

APSE Annual Seminar 2014

The Ensuring Council: Transforming the Frontline

Session 3 – Stewardship of Local Places
Maintain Core Capacity to Secure Local
Outcomes

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The Lancaster District



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Ten Strategies for the Ensuring Council in 2020

Available within the APSE publication
**“The Road to 2020: A manifesto for the
Ensuring Council”**

Our Ethos

Stewardship – ensuring the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the local area

Core Capacity – maintaining the strategic advantages of in-house services to meet local needs

Municipal Entrepreneurialism – capturing opportunities for collaborative innovation and income generation

Collaboration – working with a range of service providers on a collaborative basis rather than through competition

Policy – grounding local decision-making in political accountability

Social Justice – ensuring the values of local government are founded on equality and meeting community needs

Sustainability – ensuring that the council contributes positively to the challenge of climate change and the need to manage our environment

Value for Money – focusing on economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

Our Priorities

- Clean, Green and Safe Places
- Health and Wellbeing
- Community Leadership
- Sustainable Economic Growth

Waste Collection

- Direct workforce
- Trade waste
- Bulky Matters
- Full range of recycling provision including food waste to all properties
- APSE benchmarking shows vfm



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Public Realm

- Green Flag parks
- Direct workforce deliver range of public realm functions (eg street cleaning, grounds maintenance, car parks, markets)
- Excellent working relationship with County Council and other partners
- Schools and parish councils
- Community involvement



Leisure

- Retained leisure service
- Subsidised leisure facilities
- “Go Card” leisure pass
- University student access to leisure facilities
- County funded Healthy People Programme



Housing

- Retained council housing
- Direct workforce for maintenance
- Investment available for new build council housing
- Section 106 and LEP funds to bring forward private housing
- Partnership with housing associations
- Prevent homelessness
- Affordable warmth



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Arts Economy

- Important part of local economy as cultural offer for post graduates
- Visitor economy
- An economy in its own right



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Play in the Park

- Example of arts supporting premier council park
- Park brought back into council control
- Direct workforce



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Museums

- Partnership with county council
- For residents, but increasingly aimed at visitors
- Part of cultural offer to attract post graduates



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Sustainable Economic Growth

- First in north west to adopt LDF Core Strategy
- Visitor economy
- Knowledge economy
- Energy economy
- Careers advice to address skills gaps



Municipalisation of Energy

- Solar panels on 14 buildings (including Salt Ayre Sports Centre and main depot)
- Eg Depot installation contributes £17k per annum (initial cost - £100K)
- Renewable Energy Strategy leads to consideration of:
 - Solar farm
 - Biomass boiler(s)/ supply chain



Continuous Improvement and VFM

- Shared services with other councils
- Investors in People
- Living Wage
- Developing skills through apprenticeships
- Supporting ward councillors working with communities.