

This was the seventh Armed Forces Day, an annual event that raises public awareness of the contribution made to the country by those who serve and have served in Her Majesty's Armed Forces.

- Localism through the development of Neighbourhood Plans



SLDC have been and continue to work closely with Heversham and Hincaster parishes to develop a Neighbourhood Plan.

These establish general planning policies for the development and use of land in a neighbourhood, such as location and appearance of new buildings.

Since being adopted the Neighbourhood Plan has become part of the development plan for the district outside the national parks and is a key document that has to be taken into account when determining any planning applications within Heversham and Hincaster parishes.

July

- Google business event attracts over 100 South Lakeland companies

South Lakeland District Council teamed up with Google to host a free business event offering South Lakeland businesses expert advice on how to promote themselves online.

Presentations were given to businesses in how to make your website stand out on computers and mobile devices and a learning opportunity on digital marketing and how to use online marketing tools to reach prospective customers.

SLDC's project officer for economic development said: "We were delighted to host this free Google event and to see so many South Lakeland businesses in attendance.

"Events such as this are important in providing our business community with a competitive advantage. This was an excellent opportunity to hear from experts and for businesses to have their questions answered."

Over the past year SLDC have been involved in organising regular networking and advice events for businesses in South Lakeland through the Invest in South Lakeland programme. These events have now been attended by over 1,000 business people.



Total number of crimes in 2016/17 has reduced since 2015/16.



By March 2017 97% of households in South Lakeland were receiving plastic and cardboard collections.

July (cont.)

- **Praise for sound financial management**

A report on our finances revealed that SLDC's investments are out performing benchmark rates.

The report stated that SLDC's external debt has not changed and that gross borrowing has remained consistent with the Capital Financing Requirement, which shows SLDC have not funded any revenue activity through borrowing, which is a key indicator of financial prudence.

A budget saving of £1.2m is being reinvested in key projects to save more money and improve services for residents.

- **Council teams up with charity to offer free microchipping**

SLDC teamed up with the Dog's Trust to offer free micro chipping for pets at various agricultural shows though out the summer.

New regulations that came in power in April 2016 require all dogs to be micro chipped by the time they are eight weeks old. This service would normally cost between £15-£30.



August

- **Record recycling rates across South Lakeland**



In August 2016 figures showed a record high in tonnages for both green waste and recycling. Recycling rates are continuing to rise as South Lakeland residents embrace the kerbside recycling services.

In August 2016 South Lakeland District Council collected 526.46 tonnes of recyclables, easily beating the previous best August figure of 465.56 tonnes collected in 2014.

Council employees also picked up a best ever record of 1,392.60 tonnes of green waste in August 2016, topping the previous record of 1,260.30 tonnes, again from August 2014.

After a decade of steadily increasing recycling rates nationally, analysts had noticed a slow-down and levelling off in the amount of recycling in the past three or four years. These statistics makes the significant increase in South Lakeland even more pleasing.



A total of 106 new jobs have been created in South Lakeland in 2016/17. SLDC are on target to achieve 1,000 jobs by 2025.



A total of 1,031 food inspections were carried out by SLDC in 2016/17.

September

- **National Citizens Service**



Workshops took place throughout August to encourage young people to vote and learn about how their thoughts count.

Students took part in a 'bite the ballot' workshop which encourages young people to become more involved in the democratic process and register to vote.

The afternoon session involved the students being split into groups and forming their own political parties. The groups created a party name, motto and formed a policy under Council Plan areas. There was also an opportunity to talk to councillors to discuss ideas they felt would benefit South Lakeland.



The quality of water at all South Lakeland outdoor bathing locations was rated excellent by government inspectors.

- **South Lakeland ranked as one of the best places to raise a family**



South Lakeland was recognised as one of the best places in Britain to raise a family as a result of a survey by the Halifax, shows the district in the top 15 local authority areas in a 'Children's Quality of Life' report.

Overall South Lakeland was ranked 14th nationally, just ahead of Harrogate and coming second to the Ribble Valley in the north west.

The index is produced annually by the Halifax at a local authority district level from 377 local authority districts across Great Britain.

The survey considered a number of factors that govern the environment in which children are brought up.

The top ranking areas are more likely to have high levels of employment, bigger houses where children are more likely to have their own bedroom, relatively low traffic volumes and population densities and where adults rate personal wellbeing as high.

South Lakeland's strong showing corresponds with South Lakeland District Council's (SLDC's) own Quality of Life Survey results, which showed 89% of people questioned in the district are satisfied with their local area as a place to live.

- **Council Chairman welcomes international education guest to Cumbria**

Chairman of South Lakeland District Council, Councillor Sylvia Emmott, welcomed international guests to Cumbria for a global citizenship project

The project, Global Schools, is a three year EU funded learning initiative exploring how to embed global citizenship education across the primary curriculum.

Cumbria Development Education Centre (CDEC), an Ambleside based education charity, delivers the project in the United Kingdom which involved 17 partner organisations working with schools in 10 different European countries.

Global Schools give children a fantastic opportunity to understand we are living in a global society.



September (cont.)

- **Tour of Britain stage shows county at its best**

Tour of Britain bikers held their pace up the strenuous Kirkstone Pass Struggle and passed through some of the worst flood hit areas.

The undoubted highlight of the stage was the brutal climb of The Struggle to the top of Kirkstone Pass. Spectators lined the road to urge the riders on.

In Kendal the crowds, estimated at over 10,000, were kept entertained in the Promo Zone as they waited for the riders to arrive for the final charge to the finish line on Beast Banks. South Lakeland residents were out in force to support the teams and riders, and showed them a typically warm Cumbrian welcome.

Local sponsors of the stage were Cumbria County Council, United Utilities, University of Cumbria, Lake District National Park, Allerdale Borough Council, Eden District Council, Carlisle City Council and South Lakeland District Council.



Council approved to contribute towards the new Cross-a-Moor Junction to support SLDC's Local Plan.

October

- **Support and funding advice at the Flood Fair**



SLDC organised a special 'Flood Fair' on 8 October at K-Village where residents could attend to find out more information on support and the funding still available.

The event encouraged more residents affected by the 2015 Storm Desmond to apply for up to £5,000 of grants to install flood defence measures to protect homes and businesses from future flooding.

Flood product suppliers attended the fair to showcase products available including flood doors, barriers, special valves and seals alongside demonstrations of the products.

Other organisations such as Environment Agency, Cumbria Community Foundation, The Business Emergency Resilience Group (BERG), Red Cross and Age UK attended to provide information and support for South Lakeland residents.

- **New playground opening at Oxenholme**



On 22 October 2016 residents gathered for the opening of the new Oxenholme playground.

The community group Oxenholme Play Area Development (OPAD) has helped raise funds for the project through a 'crowdfunding' appeal to add to a £25,000 contribution from South Lakeland District Council, £5,000 from Kendal Town Council and other funding from local councillors' member budgets, charitable trusts, leisure organisations and local company donations.

Playground manufacturers, HAGS SMP, designed the new play space incorporating ideas and suggestions from consultations run by OPAD in both 2014 and 2015, for a playground suitable for youngsters aged up to 14 that is accessible to both disabled and non-disabled users.

The SLDC funding has come from its play budget (£5,000) and a further £20,000 from a Locally Important Projects (LIPs) grant.



118 risk assessments for private water supplies were completed in 2016/17.



The number of micro sized businesses has increased since 2015/16.

November

- **SLDC aims for faster access and better service**

A major project is now under way to make it easier for residents to access Council services in South Lakeland.

SLDC is revolutionising the way it works to provide a faster response for customers and better value for money for taxpayers.

The Customer Connect project will replace the council's current IT systems with a new digital process enabling people to carry out transactions more easily with mobile phones or tablets.

By the end of the project annual savings of £850,000 are expected to be achieved. The project is split into three areas: Digital, People and Places.

The Digital element is a joint project with Eden District Council. We are working collaboratively with them and systems experts Meritec to introduce new ways of working and serving customers.

More transactions will be automated with an improved website and eventually residents will be able to use their own accounts to track progress on any requests they have made.

The People element will change the structure and organisation to put a stronger focus on what customers require. Staff will work more flexibly and efficiently with new digital skills.

The Places element is reviewing where



**Customer
Connect**

SLDC staff are based long-term to ensure the council operates in the best possible way in the modern digital age to meet customers' requirements.

The new technology makes it easier for staff to work collaboratively in the community with local groups, working in a more joined-up way will help provide faster and better services.

- **SLDC and partners sign friendship charter with Chinese council**

A friendship charter was signed on 18 November to encourage close working relations between Kendal and the Chinese district of Nanshan.

The aim of a friendship charter is to encourage and promote cross-culture trade, tourism and educational development between the two areas. Representatives from SLDC, Lake District National Park Authority, Kendal Town Council, Nanshan District Government and Kendal China attended a dinner hosted by Cumbria Local Enterprises Partnership where they signed the Charter.

The government officials from Nanshan were visiting the Kendal Mountain Festival an existing partnership with the region, which has its own international mountain film festival.



November (cont.)

• Improving member development

The Member Support Strategy and Action Plan, has been refreshed and will include the digitisation of Member support and the provision of IT to enable members to support the Customer Connect Project.

The Member Development Training Programme is a rolling programme of development opportunities available for Members which is based on a combination of factors which includes training that members need to sit on regulatory committees, changes in legislation, corporate objectives, digital and others skills to support members in their roles.

There have continued to be a number of other Member development activities including:

- Member Support Steering Group continues to monitor the roll-out of the Strategy Action Plan, all training and development for Councillors and contributes to, and influences, the Member Development Programme. Group members also participate in delivering induction training to newly elected Councillors.
- A revised Member Development programme for 2017 / 18 including an amendment to the timing of training to dovetail with the Committee cycle more closely including both essential (mandatory) and recommended training.

- Personal Development Plan (PDP) interviews continue to be the main source of information regarding the training/ skills development requirements of Members. An elected Member is required to have at least one face to face interview following their election or re-election. In 2016/17 30 Members undertook a PDP review, with an addition 10 confirming that they did not wish one at this time.
- Member Induction has been reviewed and updated to ensure Members access key information in a timely manner at the commencement of their role. The Induction system also provides for a buddying system. On-line material is being commissioned to support information provision via digital portals.
- North West Charter level 1 application for re-assessment was submitted in March 2017 with a North West Charter level 2 scrutiny to be undertaken in autumn 2017.

Looking Forward

A number of initiatives for Member support are underway which include:

- Roll out of IT/ digital facilities for Members, and the development of on-line forms
- Monitoring of applications for ad-hoc training requests which are additional to the Development programme.
- Moving towards paperless meetings.



On 11 November a couple toasted to making history by becoming the first people to be married at Kendal Town Hall since it was licensed for weddings in August 2016.

December

- **Plans set for South Lakeland to welcome refugees**

SLDC has offered to help re-settle 285 refugees across Cumbria. Cumbria is accepting 95 people per year across three years. 10 people each year will be re-housed in South Lakeland. Refugees have been arriving in Cumbria since April 2017.

When the Government first asked for support Cumbria was one of the first areas to offer assistance. Work was started to help the refugees in December 2015 but this was delayed because of the devastation caused by Storm Desmond and the need to house those affected by flooding.

The aim of the resettlement programme is to support the families to help them integrate into local communities and become independent.

- **Free car parking on the run up to Christmas**



SLDC offered free parking on Sundays to residents and visitors on the run up to Christmas. This was applied to all pay and display parking across the District that are operated by SLDC.

SLDC is committed to helping our towns and villages to thrive commercially and the free parking offer was made to help support our high streets and shoppers at one of the busiest times of the year.

There is so much to celebrate in our town and village centres and there are some wonderful, diverse and unique shops to explore. Hopefully the initiative encouraged more people to shop local over the Christmas period.

- **Killington hydro energy scheme project**



The community of Killington has been extremely keen to reduce the community's dependency on Carbon Energy and therefore undertook a Carbon Footprint study throughout the village.

In a bid to begin reducing the community's Carbon Footprint the village has worked closely with partners to generate funding for housing insulation and the main project of installing the first community owned hydro scheme. SLDC supported the project by funding specialist advice to begin the community hydro scheme project.

The community raised £300,000 for the project, local people were employed in the construction and the profits will be pumped back into the community.

Other projects include helping a Parish Council with a smaller hydroelectricity scheme, helping a Hydrotherapy trust to reduce their energy costs.

SLDC has supported several community energy schemes through paying for specialist advice from Cumbria Action for Sustainability (Caf's) to encourage other communities to undertake Carbon Reduction Schemes.



By March 2017 a total of 1,259 flood grants applications had been submitted for grants to help install flood prevention methods to those affected by Storm Desmond.



The council has reduced the number of complaints from 167 per annum in 2011/12 to 103 2016/17.




January

- **Solar panel scheme produces major carbon savings**

Solar panels that were installed on SLDC's main offices have shown significant reduced Carbon Emissions.

Since July 2015 the panels have produced enough electricity to offset SLDC's Carbon emissions by over 10 tonnes and reducing the authority's electricity bills by £4,500.

It's estimated that over the 20 year product life of the panels, the council will save around £120,000 and reduce carbon dioxide emissions by more than 300 tonnes.

Female life expectancy in South Lakeland is 84.6 years.



In 2016/17 SLDC investigated 291 reports of abandoned vehicles.

- **Councillors budget support community projects across South Lakeland**

Each year the Member Locality Budget allocates £1,000 to each of our 51 Councillors which can be used to support community projects within their wards.

The money is intended to match other sources of funding available and councillors have used their budgets to pay towards projects ranging from new benches and improved paths to supporting festivals and events.

Throughout this financial year 2016/17 members have supported numerous community projects across South Lakeland. Just some of the many contributions include:

£1,000 towards new playground ground in Urswick

£500 towards a new defibrillator in Swarthmoor

£250 for a new picnic table in Stainton

£500 towards Hawkshead Bowling Club improvements

£1,000 towards new boundary fencing at Grasmere C of E Primary School

£250 Comic Arts Festival contribution

£800 towards the refurbishments in the Foyer at Coronation Hall, Ulverston

£330 towards the development of a new website for Levens Parish Council

£500 contribution towards Coniston Cricket Clubs new pavilion project

£600 for new signage in Dent to Dent Parish Council

£500 for new public seating in Burton in Kendal

- **Leading empty homes boss visits South Lakeland**

The Chief Executive of Empty Homes Agency (EHA) visited South Lakeland to discuss the issues the area is facing. This Charity works to bring empty homes back into use for people with housing needs.

The meeting was a fantastic opportunity that helped the EHA understand South Lakeland specific issues.

SLDC has been working with empty homeowners within the district to encourage the use of their homes in a variety of ways. The support for the EHA will help SLDC drive forward in reducing the number of empty home across the District.

In South Lakeland there are approximately 950 long-term empty homes, which represents around 2% of the 52,000 homes in the district. SLDC aim to reduce the number of empty homes by 20% by 2025.



February

• **Success for South Lakeland at Culture Awards**

SLDC fund strategic partners including Lakeland Arts, the Brewery Arts Centre and Wordsworth Trust, and support a number of festivals and events, including Cumbria Life Culture Awards winners the Lakes International Comic Art Festival and organisations like Lakes Culture and the Lake District National Park Authority's World Heritage Site bid.

The Cumbria Life Culture Awards, supported by Arts Council England and Lakes Culture, recognises the achievements of the county's best creative and artistic talent, festivals and cultural providers.

South Lakeland individuals and organisations won in eight of the 16 categories:

- Designer/ Maker of the year: Waters and Acland, designers and makers of bespoke fine furniture in Staveley
- Choir of the Year: Levens Choir
- Exhibition of the Year: 'Black Dog: The Dreams of Paul Nash', a world-premiere in Kendal of a multi-media performance by artist/filmmaker/musician Dave McKean as part of the 14-18 NOW arts programme to mark the centenary of World War I
- Art Gallery of the year: Abbot Hall Art Gallery, Kendal
- Venue of the year: Brewery Arts Centre Kendal

- Festival of the year: Lakes International Comic Art Festival
- Outstanding Contribution Award: John Fox and Sue Gill, Baycliff, for their pioneering work as founders of Welfare State International

• **Community effort sees 2,000 trees planted across Kendal**



SLDC worked with partners to plant trees at various locations across Kendal. This project was undertaken to improve tree diversity, complement existing wooded areas and replace trees that had been felled due to disease or structural defects.

The trees were supplied through Continental Landscapes Carbon Offsetting scheme and species were specifically chosen to suit each location to ensure trees can thrive.

Additional tree planting is scheduled in other areas of South Lakeland over the next few years. This is in addition to work which is already being carried out by SLDC through regular tree maintenance.

• **SLDC helps to grow the districts economic profile**

SLDC's Economic Development team took an exhibition stand to the two day Northern Powerhouse event to raise the districts profile and network with potential business partners.

The outcomes of this event were developing relationships to work with partners to maximise the district's potential economic growth and encouraged businesses to consider South Lakeland for new investment opportunities.



SLDC have made over 4,100,000 waste and recycling collections in 2016/17.



March

- **Glebe waterfront improvements given the go ahead**

The first phase of work has created additional parking on the section of Glebe Road from Glebe Road car park to the junction of Rectory Road, providing echelon parking bays. This allows for the re-location of on-street parking away from the waterfront section of Glebe Road and create improved footways, carriageways and public spaces for visitors and residents.

Now the second phase will commence. The work will see improvements, funded by SLDC, to the promenade and the shingle beach area that it owns, including crown lifting on the large lime trees along the bay, new surfacing works for footways and parts of promenade, new street furniture and new planting along the highway.

SLDC has a key Council Plan commitment to help our towns to thrive commercially and as SLDC looks forward to a decision on the Lake District's bid to become internationally recognised as a World Heritage Site, the Lake District National Park, Cumbria County Council and SLDC are working together to deliver real improvements at one of the most popular tourist areas in the Lakes.



- **Speech highlights power of partnership working**

The Annual Partners' Dinner hosted by South Lakeland District Council (SLDC) and Cumbria Chamber of Commerce, was held at the Castle Green Hotel on 17 March.

The evening was an opportunity for public and private sector organisations to come together to network and develop stronger relationships. The event was attended by key figures from not only business and commerce but also representatives from education, legal, financial, arts and media organisations.

This year was the seventh Annual Partners Dinner and it was a great success raising funding for Age UK South Lakeland that will be used to buy more equipment for the Over 50s Walking Football Project.

Leader of Manchester City Council, Sir Richard Leese, delivered a speech on the effectiveness of partnership working to business and community leaders. He told the assembled guests how Manchester had driven its regeneration following the IRA bombing of the city in 1996 and how it had forged partnerships to drive the northern powerhouse to 'balance London and speak with one voice' to look to create a sustainable future for the region.

- **Raising of the Commonwealth flag**



SLDC raised the flag to mark Commonwealth Day on 13 March 2017.

At exactly 10am the flag was raised at Kendal Town hall to coincide with more than 950 other commonwealth flags across the UK and Commonwealth countries.

The ceremony in Kendal was replicated around the world by everyone from heads of state and prime ministers to lord mayors, girl guides, scouts and members of the armed forces in a shared celebration of the Commonwealth 'family of nations'.

For the first time in the history of the Commonwealth young members of the United Kingdom Army Cadet Force will take the Commonwealth flag to the top of the highest peaks in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland on Commonwealth Day.







Male life expectancy in South Lakeland is 80.6 years.



79% of food premises in South Lakeland scored 5 or above on the good hygiene rating scheme.

Interactions

Type of interaction	April 2015 to March 2016	April 2016 to March 2017
 Telephone call volume	131,392	118,416
 Press releases and statements	682	416
 Twitter impressions	1,089,700	1,195,000
 Website views	2,941,510	2,619,158

Finance

Budgeted income and expenditure for 2016/17 was:

	Gross Expenditure	Gross Income	Net Expenditure
	£000	£000	£000
Neighbourhood Services	15,080.7	(8,754.4)	6,326.3
Strategic Development	8,124.3	(3,791.8)	4,332.5
Policy and Performance	3,008.4	(689.7)	2,318.7
Resources	23,382.3	(20,116.1)	3,266.2
Cost of services	49,595.7	(33,352.0)	16,243.7
Financing entries and statutory accounting requirements			(1,891.9)
Net increase/(increase) in General Fund balances and reserves			(1,775.8)
SLDC budget requirement			12,576.0
Non Domestic Rates			(3,024.3)
Revenue Support Grant			(934.0)
Other grants			(546.7)
SLDC demand on Collection Fund			8,071.0
Special Expenses (parishes) / Collection Fund Deficit			(31.0)
SLDC Council Tax requirement			8,040.0

The council's Statement of Accounts for 2016/17 can be found at:
www.southlakeland.gov.uk/council-business/finance/2015-16-financial-year/



If you would like a copy of this document in another format such as large print, Braille, audio or in a different language, please call **01539 733333** or email **customer.services@southlakeland.gov.uk**

