

Annual review of Councillor Bhagwanji Chohan

I submit the following review as activities I have participated in as a councillor over the Municipal Year 2010/2011.

Please continue on separate sheets if required.

Local ward work:

As a newly elected Councillor I have spent my first year focussing on work in my ward (Alperton). I have taken part in ward walkabouts with council officers and safer neighbourhoods police in order to identify areas for action. In particular this has been useful in identifying street care issues.

I conduct regular home visits to residents in need of assistance, approximately 50 in the past year.

I have also taken part in a community cleanup, alongside police safer neighbourhoods officers.

Surgeries held:

I hold two drop-in advice surgeries a month, one during the week and one at weekends, to ensure I am accessible to residents.

My surgeries are an invaluable way of keeping in touch with the concerns and issues affecting my ward. Housing issues dominate my surgery caseload.

Council meetings attended:

As a member I attend Full Council meetings, and the Alcohol and Entertainment Licensing Committee.

I also sit on the One Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and the Teachers' Joint Consultative Committee.

I have attended meetings of the planning committee as an observer.

Community meetings attended:

I attend meetings of local residents' associations, in particular Heather Park Residents' Association.

I also attend meetings of Alperton Ward Safer Neighbourhoods Team Panel, which helps me stay abreast of crime and community safety issues in my ward, and help work with police partners to improve safety in the area.

Work in respect of which a special responsibility allowance is paid:

I receive an allowance for my membership of the Alcohol and Entertainment Licensing Committee. I chair Sub-Committee B, which has met approximately ten times in the past year to consider applications for licenses for a range of establishments.

Participation in outside and governing bodies:

In addition to my council duties, I am vice-chair of a Saturday school, a member of the BMA group of the Co-operative, and have very recently been approached to be a trustee of a religious and cultural centre.

Training events attended:

Health and Safety Training;
Safeguarding Children and Corporate Parenting;
Ward Working briefing;
Public Speaking training;
Disability Equality Training;
Blackberry Training;
Partnership Briefing – Safer Neighbourhood Ward Panels and Community Payback;
Planning Committee Training;
Charing Skills Session;
IT training;
Member Induction Sessions.

Other achievements throughout the period:

Together with other Councillor colleagues, I have held special meetings with local business people to develop ways of improving and maintaining enterprise in the ward. In particular this initiative has identified issues relating to crime, anti-social behaviour and parking which I and my colleagues are actively working on.

Form completed on: 20th June 2011