

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

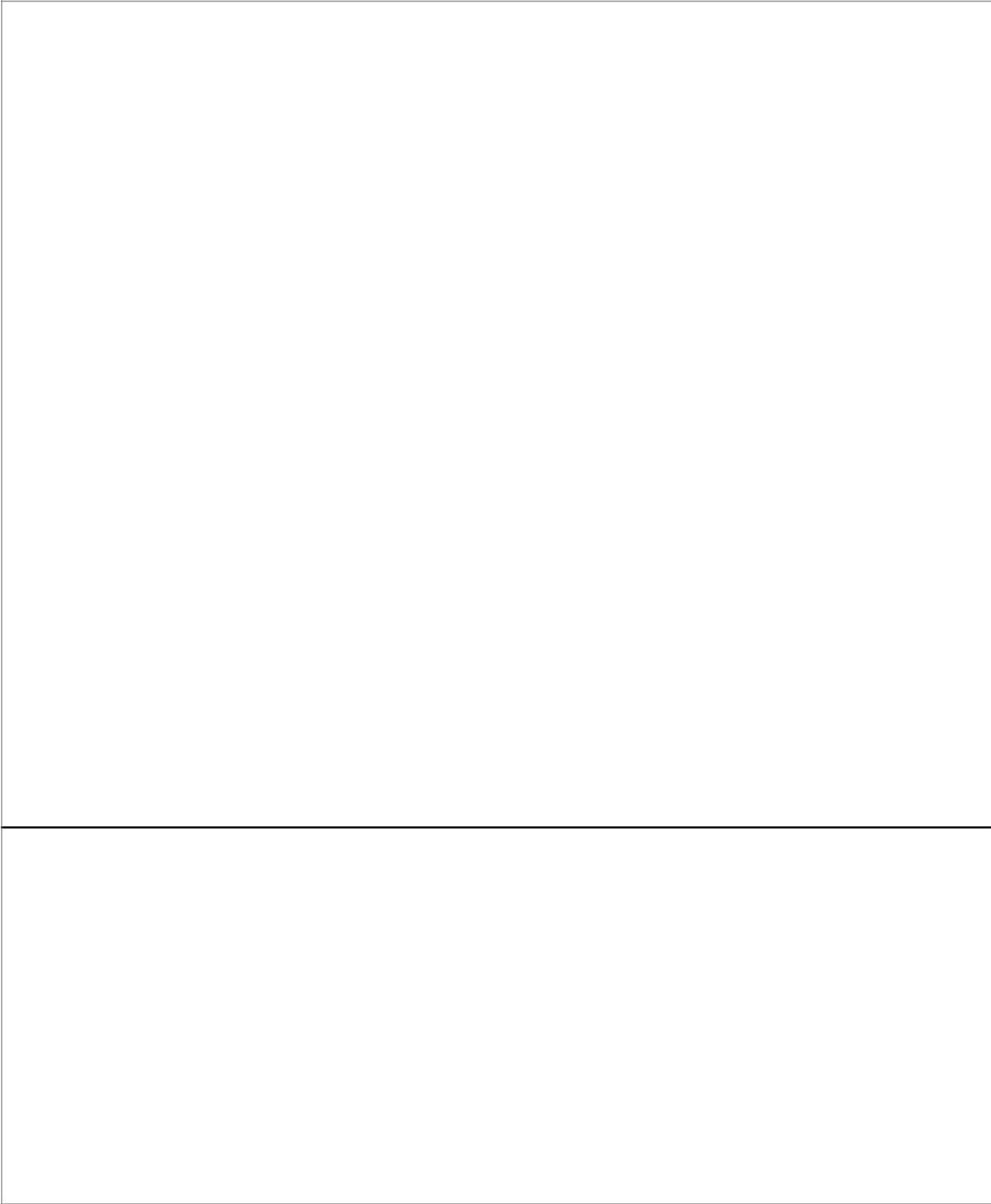
Name: Cllr Roger Hutchinson

Position held: Labour Lead Member on PT&SE

A general outline of the special responsibilities you perform

I represent the Labour Group of councillors on the PTSE committee and other bodies concerned with the issues of Planning, Transport and Strategic Environment. These include various bodies and working groups that consider not only the various decisions that are taken by the Council but also input into council policies relating to the wide subject area covered by the committee.

Key Milestones/Achievements during the reporting Period



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

Continuing progress on major transport infrastructure, whether it is walking, cycling, bus travel, rail travel or road travel is essential to ensure deal with pressures due to congestion, the need for modal shift in the way people travel to affect this. Ensuring that the massive housing developments that South Gloucestershire is expecting and expected to build are designed with a full understanding of the transport infrastructure required and the need for careful planning to achieve a practical and beneficial outcome. I have raised concerns at every opportunity at the changes in Government policies that have severely disadvantaged us, requiring viability of sites to ensure developer profit at the expense of local infrastructure requirements.

On a very local basis I have been involved directly in the Filton Traffic Management Review, ensuring that a resident only parking scheme has been achieved and works well and that other schemes have been introduced to help resolve the problems that the other streets of New Road, Station Road, Pilkington Close and the Sidings which have been due to parking away from major employers nearby, as was the Kenmores.

I am currently trying to progress a review of the junction of the A4174 Ring Road and Filton Avenue to see if left and right turns can be accommodated to the benefit of residents who are often trapped in traffic and unable to get a few hundred meters to their homes.

Also locally I have ensured that suggestions of a bus route through Nutfield Grove to serve Abbeywood Station has been abandoned.

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

As Lead members for the 3 Political Parties we meet regularly to discuss a range of issues both short and long term to try to ensure that they are considered in depth and comprehensively before reaching an agenda for decision.

We also meet to review reports that are on committee agendas to ensure that they contain all of the information needed to take informed decisions and ensure that decisions are taken transparently.

I attend, whenever possible, bodies that I don't serve on such as the West of England Joint Transport Executives in order to be aware of and understand decisions that are being taken sub regionally as well as the LGA Public Transport Consortium on which I am one of the Vice Chairs, which covers many national issues and Government policies that need to be considered and affect decisions that are taken locally.

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

I am always aware of the core objectives, whether it be in housing numbers, transport needs, environmental concerns including climate change and the need for renewables and always try through my experience, political beliefs and understanding of the issues to achieve the council's core objectives within my sphere of influence.