Portfolio Responsibilities

The Council Plan objectives in relation to promoting culture and the arts.

To work with our cultural organisations to attract investment and to promote South Lakeland as a premier area for Arts and Events.

The relationship of the Council with its citizens; civic participation and the Council plan objectives around leisure, health and wellbeing and working with communities.

Working with key partners with regards to public health and community safety.

Policies, Plans and Strategies:

- Arts and Events
- Grants Strategy
- Health and Wellbeing strategy
- Public Health
- Community Safety Strategy

Key Areas:

- Arts and Culture
- Grants
- Public Halls
- Use of community assets for the promotion of arts and culture
- Young people/ projects
- Heritage and Events
- Heritage Listed Buildings and built environment
- Community Development
- Crime and Disorder reduction
- Public Health
- Voluntary Sector Engagement
- Leisure and Recreation
The Portfolio in 2016/17

Arts and Culture

The 3 year Cultural Strategic partnerships supporting our ACE National Portfolio Organisations, Cumbria Museum Consortium, and Lakes Culture remain at the heart of our cultural strategy. Our funding in this area ensures resilient, dynamic organisations that make SLDC the leading rural cultural destination in the UK. We have also supported these organisations capital bids (Wordsworth Trust, Lakeland Arts, and The Brewery Arts Centre) to ensure the future of these key institutions.

We continue to develop our sports adventure projects such as Big Chill Swim, Tour of Britain, and Kendal Mountain Festival and look to further develop our reputation in the future.

Arts and Events Grants

A review of Arts and Events two year grants will take place towards the end of September with the aim of streamlining the process of grant giving and reducing the administrative burden for grant receivers as well as the organisation.

Public Halls and use of Community assets for the promotion of arts and Culture

This year will see a new chapter in the history of the Coronation Hall as it is leased to the new Coronation Hall charity. Ulverston Community Enterprises will run the Hall as a community hub and seek to further develop the value and activities it delivers for Ulverston and the surrounding area. The transfer is one stage of the Council’s review of its main property assets in Ulverston. It is the most significant localism and community asset transfer project for the Council to date, also involving the community management of the Ulverston markets.

Kendal Town Hall has been regularly used for Arts and Culture events within South Lakeland. Previous examples include the White Noise Young People’s Festival, Comic Arts Festival, Kendal Mountain Festival and Kendal Torchlight Festival.

Young people/ projects

SLDC will host a political awareness day with the National Citizens Service. This summer the Council will work with over 100 young people discussing democracy and registering them to vote. The local MP will be attending one of the sessions along with elected members.

Heritage and Events – Heritage Listed Buildings and built environment

A Heritage Strategy is currently being prepared which will set out the council’s objectives and priorities for the delivery of its historic environment conservation service. This will be finalised by the end of March 2017.

A List of Locally Important Heritage Assets has been prepared for the SLDC part of the Arnside & Silverdale AONB area and this will go out to public consultation before Christmas 2016.

The council will continue its established service sharing arrangement with Eden DC to provide timely conservation and design advice on planning proposals; and in an oversight role in connection with the Alston Moor Townscape Heritage Initiative scheme.

Field survey work by the Ulverston Civic Society to inform the preparation of a Conservation Area Management plan will be completed.
Community Development

SLDC continue to work with Local Area Partnerships. Over the next 12 months, in addition to the regular LAP meetings, there will be South Lakeland LAP wide conferences on flooding, broadband and the developing Integrated Care Communities. In addition the LAPs will be working with Cumbria Highways to improve the Highways Hotline system for users. In addition the role of the Parish Liaison officer will be strengthened to further support the Parish Charter and promote closer working relationships between SLDC and Parish and Town Councils.

Crime and Disorder reduction

The 2 South Cumbria CSP priorities for 2016/17 are tackling alcohol related crime and acquisitive crime. A range of projects are being worked up including commissioning a theatre group to tour South Cumbria schools highlighting the impacts of alcohol and work on preventing shoplifting and raising awareness among older and vulnerable residents of fraud and burglary.

SLDC Health & Wellbeing Strategy and Action Plan

Work is currently underway to update both the strategy and action plan, considering the report from the King's Fund and the District Council Network regarding District Council’s contribution to public health. Health statistics for Cumbria and South Lakeland will also be considered, as well as data regarding the determinants of health such as housing, the environment, education and employment.

South Lakeland Health and Wellbeing Forum

South Lakeland District Council will continue to work with partner organisations and support the work of the local health forum. The group are currently revising their Terms of Reference and membership, and investigating potential projects within their identified priority areas for young people and children, working age people and older adults.

Health, Social, Economic and Environmental Impact Assessment

The Health, Social, Economic and Environmental Impact Assessments were agreed at SMT in April 2016, after the end of the financial year an assessment will be carried out to look at where positive and negative health impacts have been identified as well as the completion rate.

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

We will continue to contribute to and assist with the production of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment which is led by Cumbria County Council. It is expected that the Public Protection group will have more in depth involvement in the production of the Environment chapter.

Active Travel

The Active Travel Position Statement and Action Plan has recently been approved by cabinet. The group will continue to meet to progress active travel projects, new opportunities are identified and to ensure that successes are publicised.

Voluntary Sector Engagement

An SLDC/ voluntary sector partnership working review will be completed in summer. The review will make recommendations on improvements and efficiencies to SLDC’s working arrangements with the 3rd sector. There will also be a review of the SLDC grants process aimed at simplifying,
streamlining and working smarter with partners. SLDC continues to provide ongoing support for the third sector through the South Lakeland community recovery group.

**Leisure Partnership**

This is the third year of the new Leisure Partnership between the Council and North Country Leisure. The focus to date has been the successful establishment of the new operation of the Leisure Centres. A focus will now be developed on the outreach work, taking physical activity programmes out to the community, aiming to promote active and healthy lifestyles. Links will be strengthened with public and voluntary sector organisations which work to improve health. The Indoor Leisure Facilities strategy is to be adopted which will guide future facilities provision, including the support and enabling work which community led initiatives may require to get their projects up and running. The Council will be further investigating the opportunities for the Ulverston leisure site.