

Cllr Edwina Hannaford - Full Council Report January 2020

Looe Tri Service Safety Officer - keeping Looe safe

I had the great pleasure to catch up with the Looe Tri Service Safety Officer Phil Whittingham last week. I was interested in finding out more about his role in serving the community of Looe and how we could work more closely together.

The Tri-Service Safety Officers (TSSO) purpose is to provide a 'supportive link between Devon and Cornwall Police, CORNWALL Fire and Rescue and Community Safety Service, South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust and Cornwall Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Team. The role has a number of additional responsibilities such as; Safeguarding Advocate, Youth Intervention/ mentorship. The role is principle community based building relationships, gathering intelligence and assisting people in need from a community safety perspective. If needed Phil can turn out for a shout with Looe Fire and Rescue, act as a first responder in a medical emergency, support the Police in his PCSO role and challenge anti social behaviour.

For example Phil has recently attended to someone at home in his role as a first responder and while there he offered advice on home fire safety measures; even fitting smoke detectors free of charge in that of a vulnerable persons home.

Phil encourages young people to recruit to the 12 week Phoenix training Scheme. Using the core values of Cornwall Fire & Rescue Service Phoenix aims to help improve our communities, the economic prospects of young people across Cornwall by delivering high quality regulated training solutions.

The courses are held at community fire stations across Cornwall, or at premises if there is a large enough group. Phoenix also run the Prince's Trust Team Programme and a range of tailored short intervention courses for a range of clients including schools, parent and family groups and job centres. They also have extensive experience in providing bespoke teambuilding activities, for a diverse range of groups. www.phoenixcornwall.co.uk

Phil regularly talks to young people in Looe, building trust and understanding and above all keeping them safe. The role promotes collaborative, partnership working, something I am a strong advocate of with my Localism and Devolution responsibilities in Cornwall Councils cabinet.

Phil supports the Looe Police Neighbourhood Team and assists with completing neighbourhood enquiries (101 calls made to police – non emergency). These enquiries afford the TSSO with the opportunity to identify additional areas of concern together with fire safety, safeguarding, anti-social behaviour, protection matters, youth intervention and health difficulties. This provides opportunities for an officer to assist with making agency referrals and arranging multi-agency meetings.

Phil has also been working with Looe Cllrs Penhaligan and Newman on the Looe Youth Big Conversation and promoting Dementia friendly Looe training courses.

I have also been working with Phil and the owners of Talland Bay Cafe to provide a defibulator on the side wall of the cafe. I have contributed £200 from my councillors community chest. Talland is quite a remote area of Lansallos Parish but is a well worn route for walkers on the SW Coast Path so this would be a welcome safety provision between Looe and Polperro.

Phil works 3 days on 3 days off in Looe and in his days off he attends college working towards an NVQ 3 in community safety as well as being an in call fire fighter closer to his home in Camborne.

Listening to him talk with such passion and commitment to keep our community safe, he says he is itching to work in Looe full time!

If you want to find out more about his role supporting the community I've asked him to make a short presentation to the Library and Community Committee of Looe Town Council on 15th January from 7pm upstairs in Looe Library Community Hub, Millpool, West Looe. Members of the public are welcome to attend and find out more about his role and that of the Looe Library Community Hub and Looe Town Council.

New waste contract

Cabinet agreed last week to offer a new waste collection and street cleansing contract to Biffa. The contract for Waste and Recycling Collection, Street and Public Open Space Cleansing will start on 3 October 2020, and run for 8 years with an option to extend for a further 2. Biffa is among the most experienced waste management and cleansing companies in the UK and has been providing these services in Cornwall in recent years. Visible changes next year will include a new state-of-the-art collection fleet, wheeled-bins and food waste collection. There will be weekly separate collection of food waste, with fortnightly recycling and rubbish collections. From summer 2021 in a special campaign every household will hear from the Council about their own role in this recycling revolution. If, like most of the top-performing parts of the UK, we begin putting our food waste out for collection every week from Summer 2021, we can in one leap transform our recycling rates from the currently disappointing 38% to over 50%." The contract includes street recycling as championed at Looe Live Music Festival last September.

Subsidised bus contract

The new contract award means new bus routes, more frequent services and greener buses in Cornwall from April 2020

Bus services in Cornwall are set to further improve from April 2020 when a new package of supported services is introduced with improved frequencies and routes, reduced fares for passengers, better links with rail, integrated school transport services and more environmentally friendly buses.

A new eight year contract has been awarded to Go Cornwall Bus, a subsidiary of national company Go-Ahead, to deliver a network of Council subsidised local bus routes which are essential to local residents but are not commercially viable. There will be new services and improvements to existing routes including:

- Direct links to Derriford Hospital
- Launceston to Bodmin Town Centre and Parkway station
- Newquay to Redruth direct
- St Austell to Lostwithiel via Tywardreath Highway
- Truro to Bodmin via Summercourt and Indian Queens
- increased number of journeys between Hartland, Bude and Marhamchurch
- additional journeys on services between Bude and Launceston and Bude to Truro
- Truro to St Mawes to operate hourly on Mondays to Saturdays connecting at Tregony with two hourly Veryan to St Austell services
- Cornwall Airport Newquay to Truro Railway Station

These are the latest in a series of improvements to bus and rail services in Cornwall. Improvements to public transport in Cornwall over the past 3 years has seen passenger satisfaction increase from 85% to 95% and passenger numbers increase by 5% year on year, bucking the national trend which has seen a reduction in bus travel.

The Forest for Cornwall

We are developing a range of initiatives with partners to enable residents, landowners, schools and communities to help plant and grow the Forest.

Everyone can get involved in helping grow the Forest for Cornwall in a number of ways, including:

- Host your own tree planting event with neighbours or colleagues. The Woodland Trust are giving away free trees for schools and communities to plant
- You can also apply for funding for community tree planting through the Council's Grow Nature Seed Fund.
- Share #Forestforcornwall on social media and download the Facebook profile frame which says "I'm supporting Forest For Cornwall" - and encourage your followers to get involved
- If you have land available for potential planting, using our 'Tell us' contact form
- Find out about becoming a parish volunteer tree warden and being part of the Cornish Parish Tree Warden Scheme
- Pledge to plant a tree as part of the Big Climate Fightback with the Woodland Trust.
- The council launched the initiative by planting 162 trees in a council owned land in Saltash just before Xmas.

Climate change action plan

We are working on more Localism Climate Change workshops for our city, town and parish councils and our Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise organisations. The workshops will build on the information shared through the Localism Summit and will help provide practical guidance on how to develop their own action plans and develop ideas. The first is likely to be in Liskeard in March. We are also working with Eden and other community groups to develop a series of Cornwall Stakeholder Group events to bring groups and organisations together to share expertise and to encourage collaboration on local solutions. There are also more School Eco-Conference style cluster workshops planned for the summer term to bring schools together to help progress their great work and further their accomplishments. Looe Community Academy along with all secondary schools has signed up the eco schools charter.

CloS Local Industrial Strategy

All Local Enterprise Partnerships are tasked with developing a Local Industrial Strategy which demonstrates how areas will raise productivity in the economy, in line with the Government's national Industrial Strategy. As a CLOS director I am helping to shape this strategy. We have to clearly define priorities for how cities, towns and rural areas will maximise their contribution to UK productivity, and allow areas to make the most of their distinctive strengths.

Our aim is to develop a strategy which makes a compelling case to government and private sector investors, built on evidence of our county's distinctiveness and future opportunities for economic development, jobs and wages growth.

The strategy builds on the CloS LEP 10 Opportunities document 'Towards a Local Industrial Strategy' and the Vision 2030 Strategic Economic Plan. This focused on People and Place, Innovation and Creativity, Productivity-Led Growth, Inclusive Growth, Building Great Careers, Vibrant Communities and Global presence.

One of the priority areas is tourism. None of us living in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly need to be told how important tourism is to our economy – around a quarter of our jobs are tourism based, and the sector gives a great introduction to the world of work to many of our young people. Each year around 4.5 million people vote with their feet for Cornwall as the UK's favourite place to stay, and another 14 million visitors come on day trips – all told that's £2 billion coming into Cornwall every year.

One of the LEP's jobs is to champion Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly when the government in London is setting policies, and we worked hard to influence the Tourism Sector Deal that was announced recently by the Prime Minister.

Sector Deals are how this government focuses investment of money and time into growing businesses and creating jobs, so it was really important that we got a good deal for Cornwall.

And overall, we were pleased with the announcement. The big news was that the government will support a number of the things we've been pushing for:

- Investment in a Tourism Data Hub – this will give access to bang up to date information about trends and spends, so our tourism businesses know precisely what visitors, especially international visitors, are looking for.
- Investment in apprenticeships, so more of our young people will be able to build careers in the high skill, high pay parts of the tourism sector.
- Help to provide more hotel rooms – especially useful to attract business and conference visitors during quieter times of year.
- Investment in accessibility, so everyone can enjoy holidays here – Britain has been lagging behind on providing facilities for people with different abilities or disabilities.

The government announced the creation of five Tourism Zones to drive visitor numbers across the country, with targeted extra support for small businesses – it'd be outrageous if the UK's top tourism destination missed out on this!

We're also calling for the government to pass more of the budgets it hands to London-based organisations like Visit Britain straight to Cornwall – we think we can attract more overseas visitors if we're given the means to get on with it ourselves. And we're calling for the creation of a national centre of excellence to train the very brightest and best for careers in tourism, and to enable the UK to beat off stiff competition from France and Italy to attract millions of new global travellers from fast growing economies like China and India. What a great opportunity for the whole UK to benefit from Cornwall's expertise.

Tourism is one of the big economic growth opportunities that the LEP is championing. Let's hope the government understands this and supports us to do what we do best.

Cllr Edwina Hannaford
Cornwall Councillor - Looe West, Lansallos and Lanteglos