

Watford Borough Council

Member Self- Assessment 2016/17

Central Ward

Self-Assessment of; Councillor Rabi Martins

1. Year elected:

First elected 1994
Lost seat in 1997
Re-Elected 1999

2. Reasons for becoming a councillor:

Natural progression from work in the community as I realised there was greater scope to represent and serve the community as an elected member by becoming one of the decision makers

3. Roles in the Council:

Over the years I served on various key committees and held several positions including

Chair of Licensing Committee

Chair of Planning Committee

Chairman of the Council

Chair of Community Safety Scrutiny Committee

Long term member of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Member of Planning and Housing Advisory Groups

Initiated and Chaired various Task Groups

4. Membership of outside bodies:

Represented the council on Well Springs Community Church Management Board

Served as elected member of Local Government Association Equalities Board for 8 years

Member of Watford Community Housing Trust Board for 4 years

**Member of Watford Racial Equality Council for several years before it was closed
Current member of Police and Crime Panel**

5. Training & Development undertaken (Councillor's training record is listed):

As per attached record

Also attended several other informal sessions on Council Finance, Planning, Environment and Community Safety related matters

6. Attendance Record:

86%

Your work with Constituents and in the Community.

Please tell us about the work in your ward and for the council, you may wish to mention the following:

- Supported the work of New Hope Trust and the Council Officers to tackle Homeless and Rough Sleepers
- Supported Watford Job Fair
- Engaged with businesses in the town especially those promoting Fair Trade Products
- Helped local businesses make representation to the council on Business Rates
- Supported events organised by local community groups and charities
- Helped establish a new Primary School in the Town Centre and now continue to support it as a Governor
- Led the Neighbourhood Forum activities in the ward
- Attended events at organised by various local groups and offered practical support and advise when needed

Questions 7. and 8. for CABINET MEMBERS ONLY

For those councillors in a leadership role, how have you met these further objectives?

7. Providing vision

Although not a cabinet member contributed to discussions relating to the management and organisation within the Council primarily at Group Meetings

Also had informal discussions with members of the management team including the Managing Director

8. Managing Performance

Again although not a Cabinet Member input to the process as member the Budget Panel and by attending Outsourced Services Scrutiny meetings

9. Objective for 2016/17	Update on progress
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Encourage and support Residents Groups2. Promote and Support Environmental and Greening Central Watford Program3. Reduce level of ASB in the Ward4. Champion and support local causes in the town5. Be on hand to respond to residents requests for assistance	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The newest residents group in the town – Watford Fields Residents Association I now active and has run area cleaning days Also enhanced community engagement through a picnic in the Park2. Contributed funds for planting projects and a bench Watferfields Park3. Supported Watford Rotary Club and Herts Inclusive Theatre4. Met with several residents to support them on a range of issues including housing, parking, Anti Social Behaviour etc5. Campaigned for special measures to tackle difficulties experienced by CPZ Permit holders

10. Objective(s) for 2017/18

1. Similar to those for 2017/18
Plus
2. Represent residents on Planning and Licensing Applications
3. Help protect green and play space in Central Ward as necessary
4. Contribute to long term development plans
5. Contribute to Digital Watford Program