Welcome to the first report of the new Rochdale North Township Committee, to which I am pleased to have been appointed Chair. Myself and Cllr. Zaman, Chair of Rochdale South Township Committee, are already working closely together. We will be discussing various cross-over projects during the coming months, such as extended Christmas lights displays in the Town Centre and how we can work together to deliver these.

We also attended D-Day Commemorations and the Armed Forces Flag raising ceremony together.

Township Committee
The first meeting has taken place and the open forum received questions in relation to planned works to repair and improve paths around Syke pond. I have requested a full report on this matter for the next Township Committee in September.

Representation was also made by members of the ‘Save the Seven Sisters’ campaign, who expressed their concerns at the consultation exercise that RBH had undertaken, and members expressed their support for the work of the residents who were opposed to the course of action being proposed by Rochdale Boroughwide Housing.

Rochdale North Township Action & Resources Committee
The first delegated sub-committee took place in early July. A number of community groups attended to request funding support on a range of projects, including a festival of light, assistance in providing drug and alcohol treatment support and holiday events. A number of highways safety schemes were also considered.
Central Rochdale Area Forum
Officers updated the forum on matters relating to flood risk management and also informed residents that members will be asked to consider a number of potential sites for the development of a temporary traveller site.

Healey Area Forum
Representatives from ‘Save Ashdene Woodland’ attended the meeting to make members aware of a planning application recently submitted. Questions were asked in relation to various traffic and environmental matters. Residents raised concerns about the ‘triangle’ at the junction of Dell Road. I have taken their concerns direct to the relevant officer and requested action.

Norden Area Forum
Ward Councillors have been attending to matters including traffic regulation orders, the decommissioning of wind turbines and also monitoring anti-social behaviour in the village. The ward has again been entered into the Rochdale in Bloom competition and judging takes place this month. Volunteers have started work in Norden to spruce areas up including Jubilee Park rockery and the War Memorial.

Spotland & Falinge Area Forum
The forum took place for the first time at Falinge Community Hub in Falinge Park. Attendance was good with a number of new residents coming along for the first time. The next meeting will take place here and the meetings in December and March will return to Spotland Methodist Church.

In Bloom
Preparations are under way for North West in Bloom judges arrival on 22\textsuperscript{nd} July to make sure all our parks, open spaces, streets, hanging baskets and other flower displays etc are all at their best possible for judging. Big thanks to all our frontline staff for their hard work so far and still to come: they really work very hard to ensure they are showing the Town at its best to visitors. Thanks also to In Bloom and Friends groups for various sites for all their volunteering efforts.

Regeneration
Members met with Officers in June to discuss various regeneration projects happening in the Rochdale North and South Townships. This meeting is a really useful way of sharing information that members can then use to communicate positive messages about our Borough.

Service Group Meetings
Myself and Cllr. Zaman, Chair of Rochdale South Township Committee, met earlier in July with officers from Highways, Street Lighting and Environmental Management. We will also be attending the quarterly meetings for the Highways Champions. Any Member wishing to raise an issue in any of these service areas is encouraged to refer to myself or Cllr. Zaman.

Norden Carnival
The carnival took place on Saturday 15\textsuperscript{th} June, the event was extremely well attended as always, the pictures were fabulous and the event was another example of how well our local communities pull together.
Electric Bicycle/Tour of Britain
In Healey, my fellow ward councillors and members of the area forum are considering the possibility of purchasing an electric bike for the Neighbourhood PCSO to assist him with his duties, very fitting given that the Tour of Britain will visit our Borough on Saturday 14th September.

The route can be viewed here: www.tourofbritain.co.uk. I would like to take this opportunity to encourage members to engage with community groups, businesses, schools and other organisations along the route. It would be fantastic if we could get shop windows dressed in a cycling theme, and some really colourful activity along the way to make the most of this great opportunity to showcase our Borough.

Councillor Shaun O’Neill
Rochdale North Township Chair

Thank you Mr. Mayor, I will be pleased to answer any questions from Members of the Council about these or any other matter relating to the Rochdale North Township Committee.