

# 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: 2013-2014**

**Name: Ian Boulton**

**Position held: Chair of Council**

## **A general outline of the special responsibilities you perform**

The Chair of Council is the civic leader and first citizen of the community of South Gloucestershire.

The Chair of Council represents the council at civic functions and chairs full Council meetings.

## **Key Milestones/Achievements during the reporting Period**

Chaired Council meetings inline with constitutional requirements. Provided the Council with regular written reports on activities throughout my term of office detailing the range of activities both within the authority and beyond.

Worked with officers on a range of projects to raise the profile of South Gloucestershire Council and promote our key objectives.

Worked with the Strategic Communications Team to produce a promotional video for the Council which has been used at a number of events.

Worked with Democratic Services Officer, Louise Bennett, to plan and deliver annual civic occasions such as the civic service, Chair's awards, and charity dinner as well as special occasions such as the Jenny Jones homecoming and organising a delegation from the Canadian High Commission

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

Raising the profile of our objectives by acting as an ambassador for South Gloucestershire Council at a wide range of networking events and media opportunities. Facilitating meetings between South Gloucestershire businesses and potential customers. Speaking at conferences on behalf of South Gloucestershire Council and supporting local good causes by raising money both directly and indirectly for them.

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

I hope that the profile of the Council has increased a little as a result of my work. I was the first Chair of Council to actively use social media which has helped to reinforce our corporate messages and engage with local residents, businesses and the media.

I have acted as a spokesperson for the Council on a number of occasions.

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

**My theme for my term of office has been to support and celebrate our hi-tech businesses which form a key role in our economic future. During the year we have been able to organise a number of high profile events to promote this sector. It has been a pleasure to work closely with some world class organisations to support them, and ultimately South Gloucestershire, to promote our local tradition for innovation.**