

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: Brian Allinson

Position held: Conservative Lead Member for PTSE & Chair of PTSE Committee

A general outline of the special responsibilities you perform

- ✦ Work with the Director and senior officers of the department in formulating policies, budgets and dealing with issues as they arise.
- ✦ Represent the department when needed at times of celebration and confrontation.
- ✦ Championing the work done by the department and challenging the department to achieve the highest standards.
- ✦ Engaging with local media to defend and celebrate the department.
- ✦ Act as a full member of the Policy & Resources Committee including preparing for the setting the council budget, representing the Council as a whole and understanding and assisting with other departmental issues.

Key Milestones/Achievements during the reporting Period

- ✦ Implementation of the department's transformational program, resulting in significant budget savings.
- ✦ Numerous transport schemes were delivered through the Local Sustainable Transport Fund and LTP capital programme
- ✦ Continued progression of the £102m MetroBusNorth Fringe to Hengrove Package rapid transit scheme and MetroWest scheme
- ✦ Progressing the Stoke Gifford Transport Link scheme
- ✦ Progressing Smart Cards initiative

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

- ⤴ I have acted as a point of contact between residents and the department which is open to all the public and communities to challenge decisions and seek further information.
- ⤴ I have been able to represent the various communities of South Gloucestershire when working with officers to ensure that decisions are fair and in the best interests of all.
- ⤴ I have been able to bring my experience and commitment to the department to ensure decisions and policy are in the best interests of residents and best value for money.

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

- ⤴ I have been able to slow the otherwise speedy decline of the council under the controversial and bureaucratic committee system.
- ⤴ The department continues to restructure with the dual aims of making the department more efficient and effective.
- ⤴ By being contactable at any point and also able to reply swiftly, officers were able to plan and adapt more easily as well as not being held up while decisions were made.
- ⤴ By coordinating with other departments through the Policy & Resources Committee, more decisions could be made with the full picture of a situation.

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

- ⤴ All strands of the council's core objectives are supported in some manner by the department, particularly reducing carbon emissions across the district
- ⤴ As a member of the Policy & Resources Committee, the core objectives set out a blueprint to follow across the council