

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: 2017 - 2018

Name: Erica Williams

Position held: Cabinet Member

A general outline of the special responsibilities you perform

Lead member for Public Health & Housing Delivery working with PH Teams to deliver services DAP, Food Programme, Smoking Cessation, Built Environment, Sexual Health, Clean Air Strategy, Mental Health, helping to build new Strategies, offering support to the teams to deliver vital services in the community. Attending CAH, ECS, Informal Cabinet, Cabinet & Full Council meetings. Working with PH and Housing with regards to the emerging STP and newly merged BNSSG. Working with Major Sites officers liaising with developers to ensure the ambitions of SGC are promoted and delivery of smaller sites conform to NPPF guidelines with essential infrastructure built in to applications. Working with Affordable Housing, Self-Build, and Strategic Planning Officers to deliver homes and new communities.

Attending JSP and JLT meetings as a member of the WECA Infrastructure Advisory Board with neighbouring authorities. Helping to shape SGC Local Plan and Local Transport Plan with officers. Working with the officers & fellow Cabinet Members to deliver a Budget that will deliver savings but ensure residents still receive value for money.

Chairing PADA, attending workshops and conferences, working with stakeholders to deliver a consistent approach out in the community.

Key Milestones/Achievements during the reporting Period

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Changing the way PADA works, to become a decision making body with major stakeholders and those commissioned to deliver support for families experiencing Domestic Abuse.

Receiving a response from Kit Malthouse MP who wishes to see the PADA Strategy once consultation has taken place to demonstrate the need for further funding to make sure that individuals and families have consistent support and security.

Working with Cotswold Homes to resubmit Falfield application in order to prevent high costs of an appeal.

Working with developers to ensure that new communities grow in healthier environments by introducing Public Health as a golden thread throughout delivery.

Receiving support from officers to pursue the formation of a peer support/advocate team, from year 6 children through Secondary school years with support from SGC officers and external agencies to improve resilience and raise confidence and self-esteem.

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

The local community are better informed of the services that can be delivered through consultation and community workshops that also offer free training as well as offering support.

Ensuring that aspirations for place making and sustainable communities grow with the building of new homes.

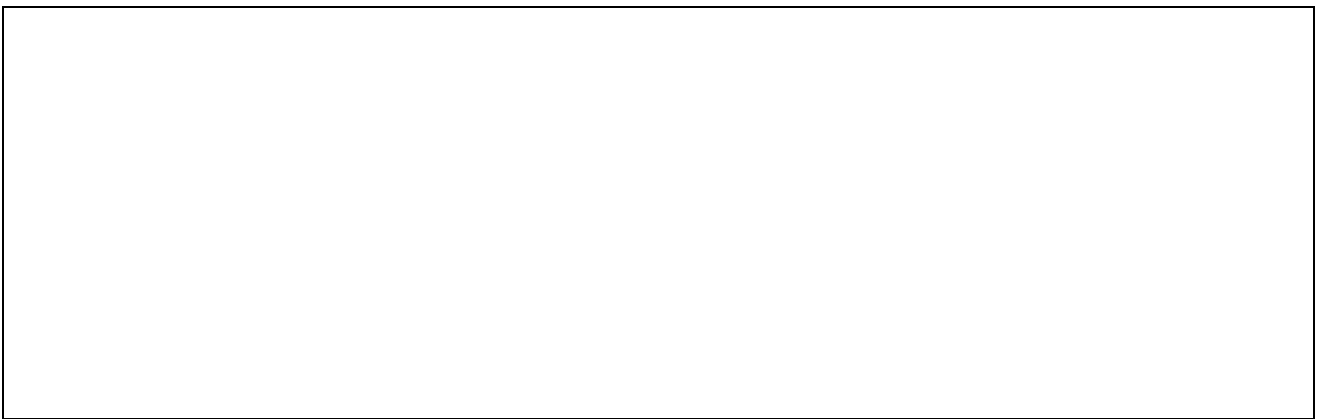
Making sure that the needs of the local community are well represented when working with neighbouring authorities to deliver infrastructure and health services.

Monitoring those services responsible for our local community through the Health & Wellbeing Board and SOG.

Most of all that all lines of communication stay open to the community to ensure that I remain up to date with their needs.

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

My portfolio is a new direction for the Council which is challenging. PH officers are working across most departments within the Council and therefore has not only raised awareness but is included in all plans and strategies. There has been greater collaboration between departments which enables stronger partnership working and better understanding of the need for Public Health to be included wherever possible. This will improve the quality of services and ensure that the ambition for South Gloucestershire to be the place for families to live and work. Housing officers work hard to make sure that affordable housing is a priority and have been very successful so far, I support them fully and will always listen and take their point of view and advice on board. It is important that members realise and are informed of the pressures officers face when trying to deliver services and negotiate on the Council’s behalf to look after our interests and that I represent them fully when working in partnership with WECA, BNSSG and other stakeholders.



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

My responsibilities fully support the core objectives of the Council which is to accelerate sites where necessary. To ensure that the aspirations for a healthier environment and community cohesion is developed, providing the right infrastructure for sustainable communities. Encourage the work towards clean air zones and put in place measures to combat health inequalities in our Priority Neighbourhoods by reviewing strategies when community needs change, highlighted by ward indicators. Monitoring services and costs of services to ensure they are value for money, making sure that the Council's policies are in place ensuring that accessibility to services is inclusive.

Working in partnership, sharing resources and skills to develop a consistent approach in the delivery of the emerging Local Plan, JSP & JTP