

# **Watford Borough Council Members' Performance Scheme 2015/16**

## **End of Year Self Assessments**

### **Introduction**

The Council introduced a Member Performance Scheme in February 2008. Part of the scheme required Councillors to complete a self assessment at the end of each Municipal Year providing evidence of their activities and demonstrating how these contributed to the Council's objectives:

1. Making Watford a better place to live in
2. To provide the strategic lead for Watford's sustainable economic growth
3. Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town
4. Operating the Council efficiently and effectively

19 Councillors have completed self assessments representing 9 out of 12 wards. The assessments are summarised in this document.

The training listed for each Councillor is what they have undertaken during 2015/16.

# Callowland Ward

**Ward councillors Sohail Bashir, Favour Ewudo and Seamus Williams**

Councillor Ewudo completed a self assessment

## **Councillor Ewudo**

**Year elected: 2015**

### **Reasons for becoming a councillor:**

To advocate for the most vulnerable in the community ensuring equal opportunities fair access, social inclusion and enhanced citizenship participation.

### **Roles in the Council:**

Licensing Committee, Major Projects Board and Housing Policy Forum.

### **Membership of outside bodies:**

I was appointed to the board of Well Spring Board. I am governor in Grove Academy and a Trustee of the Aspire Academy Trust.

### **Training & Development undertaken:**

- 13.05.15 Induction
- 18.05.15 Development Control
- 02.06.15 Licensing
- 02.07.15 Public Speaking
- 14.07.15 New Housing Online Application System
- 15.07.15 Finance, Revs and Benefit Briefing/Induction
- 21.10.15 Explore new funding for local authorities to support Troubled families
- 03.11.15 Procurement/Contract Issues

**Attendance Record:** Percentage = 95%.

### **How she has met Council Objectives**

#### **Making Watford a better place to live in**

- Taking up residents' complaints and resolving them
- Reporting potholes, litters and rubbish
- Funding skips from my locality budget for Callowland residents to ensure a cleaner and healthier environment

Attending Callowland resident's association and continuing to advocate for planning and parking concerns

- Taking up case work in housing, domestic violence and school admissions from residents of Callowland and resolving them to the satisfaction of the residents.

#### **To provide the strategic lead for Watford's sustainable economic growth**

- Attending St Albans road traders meeting and continued to advocate for regeneration of the area
- Attended all Major Projects Board meetings and asked relevant questions to ensure efficient use of resources in proposals and planning of new and existing projects
- Attended all licensing committee meetings and advocated for sustainability of local businesses for examples cafes and local taxi businesses and further job creations.

#### **Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town**

- Supporting the homeless charity New Hope Trust by engaging with members of the community to supporting last Christmas
- Engaging with the Disability Recreation Unity Movement (DRUM) in Callowland with regards to accessibility concerns
- Accompanied Callowland PCSO and other police officers during community safer street door knocking to discuss residents' concerns
- Attended the remembrance day on November 2015.

#### **Operating the Council efficiently and effectively**

- Attended all council meeting except one (due to bereavement)
- Attended all committee meetings and asked relevant questions to challenge officer to question their proposals for example I questioned the performance CAPITA in one the meetings in another questioned officers in housing/homeless assessment for women fleeing domestic violence
- I shadowed customer services, housing and benefits staff in the town hall for half a day to obtain frontline experience of the operations of the council in real life. I provided appropriate feedback on improving efficiency and effectiveness based on my previous work experience in London local authorities and as a former contact centre manager.

<b>Objective for 2015/16</b>	<b>Update on progress</b>
To begin to learn the art of local government governance and to continue to advocate for the regeneration of St Albans road and	

improving the lives of residents in Callowland	
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**Objective for 2016/17**

- To continue to learn the art of local government governance and to continue to advocate for the regeneration of St Albans road and improving the lives of residents in Callowland
- To seek for opportunities to train and develop leadership skills in preparation for future responsibilities
- To seek for opportunities to shadow other committees especially Overview scrutiny and development control, cabinet functions.

# Central Ward

**Ward councillors Stephen Bolton, Mike Haley and Rabi Martins**

Councillors Bolton and Martins completed a self assessment

## **Councillor Bolton**

**Year elected:** 2014

### **Reasons for becoming a councillor:**

- To support and represent residents
- To have a say in decisions affecting the local area and Watford more broadly
- To contribute to improvements to the local environment.

### **Roles in the Council:**

Council; Licensing Committee; Council Functions Committee; Community Safety Partnership Task Group; Central Neighbourhood Forum; 'Get Active' Steering Group (Chair)

### **Membership of outside bodies:**

Council Oversight of Wellspring Church, Queens Community Action Group, Watford Foodbank Trustee

### **Training & Development undertaken:**

- 02.06.15 Licensing training
- 02.07.15 Public Speaking training
- 06.01.16 Watford Town Hall Square Improvement briefing

**Attendance Record:** Percentage = 93%.

### **How he has met Council Objectives**

#### **Making Watford a better place to live in**

- Attending meetings with the police to discuss residents' concerns, addressing issues of anti-social behaviour, and looking at priorities for Central Ward
- Observing items in need of repair or improvement, and reporting them as appropriate, such as fly-tipping, pot holes, and graffiti
- Responding to residents' requests for assistance, or concerns expressed

- Raising issues on planning applications, which may have an adverse impact on residents, or which may not take account of the local area, including addressing the Development Management committee
- Putting forward suggestions to relieve parking problems
- Supporting the work to maintain conservation areas, to improve open spaces, and to see where more trees can be planted.

**To provide the strategic lead for Watford’s sustainable economic growth**

- Supporting developments in the town, including the BID
- Becoming involved in meetings with various stakeholders looking at how the new market is working, and potential improvements which could be made
- Supporting the Health Campus development
- Working with local businesses, particularly in Queens Road.

**Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town**

- Chairing the ‘Get Active’ Steering Group, a Lottery Funded project, which is helping Central Ward residents to become more active and develop healthier lifestyles
- Attending Neighbourhood Forums, which provide useful information for residents. They also give residents the opportunity to ask questions of the speakers (such as the police or the Mayor) and councillors
- Attending residents’ associations meetings, and also meetings at residential homes/accommodation for the elderly
- Arranging the delivery of regular newsletters, which keep residents up to date concerning events and developments.

**Operating the Council efficiently and effectively**

- Attending Full Council and other committee meetings, being appropriately prepared by reading relevant documents
- Communications with council officers on matters that arise or on issues raised by residents
- Attending training sessions as appropriate
- Membership of Licensing Committee, and Community Safety Partnership Task Group, and sitting on licensing sub-committees when appropriate.

<b>Objective for 2015/16</b>	<b>Update on progress</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support and engage with residents</li> <li>• Encourage the development of residents’ associations, with initially 1 more being set up</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This has been ongoing</li> <li>• A residents’ association has been formed in Watford Fields</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develop my knowledge and experience, so I can become more effective in my role.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• This has also been ongoing, including attending further training and briefings</li></ul>
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**Objective for 2016/17**

- Continue to support and engage with residents
- Support residents' associations, and help them to be sustainable
- Continue to develop my knowledge and experience, so that I can be as effective as possible.

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## **Councillor Martins**

**Year elected:** 1994-98, then again in 1999. Last elected 2012

### **Reasons for becoming a councillor:**

- Help define and deliver services to Watford residents
- Improve the quality of the lived environment in my ward (Central) by working closely with residents groups
- Provide residents with a voice on the council
- Support the town's voluntary organisations
- Make representations on behalf of the town to Central Government via our MP.

### **Roles in the Council:**

Member Budget Panel; Lead - Central Neighbourhood Forum; Member Community Safety Partnership Task Group; Council; Chair Development Management Committee; Joint Housing and Planning Policy Advisory Group; Member Overview and Scrutiny Committee; Member Planning Policy Advisory Group; Member of various Task Groups and Chair of Conservation Management Task Group

### **Membership of outside bodies:**

- Hertfordshire Police and Crime Panel
- Central Ward Community Fund Management Team
- Vice President, Watford North Scouts District
- President – Watford Rotary Club
- Director Governor – St John's Church Primary School

### **Training & Development undertaken:**

- 23.06.15 Licensing Training
- 21.10.15 ASB Management and the wider Community Safety portfolio
- 14.01.16 Watford Junction Issues and Options workshop
- Planning related conferences
- Various briefings on Watford Market with senior managers

**Attendance Record:** Percentage = 82%.

### **How he has met Council Objectives**

#### **Making Watford a better place to live in**

- Had regular meetings with the police to discuss and inform their priorities for central ward



- Regular walks around the ward to identify elements that were in need of repair/improvements reported these to the appropriate council department to for action
- Met regularly with resident groups to solicit views on general state of the town in terms of cleanliness transport, antisocial behaviour lighting etc
- In particular worked with residents of Watford Fields and helped (advised on producing a Constitution and helped organise inaugural meeting) them set up the Watford Fields Residents Association (WFRA)
- Engaged with local residents and community groups and provided support including with funding from the Neighbourhood Forum Budget
- Worked with Estcourt Road Residents Association to produce Greening Central Ward Action plan.

### **To provide the strategic lead for Watford's sustainable economic growth**

- Continuing discussions with the Mayor and Managing Director to resolve issues around the new Watford Market
- Continuing focus on the quality of the built environment through membership of the Planning Policy Advisory Group and regular discussions with the Council Conservation Team
- Review of processes linked to property building and improvements and the introduction of Development Management approach as opposed to development control. The revised approach enables the council to take a more holistic view of design and infrastructure issues
- Critical analysis of Council Financial Strategy by serving on Budget Panel
- Discussions with Portfolio holder and Lead Officers on the Parking Enforcement Policy. This has resulted in the decision to introduce overnight stay facility in the town's car parks at a discounted rate. This is due to be implemented shortly
- Support for local businesses by meeting small business owners regularly and participating in meetings and forums.

### **Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town**

- The main vehicle for this has been the Neighbourhood Forum meetings which I organise as the lead councillor  
By holding the forums in different parts of the ward I ensure that it is not just the usual people who attend. The attendance also changes depending on the key item on the agenda
- I also use the monthly group meetings to influence policy decisions that have an impact on the whole town. A key aspect of this is arguing for continued support for the community and voluntary sector organisations in the town
- Central Ward councillors also deliver regular newsletters to every household in the ward which feature key developments in the town as well as implications of new local and national legislation / rule changes.

### **Operating the Council efficiently and effectively**

- Scrutiny of the Council’s administration and services management at Overview and Scrutiny meetings
- Discussions with Service Managers on how to resolve issues raised by residents to address short term problems. This has been particularly useful in maintaining a high level of cleanliness in the streets by provision of additional litter bins etc
- Regular meetings with Development Control Section Head to review processes such as notification of applications to residents enforcement of planning conditions etc.

<b>Objective for 2015/16</b>	<b>Update on progress</b>
<p>Maintain a high level of engagement with local residents and businesses to ensure that Central Watford remains a safe and pleasant place for residents, businesses and visitors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I am satisfied that the objectives were fully met. This assertion is based on the positive comments – verbal and in emails – that I and fellow ward councillors receive from constituents</li> <li>• I have also been invited to address residents and business groups</li> <li>• Central Ward Councillors also have regular formal meetings with the Police. This is in addition to frequent email and other informal communication</li> <li>• I regularly comment on Licensing applications and when appropriate make representations at committee on behalf of residents</li> </ul>

**Objectives for 2016/17**

- As in previous years, maintain a high level of engagement with local residents and businesses to ensure that Central Watford remains a safe and pleasant place for residents, businesses and visitors
- Continue to work as a key member of the Central Ward Team to engage with residents on a regular basis. The objective is to undertake two street surgeries in every street in the course of the year, sharing the workload and taking a lead on some aspects with mutual agreement of team members
- Work with all concerned to promote the new space being created at the top of the town (Parade Area) as a feature of a family friendly Watford town centre
- Maintain and enhance my support for local community and residents groups to enhance the sense of community

- Play a proactive role in the future definition and implementation of Development Management strategies and policies.

# Holywell Ward

**Ward councillors Nigel Bell, Jackie Connal and Matt Turmaine**

Councillors Bell and Turmaine completed a self assessment

## **Councillor Bell**

**Year elected:** 2007

### **Reasons for becoming a councillor:**

To make a difference to the lives of residents in my local area with regard to anti-social behaviour, highways issues and education policy as the father of 2 children. As a member of the Labour Party, to put forward Labour policies that could help the most vulnerable and least well-off in my local area and across Watford.

### **Roles in the Council:**

Became Leader of Labour Group in May 2012; as the Leader of the Labour Group I have continued to attend the Cabinet to question the Mayor and her Cabinet on their policies and put forward the Watford Labour Party views and policies. Member of Development Management Committee, Budget Panel and the Major Projects Board.

### **Membership of outside bodies:**

I am a member of the Advisory Board of the Westfield Children's Centre and the County Councillor for Vicarage/Holywell division (West Watford).

### **Training & Development undertaken:**

- 03.11.15 Procurement/contract issues
- 09.12.15 Child Sexual Exploitation
- 06.01.16 Watford Town Hall Square
- As a Borough and County Councillor for West Watford, I have been a member of and attended the Highways Liaison meetings at the Town Hall in conjunction with Herts Highways and Borough Officers on Highways issues
- Throughout the Year I have had meetings with Highways Officers in connection to the Croxley rail link and the progress on the project, important as the 2-new stations in West Watford will be in my division
- I have also had briefings from County Officers throughout the year on various highway issues in my area, including a specific briefing to Borough Councillors on November 17<sup>th</sup> regarding the building of the Wiggshall Road Link Road.

**Attendance Record:** Percentage = 90%.

## **How he has met Council Objectives**

### **Making Watford a better place to live in**

- I have questioned County Officers about County issues in Watford as a County Councillor, arguing for better road repairs. I have also taken up many issues of residents' complaints about potholes and other Highways maintenance issues, such as streetlights and the new LED lights
- I have been able to use most of my Highway Locality budget to have much-needed repairs to potholes and renew footways in my West Watford division particularly in the old part of Holywell estate (Charlock Way, The Roundway, Combe Road, Healey Road, and Clyston Road)
- As a member of Chessbrook Education support centre as the local County Councillor, I am a member of the management committee and have continued to take an interest in children who are educated outside their school and vulnerable
- As a member of the County Council's children's services panel and as the County Labour spokesperson for children's services, I have argued throughout the year on behalf of 'Homestart' who provided the vital visiting link to many parents in West Watford and who had their budget cut by the County Council. I have continued to support Westfield children's centre throughout the year in the vital work they have done for vulnerable families
- On the 9<sup>th</sup> December I attended a briefing at the Town Hall 'Child sexual exploitation' (CSE) awareness
- Again on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2016 I had attended an updated briefing on CSE
- I have again taken up school place issues from parents from my division and across Watford and argued for more primary school places across Watford at County Hall, and was pleased to see the new primary school open in Ascot Road in Holywell last autumn that I had campaigned for.

### **To provide the strategic lead for Watford's sustainable economic growth**

- I have continued throughout the year to be a member of the Council's Development Management Committee. I have made comments at most Development Management meetings. I take the membership of DMC very seriously as it has such far reaching and important implications for the town
- I have continued taking up various issues of parking concerns by residents regarding enforcement in my division working with the Parking Shop and Highways Officers. I also urged the administration to consult on a possible Controlled Parking Zone for the area in my division and I am pleased we finally have a decision on introducing a CPZ into Zone M/N after 3-years since the original consultation
- As a member of the Major Projects Board I asked questions of Officers regarding the new Watford Market and Charter Place, the Health Campus and particular importance for West Watford the development in Ascot Road

- As Leader of the Labour Group I was pleased that our Group was able to put forward budget proposals to freeze the Council tax and protect vital services as well as again get St Albans Road regenerated and renewed and although it was defeated it was important to make this point again on behalf of residents there and the town's future growth
- As Leader of the Labour Group I organised a briefing for Labour members from senior Watford Council Housing Trust Officers on the trust's plans and recent performance on the 20<sup>th</sup> January.

### **Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town**

- As usual I attended the Annual Remembrance service
- I attended some Watford Live events and 'Imagine Watford' events
- I have asked questions of Officers throughout the year on planning applications and on building enforcement
- I have continued in 2015/16 to attend the Holywell Action Group set up by Holywell residents with the help of the Housing trust to inform and influence actions by the Trust for Holywell residents and taken up issues that were raised at the meetings with the Police, NHS and Fire and Rescue
- My main casework has continued as ever to be Housing related issues as always and I have continued to have contact with the Borough Council Housing Officers on behalf of residents as well as Officers of the Housing Trust. This is by phone, email and meetings
- I have met my local Police and Police Community Support Officer throughout the year taking up residents' enquiries on crime and anti-social behaviour and I again took part with my fellow Holywell Labour Councillors in the Police's 'safer streets' project in Holywell liaising between Officers and residents.

### **Operating the Council efficiently and effectively**

- This year as a member of the Budget Panel I have continued to ask questions of Lead Officers on all aspects of Council finance policy, and particularly on housing and the homeless in the town
- Again as Leader of the opposition and Labour Group, with the boundary changes and 'ALL OUT' elections in May 2016, I felt it important to have briefings to the Labour Group from the Council's senior management team so members understood the financial and policy positions of the administration as we prepared our manifesto and policies
- These meetings led by the managing director of the Council took place on the 16<sup>th</sup> November 2015 and then again on Tuesday January 5<sup>th</sup> 2016
- Throughout the year I continued to deliver Labour leaflets explaining Labour policy in being able to oppose the Liberal-Democrat administration, as well as continuing to put down motions and opposing the Mayor's policies and questioning her at Full Council and writing letters to the Watford Observer and helping my Labour colleagues in being an effective opposition
- I have also advised residents with certain issues to contact the office of the MP

- I have had contact and communication with the Labour Party nationally and with the Labour Party Local Government Association for advice and help
- I continue to not only work to promote the Labour Party policies as a local Councillor but also to work with all Councillors of whatever party for the good of the Town and try to give help and advice where I can.

<b>Objective for 2015/16</b>	<b>Update on progress</b>
To continue to represent residents in my ward of Holywell and across Watford to get the best value out of the Council and as Leader of the Labour Group to put forward the Labour view in the Council chamber and question the Liberal Democrat administration.	I have continued throughout the year to scrutinise the Lib Dem Council and Mayor at Council meetings as Leader of the opposition and have put forward the Labour alternative view for our town.

**Objective for 2016/17**

To continue to represent residents in my ward of Holywell and across Watford to get the best value out of the Council and put forward the Labour view.

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## **Councillor Turmaine**

**Year elected:** 2012

### **Reasons for becoming a councillor:**

- To represent my community and constituents
- To promote political engagement
- To contribute to the cultural and economic development of the town
- To foster harmony and integration amongst the town's diverse communities
- To be a voice for the many
- To highlight the impact of legislation on our community and constituents.

### **Roles in the Council:**

Development Management Committee

**Membership of outside bodies:** -

### **Training & Development undertaken:**

- 03.11.15 Procurement/contract issues training

**Attendance Record:** Percentage = 90%.

### **How he has met Council Objectives**

#### **Making Watford a better place to live in**

- Engaged with WCHT on planning and development issues of relevance to residents
- Attended community based events through West Watford Community Centre and Holywell Community Action Group
- Participated in petition to change burial regulations for benefit of Watford's diverse community requirements
- Attended WHHT AGM
- Attended community organisation events, e.g. Audentior Awards, Community at the Colosseum, Amnesty.

#### **To provide the strategic lead for Watford's sustainable economic growth**

- Attended New Hope Market Garden Day
- Support local economic and cultural events in local ward, e.g. Imagine Watford, Christmas Market and Hertfordshire events of relevance to Watford
- Support local business and retail



- Provide support, feedback and engagement with local businesses
- Participated in Watford Fair Trade Fortnight.

**Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town**

- Attended Remembrance Sunday event at memorial at Town Hall
- Visited Watford Hospital Radio events in constituency, e.g. Laurence Haines School Fete
- Attended Hertfordshire County Show
- Attended National Libraries Day at Watford
- Attended Eid Celebration event
- Engaged with residents on legislation and issues of local relevance.

**Operating the Council efficiently and effectively**

- Attended full council meetings in order to actively participate in the process of local government as an elected member
- Submitted motions to council to promote decent standards in local government on matters of local concern (including working with other parties to effect successful passing through council)
- Attended committee meetings in order to exercise member scrutiny on relevant developments through Development Management Committee
- Upheld the member code of conduct in engagement with council officers.

<b>Objective for 2015/16</b>	<b>Update on progress</b>
Represent my constituents, participate in council meetings, uphold the council code of conduct and continue to develop my skills through training and relevant briefing sessions.	Yes. I have continued to represent my constituents, and uphold the council code of conduct.

**Objective for 2016/17**

Continue to represent constituents living and working in Holywell ward and play an active and supportive part of the council’s democratic process.

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## **Nascot Ward**

**Ward councillors Mark Hofman, Linda Topping, and Mark Watkin**

Councillors Hofman, Topping and Watkin completed a self assessment

### **Councillor Hofman**

**Year elected:** 2012

#### **Reasons for becoming a councillor:**

To engage with local residents, help Constituents with issues they may encounter and ensure the interests of young people are heard.

#### **Roles in the Council:**

Council, Licensing, Highways Forum, Budget Committee, Major Projects Board, Standards Committee

**Membership of outside bodies:** -

#### **Training & Development undertaken**

- 03.11.15 Procurement/contract issues Briefing
- 06.01.16 Watford Town Hall Square Improvement Briefing
- 14.01.16 Watford Junction Issues and Options Workshop

**Attendance Record:** Percentage = 76%.

#### **How he has met Council Objectives**

##### **Making Watford a better place to live in**

- I attend to residents' casework and support my fellow Nascot councillors with their work on behalf of local constituents; this is usually concerned with planning issues, parking, schools and potholes
- In the last year I helped organise a residents' forum and liaised with local Police, Highways and stakeholders to ensure they have a regular opportunity to hear the issues our constituents may have
- Meet with residents and officers to discuss their planning concerns in a 1-2-1 capacity whenever required
- Meet with residents and officers to discuss their parking concerns in a 1-2-1 capacity whenever required
- Meet with residents and officers to discuss their Tree Protection Order (TPO) concerns in a 1-2-1 capacity whenever required

- Work with residents associations to improve local parks, participating in several clean-up sessions.

**To provide the strategic lead for Watford’s sustainable economic growth**

- Nascot is home to several active residents’ associations. I have supported their activities through the use of our WBC forum budget, attended their meetings, functions, fundraisers and met with the groups’ leaders and members whenever needed
- I provide information to residents via our frequent newsletters, telephone calls and personal visits
- Attend civic events such as the Remembrance service at the Town Hall and St Mary’s Church
- Participate in fundraising events such as an abseil for New Hope Trust
- Supporting local residents with their objections to local development plans and representing their views at Development Management Committee on a regular basis
- Attended the Watford Junction master plan consultation and made recommendations to master planners.

**Operating the Council efficiently and effectively**

- Member of the Major Projects Board
- Regularly researching new legislation affecting the Council and where possible best practice from other authorities.

<b>Objective for 2015/16</b>	<b>Update on progress</b>
To work with all of my local colleagues and stakeholders to build a stronger, well informed community.	I have built my knowledge of local government by attending training sessions and briefings during the past year to ensure I am up-to-date with changes in the local landscape.

**Objective for 2016/17**

To ensure we protect and enhance the wonderful character of Nascot Ward

## **Councillor Topping**

**Year elected:** 2015

### **Reasons for becoming a councillor:**

I wanted to make a difference on Watford Council, working closely with the MP, Richard Harrington and County, whilst representing the local residents.

### **Roles in the Council:**

Overview & Scrutiny; Development; Conservation Task Group; Functions, Facilities; Appointments.

### **Membership of outside bodies:**

Conservative Party

### **Training & Development undertaken**

- 13.05.15 Induction 2015, Democracy and Governance, Code of Conduct, Managing Director, IT, Facilities
- 18.05.15 Development Control
- 02.06.15 Licensing
- 14.07.15 New Housing Online Application System
- 21.10.15 ASB Management and the wider Community Safety portfolio. All Member Briefing
- 09.12.15 Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Awareness
- 14.01.16 Watford Junction Issues and Options Workshop

### **Further information**

Fully enjoyed taking part in all courses, developing the working relationship within council and elected officials.

Being an active member of the H&S for the Masters Tournament being held in the Grove in October 2016.

Representing Council/ward on interfaith walk

**Attendance Record:** Percentage = 62%.

**How she has met Council Objectives**

- Helping progress major projects within the Town
- Supported Town Partnership
- Task Group for Conservation
- Community Safety Briefings
- Herts Highways Forum.

**To provide the strategic lead for Watford’s sustainable economic growth**

- Taken a keen interest in the Watford Junction Station Regeneration, bringing both jobs and housing to Watford
- Met Line Extension debate
- Watford Town Hall Square consultation.

**Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town**

Went for a day out to Hatfield and took part in a well-being and mental health conference.

Taking a keen interest in the boundary change, ensuring fairness at all times.

**Operating the Council efficiently and effectively**

- Working with Council officers
- Visit to County at request of Frances Button. Understanding of how County works with Borough Council.

<b>Objective for 2015/16</b>	<b>Update on progress</b>
Listening to my residents. Helping to sort out many problems, from tree felling to blocked drains, attending all residents’ meetings.	

**Objective for 2016/17**

- To be re-elected so that I continue working with the residents of Nascot and listening to their concerns and problems.
- Working with the MP and county, forming close working relationships.
- Holding Council to account over decisions and scrutiny meetings.

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## **Councillor Watkin**

**Year elected:** 2006

### **Reasons for becoming a councillor:**

My principal reason was, and remains my desire, to improve the facilities and services provided to my Ward by the council and its associated bodies. "To make a difference" to the lives of the community I serve.

### **Roles in the Council:**

Cabinet; Chief Officer Pay Panel; Council's Heritage Champion; Council Functions Committee (Chair); Licensing Committee; Joint Housing and Planning Policy Advisory Group; Planning Policy Advisory Group; Portfolio Holder for Legal and Democratic and Shared Services; Property Investment Board.

### **Membership of outside bodies:**

- Chessbrook ESC – Governor
- Friends of Cassiobury Park – member
- Nascot Residents Association – member
- Friends of Watford Museum – member

### **Training & Development undertaken**

- 15.10.15 ASB Management and the wider Community Safety portfolio. All Member Briefing
- 03.11.15 Procurement Contract Issues
- 12.09.15 Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Awareness
- 01.06.16 Watford Town Hall Square Improvement Briefing
- 02.10.16 Implementing Universal Credit: The Next Steps for Local Authorities Provider (Public Policy Exchange)
- 22.03.16 Update briefing on CSE prevention in Watford

**Attendance Record:** Percentage = 92%.

### **How he has met Council Objectives**

#### **Making Watford a better place to Live in**

- Having been appointed the Council's Heritage Champion, I see it as my responsibility to protect the wealth of interesting buildings and industrial heritage from being destroyed or misused

- While no longer on the Friends Committee I have continued being actively involved in finding a use for the wonderful Little Cassiobury, possibly as a heritage museum or an arts centre
- I am a member of the Friends of Cassiobury Park'
- I have worked to enhance the facilities of all the parks in my ward as these are vital to the development of a healthy lifestyle for all our community
- I work closely with all the major Residents Associations who do such an excellent job of highlighting areas of concern in my ward
- Through my role as a County Councillor have worked to ensure that there is sufficient primary and secondary education provision for the young people of Nascot and indeed the whole of Watford
- I am working to reduce the problems of speeding on roads in my Ward and I actively support the 20 is Plenty Campaign and will be introducing the first 20 MPH zone in Nascot in 2016
- I have challenged those development schemes in the ward that have been inappropriate or not in keeping with our neighbourhood. Regrettably Planning Inspectors do not always agree with me and more particularly the community's views
- I regularly report Highways faults using the online reporting tool on the HCC website
- I am able, through my role as County Councillor, to use their Highways Locality Grant to bring about significant improvements to the highway and pavements in my Ward.

#### **To provide the strategic lead for Watford's sustainable economic growth**

- I am in the fortunate position to be a member of the Cabinet, and in this role I have reviewed and supported the plans for the economic development of the town, among which are the Health Campus project, the development of Charter Place, the new market, the renovation of Watford Business Park and the Croxley Rail Link
- I am a member of the strategic Property Investment Board tasked to improve the return from the Borough's many diverse property assets.

#### **Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town**

- In my role as a Cabinet Member I have reviewed, commented on and approved policies and projects brought before the Cabinet which cover all these areas
- My position as a County Councillor has enabled me to become closely involved in the planning of the education provision in the town, which is now unequalled in its variety and quality
- I have spoken about local democracy at my local Primary Schools and have hosted visits to the Town Hall by their pupils.

## **Operating the Council efficiently and effectively**

- In my role as Portfolio Holder of Shared Services, I have worked closely with the Council's Section 151 officer and her team to effect a transformation in the efficiency and overall performance of the Revenues and Benefits Department. This has resulted in the neediest in the community receiving the level of service that all Watford residents expect from our high achieving council
- I have attended appropriate training to keep me abreast of the changing environment facing my portfolio responsibilities and the wider council. I also research issues on the Internet and receive a number of publications on Local Government Issues
- I believe every element of the Council's operation should be open to challenge and scrutiny to ensure that our residents receive as high a quality of service but as economically as possible. It is for this reason that I have supported the use of external providers to run our Environmental Services and our ICT Services
- I have played an active part in supporting the Council's ICT team in their endeavours to compel Capita to provide the level of ICT service they contracted to provide and which is essential for the Council to meet its own targets and aspirations.

## **Providing Vision (Cabinet Members only)**

- As a member of Cabinet I am constantly asked to consider matters of policy which in themselves set the vision for the future of Watford. Before agreeing to such proposals I challenge and question their effectiveness before agreeing their implementation
- In my particular area, my objective is to ensure that all the shared services are responsive and effective and are in good shape to meet the demands facing them in the future.

## **Managing Performance (Cabinet Members only)**

This is absolutely at the heart of everything I do in my portfolio. The work that has been done between me and the senior officers in Revenues and Benefit, ICT and indeed all the Shared Services, substantiates this.

<b>Objective for 2015/16</b>	<b>Update on progress</b>
To aim to ensure that the fundamental issues in ICT are addressed and a positive way forward is established and I the other departments in my portfolio achieve	Partly met objective. ICT as supplied by Capita continued to underperform in spite of many meetings, changes of their personnel and missed commitments, resulting in the decision to break from



their targets and for, the services supplied by 3 Rivers, that the service provided to WBC matches or exceeds the agreed targets.	them as from July 2016. Revenues and Benefits have continued to perform way above expectations hampered only by the unreliability of the ICT services they use..
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**Objective for 2016/17**

To aim to ensure that all the departments in my portfolio achieve their targets and when the services are supplied by 3 Rivers, that we receive a high standard of performance matching agreed targets. In particular the reorganised ICT Service starts to become a real provider of enhanced efficiency and support to the whole Council.

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# **Oxhey Ward**

**Ward councillors Shirena Counter, Iain Sharpe and Peter Taylor**

Councillors Sharpe and Taylor completed a self assessment

## **Councillor Sharpe**

**Year elected:** 1991

### **Reasons for becoming a councillor:**

I wanted to make a contribution to ensuring that Watford remains a good place to live in, and for people to visit and work in, especially to protect and enhance the build environment. I believe strongly in local democracy and the need for councillors to hold public bodies accountable to the public. In addition, I am a committed Liberal Democrat and believe the party has strong policies for open government, responding to the concerns of local residents and providing quality services at a reasonable cost to taxpayers.

### **Roles in the Council:**

Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Development, Member of Development Control Committee, Major Projects Board (Chair), Planning Policy Advisory Group (Chair), Highways Forum (Chair); Property Investment Board (Chair), Leader of Liberal Democrat Group.

### **Membership of outside bodies:**

Traffic Management Act Adjudication Joint Committee; Hertfordshire Infrastructure and Planning Partnership.

### **Training & Development undertaken:**

- 03.11.15 Procurement/Contract issues
- 28.11.15 RTPI Politicians in Planning Conference, Birmingham
- 06.01.16 Town Square improvements
- 14.01.16 Watford Junction briefing + one other Watford Junction briefing

In addition in September 2015 and March 2016 I attended the Liberal Democrat conferences in Glasgow and York respectively, where among the fringe sessions that I attended were various events, often sponsored by national charities etc to update delegates on planning and housing issues.

## **General information**

As in previous years, my work has involved both representing residents in Oxhey ward on a range of local issues and serving in the Mayor's cabinet with responsibility for Regeneration and Development. I have worked closely with my ward colleagues Peter Taylor and Shirena Counter, and county councillor Stephen Giles-Medhurst to deal with issues in Oxhey such as highway repairs, improving rail services at Bushey Station, planning policy and individual applications and improving local green space. As chair of the Major Projects Board and the Property Investment board and cabinet member I have worked with officers to progress key projects for Watford's future, including Part 2 of the local plan, the health campus, the strategic property review etc. It is implicit in what I set out below that all the matters I have worked on have involved cooperation with others and due credit must go to my councillor colleagues, council officers, local community groups etc.

**Attendance Record:** Percentage = 89%.

## **How he has met Council Objectives**

### **Making Watford a better place to live in**

- As Chair of Planning Policy Advisory Committee and Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Development have been responsible for guiding planning policy resulting in moving forward Part 2 of the District Plan
- In particular, promoted planning policies that safeguard Watford's heritage and the character of residential areas, including revised conservation area appraisals
- Have liaised with housing portfolio-holder and attended joint meetings of the Planning Policy Advisory Committee and Housing Policy Advisory Committee to shape the council's housing strategy and allocations policy
- Worked with officers and fellow councillors to promote improvements to Watford Heath and Riverside Road Recreation Ground, which have now been implemented
- Regularly taking up issues raised by local residents, such as litter, highways faults etc
- Campaigned for improvements in Oxhey ward eg trying to get a cashpoint at Bushey Station and against cuts in funding by other agencies eg bus services.

### **To provide the strategic lead for Watford's sustainable economic growth**

- Overseen the council's property review, bringing reports to cabinet
- Responsible for the health campus project, which has now gained planning permission with work under way on the new access road
- Overseen the council's contribution to promoting the Croxley Rail Link, which now has been given government funding to go ahead, bringing underground services to Watford Junction by 2020

- In the emerging local plan agreeing policies that identify how Watford can provide for future economic growth, including safeguarding land for employment uses
- Promoted the enhancement of Watford Business Park (ongoing project) to regenerate this under-performing area and increase return for the council
- Chaired the newly-established Property Investment Board, which aims to increase the return on the council's property investment portfolio.

### **Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town**

- Regular communication with local residents through newsletters and email to keep people informed about local issues
- Ensuring that council communications keep people informed about local services and the reasons for policies we are implementing, while also listening to residents and being willing to change in the light of public feedback
- Ensuring that consultation on matters such as planning and parking is genuine and that the council listens to the views of local people before reaching decisions
- Attending consultation sessions and workshops (e.g. on improvements to Watford Heath and Oxhey Park)
- Wi-Fi successfully installed in town centre.

### **Operating the Council efficiently and effectively**

- Regular meetings with Head of Regeneration and Development to monitor general performance of the service
- High performance according to latest figures by the development management service in terms of time taken to determine planning applications
- Overseeing delivery of parking surveys, consultations and changes to the parking regime
- Contributing more widely to cabinet discussions and decisions about key services, including parks improvements, recycling, economic development.

### **Providing Vision (Cabinet Members only)**

- Contributing to the council's corporate plan through discussions with senior officers, the mayor, cabinet members and councillors
- Contributing to development and delivery of council's key priorities, including work towards a family-friendly town centre, improvement of parks and green space
- Promoting via planning policy etc. work towards a strong local economy and sustainable neighbourhoods
- Willingness to take difficult decisions (e.g. over health campus) for the greater good of the town

- Participation in regular meetings with senior management to further the council’s policy goals.

**Managing Performance (Cabinet Members only)**

- Regular meetings with the head of service and quarterly reviews to monitor performance of services within my cabinet portfolio
- Taking up complaints and concerns raised by local residents and being willing to challenge questionable performance by the council where necessary
- As part of cabinet regular meetings with leadership team to monitor council’s performance on key priorities.

Objective for 2015/16	Update on progress
Continued progress on local plan	Progress made – see revised Local Development Scheme agreed at cabinet in March
Ensuring completion of parks improvements in Oxhey	Major improvements carried out at Riverside Recreation Ground and Watford Heath
Campaign for improved rail services and station facilities at Bushey	Ongoing – constructive dialogue with rail companies on this
Ensure the implementation of town centre Wi-Fi	Now completed
Establish successful operation of Property Investment Board	Property Investment Board established and now meeting regularly

**Objective for 2016/17**

- Continued progress on local plan and wider planning framework
- Further consultation to agree future of North side of Oxhey Park
- Continue campaign for improved rail services and station facilities at Bushey
- Achieve progress on and timetable for town hall square improvements
- Ensure Property Investment Board achieves goals of increase return on council’s investment portfolio.

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## **Councillor Taylor**

**Year elected:** 2012

### **Reasons for becoming a councillor:**

Wanting to make a positive difference in my local area.

### **Roles in the Council:**

Portfolio Holder for Community and Customer Care; Major Projects Board

### **Membership of outside bodies: -**

Oxhey Village Environmental Group, Friends of Oxhey Park

### **Training & Development undertaken:**

- 28.05.15 Media Skills
- 02.07.15 Public Speaking
- 03.11.15 Procurement/contract issues, all Member Briefing

### **General information**

My work has involved both representing residents in Oxhey ward and serving in the Mayor's cabinet with responsibility for Community and Customer Services. I have worked closely with my ward colleagues Iain Sharpe and Shirena Counter, and county councillor Stephen Giles-Medhurst to deal with issues in Oxhey such as highway repairs, improving rail services at Bushey Station, planning policy and individual applications and improving local green space. It is implicit in what I set out below that all the matters I have worked on have involved cooperation with others and due credit must go to my councillor colleagues, council officers, local community groups etc

**Attendance Record:** Percentage = 94%.

### **How he has met Council Objectives**

#### **Making Watford a better place to live in**

- I have worked with residents on a number of local issues. These have ranged from improving the condition of roads and pavements, to improvements to social houses and the removal of fly-tipping
- Worked with council officers and residents to ensure the successful completion of improvements to Watford Heath and Riverside Rec
- Ensured that the Oxhey ward community engagement fund was used effectively to support local groups such as the scouts and a local toddler

group. We also allocated money so that a book swap scheme could be established.

- Worked with council officers to improve the appearance and usability of the council's website
- Worked with council officers to facilitate the successful and very popular Big Events programme.

### **To provide the strategic lead for Watford's sustainable economic growth**

- Worked with the Environmental Health team to develop the 'Better Business for All' approach to regulation.
- Promoted the Big Events programme that has encouraged visitors to the town centre
- Worked with ward councillors to champion improvements to the train services from Bushey Station.

### **Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town**

- Worked with residents to help start a book swap at St Matthew's church.
- Promoted the recent Book Festival
- Worked with councillor officers and Central Ward councillors on the Sports Activation Programme
- Worked with council officers to ensure the successful completion of improved play and sports facilities at Riverside Rec.

### **Operating the Council efficiently and effectively**

- Regular meetings with Head of Community and Customer Services to monitor performance of the service
- Member of the Major Projects Board, providing scrutiny of major developments in the town.

### **Providing Vision (Cabinet Members only)**

- Contributing to the development and delivery of council's key priorities, including a family-friendly town centre (Big Events), improved parks (Watford Heath and Riverside Rec improvements) and a thriving local economy (Better Business for All)
- Contributing to the council's corporate plan through discussions with senior officers, the mayor, cabinet members and councillors
- Participation in regular meetings with senior management to further the council's policy goals.

**Managing Performance (Cabinet Members only)**

- Regular meetings with the head of service and quarterly reviews to monitor performance of services within my cabinet portfolio
- Taking up complaints and concerns raised by local residents and being willing to challenge the performance by the council where necessary.

<b>Objective for 2015/16</b>	<b>Update on progress</b>
1. Develop links with primary schools in Oxhey ward (Bushey and Oxhey Infants, Bromet).  2. Continue to respond quickly and effective to case work matters raised by local residents.	I have continued to respond quickly and effectively to casework matters raised by local residents and have developed links with local schools.

**Objective for 2016/17**

- Continue to respond quickly and effective to casework from local residents
- In my role as a portfolio holder ensure that residents continue to receive high quality services and good value for money.

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## **Park Ward**

**Ward councillors George Derbyshire, Binita Mehta and Anne Rindl**

Councillors Derbyshire and Rindl completed a self assessment

### **Councillor Derbyshire**

**Year elected:** 2004

#### **Reasons for becoming a councillor:**

- A wish to become involved in the democratic oversight of the administration of the town.
- An interest in politics at both local and national level.
- A wish to put any experience and knowledge I may have at the disposal of fellow residents of Park ward.

#### **Roles in the Council:**

Member Budget Panel; Chair of Chief Officer Pay Panel; Vice-chair Development Management Committee; Member Housing Policy Advisory Group; Member Planning Policy Advisory Group; Member Licensing Committee

#### **Membership of outside bodies:**

- Board member The Palace theatre Limited
- Board member Watford CAB

#### **Training & Development undertaken:**

- 14.01.16 Watford Town Hall Square Improvement Briefing

**Attendance Record:** Percentage = 88%.

#### **How he has met Council Objectives**

##### **Making Watford a better place to live in**

- Taking part in briefing/feedback session on the Heritage Lottery Fund scheme for Cassiobury Park
- Attendance at Audentior Awards
- Active member of Watford Palace Theatre board
- Placing importance of heritage and good design in my work as vice-chair of the Development Management Committee.

**To provide the strategic lead for Watford's sustainable economic growth**

- Supporting in my planning work the progress of major projects in the town.

**Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town**

- Contributing as a board member of Watford CAB.

**Operating the Council efficiently and effectively**

- Membership of regulatory committees
- Regular chairing of sub-licensing committees.

<b>Objective for 2015/16</b>	<b>Update on progress</b>
Continuing to serve the residents of Park ward to their satisfaction.	

**Objective for 2016/17**

I am standing down in May 2016 and will not be seeking re-election.

## **Councillor Rindl**

**Year elected:** 2015

### **Reasons for becoming a councillor:**

- To help and represent residents
- To make a difference and improve the lives of the community I serve
- To contribute to improvements to the local environment
- I want to contribute to ensuring that Watford remains a good place to live in

### **Roles in the Council:**

Council; Overview & Scrutiny Committee; Member Development Group

### **Membership of outside bodies:**

- Watford representative in Groundwork
- Deputy Watford representative in Herts Sustainability Forum
- Lead volunteer of Park ward's Community DriveSafe team
- Long standing supporter and volunteer of the Friends of Cassiobury Park
- Member of the Friends of Little Cassiobury
- Member of the Cassiobury Estate Residents' Association

### **Training & Development undertaken:**

- 13.05.2015 Chairman's Welcome
- 13.05.2015 Induction, Democracy and Governance, Code of Conduct, Managing Director, IT and Facilities
- 18.05.2015 Development Control
- 02.06.2015 Licensing
- 02.07.2015 Public Speaking, David McGrath, Link Training
- 14.07.2015 New Housing Online Application System
- 15.07.2015 Finance, Revs and Bens Briefing/Induction
- 21.10.2015 ASB Management and the wider Community Safety portfolio
- 27.10.2015 On CSC public desk, shadowing and monitoring incoming telephone calls.
- 03.11.2015 Procurement/contract issues
- 09.12.2015 Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Awareness
- 06.01.2016 Watford Town Hall Square Improvement Briefing

**Attendance Record:** Percentage = 100%.

### **How she has met Council Objectives**

## **Making Watford a better place to live in**

With my fellow (county) councillors I have:

- Worked pro-active with residents on local issues e.g. parking, speeding, leaves blocking gullies and drains, road safety, the closure of the Met station and a one-way system for The Chase
- Responded to residents' request for assistance or concerns expressed e.g. planning issues, the HLF Park project and ASB
- Attended to items in need of repair, improvement or cleaning up eg defect street lights potholes, trip hazards, hedges and trees that needed works and litter
- Had meetings with the PCSO to discuss residents' inquiries
- Tabled or seconded motions on refugees and against the cutting of funding to pharmacies
- Attended fundraising events e.g. Friends of Little Cassiobury and Rotary
- Produced regular email and paper newsletters to keep residents informed and involved in their community
- Provided Neighbourhood funding to 5 local causes
- I went out almost every month with the Friends of Cassiobury Park to pick litter in the park and clear litter wherever I see it
- Lead volunteer of Park ward's Community DriveSafe team, working towards reducing speeding on our roads
- Promoted the cause of cycling wherever possible
- Petitioned for improved bus service in the Park ward
- Worked with WBC officers to reduce the amount of frequent (false) nightly fire alarms in York House
- Attended the Audentior awards to honour volunteers who make Watford the caring place it is.

## **To provide the strategic lead for Watford's sustainable economic growth**

- By helping to make Watford a better place to live in (see above). A welcoming, diverse and friendly, vibrant, clean town, good (pothole and trip-hazard free) infrastructure and cycle facilities and good schools makes people come work and live here, shop, open businesses, go out and invest in our town
- As a member of the Overview and Scrutiny committee I have contributed to ensure that projects encouraging economic growth for the town are viable and sustainable.

## **Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town**

- Produced regular email (bi-weekly) and contributed to the paper newsletters (monthly) to keep our residents informed and involved about events and developments in their community

- Manage a local Facebook site and spread the information from posts of WBC and other sources
- All year round door knocking to remain up to speed with residents
- Communicating regularly with residents through different methods, eg face to face, telephone, email, letter and social media
- Lead volunteer of Park ward's Community DriveSafe team, working towards reducing speeding on our roads
- Attended the Annual Remembrance service
- Attended the launch of 'Imagine Watford' and some Watford Live and Imagine events
- Attended social events in our local school and Rugby club, an open day at the Cassiobury Fisheries and Farm and sites during the Heritage Open Day.
- Visited Watford Museum on several occasions
- Attended a local 'Open Garden' event for New Hope trust in our ward
- Supported local charity and fundraising events and litter-pick (almost) monthly with the Friends of Cassiobury Park which is a great opportunity to share ideas and function as a soundboard
- Had meetings with our PCSO regarding local matters
- Cycle around the ward to be visible and available to the community when required
- Wrote a press release to the Watford Observer to inform residents about a bus petition in our ward
- Attended a public exhibition about the Town Hall Square developments and spread the news. Pressured HCC to organise a second open evening because of access issues.

### **Operating the Council efficiently and effectively**

- Attending all full Council and other meetings, briefings and training sessions, and being appropriately prepared by reading relevant documents
- I aim to make effective contributions to all of the above sessions where it is appropriate and helpful
- As a councillor I respond to residents' communications promptly and where needed I aim to provide an effective link with the relevant council department
- As a member of the Overview and Scrutiny committee I have asked questions to Lead Officers on all aspects of council policies
- By working with all councillors of whatever party and other parties for the good of the town
- I encourage residents to participate in consultation on various proposals
- I keep an eye on local media via the Watford Observer and its website.

<b>Objective for 2015/16</b>	<b>Update on progress</b>

N/A	N/A
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**Objective for 2016/17**

- Continue to serve my residents to the best of my abilities
- Engage more with local schools, organisations and local businesses
- Develop my knowledge and experience so I can contribute more to Watford wide issues
- Contribute to a more sustainable, greener environment
- Do my bit to ensure Watford remains a diverse, thriving town!

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# Stanborough Ward

**Ward councillors Keith Crout, Derek Scudder and Tim Williams**

Councillors Crout, Scudder and Tim Williams completed a self assessment

## **Councillor Crout**

**Year elected:** 1999

### **Reasons for becoming a councillor:**

Having worked on Watford's local newspapers I recognised a need to get involved and do things for the community

### **Roles in the Council:**

Licensing Committee; Chair of the Outsourced Services Scrutiny Panel

### **Membership of outside bodies:**

None

### **Training & Development undertaken:**

Boundary Review briefing, town centre development plans, child exploitation training.

**Attendance Record:** Percentage = 83%.

### **How he has met Council Objectives**

#### **Making Watford a better place to live in**

- As chair of the Outsourced Services Scrutiny Committee I help the council ensure that contracted out services run well and are value for money
- I convey any concerns that people may have about the running or development of the town
- Together with officers I examine ways in which our facilities could be better maintained, enhanced, better managed, provide value for money or develop revenue streams
- I also keep an eye on national developments via trade and local government publications.

#### **To provide the strategic lead for Watford's sustainable economic growth**

- In my Licensing role I try to ensure that Watford has a vibrant nightlife but it is a town safe to enjoy.

### **Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town**

- I keep in touch with local residents via newsletters, surveys and facebook. I regularly attend our two local residents' associations to keep abreast of developing issues and to take up any areas of concern as necessary
- I contribute regular fiction and non fiction articles to the Kingswood Res. Association newsletter
- I regularly sit on Licensing Sub Committees to hear applications. Concerns from the police and local residents are examined and acted upon where possible. If we cannot help we explain why
- I take up residents' concerns about planning issues and this year was heavily involved in trying to halt WCHT plans to destroy bungalows in Hemming Way.

### **Operating the Council efficiently and effectively**

- I regularly meet representatives of community groups to keep abreast of emerging issues and examine where the authority might be able to help
- I deal with the local media and get publicity for my work
- I keep an eye on the local media via the Watford Observer and its website
- I meet with the Housing Trust to tackle ward issues as they arise
- I respond to residents queries and concerns in a timely manner.

### **Objective for 2016/17**

To continue being a good and effective Councillor



## **Councillor Scudder**

**Year elected:** 1994

**Reasons for becoming a councillor:**

**Roles in the Council:**

Portfolio Holder for Corporate Strategy and Client Services, Deputy Mayor, Cabinet, Council, Watford Borough Council and West Herts Golf Club Joint Committee, Boundary Review Committee, Highways Liaison Committee, Chief Officer Pay Panel

**Membership of outside bodies:**

Watford Workshops, Bedford Morrison & Cordery Almshouses, Herts Sustainability Forum, Herts Waste Partnership

**Training & Development undertaken:**

- 04.08.15 Tall Buildings Workshop
- 09.12.15 Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness Training
- 06.01.16 Watford Town Hall Square Improvement Briefing

**Attendance Record:** Percentage = 84%.

**How he has met Council Objectives**

**Making Watford a better place to live in**

- I attended civic events such as the Remembrance Day ceremony and Community Reception

**To provide the strategic lead for Watford's sustainable economic growth**

- The major thrust of my portfolio within the Cabinet is to improve the environment of the town, both in terms of physical cleanliness and in improving recycling rates
- My portfolio role includes some involvement in promoting measures designed to reduce the carbon footprint of Watford. This includes both the Council itself and energy savings for residents.

**Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town**

- I maintain regular contact and work with the residents' associations in my ward
- The Kingswood Residents' Association is a very well established group and I attend its AGM and monthly committee meetings whenever possible
- I have helped residents with many issues, many of which are to do with road and pavement repairs, but also personal issues and development control problems
- With my fellow ward Councillors I produce and distribute a regular local newsletter for Stanborough residents

- I endeavour to respond in a timely manner to any communications I receive from constituents and residents of other parts of the town, whether in my role as a Cabinet member or as a ward Councillor.

### **Operating the Council efficiently and effectively**

- As a Cabinet member I attend Cabinet meetings and also meet regularly with members of the senior management team of the Council
- I attended the briefings on the Watford BID
- As a Cabinet member I attend Cabinet meetings and also meet regularly with members of the senior management team of the Council
- As a Cabinet member I am not permitted to sit on any of the scrutiny committees of the Council. However, I attend the joint meetings between the executive and the chairs and vice chairs of the scrutiny committees in which work programmes and other issues are discussed. I also attend meetings of the Outsourced Services Scrutiny Committee when required
- I speak frequently at Council meetings and at meetings at which members of the public are present
- I believe I have a good working relationship with Council Officers
- I attend many of the training opportunities offered by the Council and encourage others to do so as well
- I am a member of a number of outside bodies as shown earlier in this document. I approve applications for the council's Small grants Budget in consultation with officers
- On occasions I deputise for the Mayor on outside bodies
- From time to time I am asked to give radio interviews concerning aspects of my work as a Cabinet member, as this is a fairly high profile role. The local press will contact me on occasions to discuss particular issues.

### **Providing Vision (Cabinet Members only)**

- I work closely with my Cabinet colleagues and the officers within my area of responsibility in formulating and developing policy. I am also heavily engaged in other strategic decision making within the council on matters outside my portfolio
- I have a good understanding of local government finance and take a very active role in developing the Council's annual budget
- I am always available to give advice and information to other members of the Council
- My primary role in forums outside the Council is environmental matters and I believe the Council's voice is heard and respected.

### **Managing Performance (Cabinet Members only)**

- The Cabinet members meet regularly to exchange information. The collegiate approach we adopt serves the Council well
- I have monthly meetings with my head of service at which we discuss issues of the day and also work on longer term policy and financial matters. Members of the second tier of management in the department also attend these meetings to enable a more in-depth look at particular issues
- I take part in the quarterly reviews of the department.

**Objective for 2016/17**

- My objective for the coming year is to continue the council's work in providing good quality, cost effective services for the people of Watford.

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## **Councillor Tim Williams**

**Year elected:** 2012

### **Reasons for becoming a councillor**

Tim became a Councillor at the age of twenty-two, in 1987, as he wanted to help local residents with the issues that affected them, to assist residents in their dealings with the Council, and wanted to see a “younger” voice on the Council. This willingness to help local residents, and local community groups, in his Ward, and in Watford, is still his paramount reason to stand as a local Councillor in the ward that he lives in.

### **Roles in the Council:**

Audit Committee (Vice Chairman); Budget Panel; Council; Development Control Committee; Planning Policy Advisory Group

### **Membership of outside bodies:**

None

### **Training & Development undertaken:**

- 09.06.15 CIPFA Audit Training
- 09.12.15 Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Awareness Training

### **General Information**

Away from the Council Tim is employed as a Credit Services Manager, and is a member of Kingswood Residents Association, Friends of Woodside, Friends of Cassiobury Park, Friends of Watford Museum, Friends of Frogmore House, Watford Mayors’ Association, Hunstanton Civic Society and is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Credit Management. Tim is a governor of his old school (St Joan of Arc, Rickmansworth) and has been since 1988.

Tim lives in Stanborough Ward, is married with two children, both attending a local school and both attending many sporting/activity clubs around the local area (eg swimming at Woodside Leisure Centre, Dolphina Gymnastics, Ballet at North Orbital Community Centre : Centrestage School, 8<sup>th</sup> North Watford (1<sup>st</sup> Garston) Scout Troop etc). Tim and his wife have an allotment at Briar Rd.

**Attendance Record:** Percentage = 95%.

### **How he has met Council Objectives**

### **Making Watford a better place to live in**

- Established better and more regular dialogue with the Neighbourhood Policing Team to address community safety issues and to minimise antisocial behaviour issues
- Regularly using Herts Highways Fault Reporting Service to address road/pavement issues that are causing potential hazards
- Periodically reporting to Veolia street cleansing/rubbish refuse matters to be addressed
- Worked with Watford Community Housing Trust in regards to many residents/tenants matters, and also in regards to the use and management of the refurbished Leavesden Green Community Hub (re-opened Sept 2013) and the Hemming Way development
- Worked with our County Councillor in regards to Bus Services in our locality
- Liaises with Council Officers in regards to the opening & upkeep of Fern Way, Leavesden Green & East Drive Play Areas (Fern Way & East Drive re-opened May 2015)
- Member of Friends of Woodside to ensure Woodside Playing Fields & Albans Wood are maintained to the Green Flag status (retained in Summer 2015)
- Regularly “litter picks” in his locality, and also attends the monthly litter picks with Friends of Woodside
- Monitors Licensing Requests on matters that might effect local residents eg Woodside Leisure Park, Premier Inn etc – limits these to 12 midnight.

### **To provide the strategic lead for Watford’s sustainable economic growth**

- Member of the Development Control Committee and the Planning Policy Advisory Group, and this has a direct impact on the Town’s sustainability in both the short term and the long term
- Involved with Planning decisions in regards to the Charter Place redevelopment, and the proposed Watford Health Campus
- Advises local residents and businesses in regards to both planning and licensing applications
- Liaises with local businesses and shops.

### **Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town**

- The No.1 priority – a local Councillor needs to be a champion for the residents, and the local communities in the Ward, and the Town - the prime reason Tim became a Councillor
- Regularly takes up many and varied issues on behalf of residents
- Attends the monthly committee meeting of Kingswood Residents Association
- Member of local community groups such as Friends of Woodside

- Previously wrote a monthly article for Kingswood News, now a regular contributor
- Keeps in touch with residents via Newsletters
- Gives quick responses to all residents who contact him
- Attends many local events such as School Fetes, Community Days, and Opening Days
- Utilises community budget on matters raised by local residents
- Regularly attends civic events such as Remembrance Sunday, Carol Service etc.

### **Operating the Council efficiently and effectively**

- Attends appropriate training provided by the Council (see listing above)
- Follows the quarterly Finance Digests issued by the Finance Team for up-to-date position
- Member of both the Budget Panel and Audit Committee
- From a professional capacity Tim monitors both cashflow, management accounts and in has a particular interest in “risk management”
- Questions Portfolio Holders/Cabinet Members at monthly Group Meetings
- Has a good working relationship with Council Officers and Cabinet Members.

<b>Objective for 2015/16</b>	<b>Update on progress</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refurbishment of Fern Way Play Area</li> <li>• Refurbishment of East Drive Play Area</li> <li>• Maintain Green Flag status for Woodside Playing Fields &amp; Albans Wood</li> <li>• Investigate improvements to Leavesden Green Playing Fields and its entrances : links into Hemming Way redevelopment by Watford Community Housing Trust</li> <li>• Continue to report and address Highway Matters to Herts County Council</li> </ul>	<p>Opened in May 2015</p> <p>Opened in May 2015</p> <p>Woodside Playing Fields &amp; Albans Wood retained the prestigious Green Flag Award in Summer’15 and we are striving to achieve its retention in 2016</p> <p>Planning Application was approved at end of Jan 2016 and work has started in March 2016 – this includes improvements &amp; landscaping of the entrances to the playing fields – will liaise and monitor progress</p> <p>Throughout year many and varied highways issues have been successfully reported, however a few not resolved but these are being taken up with our County Councillor</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Address anti-social behaviour matters with neighbourhood police team</li> <li>• Continue to work with residents, and residents' groups on getting improvements to the area</li> <li>• Continue with regular communications with residents via Newsletter and attendance at Residents' meetings</li> <li>• Work with Watford Community Housing Trust and other Housing organisations with matters that tenants/residents raise with me</li> </ul>	<p>Links into the neighbourhood policing team is good, and regular emails sent and responded to – addressing various matters raised – assisted with giving out Anti-Theft Number Plate screws at Kingswood shops in Nov 2015</p> <p>Many local matters raised by local residents and residents groups throughout the year – these have been taken up and we've achieved successes on most of the issues raised</p> <p>Regular Newsletters sent out across the ward, contribute articles to the residents' newsletter, and attends residents' meetings</p> <p>Contacts with Watford Community Housing Trust is good, and regular emails sent and responded to – addressing various matters raised</p>
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### **Objective for 2016/17**

(If elected 5<sup>th</sup> May – never take the electorate for granted)

- Maintain Green Flag status for Woodside Playing Fields & Albans Wood
- Investigate improvements to Leavesden Green Playing Fields – links into Hemming Way redevelopment by Watford Community Housing Trust
- Continue to report and address Highway matters to Herts County Council
- Address Anti-Social Behaviour matters with the Neighbourhood Police Team
- Continue to work with residents, and residents' groups on getting improvements to the area
- Continue with regular communications with residents via newsletters and attendance at Residents' meetings

- Work with Watford Community Housing Trust, and other Housing organisations with matters that tenants/residents raise with me.

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# **Tudor Ward**

**Ward councillors Stephen Johnson, Sean Silver and Darren Walford**

Councillors Johnson and Silver completed a self assessment

## **Councillor Johnson**

**Year elected:** 2009

### **Reasons for becoming a councillor:**

I became a Councillor because I wanted to serve the local community by representing their interests in local government. I also wanted to have more involvement at a local level in decision making. I felt this was the next step, after chairing a local Residents Association

### **Roles in the Council:**

Portfolio Holder for Housing (including private sector housing); Annual Council; Cabinet; Council; Development Management Committee; Housing Policy Advisory Group (Chair); Planning Advisory Group

### **Membership of outside bodies:**

None

### **Training & Development undertaken:**

- 04.08.15 Tall Buildings Workshop
- 03.03.16 East of England conference on Syrian refugees
- 21.01.16-22.01.16 Leadership Essentials commissioning academy
- 04.04.16 Hertfordshire Housing Conference 2015 (BRE, Garston)

**Attendance Record:** Percentage = 97%.

### **How he has met Council Objectives**

#### **Making Watford a better place to live in**

- I have worked to enhance the facilities of parks and green spaces in my Ward and across Watford as these are vital to the development of a healthy lifestyle for all our community
- I have lead with the Tudor shop enhancement project
- Organised clean-up events around the Ward. With local residents cleaned and treated benches posts and planters. Involved in community park cleans ups and planting

- Helped organise event to promote our local park and recruit volunteers
- Advising residents on the planning process
- Reporting and following up on highways issues
- Working with Groundwork to improve local woodland area
- I work with Watford Community Housing Trust to identify affordable housing solutions
- Took part in a safer streets campaign in my Ward.

### **To provide the strategic lead for Watford's sustainable economic growth**

- I am in the fortunate position to be a member of the Cabinet, and in this role, I have reviewed and supported the Health Campus project, the development of Charter Place, and the Croxley Rail Link all of which will bring new jobs and a better environment to the town
- I play my part as a member of the Mayor's Cabinet in welcoming but also challenging new projects and initiatives.

### **Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town**

- Various meetings with residents on the long term planning concerns for our town
- I convey any concerns that people may have about the development of the town
- Organised Christmas lights around our local shopping area. Organised carol concert and lights turning on ceremony
- Respond to casework and keep residents aware of local issues through local leaflets and e-mails
- I regularly meet representatives of community groups to keep abreast of emerging issues and examine where the authority may be able to help
- I meet representatives of outside bodies and charities to promote the Council's objectives and ensure that I am kept abreast of their emerging issues.

### **Operating the Council efficiently and effectively**

- Member of and speaker at Development Management Committee
- Member of planning advisory group
- Familiarity with Local Development Plan and other planning policies
- Long term involvement in planning issues
- I meet regularly with my portfolio colleagues and Chief Officers to progress projects and identify any areas that needs attention
- I help to progress major projects in the town
- Chair the Housing Policy Advisory Group, overseeing the housing policy review and new nomination policy (also relevant to each of the other objectives below) as well as various other housing documents to encourage good practice
- Member of and speaker at Development Management Committee

- Member of planning advisory group
- Familiarity with Local Development Plan and other planning policies
- Long term involvement in planning issues
- I meet regularly with my portfolio colleagues and Chief Officers to progress projects and identify any areas that needs attention
- I help to progress major projects in the town
- Chair the Housing Policy Advisory Group, overseeing the housing policy review and new nomination policy (also relevant to each of the other objectives below) as well as various other housing documents to encourage good practice.

**Providing Vision (Cabinet Members only)**

As a member of Cabinet I am constantly asked to consider matters of policy which in themselves set the vision for the future of Watford. Before agreeing to such proposals I challenge and question their effectiveness before agreeing to their implementation. I provide a strategy for the way forward for housing. In my particular area, my objective is to ensure that all the shared services are responsive and effective and are in good shape to meet the demands facing them in the future.

**Managing Performance (Cabinet Members only)**

- This is absolutely at the heart of everything I do in my portfolio. The work that has been done between me and the senior officers in housing. I have regular meetings with Officers to monitor performance
- Attendance as necessary at scrutiny committees
- Taking up complaints and concerns raised by local residents and being willing to challenge questionable performance by the council where necessary.
- Setting out clear housing policy for officers.

<b>Objective for 2015/16</b>	<b>Update on progress</b>
To become more involved in the running of the Council.	I am now a portfolio holder and this has allowed me to become more involved with the running of the Council

**Objective for 2016/17**

To oversee the implementation of our new housing joint venture with the Housing Trust.

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## **Councillor Silver**

**Year elected:** 2015

### **Reasons for becoming a councillor:**

- To ensure that Tudor ward was adequately represented by Tudor residents
- To offer a voice for the younger generation.
- To try and ensure Taxpayers' money benefits the future of Watford Town.

### **Roles in the Council:**

Outsourced Services Scrutiny Panel, Audit , Licensing, Member Development Group, Deputy Group Leader, Watford Conservatives

### **Membership of outside bodies:**

Watford Rugby Club, Watford Town Cricket Club, Garston Ladies FC.

### **Training & Development undertaken:**

- 13.05.15 Induction
- 23.06.15 Licensing
- 09.09.15 Audit Training

### **General Information**

- Coach to several junior rugby teams at Watford RFC.
- Volunteer coach at St. Michael's Catholic School
- Executive Committee Member WRFC
- Volunteer English Rugby Football Union Watford Schools Festivals
- Environmental March
- Private training and assistance from Chartered Accountant regarding Audit.

**Attendance Record:** Percentage = 93%.

### **How he has met Council Objectives**

#### **Making Watford a better place to live in**

- Regular contact with Herts County Council members Terry Douris and Chris Hayward regarding Traffic, Highways and other issues
- Petitioned Richard Harrington MP regarding Abbey Line Railway

- Contributions to cross –party and multi – body Herts Highways forum regarding pedestrian phased traffic lights on Vicarage Road. Also regarding cycle paths
- Conservation work at Radlett Road/ Knutsford Playing Fields
- Ensuring safety in play areas and on playing fields at Radlett Road
- Follow up with Veolia over maintenance work.

**To provide the strategic lead for Watford’s sustainable economic growth**

- Consulted with market traders over issues
- Spoke with publicans across Watford, including St. Albans Road, regarding concerns and improvements. Raised these in Mayoral questions. Motion passed to ask Mayor to actively seek a specialist bookshop in Watford.

**Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town**

- Regular informal meetings and discussions with residents over issues
- Active referral of non- Borough issues to County Council and MP’s office, including forwarding HCC concerns to Cllr Hastrick to encourage bipartisan solution seeking
- Passed residents’ concerns on to MP and followed up for response
- Regular use of digital, verbal and face to face communication with public – all designed to cut down on superfluous paperwork
- Volunteering with several local schools to drive youth engagement in sport
- Attendance at Hertfordshire Well Being and Mental Health Conference.

**Operating the Council efficiently and effectively**

- Full day Audit training course
- Daily research of local and national issues affecting local governance
- Reading Watford Observer every week, as well as My News and Social Media to stay updated on Watford affairs
- Read and learned Council Code of Conduct, offering advice on it to fellow Group Members
- OSSP Member and attended Overview and Scrutiny
- Member of Licensing and Audit Committees
- Sought private assistance from Chartered Accountant regarding Audit
- Developed and finalised Conservative Group submission to the Electoral Boundary Commission.

<b>Objective for 2015/16</b>	<b>Update on progress</b>
N/A due to first year on Council.	N/A due to first year on Council.

**Objective for 2016/17**

Actively promote community engagement from Industrial Estates and Watford UTC in Tudor Ward.

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## **Woodside Ward**

**Ward councillors Ian Brown, Karen Collett and Tony Rogers**

Councillors Collett and Rogers completed a self assessment

### **Councillor Collett**

**Year elected:** 2010

#### **Reasons for becoming a councillor:**

I have always wanted to be a Councillor as this gives me the perfect opportunity to represent the people of Woodside. Firstly it is important for me to listen to the concerns and views of the people and to address them at meetings and the right forums. Secondly, I believe in supporting the local people by being involved in community groups and offering assistance where I can. Personally I have been involved with local groups in the past and so I have witnessed first-hand how powerful a community voice can be, so with that in mind I intend to uphold these values

#### **Roles in the Council:**

Chair of Overview and Scrutiny, Member Development, Member of Conservation task group. Member of Voluntary Sector Task groups looking at Community Centres, HPAG and attended Highways Forum meetings

#### **Membership of outside bodies:**

West Herts Crematorium Joint Scrutiny Committee

#### **Training & Development undertaken:**

ASB Management and the wider safety portfolio. Procurement/ contract issues, Public speaking, Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness and Leadership Academy for elected members on Commissioning

#### **General Information**

- This is my fourth year as Chair of Overview and Scrutiny, a role that I continue to value and hold in high regard. Our committee continues to question officers and partners, as well as in addition seeking the views of Watford residents which I see as vital to the role. I believe we are in a fortunate position as we see first-hand how our council's policies and performance relate to the wider Watford community- we are in the unique position to bring about change and to address issues head on. I am incredibly proud of

our committee who engage, encourage and support the aims of Overview and Scrutiny with transparency

- I feel very privileged to serve my community and feel it is so important to get the best outcome for my residents. I believe in sincerity and fairness as that is my mantra in life. The residents in Woodside are a caring community and are proud of the community they live in. It is my job to ensure that our ward is represented and that our area continues to flourish
- I enjoy meeting my residents face to face so that I can listen directly to their concerns and ideas to enhance our area and environment. Meeting people is deeply important to me as immediate contact makes all the difference to those residents who are troubled or to those who want to make our ward a better place.

**Attendance Record:** Percentage = 93%.

### **How she has met Council Objectives**

#### **Making Watford a better place to live in**

- I have represented my residents at Development Management Meetings, highlighting a property in Leveret Close, Lincoln Court, North Watford Police Station Development and the Warner Brothers expansion plans
- In particular on planning matters I have met with WCHT officers and managers to bring about changes to the development plans- ensuring my residents get the best possible outcome. Initiated more public meetings so that more residents could voice their concerns and be heard
- Continued to talk with WCHT Property Managers during their works programme to ensure that residents' concerns are taken on board
- Taken up residents' concerns as to unsatisfactory repairs on housing
- Met with local residents who were living in temporary accommodation, supporting them in a move to suitable housing. Furthermore, visited York House to look and discuss the issues that face our residents who find themselves in temporary accommodation
- Dealt with neighbourhood disputes- visiting all those involved to seek a resolution
- Working with Veolia and WCHT on lopping local trees that are diseased or overgrown
- Went to Radius House to support a disabled resident who was appealing the Bedroom Tax
- Working with council officers to support residents' concerns, these consisted of environmental health cases, overpayments and council tax
- Reporting pot Holes, loose drain hole covers, sewage odours and lighting to HCC on behalf of residents
- Reporting broken signage to officers.
- Worked with the YMCA and council officers on improving on Community Centre car park to ensure residents living in close proximity could park



- I continue to clean up Alban Wood once a month, plant bulbs and trees with a handful of supportive volunteers
- Met with local police to discuss ASB which was affecting residents in my ward, with intention for CCTV to be installed. Working towards an improved CCTV system- a roaming camera to be placed in Weall Green to act as a deterrent
- Attended the Audentior Awards to honour those important volunteers who make Watford the caring place that it is
- So proud to organise our local Remembrance Service on Leavesden High Road and laid a wreath on behalf of the Liberal Democrats at our memorial service in the town centre
- Attended an Inter Faith event to show our support for unity, solidarity and tolerance.

### **To provide the strategic lead for Watford's sustainable economic growth**

- I was proud to attend the launch of the 'Big Festival' at Watford Palace Theatre and attended several outstanding street performances in the town centre
- Supported the German Market visiting and talking to those who work on the various stalls
- I was delighted to spend time at WCHTs 'Celebration Day' at the Colosseum talking to local residents groups and meeting up with user groups
- I attended the Councillors visit to Watford Community Trust in order to be updated on the Trusts future plans and recent projects
- I supported Watford's second Film Fair Comic Con which took place at the Central Leisure Centre- I assisted the UK Garrison by supporting Star Wars costumers at the event. Supported a local resident from Woodside who worked on films, TV and helped promote his book at the Film Fair event
- Attended an incredible performance of 'The Witch of Walkern' at Watford Palace Theatre
- Attended the Community Fair talking to volunteer groups about their wonderful work in and around Watford
- Met with local businesses to discuss trade and improvements to location
- Visited Watford Police Station and Control room to look at the work of our local police and to see how the town is monitored in order to protect our town and communities.

### **Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town**

- I attend 2 residents Associations, Boundary Way Community Group and the Leavesden Community Group. Both are extremely active and I support their group activities such as local quizzes, Cultural show, children's Christmas party, Halloween event, Carol singing for charity and public meetings
- I attend regular meetings concerning B/Way development. In addition, working with residents in phase one- Magpie Place to make sure works are

heading in the right direction and the properties are put back to a high standard

- I communicate regularly with residents via our local newsletter, e-mails, phone calls, mail chimp and Facebook. Appeared in a Party Political Broadcast on the importance of councillors working for their local communities
- I visit local residents to discuss their issues and keep regular contact with those vulnerable in our community
- I have contact with 2 local schools In the ward, passing on community projects, such as Music Gym, YMCA Orbital community Centres youth club
- Visits to local youth club to answer questions on local issues and my role in the community
- Looking at The Brow enhancement with WCHT- to improve the shopping parade
- Attended the End of Summer –Polish event at the Brow which invited all local people to come along and enjoy the culture, experience the food and entertainment. A truly wonderful event
- I was interviewed by some local students from West Herts College who are interested in local councillor’s work. We also looked at the importance of young people being engaged with politics and the need for more women to become MPs
- Neighbourhood Forum Budget- used for providing cooking utensils for local Youth club and resources to support the young people in their work with the elderly members of our community. In addition to enhance activities within the youth club for young people
- Provided funding for the Leavesden Community Group for a Tea Urn and Microwave so they can provide refreshments for local people who attend local events
- Agreed to local Scouts Hut roof repairs.

### **Operating the Council efficiently and effectively**

- Attended an evening at Woodside Leisure Centre to see what SLM provides for local users. I was delighted to see local people using the terrific facilities that are provided
- Surveyed residents in Macdonnell Gardens regarding Conservation areas- spent time in hearing their views and delighted that they are indeed pleased with the support they receive from WBC
- Visited the Datchworth Project ARC Services in Alban View looking at their facilities for young people who need support. They work with young people and parents to improve their relationships and self-esteem
- Making sure I am current with local government issues
- Meet regularly with officers and Section Heads to discuss scrutiny topics and agenda
- Deputised on Outsourced Services and Community Safety Partnership.

<b>Objective for 2015/16</b>	<b>Update on progress</b>
To continue to serve my residents to the best of my ability and to engage with more officers on particular issues.	I have continued to serve my residents to the best of my ability and have engaged with more officers on particular issues. Setting questions for officers especially in my role as Chair of Overview and Scrutiny.

**Objective for 2016/17**

To engage more with local schools in my ward.

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## **Councillor Rogers**

**Year elected:** 2015

### **Reasons for becoming a councillor:**

To help resolve problems that I had found over many years that the residents had (personal and local area).

### **Roles in the Council:**

Licensing, Housing Policy Advisory, Constitution Working Party and Chief Officer Pay Panel, Disability Working Party.

### **Membership of outside bodies:**

Livery Company of Dyers – charitable trust.

### **Training & Development undertaken:**

Hopefully every session organised by Paul Bateman (tried to attend all).

### **General Information**

- Found all the training sessions very informative, with the added bonus of doing it all together with the 'new' councillors. Thank you
- Printing – excellent and speedy.

**Attendance Record:** Percentage = 81%.

### **How he has met Council Objectives**

#### **Making Watford a better place to live in**

- Distributing £2500 neighbourhood forum funds to good causes in my ward – really helps!
- Attending CAB, New Hope, Watford Museum, Interfaith Churches and Disability Working Party – learn and make a difference.
- Attending on major companies to sort out serious bullying (twice) of my residents. Attending on major concerns to extract (large) monies owed to my residents.

#### **To provide the strategic lead for Watford's sustainable economic growth**

- Engage in all debates at meetings
- Spread the word (residents, strangers)

- Positive meetings at Warner Brothers regarding supporting expansion plans which will give so much (1500) new employment locally.

**Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town**

- Regular newsletters to my residents
- Visit ward/ on the streets – there daily
- Communications by email (not something I ever did before).

**Operating the Council efficiently and effectively**

- Led by Paul Bateman – an excellent mentor
- Also Ebele Ike of IT, who kept me ‘online’.

<b>Objective for 2015/16</b>	<b>Update on progress</b>
N/A	N/A

**Objective for 2016/17**

Get properly established and get re-elected if possible.

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