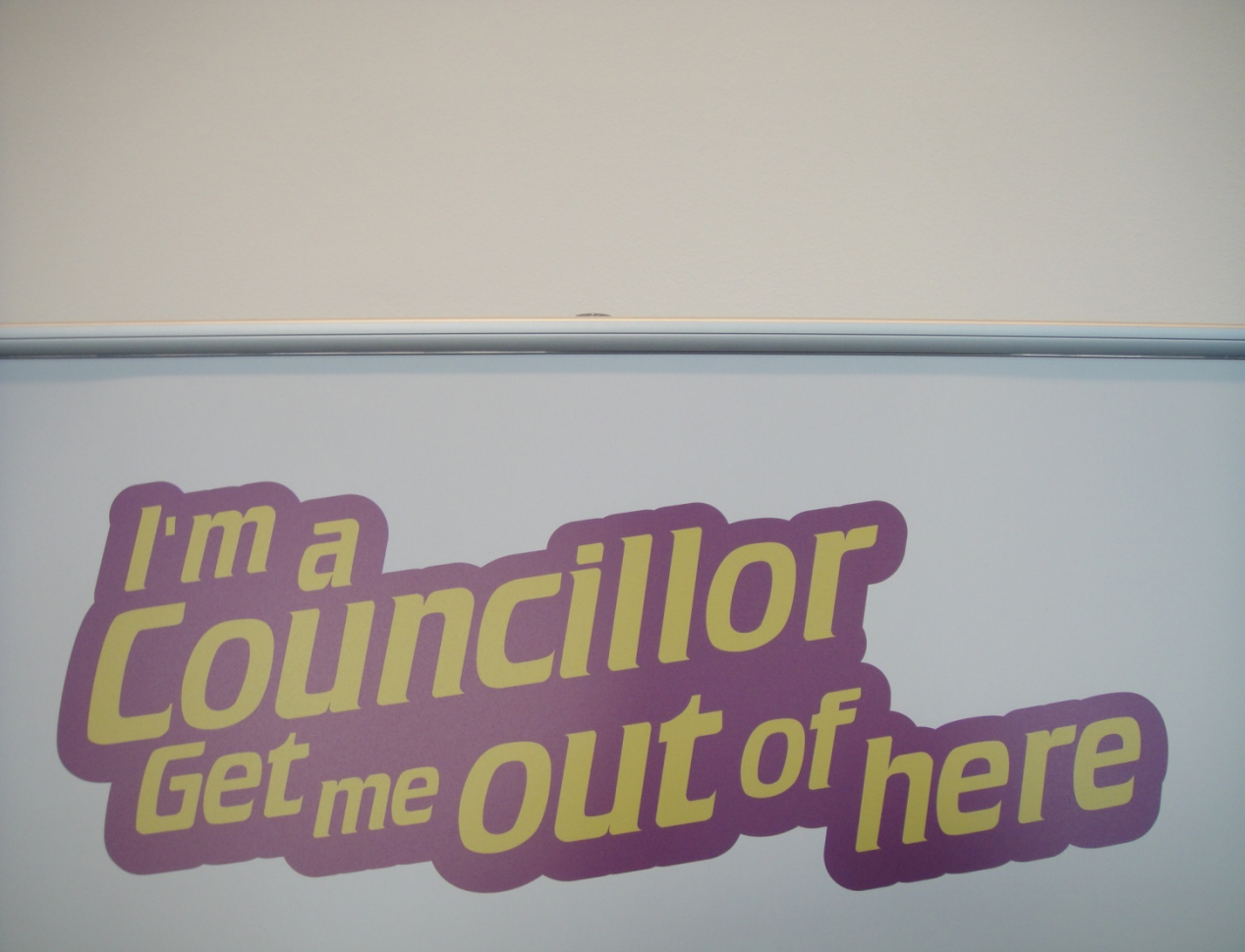


Things that keep me awake at night!





Building a stronger civil society in Cheshire West and Chester.

- “...where people in their everyday lives....
- Don't always turn to officials, local authorities or central government for answers to the problems they face....
- But instead feel both free and powerful enough to help themselves and their own communities”.

A major change in thinking.

About public services

Not (just):
How can the state drive up performance on cancer care?

But

How do we help/push people to live healthier lives?

About local problems

Not:
When will the council sort that hazardous play area?

But

Could the people on our street take it over and do better?

About disadvantage

Not:
How do we manage this persistent 2% out of the system?

But

How do we change society so it doesn't fracture this way?

This could affect almost every aspect of social policy and beyond

The challenge for the sector, “leading not pleading?”

- Do you want to deliver public services/ Getting ready for partnership/consortia.
- Does your way of working stimulate social action?
- Are you able to ally with financial partners to access social investment, have you got the right finance in place?
- What is your role in place based budgets & locally integrated services?
- Your role in delivery better health care outputs for the same or less resource?
- Your role in transparency-using local data to raise concerns, holding local services to account.
- Technology-challenging long held assumptions.

Challenge for local government and the wider public services.

- How can you open up more public services to a range of providers?
- How can you go further on community empowerment.
- How can you stimulate more social action?
- How can you utilise technology in these processes?

- Decentralisation-how can you make the most of new freedoms?
- Transparency-what data would help local services to account?
- Access to finance-how can you support development of capacity in civil society, including the role of social enterprises.

A new policy anyone?

- Focus on Deficiencies.
 - Problem Response.
 - Charity Orientation.
 - Grants to agencies.
 - More Services.
 - High Emphasis on Agencies.
 - Focus on Individuals.
 - See People as Clients.

 - Fix People.
 - Programmes are the Answer.
- Focus on Assets.
 - Opportunity Identification.
 - Investment Orientation.
 - Grants, Loans, Investments, Leverage.
 - Less Services.
 - Emphasis on Associations.
 - Focus on community development.
 - See People as Citizens & Co-producers.
 - Develop Potential.
 - People are the Answer.

Disruptive Innovation!

- ...we should not be naive enough to think that if the state rolls back and does less, then miraculously society will spring up and do more”



A shared responsibility.

- Ken Clemens, Policy & Campaigns.
- Age UK, Cheshire.
- Thank you.

