

Hello all

Please find below a quick monthly update which highlights some of the work I'm involved in. I have included updates for the whole division, as many of you will be interested in work happening outside your area too. Some local updates, some on wider priorities for Cumbria County Council and Cumbria as a whole.

- ❑ **Front Street, Alston:** For any councillor who may not have read the latest updates on Front St, head over to the dedicated webpage: www.cumbria.gov.uk/alstonfrontstreet

- **Winter maintenance review:** Work continues on the county wide review of winter maintenance plans, and for us in East Fellside in particular, work on pulling together a working group to identify priorities for maintenance, and get plans in place in time for next winter. We were lucky this year in having a mild winter, but we know that won't continue so this work is essential to ensure we're as ready as we can be for whatever the weather brings. Having spoken to you all over the past months I have contacts from many of the parish councils that would be keen to be involved in this work. Should anyone else be keen to join us please let me know as soon as possible to ensure you're included. Tracey Moran from our Area Team will be coordinating this work, and as of the 20th of this month, a new member of staff within that team means Tracey will be picking this up as a priority for coming weeks and months.

Councillors will also be glad to know that the new Unthank Weather station is up and running, and collecting data. I am awaiting a link from officers so we can view the station and data, and will share it as soon as I have it.

- **Health Scrutiny:** Next meeting is on the 22nd of May, and this will be the meeting where we welcome the new representatives from the District Councils. We won't know who the representative for Eden will be until after this week's District council meeting when they will hopefully agree their administration and appointments to bodies.

Councillors wishing to read previous minutes of the committee can do so at the following link:

<http://moderngov.ccc/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=152>

- **Appleby Fair:** As parish councillors will be aware, our local PCSO Tony Labram will be maintaining a presence on the Market Cross in Alston from the 28th of May to the 5th of June, and I will be joining him for at least some of the time, as I hope will some parish councillors. The main aim is to keep a

visible presence, and hopefully be able to ensure a smooth journey for those travelling to the fair and for the communities through which folk are travelling.

For areas outside Alston Moor, I would also invite councillors across the division with any concerns to contact both Tony and myself in the first instance so we can ensure they're addressed promptly.

- **Pidgeon netting on Market Cross:** I have made officers aware of the fact that the netting on the Market Cross has been damaged recently, and have asked for an update on when the permanent metal mesh replacement is due to be put in place. If councillors recall, this will be a small gauge metal mesh, suitably coloured to ensure it is as invisible as possible, and CCC have worked with conservation officers to ensure it meets requirements for a listed monument. I will update councillors as soon as I hear from the lead officer.

- **Highways England Dualling of the A66 consultation:**

Highways England is starting a public consultation on the high level options for the full dualling of the A66 between Scotch Corner and Penrith. The attached flyer contains information on the consultation and proposed drop in events.

- **Careers in nursing, press release from NHS in Cumbria:**

Celebrating Nursing: Cumbria has excellent opportunities to train as a nurse

This International Nurses' Day the NHS in Cumbria is shining a spotlight on the many different ways people can train to become a nurse in Cumbria.

12th May marks an annual celebration of the contributions that nurses make to society. Cumbria Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (CPFT) and North Cumbria University Hospitals NHS Trust (NCUH) are using this celebration to highlight the growing number of local routes into nursing.

Gill Long, head of nursing for clinical education at NCUH, explained: "There are more opportunities for trainee nurses in Cumbria than ever before. This has allowed us to keep more local talent in the area, give our staff the recognition they deserve and help them to reach their potential. It's fantastic to see so many doors opened by the apprenticeships we now support, especially for staff who, for personal reasons, were not able to take the traditional university route."

How can you become a nurse in Cumbria?

- ❑ Cadets: Level 3 college course with placements. After two years cadets will have the qualifications, skills and experience needed to begin work as a health care assistant or to continue their nursing journey.
- ❑ Nursing associate apprenticeship: two year programme open to staff from CPFT and NCUH to bridge the gap between health care assistants and registered nurses.
- ❑ Nursing degree apprenticeships: apprenticeship route to a nursing degree open to CPFT and NCUH staff.
- ❑ University degree: traditional route into nursing, three year university programme with placements.

When discussing why she chose an apprenticeship Louise Chapman, nursing associate apprentice at CPFT, said: "I feel an apprenticeship is an excellent way of learning for anyone. You get to learn on the job skills and you still get paid, this was the only way I could progress."

Newly qualified nurses, those returning to the profession or new to the organisation complete a robust 12 month preceptorship period to ensure a safe and supportive transition into their role. It enables staff to take on more responsibility as they develop more skills.

A nursing career pathway tool has been developed by Cumbria Partnership NHS Foundation Trust and North Cumbria University Hospitals NHS Trust to show the different opportunities available to staff. Available at: https://staff.cumbria.nhs.uk/download_file/view/1930/2096

The above press release was sent on behalf of Cumbria Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (CPFT) and North Cumbria University Hospitals NHS Trust (NCUHT)

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This week I will be attending the following parish council meetings:

Monday 13 Hunsonby

Tuesday 14, Kirkoswald

Wednesday 15, Langwathby

Apologies to Alston Moor, Culgaith and Garrigil Ward meeting which I won't be able to attend this time around due to diary clashes.

Best

Claire

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