



Watford Borough Council Members' Performance Scheme

2013/14

End of Year Self Assessments

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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

28 councillors have completed self assessments representing 11 of the 12 wards. The assessments are summarised in this document.

The training listed for each councillor is what they have undertaken during 2013/14.

Central Ward

Ward Councillors: Lizz Ayre, Helen Lynch and Rabi Martins

Councillors Lynch and Martins have completed self assessments.

Councillor Lynch

Year elected: 2010

Ward: Central

Reasons for becoming a councillor: To represent residents, to give them a fair outcome that benefits their daily lives and enhances the community well being.

Roles in the Council: Central Neighbourhood Forum, Council, Housing Policy Advisory Group, Joint Housing and Planning Policy Advisory Group, Licensing Committee, Licensing Committee (Licensing Act 2003), Licensing Sub Committee, Market Working Group

Membership of outside bodies: Watford Community Church, Chair of the Queens Community Action Group.

Training and development undertaken: Croxley Rail Link briefing, public speaking training, Health Campus briefing

Attendance record: Expected at 18 meetings. Attended 17 meetings.
Percentage = 94%

How she has met Council objectives:

Making Watford a better place to live in

- Working with officers, traders and residents to ensure that the new Watford Market is the best it can be by suggesting initiatives and encouraging communication between all parties. I have tried to ensure that every opportunity is explored to make the market vibrant, accessible, visually impactful and popular with potential customers.
- Working with residents in Zone E CPZ and officers to see the completion of extended hours enforcement. This was essential to reduce disruption caused by new Metro Quarter development.
- Working with several families and housing/ benefits officers to avoid eviction from their homes.

- Working with Veolia and WBC officers and residents in Water Lane, Gladstone Rd and The Estcourt Conservation area to find the most convenient recycling facility following introduction of blue lidded bins.
- Representing residents by speaking at several Development Control and Licensing hearings objecting to new developments/ businesses changing alcohol sales arrangements, that if approved would have a negative impact on the quality of life of communities i.e. Stanley Rd HMO, 36 Clarendon Rd, Queens Rd Spar.
- Working with minority groups in the community i.e. the Polish community, to ensure they are able to make informed decisions and are aware of their rights and opportunities.
- In liaison with police and fellow ward Councillors setting ward priorities in order to highlight ASB hot spots and increased police presence.

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

- Working with independent businesses in Charter Place, Watford Market, Market St, Queens Rd and Watford High St to expand or to find retail outlets. I have worked with officers and local agents to support them to achieve this by networking and offering practical advice with business rates etc
- Supporting businesses in Queens Rd by instigating 20 minute free parking in the road and currently the installation of a further 7 bays.
- Communicating to residents through residents meetings and newsletters about new developments in the town i.e. Charter Place & Top end of town, Health Campus

Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town

- Chairing Neighbourhood Forums and working with fellow Councillors to ensure that invited guests provide informative presentations, i.e. Sergeant Simon Mason speaking about measures to reduce Anti Social Behaviour and crime in town centre, Mayor Thornhill on plans for the town, Sarah Priestley from the Museum about town's historical interest.
- Regularly attending and speaking at resident's association meetings including Radlett Rd estate, Estcourt Residents Association, Wilmington, Smith St, Queens Community Action group, Radlett Rd.
- Liaising with officers and residents and arranging smaller meetings and site visits so that face to face meetings ensure a better understanding of issues and potential solutions.
- Working closely with Police and Liam Fitzgerald to ensure that residents report issues and police are aware of them in order to take action.
- Working closely with local religious leaders to promote their facilities, services, community groups and classes, as well as support networks

Operating the council efficiently and effectively

- Attending full Council meetings as well as other committee meetings. Ensuring that I am aware of issues by reading briefing documents and gaining an understanding in order to contribute to debates.
- Building relationships with officers and highlighting issues as they arise in the ward and the Borough.

Objective for 2013/14	Update on progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work on public speaking/ question asking in chamber 	<p>I attended a public speaking course, but this has not encouraged me to speak at full council meetings.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rekindle Water Lane residents group and pursue relationship with Tescos to improve this area. 	<p>Not achieved, although communication remains good with both.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify min 2 volunteers to apply to Central Community Fund who may wish to provide clubs for elderly i.e. reminiscence group, especially if it integrated young and old. 	<p>One application was approved for an elderly resident project. The community fund has been utilised more effectively with children and youth groups this year.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have 6 new businesses installed in Queens Rd by Apr 2014 	<p>Achieved. There are currently 6 new businesses in the process of moving to QR including a bike shop, an estate agent, employment agency and 3 music related outlets.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organise Queens Rd Summer Market for 3rd year and recruit more volunteers to bring fresh ideas, gain additional funding to promote it more effectively. Initially find a suitable venue to store the stalls etc, otherwise we won't be able to proceed at all. 	<p>Achieved.</p>

Objectives for 2014/15

- To hold the Queens Road Summer Market for the 4th year
- To continue to support minority communities and provide constructive advice and support to vulnerable residents.
- Try to address the issue of cyclists inconsiderately cycling on pavements and the intimidation to elderly residents this causes, as well as the wider community. Promoting a campaign with the Council, Police and other parties to ensure better education of cyclists and pedestrians.



Councillor Martins

Year elected: 1994

Ward: Central

Reasons for becoming a councillor:

1. Influence delivery of services to Watford residents
2. Contribute to improvements to the town social environment and economic development
3. Provide residents with a voice on the council
4. Support the town's voluntary organisations
5. Make representations on behalf of the town to Central Government
6. Improve quality of life for residents in Central Ward

Roles in the Council: Budget Panel, Central Neighbourhood Forum, Community Safety Partnership Task Group, Council, Development Control Committee (Chair), Joint Housing and Planning Policy Advisory Group, Management of Disabled Parking Bays Task Group (Chair), Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Planning Policy Advisory Group

Membership of outside bodies: Hertfordshire County Council Health Scrutiny Committee, Watford Community Church, Hertfordshire Police and Crime Panel, Central Ward Community Fund Management Team, Vice President, Watford North Scouts District

Training and development undertaken: The Shape of Planning and Development Implementing a New Scheme, The Future of the National Planning System, The Care Bill 2013: Understanding and implementing the new framework, Individual Electoral Registration Briefing, Drug and alcohol treatment briefing, London Midland Presentation, Budget Panel: Local Government Finance, Budget Panel: Business Rates since April 13, Growth and Transport – Clarendon Road, Planning in line with Policy

General: Various briefings on Watford Market with senior managers

Attendance record: Expected at 39 meetings. Attended 32 meetings.
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 for action
- Met regularly with resident groups to solicit their views on general state of the town in terms of cleanliness transport, antisocial behaviour lighting etc
- Engaged with local residents and community groups and provided support including with funding from the Neighbourhood Forum Budget

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

- Discussions / meeting with Managing Director on the new Watford Market
- Through membership of the Planning Advisory Group
- Review of Council Financial Strategy on the Budget Panel
- Discussions with Portfolio holder and Lead Officers on the Parking Enforcement Policy
- Support for local businesses by participation in meetings of the Chamber of Commerce

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 councils administration and services management at Overview and Scrutiny meetings

- Discussions with Service Managers on to resolve issues raised by residents to address short term problems
- Regular meetings with Development Control Section Head to review processes such as notification of applications to residents enforcement of planning conditions etc

Objective for 2013/14	Update on progress
<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>	<p>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</p> <p>I have also been invited to address residents and business groups</p> <p>Central Ward Councillors also have regular formal meetings with the Police This is in addition to frequent email and other informal communication</p> <p>I regularly comment on Licensing applications and when appropriate make representations at committee on behalf of residents</p>

Objective for 2014/15

1. 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 sharing the workload and taking a lead on some aspects with mutual agreement of team members
2. Work with all concerned to promote the new space being created at the top of the town (Parade Area) as a feature of Family Friendly Watford Town Centre



Holywell Ward

Ward Councillors: Nigel Bell, Jackie Connal and Matt Turmaine

All three councillors have completed self assessments

Councillor Bell

Year elected: 2007

Reasons for becoming a councillor: I wanted 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 I wanted 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: Council, Development Control Committee, Major Projects Board, Labour opposition spokesman at Cabinet, Market Working Group, Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Property Scrutiny Task Group-Chair, Three Rivers and Watford Shared Services Joint Committee

Membership of outside bodies: I am a member of the County Council representing Vicarage/Holywell division and serve on the education cabinet panel and children's services cabinet panel. I am on the advisory board of Westfield children's centre. A member of the management committee of the Chessbrook Education support centre in Tolpits Lane as a County Councillor.

Training and development undertaken: Development Control training, Traffic Regulation Order Briefing, Individual Electoral Registration Briefing, Health Campus Briefing, Budget Panel: Local Government Finance, Anti Social Behaviour Briefing

General: As Leader of the Labour Group I arranged for a briefing to the Group by the new Chief Inspector of Watford and I also arranged a briefing to the Group by the Borough's Director of Finance on the Budget. As stated as Leader of the Labour Group I speak at Cabinet putting a Labour and opposition view about the Mayor and her administration's policy.

I get information and email briefings on local Government issues from the LGA and LGIU and I get advice and briefings from the Labour Party nationally and the Labour Party Local Government Association for advice.

Attendance Record: Expected at 34 meetings. Attended 29 meetings.
Percentage = 85%

How he has met the Council objectives

Making Watford a better place to live in

- As usual I attended the Annual Remembrance day service.
- I attended and urged residents to attend the 'Imagine Watford' event last summer.
- I spoke at a County Council meeting on a Labour motion to urge the County to make it easier to bring in a '20 MPH Zone' in Watford in February.
- I spoke at a Licensing Committee and at full Council in support of a 'sensitive' Licensing policy for my County area of Whippendell Road after representations from residents concerned about anti-social behaviour from street drinkers and supported the same policy for parts of Central ward and parts of St Albans Road.
- Separately, I was pleased to support a motion at Full Council on 19th March by my Labour colleagues to encourage shops to not sell super-strength alcohol after the work North Watford Labour Councillors have done in the St Albans Road area.
- As County Councillor I have continued to lobby for better Roads and footways in my West Watford division, using my £90,000 Highways locality budget for resurfacing to make a safer environment.
- My casework has included many calls from residents and emails to County Officers about potholes and I have spent much of my time making sure potholes and other Highway complaints and faults are made good.
- I raised the example of the proposed St James Road 'one-way' policy introduction in my division, which took over a year longer than it should have done at a County Council meeting to highlight the poor performance of the County's Highway maintenance contractor.
- Again I have taken up residents concerns about the streetlights being turned off at midnight, especially when residents have had property stolen at this time and I have contacted the Police about the crime figures after midnight. On crime and anti-social behaviour I have continued to liaise with the Police and the Council's anti-social behaviour officer.
- On Sunday, 2nd March I accompanied Police Officers and PCSO Officers in their 'safer streets' campaign as we knocked on doors in Whippendell Road in Vicarage ward asking residents any issues they may have had on crime and 'anti-social' behaviour
- I have had casework on crime and had a briefing at Shady Lane, Watford Police station for myself and my 2-other Holywell Labour colleagues about the local neighbourhood policing policy.
- I have also had a briefing on individual crimes affecting the Holywell Ward.
- I have continued to liaise with Housing Trust Officers including the Chief Executive and other senior Officers to get action for residents on their complaints receiving phone calls and emails at all times of the day and regularly visiting residents to listen to their problems and concerns.

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

- On Monday 25th November I attended the opening of Morrisons supermarket in my Holywell ward along with my Holywell Labour colleague, and I have continued to meet the store Manager and make suggestions concerning the site.

Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town

- While I welcome the new primary school proposed next to Morrisons and I have been pushing for this for years at County, I raised at the County Cabinet the concern about the school not being completed till September 2015 and asked about the plans from September 2014 to September 2015.
- I have continued to raise the issue of the 'Farm Terrace' allotments and their campaign to stay and I have argued for a new Hospital and the continuation of Farm Terrace.
- I have written letters to the Watford Observer putting a local Labour view throughout the year, and issued leaflets to residents explaining Labour policy and setting out my and Labour Council colleagues work and achievements in Holywell and Vicarage Wards.
- My main casework again has come from housing issues rivalling Highways with the most calls and emails.
- As I am a member of the County education panel, I regularly have raised the issues of the lack of primary school places in Watford and the coming lack of places for secondary schools.
- I have had casework from concerned parents on this and other education issues and have been in contact with senior officers to help parents in getting a better deal for their child.
- As the County's Labour spokesman on Children's services and member of the children's services panel, I have continued to argue for a better deal for the most vulnerable children in Watford and the County and especially, 'looked after children.'
- I have continued to contact the MP for Watford when needed on behalf of residents.

Operating the council efficiently and effectively

- I have continued to work with Council colleagues of all Political Parties for the good of the town and I am always willing to help all Councillors with advice.
- I have continued to speak at Development Control meetings.
- I spoke at the Full Council on the 29th January in the Budget debate putting forward the Labour alternative budget to the Mayor and her administration.

- I have continued to ask questions of the Mayor at Council meetings throughout the year and encouraged other Labour members to ask oral and written questions at Full Council.
- As a member of the 'Overview and Scrutiny' committee I was able to question the Watford Council Housing Trust Chief Executive about residents complaints that arose due to the 'Task Group' which was set up to look into the performance of the Housing Trust.
- As a member of the overview and scrutiny committee I have asked questions throughout the year of Officers on the Council's performance, I particularly thought it important to question the Interim Head of Revenues and Benefits on the 'overpayments' question and other Revenues and Benefits issues.
- This was also an issue I raised in my time on the Shared Services Committee with Three Rivers Council and I also questioned the privatisation of I.T. and the crucial question of the future of scrutiny for Watford members on behalf of their residents from April 1st when the new 'shared services' policy is introduced and Three Rivers will have responsibility for Revenues and Benefits.

Objective for 2013/14	Update on progress
<p>To continue to do my best as Labour Group Leader to oppose in a constructive way the Liberal-Democrat administration and stand up for the less well-off and the vulnerable in the Town, especially to help those affected by the coalition Government's welfare reforms.</p>	<p>I would like to think I have met my objectives in opposing the Liberal Democrat administration with motions and questions at Full Council and campaigning throughout the year, and taking up residents issues arising from the coalition's welfare reforms. I have also encouraged my Labour Council colleagues to oppose the administration giving help and advice where I could.</p>

Objective for 2014/15

To continue the work I have listed above in opposing the Mayor and her Liberal Democrat administration and helping my Labour Council colleagues with their development any training needs they have.



Councillor Connal

Year elected: 2010

Roles in the Council: Council, Licensing Committee, Licensing Committee (Licensing Act 2003), Licensing Sub Committee

Training and development undertaken: Croxley Rail Link briefing, public speaking training, Individual Electoral Registration briefing, drug and alcohol treatment briefing, London Midland presentation, Health Campus briefing, Budget Panel: Local Government Finance

Attendance Record: Expected at 16 meetings. Attended 13 meetings. Percentage = 81%

How she has met the Council objectives

Making Watford a better place to live in

- Promoting activities at Holywell Community Centre
- Attending events of African Caribbean Society, Portuguese Community, and assorted lunch clubs that are held in Holywell Community Centre.
- I would like to bring more of the 'over 60s' together and propose contacting Holywell Community Centre to discuss the possibilities.
- Supporting numerous Museum Activities.
- Working with the police on crime in Holywell and CCTV in the Town Centre.

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

- Working with Watford Community Housing Trust

Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town

- Many visits to Holywell Community Centre
- Visiting Watford Museum on a regular basis
- On Tuesday mornings visiting Café West where I make contact with many constituents and am able to listen and help.
- Attend regular residents meetings.
- Meetings with police.
- Attending events at local schools (Laurence Haines, Holywell and St. Anthonys)
- Attending committee meetings and events at Westfield Children's Centre
- Housing difficulties resolved.

Operating the council efficiently and effectively

- Attending all Council meetings
- Attending committee meetings of all committees to which I belong and also attending many others as an Observer.
- Working with staff members on behalf of constituents
- Attending Training and Briefings.

Objective for 2013/14	Update on progress
Watford Community Housing Trust Task Group agreed in place and very useful	I am very grateful for the help I and my constituents, with problems, have received.

Objective for 2014/15

Looking into the possibilities of how the over 60s might be able to come together more.

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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: Budget Panel, Constitution Working Party, Council, Council Functions Committee, Licensing Committee, Licensing Committee (Licensing Act 2003), Licensing Sub Committee, Member Development Group

Training and development: Development Control training, Budget Panel: Local Government Finance, Individual Electoral Registration Briefing, Budget Panel: Business Rates since April 2013, Health Campus Briefing

Attendance Record: Expected at 20 meetings. Attended 17 meetings.
Percentage = 85%

How he has met the Council objectives

Making Watford a better place to live in

- Attended regular briefings with WCHT throughout the year with residents for planning and representation.
- Attended Cassiobury Park development consultation plans.
- Attended Health Campus plans consultation and Primary Care consultation meeting.

- Attended meetings with the police throughout the year for ward and CCTV consolidation.
- Attended meeting with Sanctuary Housing regarding issues in local ward.
- Attended Farm Terrace allotments meeting.

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

- Attended Watford New Hope Trust Market Garden Day.
- Attended Watford Chamber of Commerce event.
- Support and attend local cultural venues, e.g. Palace Theatre events throughout the year.
- Support local economic and cultural events in local ward, e.g. Latin Community event in HCC and Watford Live.
- Support local business and retail.
- Provide support, feedback and engagement with local businesses.

Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town

- Attended Remembrance Sunday event at memorial at Town Hall.
- Attended Eid and Vaisakhi celebrations in the town.
- Visited Watford Hospital Radio to see facilities.
- Attended Cassiobury Water Festival.
- Attended the Multicultural Centre celebratory events
- Attended Hertfordshire County Show.

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 departments including budget and licensing.
- Upheld the member code of conduct in engagement with council officers.

Objective for 2013/14	Update on progress
To develop my skills and experience as a councillor and to continue to represent my constituents in their casework needs, to continue to engage with the council officers for the benefit of the town and community.	Through training and experience of undertaking my responsibilities as a councillor, through being available to local residents and engaging with council officers as required.

Objective for 2014/15

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.

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Leggatts Ward

Ward Councillors: Stephen Johnson, Anne Joynes, Asif Khan

Councillors Johnson and Joynes have completed self assessments

Councillor Johnson

Year elected: 2009

Reasons for becoming a councillor: I became a Councillor because I wanted to serve the communities of Leggatts Ward 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: Constitution Working Party, Council, Development Control Committee, Housing Policy Advisory Group, Joint Housing and Planning Policy Advisory Group, Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Planning Policy Advisory Group, Property Scrutiny Task Group, Standards Committee (Chair)

Membership of outside bodies: Ridge Resident Association

Training and development: Croxley Rail Link Briefing, Development Control Training, Traffic Regulation Order Briefing, Public Speaking Training, Individual Electoral Registration Briefing, Budget Panel: Local Government Finance

Attendance Record: Expected at 39 meetings. Attended 38 meetings. Percentage = 97%

How he has met the Council objectives

Making Watford a better place to live in

- Involved in various North Watford Park clean up days and planting days organised by Ridge Residents Group. Planted bulbs and put up bird and bat boxes
- Working with Parks department to improve signage

- Represented residents of Gammons Farm Close in issues with Housing Association.
- Continued with involvement with clean-up days and planting days at North Watford Playing Fields.
- Organised meeting between County portfolio holder and Orchard school head to find a way forward for the school development plan

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

- Member of Planning Advisory Group
- Member of the Housing Policy Advisory Group

Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town

- Consulting with local traders and businesses. Representing their views to the Council.
- Member of Planning Advisory Group which also concentrates on the economic wellbeing of the Town. Group has potential for doing good work.

Operating the council efficiently and effectively

- Attending appropriate training
- Awareness of Constitution and Code of Conduct
- Researching and keeping up to date on local government issues, mostly through own political party.
- Member of the overarching Scrutiny Committee

Objective for 2013/14	Update on progress
To work towards making an impact on the housing situation including through Membership of the WCHT Task Group.	I feel the Task group achieved its original aims and objectives.

Objective for 2014/15

To become more involved in the running of the Council.



Councillor Joynes

Year elected: 2012

Reasons for becoming a councillor: I wanted to make a difference and act as an advocate for people who are vulnerable and to try to put forward Labour policies to the advantage of people in the ward.

Roles in the Council: Community Safety Partnership Task Group, Council, Development Control Committee, Housing Policy Advisory Group, Joint Housing and Planning Policy Advisory Group, Outsourced Services Scrutiny Panel, Planning Policy Advisory Group

Membership of outside bodies I am a County Councillor representing Callowland/Leggatts. I am a member of the cabinet panel for Customer Performance and Libraries. I also am on the Scrutiny panel

Training and development undertaken: Traffic regulation order briefing, The Future of the National Planning System, Individual Electoral Registration Briefing, Drug and Alcohol Treatment Briefing, London Midland Presentation, Budget Panel: Local Government Finance

General: At County I have undertaken training to chair a Scrutiny topic group. I shall be chairing a topic group on Children's Centres in May. I have taken part in the "Safer Streets" campaign in Leggatts. I have assisted residents in their dealings with the Housing Trust. I attend a monthly coffee morning at Hollytree House which is run by the Courtlands Residents' association.

Attendance Record: Expected at 36 meetings. Attended 35 meetings. Percentage = 97%

Making Watford a better place to live in

- I attended the annual Remembrance Day service.
- I have continued to support the local residents' associations in my ward.
- Organised neighbourhood 'clean ups' in the ward.

Objective for 2013/14	Update on progress
To work effectively with residents' associations to enable them to effect the improvements required in their communities.	I have organised neighbourhood 'clean ups'. Helped one CRA to purchase and install salt bins for the winter. Been able to deal/facilitate work on long-term road/traffic problems

Objective for 2014/15

To work on improving the 'street scene' in both wards.

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Meriden Ward

Ward Councillors: Jan Brown, Sue Greenslade, Kareen Hastrick

All three councillors have completed self assessments

Councillor J Brown

Year elected: 1998-2002 and 2003

Roles in the Council: Chief Officer Pay Panel, Council, Housing Policy Advisory Group, Joint Housing and Planning Policy Advisory Group, Licensing Committee (Chair), Licensing Committee (Licensing Act 2003) (Chair), Licensing Sub Committee

Membership of outside bodies: Unpaid director of Lemarie Centre for Charities

Training and development undertaken: Individual Electoral Registration Briefing Scannet and Asbo Training

Attendance Record: Expected at 17 meetings. Attended 17 meetings. Percentage = 100%

How she has met the Council objectives

Making Watford a better place to live in

- Together with our partners (particularly the police), we have worked really hard to find a good balance in the night time economy between having a good and safe night out and chaos in the town centre late at night. We think we have got the balance about right now and will concentrate on maintaining it. We have brought our licensing policy up to date in light of what we have experienced over the last four years.
- As Meriden ward councillor, I am now working with Veolia and our own Parks Department to get a Green Flag award for Garston Park.

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

- Supported the Mayor and Cabinet in their proposed policies.

Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town

- In my role as Chair of the Licensing Committee, I have worked with the Central Ward councillors with regard to licensing the pubs, clubs, bars and restaurants in the town centre. I work closely with WBC’s licensing department and regular drivers’ newsletters are sent to the hackney carriage and private hire trade.
- An ‘About Watford’ magazine is circulated to every household in the town telling them what the Council are currently doing, to which, everyone has an input.
- As for my own Ward (Meriden), we three councillors put out regular leaflets asking our residents what we can do for them and telling them what we have done to improve the area and what we propose to do. I also attend monthly meetings of the Meriden Residents’ Association and keep them well informed of what we are doing in the area – not to mention taking on board their wishes as far as possible.

Operating the council efficiently and effectively

- As a member of the ruling group, I have a say in what our policies currently are and what our future proposals are. We think we are doing a very good job making savings year on year and our aim is to keep the front line services as efficient as they possibly can be. We have yet again frozen council tax whilst still maintaining high standard, efficient front line services.

Objective for 2013/14	Update on progress
Again, I shall be continuing to administer the councillors’ neighbourhood project money on community causes in Meriden Ward.	We have spent our entire allocation of £2,500 on projects in the Ward. We have donated money for the purchase of football kits for Meriden Community Centre and complete kits for the separate Meriden youngsters’ football team, which is now affiliated to the football league.

Objective for 2014/15

My objective will be to carry on working on the balance of the night time economy in the town centre, as long as I am chair of licensing. Also to continue administering our neighbourhood project money on community causes in Meriden Ward

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Councillor Greenslade

Year elected: 2003

Reasons for becoming a councillor: To improve where I live

Roles in the Council: Budget Panel, Chief Officer Pay Panel, Council, Management of Disabled Parking Bays Task Group, Outsourced Services Scrutiny Panel, Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Membership of outside bodies: RSPB Sussex Wildlife Trust, Celebration Watford (catering)

Training and development: Individual Electoral Registration Briefing, Budget Panel: Business Rates since April 13

General: China tea club Garston community church, celebration committee doing the catering

Attendance Record: Expected at 21 meetings. Attended 14 meetings. Percentage = 67%

How she has met the Council objectives

Making Watford a better place to live in

- Graffiti in subway, cars for sale on public roads, litter bins
- Sorted residents mould etc from house, drug dealing with police and scooters subways
- Bench in parks etc.

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

- Working with Sainsburys for rats/litter, anti social behaviour in car park at night and the expansion of the store.

Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town

- Meeting residents out and about, going to residents open meetings
- Going to Remembrance Sunday and Vicarage Road and Carol Service
- Trying to get school to get parents to park safely outside school

Operating the council efficiently and effectively

- Attend meeting of the committees and task groups

Objective for 2013/14
Tried to get a better bus service for the Meriden estate

Objective for 2014/15

Get manhole covers resurfaced on St Albans Road

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Councillor Hastrick

Year elected: 2006

Reasons for becoming a councillor: Living in Meriden Ward, I felt it important that residents have an advocate and I was impressed with what the present administration had achieved for Watford.

Roles in the Council: Constitution Working Party (Chair), Council, Licensing Committee, Licensing Committee (Licensing Act 2003), Licensing Sub Committee, Outsourced Services Scrutiny Panel, Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Property Scrutiny Task Group

Membership of outside bodies: Watford Citizen's Advice Bureau, Watford Community Housing Trust, Member of Berrygrove Children's Centre Advisory Board, Herts Highways – Highways Liaison Panel

Training and development: Development Control training, Traffic Regulation Order briefing, National Grid briefing, Individual Electoral Registration briefing

Attendance Record: Expected at 22 meetings. Attended 20 meetings. Percentage = 91%

Making Watford a better place to live in

- Member of WCHT Steering Group for 'Heart Meriden' consulting residents on improvements to Meriden Estate.
- Neighbourhood Watch. Fully supporting North Watford Police. Supporting WFC Charitable Trust as landlords of Meriden Community Centre. Working with officers and residents to achieve improvements to local parks. Support for resident petition for improved crossing on Bushey Mill Lane (between the two Parkgate schools).
- Regular update meetings with Herts Highways.

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

- Member of consultative group for Meriden Heart. Consulting with local businesses and residents over concerns.
- Member of WCHT Board.
- Attending briefings and reporting on Croxley Rail Link, improvements to Watford junction Station, Dome roundabout, Abbey Line.

Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town

- Working with officers on outdoor gyms sited on Garston and Lea Farm Parks.
- Supporting local youth-led projects (Meriden Fishing Club, Football Club).

- Improvements to facilities on Meriden Park.
- Keeping in touch with residents with regular newsletters and social media as well as regular attendance at resident meetings.

Operating the council efficiently and effectively

- Working on variety of Watford Borough committees.
- Representation at County Council.
- Representing WBC at local Resident Associations and reporting on concerns.

Objective for 2013/14	Update on progress
Looking into support for Friends of Garston Park	This is an on-going project.

Objective for 2014/15

Re-starting Friends of Garston Park group and beginning Friends of Lea Farm Park to aid the Green Flag status classification for both parks.



Nascot Ward

Ward Councillors: Jeanette Aron, Mark Hofman, Mark Watkin

All three councillors have completed self assessments

Cllr Aron

Year elected: 2011

Reasons for becoming a councillor: to take a more active role in supporting our community when residents are faced with difficult issues or concerns, to encourage active participation in community life for all

Roles in the Council: Budget Panel, Community Safety Partnership Task Group, Council, Housing Policy Advisory Group, Joint Housing and Planning Policy Advisory Group, Major Projects Board, Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Membership of outside bodies: Hertfordshire Covenant Board, long standing volunteer with charities based in the Gambia and volunteer at own synagogue NPLS

Training and development: Tackling crime - the new policing landscape, Development Control training, Individual Electoral Registration Briefing, Drug

and alcohol treatment briefing, Health Campus Briefing, Budget Panel: Local Government Finance, Budget Panel: Business Rates since April 13

Attendance Record: Expected at 29 meetings. Attended 28 meetings.
Percentage = 97%

How she has met the Council objectives

Making Watford a better place to live in

- On going support of the Ridge Lane Residents Association with their clean-up and bulb planting weekends at North Watford Playing Fields. Litter picking at Goodwood Recreation Ground and Hempstead Road with the Courtland's Residents Association.
- Working with residents, the Nascot Residents Association and OM management Company to improve public open space at Willow Grange.
- Have attended a Safer Streets session with our Community Police Officers
- Worked with residents on issues relating to ASB with support from officers from WBC
- Regular meetings with our Community Police Officers at Shady Lane to address any concerns they or residents have in relation to Community Safety

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

- By supporting the planned Watford Health Campus

Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town

- Attend coffee mornings at local sheltered accommodation
- Provided support and help for the Cassiobury Residents Association, Ridge Residents Association & Nascot Residents Association as when required
- Organised a Neighbourhood Forum and worked with residents with parking issues throughout the ward or on Park improvement consultations.
- Worked with local schools with the aim of community and children's safety through parking scheme's or with Emergency Evacuations in conjunction with the local Community Police
- Have attended Nascot Grange Affordable Housing opening, helped support the Cassiobury Residents Association fun day, attended a tree planting at North Watford Playing Fields, attended a Community Day & Rugby Match at Watford Rugby Football Club
- Have attended the AGM's of the Cassiobury Residents Association & Nascot Residents Association
- Helped support and meet with residents when objecting to planning applications in their vicinity

- Worked with my colleague Cllr Watkin & helped residents with issues relating to special needs education for their children
- Working with WBC Officers in all departments to provide satisfactory solutions to any queries raised by residents
- Continue working as a team with my fellow councillors, our wonderful residents associations and all the volunteers that work to achieve so much locally

Operating the council efficiently and effectively

- On Budget Panel Committee
- Helping to support our WBC officers in their endeavours to provide an excellent service for all our residents

Objective for 2013/14	Update on progress
To continue to work with and help support the residents of Nascot Ward and the partnerships that enable my work as a councillor to support that need	Have accomplished many satisfactory results for our residents this year and will continue to be a support and help when required

Objective for 2014/15

Continue in the same vein as this year



Cllr 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, Council Functions Committee (Vice-Chair), Highways Forum, Major Projects Board, Member Development Group

Training and development: Veolia Outsourced Service Briefing, Croxley Rail Link Briefing, Individual Electoral Registration Briefing, Health Campus Briefing, Social Media Training

Attendance record: Expected at 14 meetings. Attended 12 meetings. Percentage = 86%

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 two residents' forums and liaised with local Police to ensure they have a regular opportunity to hear the issues our constituents may have.
- Meet with residents to discuss their parking concerns in a 1-2-1 capacity whenever required.
- Worked with local Police, residents and councillors to ensure minimal disruption during the Bilderberg conference.
- Work with residents associations to improve local parks, participating in clean-up sessions and funded a skip to help clear debris.
- Suggested future improvements to local infrastructure which improve the image of the town and wellbeing of residents.
- Supported the funding of a new CCTV control for Police use.

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

- Attended the Watford Chamber of Commerce AGM.
- Encouraged the participation of the Watford Cultural Leaders Group in infrastructure improvements to help enhance the appearance of our local assets.
- Member of the Major Projects Board.
- Member of the Highways Forum.
- Regularly attended meetings of the Chamber's Creative Technologies Cluster Group and promoted export led growth amongst local businesses.

Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town

- Nascot is home to three active residents' associations. I have supported their activities through the use of our WBC forum budget, attended their meetings, functions 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 the Mayor's Christmas reception for local private and public sector organisations.
- Providing advice to residents regarding the recent outsourcing of waste services.
- Attended the Individual Electoral Registration Briefing and passed on information to local residents as required.

- Supporting local residents with their objections to local development plans and representing their views at Development Control Committees. In early August I also attended Development Control Committee and represented residents who opposed the demolition of 61a Church Road.

Operating the council efficiently and effectively

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

Objective for 2013/14	Have you met your objective?
To continue my development as a local councillor and build my knowledge of local government.	I have built my knowledge of local government by attending training sessions and briefings during the past year to ensure I'm up-to-date with changes in the local landscape.

Objective for 2014/15

Enhance my knowledge of development control and support the enhancement of our local community assets and activities.

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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, Council Functions Committee (Chair), Development Control Committee, Joint Housing and Planning Policy Advisory Group, Member Development Group, Planning Policy Advisory Group, Portfolio Holder for Democracy and Governance, Three Rivers and Watford Shared Services Joint Committee (Chair)

Membership of outside bodies: Friends of Little Cassiobury – Trustee, Friends of Cassiobury Park – member, Nascot Residents Association – member, Friends of Watford Museum – member

Training and development: LGA Conference, Traffic regulation order briefing, Developing practical responses to universal credit and welfare reform, Individual Electoral Registration Briefing, London Midland Presentation,

Budget Panel: Local Government Finance, Budget Panel: Business Rates since April 13, Audit: The Role of the Audit Committee in Risk Management

Attendance record: Expected at 37 meetings. Attended 30 meetings.
Percentage = 81%

How he has met Council objectives

Making Watford a better place to live in

- I have been 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 and have participated in their working parties tackling conservation issues in the Park.
- I have worked to enhance the facilities of both 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 three 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 in particular have supported the West Hertfordshire Free School's Trust bid to open their Watford Town School.
- Together with my ward councillors we have worked to reduce the impact of the pressures of car parking on our busy streets.
- I am working to reduce the problems of speeding on roads in my Ward and I actively support the 20 is Plenty Campaign.
- I have challenged all development schemes in the ward to ensure that they are appropriate, and in keeping with our neighbourhood. Regrettably Planning Inspectors do not always agree with my 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 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.

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.

Operating the council efficiently and effectively

- In my role as Portfolio of Shared Services. I have worked closely with the Council's newly appointed 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 lead on the review of our Shared Service operation with Three Rivers which has resulted in a change in the management and governance of these services.

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.
- 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, and indeed all the Shared Services, substantiates this.

Objective for 2013/14	Update on progress
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.	Partly. I had hoped the new service relationship would have been implemented during FY 2013/14 but for good reasons the changes will be implemented at the start of FY 2014/15

Objective for 2014/15

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.

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Oxhey Ward

Ward Councillors: Shirena Counter, Iain Sharpe, Peter Taylor

All three councillors have completed self assessments

Councillor Counter

Year elected: 2002

Reasons for becoming a councillor: I wanted to make a difference to my local area

Roles in the Council: Budget Panel, Council, Outsourced Services Scrutiny Panel (Chair)

Membership of outside bodies: The Ashfield School Foundation

Training and development undertaken: Individual Electoral Registration Briefing, London Midland Presentation, Budget Panel: Local Government Finance, Budget Panel: Business Rates since April 13, Speed reading training, Briefing on Scan-Net and ASB legislation changes

Attendance record: Expected at 14 meetings. Attended 14 meetings. Percentage = 100%

How she has met the Council objectives

Making Watford a better place to live in

- Liaised with Network Rail to successfully get vegetation and graffiti removed from Bushey Arches
- Liaised with planning over individual applications (eg 83 Lower Paddock Road)

- Chaired meeting with OVEG and WBC Conservation team about Oxhey Conservation Area
- I chaired a number of meetings with residents, Councillors, County and WBC officers and specialist consultants to discuss the Health Campus access road through Oxhey Park, resulting in an alternative route which will have far less impact on the park.
- I worked with fellow councillors and officers to finalise the introduction of short term parking bays in Oxhey
- I have been actively involved in casework for individual residents, including facilitating a meeting with the planning team and a local resident, liaising with the Watford Community Housing Trust on behalf of a resident with a number of issues, and dealing with minor issues such as dealing with blocked drains and road markings

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

- I continue to liaise with London Midland to improve fast train services to both Bushey & Watford junction and am hoping that there will be further timetable improvements in May

Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town

- Before stepping down as Chairman, I attended a number of community events such as the Vaisakhi festival and the Herts Constabulary Art awards, and I also set up the Chairman's 100 Club to generate further funding for the Chairman's charities.
- I was asked to open the Oxhey Village Environment Group summer fayre
- I helped judge the OVEG photo competition with Peter Taylor
- I undertook the sponsored dog walk organised by the Harrison/Sawyer families to raise money for the Royal British Legion
- I have attended various local meetings held by OVEG, Friends of Oxhey Park and also chaired a meeting with residents who were concerned about the demolition of a garage and its impact on bats.
- We also held a Neighbourhood Forum on the forthcoming train blockade.

Operating the council efficiently and effectively

- This year I have been chair of outsourced services scrutiny
- Member of budget panel

Objective for 2014/15

To facilitate/support the development of a biodiversity plan for Watford and work with the head of Parks & Open spaces to bid for money to run a project similar to the Wild Stevenage project.

To work with the HMWT and Health Campus team to ensure that a Wildlife corridor is planned into the design of the Health Campus Access Road, enabling wildlife to safely move across the road



Councillor Iain Sharpe

Year elected: 1991

Roles in the Council: Cabinet, Constitution Working Party (Vice-Chair), Council, Development Control Committee, Highways Forum, Joint Housing and Planning Policy Advisory Group, Major Projects Board (Chair), Market Working Group, Planning Policy Advisory Group (Chair), Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Development, Watford Borough Council and West Herts Golf Club Joint Committee

Membership of outside bodies: Local Government Association - Urban Commission, Traffic Management Act Adjudication Joint Committee

Training and development undertaken: Croxley Rail Link Briefing, Traffic regulation order briefing, DC training, Individual Electoral Registration Briefing, Health Campus Briefing, Budget Panel: Local Government Finance

General: As in previous years, my work as a councillor 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, concern about rail services, development and improving local green space. As chair of the Major Projects Board and cabinet member I have worked with officers to progress key projects for Watford's future, including Part 2 of the local plan, health campus, the new market, 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: Expected at 38 meetings. Attended 35 meetings.
Percentage = 92%

How he has met the Council objectives

Making Watford a better place to live in

- Worked with fellow councillors, officers and Friends of Oxhey Park to ensure the successful achievement of major improvements to the park, including outdoor gym, improved footpaths, gateway features, new benches etc.
- Supported the improvements to the Parade and launch of the council's events programme

- Chaired the Planning Policy Advisory Group, overseeing Part 2 of the Local Plan (also relevant to each of the other objectives below) as well as various other planning documents to encourage good design.
- Supported conservation initiatives such as restoration of the tombs in St Mary's Churchyard and the designation of a conservation area in part of Oxhey Village.
- Approved and agreed consultation on possible changes to parking arrangements and acting in accordance with the wishes of residents consulted.

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

- As chair of the Major Projects Board I have been responsible for encouraging and scrutinising progress on key issues affecting the town, including the Watford Health Campus, provision of a new market, Charter Place redevelopment.
- Attended the Hertfordshire Infrastructure Planning Partnership (HIPP) meetings, working on the provision of infrastructure to accompany new development and to develop effective operation of the 'duty to co-operate' in planning.
- Approving the council's property review to identify ways of enhancing the effectiveness of the council's property portfolio.
- In the emerging local plan agreeing policies that identify how Watford can provide for future economic growth

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 consultation on matters such as planning and parking is genuine and that the council listens to the views of local people before reaching decisions.
- Writing letters to the Watford Observer to inform residents about key local issues.
- Attending public meetings to discuss issues such as rail services and parking policy with local residents.

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.
- Establishing review of the council's property portfolio.

- Contributing more widely to cabinet discussions and decisions about key services, including parks improvements and recycling.

Providing Vision (Cabinet Members only)

- Contributing to development and delivery of council's key priorities, including work towards a family-friendly town centre.
- 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.
- 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.

Objective for 2013/14	Update on progress
- Maintain progress on Part 2 of the Local Plan	Yes, progress maintained - ongoing
- Ensure we stick to the timetable for agreeing the Local Plan Part 2 in line with the recently agreed Local Development Scheme.	Yes, progress maintained - ongoing
- Propose more policy motions on behalf of the Liberal Democrat group at full council meetings.	Seconded motion on 20mph speed limits at November council.
- Ensure that whatever new arrangements are agreed for street cleaning, parks and refuse services continue to meet the aspirations of local residents, while delivering financial savings.	Yes new refuse and recycling and environmental services contract agreed, delivering savings, enhanced service and increased recycling rates.
- Promote the project for reducing street clutter in Oxhey.	Project carried out in cooperation with county councillor Stephen Giles-Medhurst

Objective for 2014/15

- Ensure we continue to progress the Local Plan Part 2 in line with the recently agreed Local Development Scheme.
- New market to open in 2014
- Approve conservation area character appraisal for Oxhey
- Ensure progress on improvements at Watford Heath and Riverside Road open spaces
- Increase frequency of email communication to constituents and investigate use of social media.



Councillor Taylor

Year elected: 2012

Reasons for becoming a councillor: Wanting to make a difference in my local area

Roles in the Council: Audit Committee (Vice-Chair), Budget Panel, Council, Council Functions Committee

Training and development: Development Control training, Budget Panel: Local Government Finance, Individual Electoral Registration Briefing, Budget Panel: Business Rates since April 13, Health Campus Briefing, Audit: The Role of the Audit Committee in Risk Management

How he has met the Council objectives

Making Watford a better place to live in

- I have been actively involved in casework for individual residents, including replacement of damaged street trees, filling of potholes and pruning of overgrown vegetation.
- Liaised with WCHT and HCC to ensure the return of CCTV cameras at Longcroft. Helped residents of Longcroft with other concerns including parking of wheelchairs and damaged windows.
- Attended meeting with OVEG and WBC Conservation team about Oxhey Conservation Area
- Attended a number of meetings with residents, Councillors, County and WBC officers and specialist consultants to discuss the Health Campus access road through Oxhey Park, resulting in an alternative route which will have far less impact on the park.

- I worked with fellow councillors and officers to finalise the introduction of short term parking bays in Oxhey.
- Chaired a meeting of residents at Attenborough Court to discuss concerns with their social landlord and property maintenance company. This resulted in a number of improvements being carried out (lifts, lights, doors).

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

- Member of Budget Panel, questioning council officers on value for money provided by council and steps taken to boost local businesses.

Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town

- Send regular email updates to hundred of local residents. These inform them of local events of interest.
- I helped judge the OVEG photo competition with Shirena Counter
- I have attended various local meetings held by OVEG, Friends of Oxhey Park and also chaired a meeting with residents who were concerned about the service being provided by the social landlord at Attenborough Court.
- We also held a Neighbourhood Forum on the forthcoming train cancellations.

Operating the council efficiently and effectively

- Vice-chair of Audit Committee.
- Member of Budget Panel and Council Functions committees.

Objective for 2013/14	Update on progress
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work closely with local groups (OVEG, FOAF, FOOP) in allocation of ward budget. 2. Promote the project for reducing street clutter in Oxhey. 3. Improve systems for contacting local residents electronically. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Achieved via allocation of money for bird boxes in Oxhey Park (FOOP), second hand tractor (FOAF) and digital map (OVEG). 2. Achieved – many items removed. 3. Achieved. Regular emails now sent out.

Objective for 2014/15

1. Work closely with residents and parks service to ensure that improvements are made to Watford Heath that reflect local opinions.

2. Continue to respond quickly and effective to case work matters raised by local residents.

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Park Ward

Ward Councillors: George Derbyshire, Peter Jeffree, Malcolm Meerabux

All three councillors have completed self assessments

Councillor Derbyshire

Year elected: 2004

Roles in the Council: Budget Panel, Chief Officer Pay Panel (Chair), Council (Vice-Chair), Development Control Committee (Vice-Chair), Joint Housing and Planning Policy Advisory Group, Licensing Committee, Licensing Committee (Licensing Act 2003), Licensing Sub Committee, Planning Policy Advisory Group, Three Rivers and Watford Shared Services Joint Committee

Membership of outside bodies: The Palace Theatre Ltd

Training and development: Development Control training, Developing practical responses to universal credit and welfare reform, Individual Electoral Registration Briefing, Health Campus Briefing, Budget Panel: Local Government Finance, Budget Panel: Business Rates since April 13

Attendance record: Expected at 45 meetings. Attended 39 meeting.
Percentage = 87%

How he has met Council Objectives

Making Watford a better place to live in

- Took part in consultants briefing/feedback sessions on proposed Heritage Lottery Fund bid for Cassiobury Park.
- Support vitality of Watford Palace Theatre by serving as an active board member.
- Attendance at Audentior Awards.
- Placing importance on heritage and good design in work as member of the Planning Policy Advisory Group.

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

- Supporting and helping to progress major projects in the town.

Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town

- I liaise regularly with officers of the Cassiobury Residents Association and the Cassiobury Triangle Residents Association and attend their AGMs and other meetings if called.
- I act as a subscription collector for The Cassiobury Residents Association of which, as a resident of the Cassiobury Estate, I am a member.
- Dealing with issues raised by residents either on the telephone or by mail and email is a regular feature of my life as a councillor. If necessary I call round to their homes to discuss their issues with them.
- The Liberal Democrat councillors in Park Ward produce and deliver a regular newsletter “Cassiobury Focus” to all residents in the ward.

Operating the council efficiently and effectively

- I attend all appropriate training arranged by the Council for councillors.
- I am aware of and abide by the Council’s Constitution and code of conduct.
- I regularly read the “First” magazine published by the LGA. I also undertake internet research of development of Government policy, particular in the fields of planning and benefits.
- See above for membership of relevant committees. I play an active role in the work of the Budget Panel, as well as the Licensing Committee and Development Control.
- I contact officers about issues raised with me by residents as necessary.
- I attend Cabinet as necessary whenever there is a matter under discussion affecting Park ward in particular.
- See above for chair/vice chair appointments.

Objective for 2013/14	Update on progress
Aim for inclusion into Cassiobury CPZ of the remaining few sections still outside its scope.	Secured Council agreement to inclusion of Trefusis Walk in CPZ following overwhelming demand for inclusion by residents.
Succeed in campaign to keep Watford Met station and its passenger service open.	TfL have announced decision to close Watford met Station in 2017.

Objective for 2014/15

- Aim for inclusion into Cassiobury CPZ of the remaining few sections still outside its scope.

- Continue to work to overturn decision to close Watford Met.

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Councillor Jeffree

Year elected: 2011

Reasons for becoming a councillor: To contribute to making Watford a better place for people to live, work and enjoy their leisure time

Roles in the Council: Council, Licensing Committee (Vice-Chair), Licensing Committee (Licensing Act 2003) (Vice-Chair), Licensing Sub Committee, Major Projects Board (Vice-Chair), Market Working Group

Membership of outside bodies: Hertfordshire Building Preservation Trust

Training and development: DC, Croxley Rail Link Briefing, Traffic regulation order briefing, National Grid Briefing, Individual Electoral Registration Briefing, London Midland Presentation, Health Campus Briefing

Attendance record: Expected at 28 meetings. Attended 28 meeting.
Percentage = 100%

How he has achieved the Council Objectives

Making Watford a better place to live in

- Active member of the Licensing Committee, chair of several Licensing Sub Committee meetings and positively supporting Watford's vision of creating a 'Family Friendly Town' through decisions made at these committees
- Working actively with the 20s Plenty for Watford campaign and Herts CC to make it easier for residents to have lower speed limits in the areas where people live
- Representing my ward at Development Control meetings to influence the committee to resist inappropriate development
- Supporting the extension of the CPZ, making Park Ward a more pleasant place to live for residents
- Supporting the bid for HLF funding for improvements to Cassiobury Park through my membership of the Steering Committee.

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

- As vice chair of the Major Project Board I take a close interest in all of the many capital projects which are in progress around Watford. In this role I bring to bear a lifetime of working experience in major developments and have particularly supported key schemes such as the new Watford Market, the redevelopment of Charter Place and the Health Campus.

- Member of the Market Working Group who have acted as the steering group for the new Watford Market, due to be delivered by mid September 2014
- Member of the Friends of Little Cassiobury, working towards finding a sustainable use for this important heritage building, and raising the funds to deliver it.

Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town

- I regularly attend residents' association meetings and contribute to the issues raised at them. With other councillors I lead neighbourhood forum meetings which enable residents to discuss issues of importance which we can then follow up on their behalf.
- I contribute to preparing and delivering Cassiobury Focus newsletters which aim to keep residents well informed.
- I also manage two local websites which provide a more immediate source of local information.

Operating the council efficiently and effectively

- I am secretary of the Liberal Democrat group and aim to operate efficiently in the administrative functions which go with that role.
- As a councillor I respond to residents' communications promptly and where I need to involve other areas of the council I aim to provide an effective link between residents and the relevant council department.
- I aim to attend all of the meetings of committees I represent throughout the year, and also attend all full Council meetings. Making effective contributions to all of these where it is appropriate and helpful.

Objective for 2013/14	Update on progress
Achieve a reversal in the proposal to close Watford Met Station through representations at public enquiries and mobilising public opinion – public enquiry verdict awaited	No, the public enquiry decision went against me, so although I met my objective of making representations, the overall objective cannot now be achieved.
Deliver the CPZ expansion and safer parking and crossing points at Cassiobury shops	Yes, the scheme CPZ expansion has been delivered and the proposal for safer parking at Cassiobury shops has been approved and is expected to be delivered during Spring 2014
Continue to lobby for 20mph speed limits in residential areas to be adopted as policy by Herts CC	Yes, I represented Watford at the HCC scrutiny panel on 20 limits. I put a proposal to Watford Council in favour of 20 limits and have since worked with HCC officers on clarifying the wording of

Continue to develop my knowledge, experience and training to help become a more effective local councillor	their draft Speed Management Strategy Yes, my training record can be seen elsewhere on this form
Ensure the delivery of improved parking and pedestrian safety at Cassiobury Shops	Yes, this will be implanted in Spring 2014
Ensure that any remaining minor parking issues relating to the CPZ scheme are implemented	Yes, I am supporting further extension of the CPZ into Trefusis Walk
Continue to lobby for a change in policy regarding speed limits by Herts CC	Yes as noted earlier, lobbying has been successful in influencing the new SMS
Work with the Community Police to introduce a Community Speed Watch scheme for Park Ward	Yes, the first Community DriveSafe scheme is now up and running with regular speed checks in the Cassiobury Estate
Continue to monitor inappropriate development on the estate	Yes, this is ongoing work. I frequently support residents who are concerned with inappropriate development, for example making representations at the recent Planning meeting on the Lanchester School. I frequently substitute for members of the Development Control Committee

Objective for 2014/15

- Ensure timely completion of the parking and safety improvements at Cassiobury shops
- Support residents with any further expansion or adjustments of the CPZ
- Continue developing the Community DriveSafe scheme, increasing frequency of monitoring on Cassiobury Estate
- Support residents in Cassiobury Triangle who are working towards developing their own Community DriveSafe scheme

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Councillor Meerabux

Year elected: 2010

Reasons for becoming a councillor: To play a role in enhancing the town for the benefit of all residents

Roles in the Council: Community Safety Partnership Task Group, Council, Housing Policy Advisory Group, Joint Housing and Planning Policy Advisory Group, Licensing Committee, Licensing Committee (Licensing Act 2003), Licensing Sub Committee, Planning Policy Advisory Group, Property Scrutiny Task Group

Membership of outside bodies: Friends of Cassiobury Park, Friends of Little Cassiobury, Friend of Watford Museum, Watford Philharmonic, Watford African Caribbean Assoc Ltd, U3A, Watford Harriers, Cassiobury Tennis Club, Volunteer at The Peace Hospice Care, St Lukes, Cassiobury Residents, Cassiobury Community Drive Safe Team, HLF stakeholders Committee member, governor at Nascot Wood School

Training and development: Croxley Rail Link Briefing, Traffic regulation order briefing, Universal credit and benefit reform seminar, National grid briefing, Politicians in planning network - annual conference, The Future of the National Planning system, Individual Electoral Registration Briefing, Drug and alcohol treatment briefing, Budget Panel: Local Government Finance, Budget Panel: Business Rates since April 13

General: It's extremely important that councillors keep well informed of a range of issues and decisions which impact positively or negatively on residents especially as we're a very congested town. An example of the knock on effects is the £6m spend on Cassiobury Park, the potential closure of the Met Station, the potential loss of the Farm Terrace Allotments, the relocation of Watford Market, access points for the Free School on Hempstead Road

Attendance record: Expected at 30 meetings. Attended 28 meetings.
Percentage = 93%

How he has met the Council Objectives

Making Watford a better place to live in

- Member of a number of sub committees dealing with licence reviews e.g. off licences, clubs.
- Member of the first Watford Community Drive Safe speed awareness team based in Cassiobury which involves strong partnership working with Herts Constabulary, PCSOs and PCs at Shady Lane Police Station

- I'm regularly raising questions on the over development of housing being out of step with services e.g. school places, and the need to reduce the flat percentages and build more family homes to support social cohesiveness
- Involved in questioning the loss of the Farm Terrace Allotments

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

- Spoke against the proposed inflation busting hike in parking charges which has damaging implications as well as the charges on the Watford Business Pk
- Assisted Residents in the St Albans Rd Area as regards the proposed CPZ which could have damaged the retail options on this high rd.
- Pushed for a rethink on the roofing proposals for the relocated Watford Market as the old design was not really appropriate in safeguarding their stock from inclement weather.

Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town

- Regular emails to residents
- Attending Nascot Wood School governor meetings and actively taking part in their fund raising events
- Attending formal and informal residents' meetings and answering questions
- Ensuring the locality budget is spent sensitively e.g. Peace Hospice Care, GROW
- Attending civic events which provides another opportunity to engage with a broad range of residents from across the town

Operating the council efficiently and effectively

- Strong attendance at council and sub committee meetings as well as working parties
- Attending training sessions at WBC and with outside agencies keeps me informed of the changes which affect Watford's policies
- Regular questioning of officers on key decisions and policy shifts

Objective for 2014/15

To keep residents informed and providing advice on making representations

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Stanborough Ward

Councillors Keith Crout, Derek Scudder and Tim Williams

All three councillors have completed self assessments

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: Cabinet, Council, Housing Policy Advisory Group (Chair), Licensing Committee, Licensing Committee (Licensing Act 2003), Licensing Sub Committee, Portfolio Holder for Community and Customer Services, Watford Borough Council and West Herts Golf Club Joint Committee, Cassiobury Park Stakeholder's Forum

Membership of outside bodies: Watford and Three Rivers Housing and Regeneration Initiative Executive Committee

Training and development: Development Control training, Individual Electoral Registration Briefing, London Midland Presentation

General: Attended Leadership Academy at Warwick University for a two day course on Sports funding initiatives and sport and its role in addressing public health issues.

Attendance record: Expected at 24 meetings. Attended 24 meetings. Percentage = 100%

How he has met the Council objectives

Making Watford a better place to live in

- I play my part as a member of the Mayor's Cabinet in welcoming but also challenging new projects and initiatives.
- I convey any concerns that people may have about the development of the town.
- Together with officers I examine ways in which our facilities could be enhanced, better managed, provide value for money or develop revenue streams.
- I work with Watford Community Housing Trust to identify affordable housing solutions
- I am heavily involved in the HLF funding bid for the development of Cassiobury Park.
- 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

- I meet regularly with my portfolio colleagues and Chief Officers to progress projects and identify any areas that need attention.
- I help to progress major projects in the town.

- I work with officers and the police to ensure a vibrant but largely trouble free town centre.

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 make visits to local events such as school fetes and open days in my ward and in other areas of the borough.
- We hold neighbourhood meetings to keep residents informed and to hear any concerns they have.
- I play an active role in the development of policy at group and Portfolio Holder meetings and keep my colleagues abreast of issues.
- I contribute to the letters pages in local newspapers to ensure the people I represent know where I stand on locals issues. I take up residents' concerns about any of our outsourced facilities to ensure they continue to be appreciated and supported.
- I take up residents' concerns about planning issues.
- I report and follow up on highways issues.

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.
- During the year I meet regularly with my Cabinet colleagues and officers to formulate policy.
- 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.
- I ensure my training is up-to-date and make use of courses and training opportunities.

Providing Vision (Cabinet Members only)

- I am now the Portfolio Holder for Community and Customer Services and work with the Mayor, other Cabinet members and officers to develop our programme.

- Where possible I help to promote the Council and influence regional and national decisions.
- I try to encourage colleagues to develop their potential and am committed to succession planning within our group.
- I meet regularly with chief officers and managers to provide a political steer on our objectives while getting an understanding of the day to day activities and workings of the authority.

Managing Performance (Cabinet Members only)

- My work involves the development of sport, play and heritage, the HLF bid to enhance Cassiobury Park, developing value for money initiatives, supporting the arts, promoting events, monitoring the success of our leisure centre and the Colosseum.
- I go on site visits with officers to see new initiatives and identify any improvements that can be made.
- I have been heavily involved in the Council's contract with Veolia to see if outsourcing would deliver worthwhile financial savings while maintaining quality of service. A big success for the Council this year.
- Serving on Licensing Sub committees and the main Licensing Committee has given me a good understanding of the committee process.
- I make a good contribution to the running of such committees and encourage other members to get more involved and to have an input.
- I work with colleagues and officers to monitor the success of the two leisure centres and our entertainment venues to ensure they are successful and promote a wide ranging programme of activities.

Objective for 2014/15

I want to develop a public health strategy for the borough and bring forward concrete measures to promote change within the resources available.

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Councillor D Scudder

Year elected: 1994

Roles in the Council: Cabinet (Vice Chair), Council, Housing Policy Advisory Group, Joint Housing and Planning Policy Advisory Group, Licensing Committee, Licensing Committee (Licensing Act 2003), Licensing Sub-Committee, Portfolio Holder for Corporate Strategy and Client Services, Watford Borough Council and West Herts Golf Club Joint Committee

Membership of outside bodies: Watford Workshop, Watford Citizens Advice Bureau, Bedford Morrison and Cordery Alms-houses, Green Deal Together CIC, Herts Sustainability Forum

Training and development: Development Control training, Traffic regulation order briefing, Individual Electoral Registration Briefing, London Midland Presentation, Budget Panel: Business Rates since April 13

Attendance record: Expected at 22 meetings. Attended 21 meetings.
Percentage = 95%

How he has met the Council objectives

Making Watford a better place to live in

- I was one of the leads for redesigning the Council's environmental services. This has led to them being integrated with high standards demanded of the contractor selected to operate them.
- I have a good working relationship with the local police and meet and correspond with them regularly.

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

- I am part of the Cabinet team that works with senior officers in deciding on projects and developments that are improving Watford's competitiveness whilst, at the same time enhancing the environment.

Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town

- Together with my ward colleagues I produce and distribute regular newsletters to residents
- Whenever possible I attend meetings of the local residents associations
- I receive casework on a regular basis via many channels. I always attempt to get a good outcome for residents but where this is not possible I explain the reasons why.

Operating the council efficiently and effectively

- As a member of the Cabinet I meet regularly with members of the senior management team of the council and am involved in producing the Council's annual budget.

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 am always available to give advice and information to other members of the council.
- My primary role in forms outside the Council is on environmental matters and I believe the Council's voice is heard and respected.

Managing Performance (Cabinet Members only)

- The Cabinet members meet regularly both together and with the Corporate Management Board to exchange information, discuss information updates and formulate policy. The collegiate approach we adopt serves the Council well.
- I have monthly meetings with the head of Corporate Strategy and Client Services at which we discuss issues of the day and also work on longer term policy and financial matters. At least one of the second tier of management usually attends to give a more in depth look at particular issues.

Objective for 2013/14	Update on progress
Ensuring that the redesign of the council’s front facing services proceeds smoothly and that service quality is either maintained or improved.	This has been achieved. The new services are up and running and performing well.

Objective for 2014/15

One of the key tasks of the new service provider is to increase the recycling rate. This is the key objective for me and I will be closely monitoring this aspect of performance and working to modify or improve the service where necessary.



Councillor 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: Council, Development Control Committee, Joint Housing and Planning Policy Advisory Group, Planning Policy Advisory Group

Training and development: Traffic regulation order briefing, Individual Electoral Registration Briefing, Audit: The Role of the Audit Committee in Risk Management

General: Away from the Council he is employed as a Credit Manager, and is a member of Friends of Woodside, Friends of Cassiobury Park, Friends of Watford Museum, Friends of Frogmore House, Leavesden Children's Centre, Watford Mayors' Association, Hunstanton Civic Society and is a Fellow of the 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 (e.g. swimming at Woodside Leisure Centre, Watford Youth Football Club, Dolphina Gymnastics, Cubs etc)

Attendance record: Expected at 28 meetings. Attended 25 meeting.
Percentage = 89%

How he has met the 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 refurbishment of the Community Centre (opened Sept'13)
- Worked with our County Councillor in regards to Bus Services in our locality (new Bus Service 324 in Jan'14 established)
- Liaises with Council Officers in regards to the forthcoming refurbishments of Fern Way & East Drive Play Areas (to be in place Summer'14)
- Member of Friends of Woodside to ensure Woodside Playing Fields & Albans Wood are maintained to the Green Flag status (retained in Summer'13)
- Regularly "litter picks" in his locality, and also attends the monthly litter picks with Friends of Woodside
- Attended and represented residents in regards to alcohol license request to 1am by Hollywood Bowl ; this was successfully limited 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
- Meets regularly with the User Groups of Leavesden Green Community Centre
- Member of local community groups such as Friends of Woodside
- Writes a monthly article for Kingswood News
- Keeps in touch with residents via Newsletters
- Gives quick responses to 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
- Reads Budget Panel and Audit Committee reports
- A member of the Audit Committee with particular interest in "risk management"
- Questions Portfolio Holders/Cabinet Members at monthly Group Meetings
- Has a good working relationship with Council Officers

Objective for 2013/14	Have you met your objective? Please add comments on how your objective has been met/worked towards.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refurbishment of Fern Way Play Area 	<p>Not yet completed, however plans are well underway for both Fern Way & East Drive Play areas to be in place this summer.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a permanent Bus Service for Kingswood/Leavesden Green • Smooth transition & successful Rebuilding/Refurbishment of Leavesden Green Community Centre • Anti-Social Behaviour – better communications with Neighbourhood Police Team • Continue to improve our parks and open spaces • Keep up the campaign for more and better road & footway repairs from our County Council (e.g. refreshing white lines throughout ward) • Continue to work with residents, and residents' groups on getting improvements to the area 	<p>New Route 324 established in Jan'14 however reliability has been questioned but as Councillors we have taken this up with the Bus Company and received assurances</p> <p>Leavesden Green Community Centre successfully opened in Sept '13 and has become a great asset for the community</p> <p>Established far better dialogue with the Neighbourhood Police Team with regular meetings, and emails</p> <p>Woodside Playing Fields & Albans Wood retained the prestigious Green Flag award in Summer '13 and we are striving to achieve its retention in 2014</p> <p>Continually reporting road & footway defects on the Herts Highways Fault reporting service – white lines were refreshed throughout the ward during 2013/14</p> <p>Many local matters raised by residents and residents groups throughout the year – these have been taken and we've achieved successes on most of the issues raised</p>
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Objectives for 2014/15

- Refurbishment of Fern Way Play Area
- Refurbishment of East Drive Play Area
- Maintain Green Flag status for Woodside Playing Fields & Albans Wood
- Investigate improvements to Leavesden Green Playing Fields
- Continue to report and address Highway matters to Herts County Council

- Address Anti-Social Behaviour matters with the Neighbourhood Police Team
- Continue with regular communications with residents via newsletters and attendance at Residents' meetings
- Work with Watford Community Housing Trust, and other Housing organisations with matter that tenants/residents raise with me.



Tudor Ward

Councillors Kelly McLeod, Lindsey Scudder, Darren Walford

All three Councillors completed a self assessment

Councillor McLeod

Year elected: 2007

Reasons for becoming a councillor: I wished to make a difference in my community and town

Roles in the Council: Community Safety Partnership Task Group, Council, Highways Forum, Major Projects Board

Membership of outside bodies: Groundwork Hertfordshire

Training and development: Individual Electoral Registration Briefing, Facilitation Skills, Drug and alcohol treatment briefing, Health Campus briefing, social media training

General: I am Vice Chair of Governors at Knutsford Junior and Infants School. I attend as many meetings as my schedule allows and participate in the C& I committee and am the SEN Governor. I try to participate in as many activities that the school holds and attend the training required as much as possible.

I attend the Friends of Knutsford on the 3rd Saturday of every month and liaise with the parks people and the Green Gym for the work required within our ward.

This year has been very trying for me personally and professionally as my work commitments and family life have required an unprecedented amount of time but I am finding a balance for all my roles.

Attendance record: Expected at 14 meetings. Attended 11 meetings.
Percentage = 79%

How she has met the Council objectives

Making Watford a better place to live in

- The works within our local parks have started to provide a wonderful place to rest and play for our community and I believe that I have had an influence in their redevelopment. I have continued to work with the Friends of Knutsford Playing Fields, The Watford Rugby Club, the Green Gym and the parks department.
- Continuing to sit in the Community Safety Partnership Task Group has allowed me to help form the strategy and raise concerns and issues to the relevant authorities responsible. This committee informs and influences council policies and partnerships and can help make Watford a better place to live in because of this.
- The Tudor Councillors are trying to promote the reduction of traffic speed along Bushey Mill Lane between the two Parkgate school's to 20 miles an hour, in an effort to make pedestrians safer when walking to and from school.

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

- I have attended and participated in the consultation meetings for the Abbey Line, Croxley Rail Link and the Watford Junction Rail and pedestrian improvements. I believe that transportation is one of the key factors to keeping Watford businesses and employees in business.
- I participate in group discussions at council and within the Liberal Democrat party about the needs and expectations of what my residents speak to me about.

Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town

- I have worked with the Tudor Resident's Association and the Reeds Resident's Association and raised their concerns and issues with the relevant officers either within Watford or Hertfordshire County Council. I have acted as liaison between residents and Watford Housing Community Trust on all manner of issues to good results.
- I have participated at community events such as the light switching on at the Tudor shops at Christmas time and at the Community Police and Watford Rugby team competition in March.
- I help provide material for local leaflets, deliver and respond to street surveys and canvas for issues and concerns throughout the year.

Operating the council efficiently and effectively

- I believe that the Tudor Councillors work very well together and we use our community budgets within our ward for our residents.
- I have a good working relationship with Council officers that I have had to deal with.

Objective for 2013/14	Update on progress
Try to get my residents to participate in either the Resident's Association or the Friends of Knutsford Park so that both can become sustainable.	I have spoken about both the Residents Association and the Friends of Knutsford Park at every event that I have attended and have participated as much as possible with these groups.

Objective for 2014/15

To continue to help raise awareness within my constituency of the groups that rely on volunteers and the need for residents to participate.

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Councillor L Scudder

Year elected: 2002

Reason for becoming a councillor: To improve local area and community

Roles in the Council: Council, Licensing Committee, Licensing Committee (Licensing Act 2003), Licensing Sub Committee, Member Development Group (Chair)

Training and development: Individual Electoral Registration briefing

Attendance record: Expected at 13 meetings. Attended 13 meeting.
Percentage = 100%

How she has met the Council objectives

Making Watford a better place to live in

- Tudor Residents' Association now re-established with new committee, attend meetings when appropriate.
- Meet with local police about neighbourhood problems and priorities.
- Identify appropriate recipients of Neighbourhood Funding and process to enable funds to be transferred.

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

- Assisting with opening ceremony for lights in local shopping parade to gain greater recognition and hopefully more customers for local businesses (in conjunction with Watford Peace Hospice).

Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town

- Advising residents on housing, development and Licensing issues and obtaining appropriate information from WBC officers.

Operating the council efficiently and effectively

- Attended appropriate training.
- Chair Member Development Group and ensure that councillors have access to training they perceive as necessary and that funding is used efficiently.
- Ensuring Neighbourhood Funding is used effectively.

Objective for 2013/14	Update on progress
To see Knutsford Park continue to develop and be well used.	Park is being extremely well used, new Trim Trail is popular and re-laid and improved Rugby pitch is a great asset to the thriving Rugby Club. There were some initial concerns from some residents but councillors made regular visits and liaised with Parks over progress.

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Councillor Walford

Year elected: 2008 in By-election

Roles in the Council: Council, Council Functions Committee, Watford Borough Council and West Herts Golf Club Joint Committee

Training and development: Individual Electoral Registration briefing

Attendance record: Expected at 11 meetings. Attended 10 meeting.
Percentage = 91%

How he has met the Council objectives

Making Watford a better place to live in

- I work with Council officers both at Borough and County level, as well as other outside organisations, when dealing with casework on behalf of residents.
- Some recent casework examples have included dealing with issues surrounding the back pay of pensions, the removal of graffiti from the cycle path sculpture and mine and my fellow Councillors ongoing

discussions with a private company about the height of their trees, which are causing upset to the resident that lives opposite.

Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town

- Residents know they can contact me through e-mail, phone or by stopping me in the street and they regularly do so. I also share news through the Lib Dem newsletters and through residents association meetings and neighbourhood forums.
- Having lived in the Tudor area since 2003, I have met many people over the years. I feel this has encouraged people to approach me and speak to me personally because they feel as though they already know me well. I have been approached by local residents both in the streets and shops on a number of occasions with various issues they may have regarding the area and this is where I feel I get most casework from.
- I continue to attend the Tudor Residents Association meetings as ward councillor and share the responsibility of running the local neighbourhood forum with my ward representatives.
- As my daughter attended Knutsford School I had been approached by Governors of the School to become a parent Governor but she has now left to start senior school. One of our Councillors Kelly McLeod is already a Governor at the school but I have been advised there is a Governor's post at Parkgate school which I am interested in. I feel this would benefit the community having two Councillors at different schools

Operating the council efficiently and effectively

- I have undergone training on the Council's Code of Conduct as part of my induction to the Council, and have also been trained on licensing and development control issues.
- I have yet to be involved with scrutiny, however, I understand the process and will be sure to represent the views of my residents to Cabinet should the need arise.
- I am a member of Functions committee.



Vicarage Ward

Councillors: Jagtar Singh Dhindsa, Mo Mills and Nasreen Shah

One self assessment was completed

Councillor Mills

Year elected: 2011

Reasons for becoming a councillor: Want to improve and make a difference in the Vicarage Ward.

Roles in the Council: Constitution Working Party, Council, Licensing Committee, Licensing Committee (Licensing Act 2003), Licensing Sub Committee

Membership of outside bodies: Littlebury Children's centre, advisory Committee, Friends of Harwoods Adventure Playground Association, West Watford Community Association, Trustee

Training and development: Public speaking training, Individual Electoral Registration Briefing, Drug and alcohol treatment briefing, Budget Panel: Local Government Finance

General: I have helped constituents with many issues such as planning, including complaints about lack of planning permission; refuse bins not being emptied; dumped rubbish in the streets including large items of furniture; neighbourhood disputes; parking issues. I have supported constituents with advice on matters to with allotments, parks, telephone and internet 'outages'. I have signposted people to other agencies for appropriate help and support, including the Police regarding drugs and alcohol and domestic violence issues.

Attendance record: Expected at 12 meetings. Attended 10 meetings.
Percentage = 83%

How she has met the Council objectives

Making Watford a better place to live in

- Help residents clear their alley ways, by supplying skips in 10 roads, 2013/14 (using locality fund)
- Encourage smokers not to drop their cigarettes onto the pavements or roads, by offering them mini bins (pouches), which I purchased from our locality fund, 2014.
- Endless phone calls to the bins & street cleaners, to remove dumped rubbish in the streets and missed bins, 2013/2014

- Hold a one hour surgery once a week, in local café, 2014.

Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town

- Awarding local children's and young people's sports groups money for equipment from locality fund.
- Holding councillor's advice surgery in BME café

Operating the council efficiently and effectively

- Attending committee meetings and making informed contributions to decision-making process.

Objective for 2013/14: Owing to several family crises I was unable to participate in this objective

Objective 2014/15: To continue serving Vicarage Ward; to take up relevant training offered.

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Woodside Ward

Councillors: Ian Brown, Glen Saffery, Karen Collett

Two Councillors completed self assessments

Councillor I Brown

Year elected: 1983 -2003, 2004

Reasons for becoming a councillor: To help residents with problems and to make Watford a better place to live in and work in

Roles in the Council: Audit Committee (Chair), Council, Licensing Committee, Licensing Committee (Licensing Act 2003), Licensing Sub Committee

Membership of outside bodies: West Herts Crematorium Joint Committee

Training and development: Setting the Agenda: Audit Committees and emerging risks, Individual Electoral Registration Briefing, Audit: The Role of the Audit Committee in Risk Management

General: I am an unpaid director of the Lemarie Centre Ltd

Attendance record: Expected at 16 meetings. Attended 16 meetings. Percentage = 100%

How he has met the Council objectives

Making Watford a better place to live in

- I have worked in partnership with the Police on community safety and reducing anti social behaviour in Woodside Ward.
- I have worked closely with Herts County Council on activities in the ward.
- Watford Community Housing Trust and I are in frequent contact in connection with their proposals for development in Woodside.
- I have advised residents on recycling matters.

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

- Frequent consultation with local traders and businesses has taken place.

Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town

- Supporting Residents’ Associations has always been near the top of my priorities.
- The Woodside Councillors have fully used the neighbourhood forum budget for the benefit of local residents and groups.
- I have constant contact with my residents through meetings, telephone calls and email. I have also attended many community events.
- I have been a governor of Leavesden Green School and have also supported the local Children’s’ Centre.
- Residents are kept up to date with Council activities through a newsletter.

Operating the council efficiently and effectively

- I am Chair of the Audit Committee which also has a training session at each meeting.
- I am also on the Licensing Committee.

Objective for 2013/14	Update on progress
To ensure the residents of Woodside Ward continue to receive excellent standards of support.	Constant communication with my residents leads me to believe that I have achieved this objective.

Objective for 2014/15

- Same as 2013-14.



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 Council meetings. 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: Council, Highways Forum, Management of Disabled Parking Bays Task Group, Market Working Group, Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chair)

Membership of outside bodies: West Herts Crematorium Joint Scrutiny Committee

Training and development: Traffic Regulation Order Briefing, Individual Electoral Registration Briefing, Drug and alcohol treatment briefing, Health Campus Briefing, Social Media training

General: As Chair of Scrutiny for the second year I attended a Parliamentary Seminar on effective questioning which would assist me in my role. I took part in workshops that highlighted scenarios that committees might be faced with. I have thoroughly embraced my role as Chair and am extremely proud of how our committee has engaged our constituents by listening to their views on housing repairs, communication and service charges. The recommendations by the committee have been embraced and I am delighted that working closely with our partners has strengthened our relationship and ensures that we provide the best services for the residents of Watford.

One of the local groups that I am honoured to be associated with is the Music Gym, I attended the talent show that was held at the Woodside Community Centre and awarded the young people certificates. In addition I put them in touch with our local secondary school to lead assemblies for KS3 students. I am also a keen supporter of our local youth club that meet at the YMCA (Orbital Community Centre), meeting the young people and listening to their views, hearing about their latest projects is so inspiring. I love the fact that in both areas this just goes to show that young people play a vital role in the community and have many skills; this is to be praised and encouraged.

I was invited to talk to the Sunshine Group, a mature group who meet every week to socialise at a local church, they were interested to know about my role as a Councillor and what made me become one. I was glad I attended as this shows how interested local people are in what we do.

Lastly I would like to say I have worked well with the local community and upheld what I believe in. It is important to speak up for the local people and being a Councillor gives you the freedom to fight their corner and make sure that they are getting the best services that Watford can offer. It is a pleasure and an honour!

Attendance record: Expected at 19 meeting. Attended 18 meetings.
Percentage = 95%

How she has met the Council objectives

Making Watford a better place to live in

- I attended the Veolia briefing with Environmental Services to see how improvements are going to be made to recycling, parks and open spaces.
- Attended Safer streets action day with the local police and WCHT in Woodside to check on vulnerable residents and listen to their concerns. This was a successful day as we were able to identify those who need support and take up case work on their behalf.
- Informing local residents by leafleting and calling on them regarding ASB and how to report information to the police, this was in light of vehicles being damaged in one particular area.
- As a councillor making sure that WCHT address their new charges to local residents in a fair and balanced way, providing itemised bills that are easily explained and that the Grounds maintenance charges be scrapped for those living in houses.
- Having bus stops placed in 2 areas in Woodside so that residents are sheltered from the elements. Contacting County Council on pot holes, signage and road maintenance.

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

- I attended a Preview evening at Intu Watford to view plans for Charter Place. In addition I suggested a skating rink as an added enhancement for the town which would provide family entertainment and somewhere to host events.
- I attended a Stakeholders meeting at John Lewis for the opening of Little Waitrose which was most welcomed by local people.
- I took part in the Starlight walk for the Peace Hospice to raise money so that they can support families through counselling and palliative care.
- I attended Watford Palace Theatre to see 'Equally Divided' and attended the launch of Imagine Watford to promote the arts and culture which we are so fortunate to have here in this town.

Promoting an active, cohesive and well informed town

- I have supported 3 resident associations over the past year, Leavesden Community Group and Boundary Way Action Group. Sadly Woodside Action group folded at the end of last year. However, it is with hope that this will be given a new lease of life later on. I am deeply committed to the work of these groups and involve myself in a number of events, a Children's Christmas Party, quizzes, committee meetings once a month, a member of the steering group, (concerning Boundary Way refurbishment plans) public meetings and last but not least a talent show which was well attended and showcased some of the wonderful talent that our young people possess.
- I continue to clean up Alban Wood once a month and during the year I invite Asda Volunteers and the Beavers to come along to plant bulbs and remove litter from this idyllic wood. Moreover we record the types of birds that live and breed there with a volunteer from the RSPB at our Dawn Chorus event.
- Arranged the Remembrance Service in Leavesden High Road with the local community, inviting local councillors, cadets and ex-servicemen. Later that day attended the service outside the Town Hall laying the wreath on behalf of the Liberal Democrat Party.
- Working closely with WCHT to ensure local residents concerns are raised and acted upon.
- Using my Neighbourhood Forum Budget to provide lighting and sports equipment for local youth club held at the Church of the Nazarene, money to the Lemarie Centre, a donation for a CCTV camera in Weall Green to support residents against Anti-Social Behaviour and some sports equipment for the Woodside Leisure Centre.

Operating the council efficiently and effectively

- I attend as many training and briefing sessions as I possibly can as it is important to gain up to date information and learn as much as I can so I can continue to be an effective councillor.
- I continue to read policies and have a keen interest in current political affairs.
- I am the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny committee supported by a dedicated and committed committee and have sat on the WCHT task group. In addition I meet regularly with the Mayor and the Cabinet to update them on our task groups and work programme.

Objective for 2013/14	Update on progress
To continue to improve on my case work load and manage my time effectively.	I have improved on my casework load and now manage my time more effectively. However, I know this can be improved and so this will be an ongoing objective in my role as Councillor.

Objective for 2014/15

I would like to still work on my time management and if elected this is something that another year can help me achieve that goal.

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