

## LEADER'S STATEMENT - COUNCIL 1 SEPTEMBER 2016

I hope you have all had a good summer and been able to take in some of our local agricultural shows. We have a very diverse range of shows, which all provide a magnificent showcase for our food and farming industry, but I will have to single out the Ryedale show for special mention. It was fabulous - especially looking back on the history of the show. It was great to see the Duchess of Kent attend the show in its 150th year.

Following on with the agricultural theme, I am pleased that the Government has announced that it will continue to pay farm and other subsidies currently received from Brussels after Britain leaves the European Union until 2020 .

The £40million pound fund to help tourism is also very welcome and recognises the importance of tourism to our economy - tourism was worth in excess of 22billion pounds to the country last year.

The Treasury has also promised it will fully fund structural and investment funds, which are significant to our LEP area and our growth plans, which we have agreed in the Ryedale Economic Action Plan . This should be good news for the extension of Thornton Road Industrial Estate - which is one of the schemes which has been prioritised for progression through the application for Local Growth Deal funding.

We have quite a sizeable agenda tonight and I do not intend to talk at any great length. My last topic for tonight will be Ryedale District Council.