

## County Councillor Annual Report 2013/14

This report summarises the activities of the following member of the County Council during the last year.

Name of Councillor                      Michael Charlesworth

### **Council Activities**

#### **Committees you serve on at County Hall**

- Development Control and Regulatory Board (Planning)
- Adult Social Care Committee (Lib Dem Spokesperson)

#### **Local committees – Highway Forums and Community Forums etc**

- Oadby and Wigston Highways Forum
- Wigston Residents Forum

#### **Other bodies – School governors/community and charity organisations etc**

- The Wigston Charities
- Leicestershire Fire & Rescue Authority
- Complaints Panel (School Curriculum & Religious Education)
- Member Reference Panel on Quality & Safeguarding in Residential Care

### **Electoral Division activities**

#### **Main Activities during the past year:**

Most of my council work has been driven by the cuts that are being made to the council budget. The poor state of the roads, footpaths and grassed area are a major issue. The potential cuts to libraries and museums have been going on for a couple of years now and many residents are contacting me with grave concerns about the

future. The turning off of street lighting has caused much anxiety amongst residents, there are certain no-go areas now on the estates – an incredible state of affairs in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century! I go out regularly with other councillors and residents to tidy up areas that have been neglected by the conservative run county council.

I continue with making sure that the scrutiny process at county hall is both an effective and positive system.

**Priorities for the immediate future are:**

To make sure that the money the county council has is spent wisely. No pointless and wasteful schemes should be considered in the future. The huge reserves need to be utilised now! To make sure the residents of Leicestershire have an influence on every policy that the county council introduces, now and in the future.

**Learning and Development**

I have attended a few briefings over the past 12 months and received many updates through the post. I regularly read local government literature to make sure I am up to speed with the latest legislation.

**Other Matters:**

As I said this time 12 months ago, I appreciate the difficult financial situation that councils find themselves in and that there will be several more years of it to come. But there are choices still to be made, and the conservative cabinet needs to be a more sympathetic and understanding body. People are finding it very difficult to manage in these tough times and the cabinet does not seem to appreciate this.

**Signed by Councillor: Michael Charlesworth**

**Date: 1/8/14**