

" County Councillor Annual Report

This report summarises the activities of the following member of the County Council during

Name of Councillor : Terry Richardson

1) Electoral Division activities

Main Activities and the impact during the past year:

It has been a privilege to continue to serve the residents of my Division over the last 12 months. I am fortunate that the Division falls within two Parish Council in Narborough and Whetstone. Having been a Parish Councillor in Narborough for the last 32 years I am very well known in that area and am frequently contacted by residents either at home or when out and about in the Parish. In respect of Whetstone where my Division covers half of the Parish I attend parish meetings on a regular basis and liaise with the Clerk and Deputy Clerk about all County matters relating to the area working with my fellow County Councillor who covers the rest of Whetstone.

Over the past year I have dealt with numerous queries from residents 90% of which I have been able to respond to without reference to County officers using the knowledge gained since I became a County Councillor and also drawing on my long experience as both a Parish councillor and a District Councillor where my ward covers over half of the Division and where I am currently the Leader of the Council. Most of the issues raised by residents relate to traffic and highways issues, the public waste disposal site at Whetstone , school places and on rare occasions highly confidential issues relating children's services. I continue to be indebted to all the Portfolio holders who have provided any support and assistance I have required especially on technical issues and as an example I should like to thank Trevor Pendleton in respect of being able to respond to residents on temporary cycle paths.

I regularly attend events throughout the Division run by numerous bodies examples being the Narborough village show, A Place to Grow open day, Christmas carol concerts, Community Library events etc where I am pleased to say residents will approach me to discuss matters of interest or concern. Such interaction keeps me fully up to date with what is happening in the Division and wider area.

- The key issue facing both villages during the past 12 months continues to be focused on traffic and parking and I have been heavily involved in the residents parking in Narborough where I met with many residents to explain the rationale behind what we were trying to achieve. Apart from one complaint about the siting of a sign (which was quickly resolved) it is pleasing to note I have had no further issues raised.
- I am working closely with Whetstone Parish Council, County and District officers to see if we can finally complete the missing section of the combined cycle way and path in Station Road Whetstone which would greatly assist local residents and promote our Green agenda.

- I regularly issue written material to residents and also canvass on a regular basis.
- I believe I maintain an appropriate profile within the Division, residents have my home telephone number, e-mail address and my home address. I respond to all enquiries as soon as possible providing a holding note if I need to seek additional information.
- In the end nothing works better than walking around the Division and talking to those you meet on route. As a very recent example I visited local shops in Whetstone who have now been allowed to reopen to see how they were doing and if I could offer any assistance.

Engagement with the Council, other statutory bodies and public utility companies (Water, Gas etc) about services in the area

I will engage with all bodies as required and always seek greater understanding a recent example being where I have been in correspondence with the bus companies over routes and frequency of service.

Priorities for the immediate future are:

My first priority is to continue to support my residents. The second priority is to work within the County Council to assist the wider Group in shaping policy going forward to provide an ever better service where possible.

I know that the how and where houses will be built is a key issue to my residents and whilst I accept that planning is a District Council matter the provision of the necessary infrastructure sits squarely with the County Council who need the necessary resources to provide this. I always use any opportunity to promote this case especially the need for fair funding for our county. I continually act as an advocate to residents to explain what a quality service they receive from the County Council despite our financial constraints.

2) Council Activities

Committees you serve on at County Hall

I am Chairman of the Adults and Communities Scrutiny Panel where we do valuable work on issues such as the physical provision of Care accommodation, New working models to increase front line staff time in adult social care, proposals for a new heritage collections hub and many other important issues. I am Deputy Chairman of Corporate Governance which plays a crucial role in ensuring the well running of the council and reducing the risks that we face. I also sit on the Scrutiny Commission whose role is to hold the executive to account but in a constructive way to assist in the best decisions being made.

Local committees/Outside Bodies

As mentioned above I am a member of Narborough Parish Council where I have served for over 31 years. I have been a Blaby District Councillor for the last 9 years and am currently Leader of the Council. I also serve as a Director of the LLEP which is heavily involved in seeking to obtaining investment into Leicester and Leicestershire and determining how this should be spent. I am currently vice chairman of the Members Advisory group which is made up of the nine councils in Leicestershire and which seeks to provide a strategic place for the development of the City and County.

3) Learning and development:

It is crucial to keep up to date with what is happening in local government and I therefore attend the regular briefings held at County Hall, read widely, attend conferences and seminars and meet with my local MP on a regular basis.

Social Media

I use on a limited basis where appropriate preferring to leaflet local residents and to do regular canvassing.

Signed by Councillor Terry Richardson

Date : 25th June 2020