

Annual Report – Special Responsibilities

(Under the South Gloucestershire Scheme of Members' Allowances, certain councillors who perform significant responsibilities over and above those of other councillors, are entitled to receive additional allowances to recognise those extra responsibilities. The Scheme requires councillors in receipt of such allowances to report on their actions. This report is published on the Council's website).

Report for period: May 2013 – April 2014.....

Name: Ian Blair

Position held: Lead Member, Children & Young People.....

A general outline of the special responsibilities you perform

Chair of children & Young People Committee
Chair Corporate Parenting steering Group; Chair of Virtual School Governing Body
Member of Children's Trust Board; Children's Safeguarding Board; Health & Wellbeing Board; Troubled Families Initiative Project Board; Youth Offending Service Management Board; Education Policy Advisory Group.
I am responsible for ensuring that the needs of All children and young people are addressed. I do so I work closely with other local partners to improve the outcomes and wellbeing of children & young people. I support and challenge the Director and relevant members of the senior team.

Key Milestones/Achievements during the reporting Period

Increasing the challenge given by the corporate Parenting Steering Group and the Virtual School Governing Body by rigorously interrogating data.
With officers, the setting up of the Education Policy Advisory Group so that direct link can be formed between elected members and the school community both those under the control of the LA and others eg Academies.

What “added value” to the local community have you been able to achieve through your special responsibilities?

Ensuring that the resources of the Council are shared as equitably as possible bearing in mind that areas of deprivation will be prioritised.

The Education Partnership has the remit to carry forward the recommendations of the Education Commission, endorsed by elected members. This will result in improved outcomes for all children and young people attending schools in South Gloucestershire

How have your special responsibilities enabled the Council to be more effective?

Through the CYP Committee ensuring that the widest possible input of ideas and information is laid before elected members so that good informed decisions can be made. Visiting frontline practitioners has allowed me to bring forward issues to the attention of senior management so that improvements in practice can be implemented.

In what ways has the exercise of your special responsibilities supported the core objectives of the Council?

Achieving the best outcomes for children & young people is a main plank of the Council’s Plan. Through direct challenge to senior officers and working with the CYP Committee I have sought to ensure that policies and strategies are in place to make this possible.