COUNCILLORS’ ANNUAL REPORT
2017/2018

NAME: Councillor Dean Fitzpatrick
WARD: Heaton’s South

INTRODUCTION

MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES
Committees:
Council
Cabinet
Heaton’s & Reddish Area Committee
Education Monitoring Panel (Chair)
Schools Capacity Admissions & Places Group (Executive, Chair)
Schools Capacity Admissions & Places Group (Ordinary Committee)
Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Scrutiny Group
Children’s Trust Board
Continuing Education Improvement Board (Chair)

Outside bodies:
Schools Forum
Adult Education, Skills and Partnership Board
Stockport Disability Forum

Disability Champion for Stockport Council.

BOROUGH ISSUES
Continued cuts to Local Authority funding by the government are making it increasingly difficult to deliver the services many of our residents need, made more challenging by a growing population. Between the period 2010 to 2020/21, the cumulative total forecast cuts forced on Stockport Council by the government will be £147m.

The challenge now and in the future is for a Labour Cabinet to reform services so those most in need can access support when they most need it, to empower people by reducing dependency, defend the interests of the people of Stockport, to promote fairness throughout the whole community, and to work in partnership with the public and private sectors to encourage the regeneration of Stockport.
LOCAL ISSUES

As Councillor I make regular contact with the residents of Heaton’s South; including on the doorstep, at public meetings and surgeries. Residents have raised many issues for me to deal with me about the local community, some of which have been highlighted in our quarterly newsletters delivered to the whole ward.

DETAILS OF ATTENDANCES

100% attendance.

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

The Dedicated Schools Grant allocation following the Department for Education’s funding settlement released in December 2016, including the (SEND) sixth form funding, was £206.271m.

The Summary Outturn for the Education portfolio consisted of:

- Home to School Transport/Travel Passes £2,842,000
- School Improvement £508,000
- 14-19 Services £745,000
- PPL Other Services £835,000
- SEN Support Services £377,000
- Psychologists £355,000
- **Education Portfolio sub-total (PPL Only)** £3,992,000

- Adult Education -£154,000
- Community Groups £46,000

**Total Education Portfolio** £3,884,000

**Total Reserves Deployment** -£31,000

**Adjusted Position after reserves** £3,853,000

OUTSIDE AND GOVERNING BODIES

See above.

LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Part-time degree student with the Open University (self-funded). I also attended several training sessions during the previous twelve-month period.

OTHER EVENTS/ WORK / ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2017/18 the Education Portfolio delivered:

- **£25m capital investment into schools**, at no additional cost to the taxpayer.
- **£14m capital investment into Special Educational Needs & Disabilities** to support our most vulnerable pupils and create the additional places we need in the primary sector, without government support and at no additional cost to the taxpayer.
- **The best ever GCSE results in Stockport.**
- Improved the Adult Education rating from “Requires Improvement” to Good, with Ofsted quoted as saying, “senior leaders and managers have successfully amended courses, so that adults develop the skills they need for future work”. **93 learners moved into employment.**
- More than **6000 pupils trained on Road Safety Around Schools**, the highest ever in Stockport.
- More than doubled the number of businesses attending the Apprenticeships Store, with a **50% increase in apprenticeship contracts** since 2015 helping **68 more young people into apprenticeships**. The Apprenticeships Service was **awarded the Princess Anne Training Award**, the only Local Authority in the country to receive this in 2017/18.
- Successfully lobbied the government with the f40 Group and other Local Authorities to increase per-pupil funding to Stockport Schools by **£1.2m**.
- **Record number of parents and young people attending the post-16 training events** to meet prospective employers.
- **“Living Life to the Full” education psychology programme set up** to support children and families’ mental well-being.
- Successfully lobbied government to make water sprinkler system a legal requirement in all new schools.

In my spare time, I continue to be a member of The Friends of Crescent Park, with notable improvements during the last year including a very successful free community fun day; the installation of a new running track, exercise equipment and picnic tables.