

# Cabinet

## Annual Report 2009/2010



**Report from the Leader of the Council**

The past municipal year in Wyre Forest has been another year which has seen significant challenges present themselves to the Council. I am exceptionally pleased with the way the Council, its management and its staff have met every challenge with professionalism and increasing ingenuity.

The year has seen some significant changes in the senior leadership of the Council and I very much welcome our new Chief Executive and the tremendous skills he brings with him to Wyre Forest. I look forward to working closely with him as this Council continues to move forward.

I am also exceptionally grateful for the support and commitment of my Deputy, Councillor Marcus Hart and of the Cabinet, as the Administration has moved through this last municipal year making progress in the vast majority of our priority areas.

The past 12 months have been littered with many successes, not least of which the continued progression towards rationalising the council's office accommodation, continued rise in visitor numbers at Bewdley Museum, investment in our public open spaces, agreeing and implementing a significant restructure and agreeing our sixth budget.

The Administration has continued to engage with all parts of the Council, it has played an active part in the Council's Scrutiny Committees which I am confident has added value to the decisions this Council has made.

Financial constraints will continue to figure largely in the Council's decision making as the economic crunch continues to be felt here in Wyre Forest. I am very proud of the way that the Council has adapted to quickly changing economic conditions and I am confident that the Council will continue to come up with ever ingenious ways of meeting those financial challenges as we endeavour to continue to provide quality services to our local residents.

In conclusion, 2009/2010 has been a year where the Council has re-established itself in the wake of external financial pressures and has set the foundations for continuing to move the Council and Wyre Forest forward.