

Question: CS19.1

Cabinet – 2nd June 2020

Re: Agenda item 19 – Port Communities Resilience Fund

Statement submitted by: Councillor Don Alexander

I have been very involved with the PCRf since its inception and I believe we have developed here a model of local authority and community partnership working that could easily be applied elsewhere. Whilst this report outlines the areas of life most visibly impacted, what might not be so clear are the benefits generated by the years of discussions and community engagement but which are not easily quantifiable.

Through presenting robust challenge to governance and self-sufficiency amongst community groups, many of the outcomes of the fund will only truly become evident in the future in the form of increased community resilience and cohesion. I would like to pay tribute to the many BCC officers who have contributed over the years in such a mutually co-operative manner. Personally, I will take with me into my future thinking a powerful impression of partnership working between a local authority and communities that has demonstrated how much can be done with relatively modest financial input. I recommend making time to read this report and I would be happy to meet with anyone who wished to speak further about our experience.