

Parishes – SBC Working together for the residents of Swindon.

04th October 2023

Councillor Jim Grant – Cabinet Member for communities and Joint working

Background

Since 2017 the Parishes have played a significant role in providing part of the service provision for the residents of Swindon.

The increasing cost pressures have led to a reduction in Services provided by SBC with this set to continue as budgets get tighter and demands around Children's and Adult social care continue to increase.

The new administration recognises the value that the Parishes bring to the residents of Swindon and the enormous contribution they make.

The new administration is also keen to develop a closer working relationship with the Parishes for the overall benefit of all and to support the service provision for residents to continue.

How can we develop our partnership

We have listened to the comments and suggestions and have put in place a Parish Liaison Officer (Francesca Stec) to provide the support on how we work together and resolve issues that come up.

We are working to deliver a Parish Hotline to also urgently raise concerns and issues.

We are keen to identify ways where we can provide mutual support for both the Parishes and also for SBC.

Proposal for consideration

- In order to develop the partnership and also progress we would suggest the forming of two working groups to work on the following
- 1. Parish Protocols – The procedures and systems we have moving forward.
- 2. How we provision services moving into the next financial year and beyond and how we support Parishes in areas where SBC has an ability to do so..

- Questions / Views