

Elected Member Annual Report and Review – 2010/11



PLEASE READ THE ACCOMPANYING GUIDANCE NOTES BEFORE COMPLETING THIS FORM

Member Name:

Gary Cooke

Electoral Division:

Maidstone South East

Year first elected:

June 2009

Telephone Number:

01622 880686

e-Mail: gary.cooke@kent.gov.uk

Are you in paid employment in any capacity in addition to your role as a County Councillor (excluding membership of other authorities)?

	NO
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If yes, please give details in the box below

A. As a Member of Kent County Council you must give details in the box below of any remuneration received.

Basic Allowance		£ 13,000
Special Responsibility Allowance (please give details of the nature of your duties in the next column and the amount received in the third column)	Deputy Cabinet Member – Education, Learning and Skills.	13,290

Are you a Member of another local authority or do you serve on any other public authority or Trust for which remuneration is received?

	NO
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B. If yes, you must give details in the box below, including details of any remuneration received

	£
Total Payments for A & B above	26,290

Section 1: Attending County Council Meetings Please list all meetings including how many meetings you attended of your Local Board

Name of Board or Committee	Number of Meetings attended	Number of Meetings each year	Position on Board or Committee and nature of responsibility
County Council	7	7	Member
Children's Champions Board	1	2	Member
Children, Families & Education – Learning and Development Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee	1	3	In Attendance
Children, Families & Education – Resources and Infrastructure Policy overview and Scrutiny Committee	3	3	In attendance
Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee	10	10	Member
Joint Meeting of Children, Families and Education Resources & Infrastructure, Learning & Development and Vulnerable Children & Partnerships Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee	2	2	In attendance

Kent Schools Admissions Forum	2	3	Vice-Chairman
School Organisation Advisory Board	4	4	In attendance
Selection and Member Services Committee	2	5	As Substitute

Section 2: Liaising with your Electoral Division

Please list here any organisations within the community with which you have contact. What are you doing in your division? (Please specify if you are acting as a member of the body or as a KCC representative)

I attend as many meetings as I am able of the three parish councils that are within my division, being Leeds, Otham and Downswood. Through the parish councils I also then have contact with local community groups and have worked with the Parish Councils to arrange for better distribution of salt bins around the division, and have also been able to extend road gritting of "B" roads to include parts of Otham. As the local member and as a Deputy Cabinet Member of Education, Learning and Skills, I have close contact with all of the primary schools within my division and I sponsor a literacy program in each of these schools from my members community grant. I am also a governor of both the South Maidstone Learning Federation, which covers Bell Wood and Oak Trees primary schools in Maidstone, and also the Future Schools Trust, covering the New Line Learning and Cornwallis Academies in Maidstone.

I also have regular contact and support a number of youth groups based within the division and in this regard liaise with Jenny McDonald the local KCC youth support officer and directly fund additional time that she is able to dedicate to youth within my division.

I am currently Chairman of the local Neighbourhood Forum and attend a variety of multi-agency provider meetings most notably in the Park Wood area.

I also support Fusion in Park Wood.

Section 3: Assisting Constituents

Please set out here how you contact your constituents and how you make it easy for them to contact you. If you have made a contribution in advising and assisting constituents, and/or resolving problems in the delivery of KCC services, please explain this:

I have met with many individuals and groups of residents on various issues – notably highways covering issues of parking, pedestrian crossings and pot holes. I have also met with residents at their request in connection with education issues and have represented them at appeals. I have also had involvement with issues of safeguarding as respects child protection within the division.

My intention is to provide periodic newsletters to each household within the division with information / news concerning the division together with a reminder to all residents that I am available to them via post, email and telephone either via the Members Desk at County Hall or at my home address with both my home land line and mobile numbers available to any and all who need to contact me.

I also contact residents by actively involving myself in local issues, supporting parent / teacher associations at the local schools, supporting local youth clubs, and generally involving myself with organisations that touch residents within my division such as Fusion at Park Wood.

Finally I also try to ensure that my contact details are available via local parish councils and local area magazines to which I am a regular contributor of articles.

Please give exact details of where and how you recommended your £10,000 allocation be spent?

Organisation	Purpose	Amount
Bell Wood Community Primary School	Excellence In Writing	£ 200
Kent Youth Service	Parkwood & Shepway Voluntary Youth Activities for All – Fusion Café	£ 635
The Parkwood Teens Challenge		£ 713
Bell Wood Community Primary School	Governors Writing Award	£ 600
Fusion Healthy Living Centre	Expansion	£3,500
Leeds & Broomfield CEP School	Beyond Good Handwriting	£ 450
Mole Hill Copse CEP School	Doing My Best	£ 600
NLL Academy	Vivo Miles Student Online Rewards	£1,750
Senacre Wood County Primary School	Literacy Project	£ 450
Leeds Memorial	Leeds Memorial Hall Renovations	£ 980
Leeds Parish Council	Tressel Tables	£ 122
Total:		£10,000

Please give details of spend for your Member's Highways Grant (£25k)

Purpose	Amount
Pedestrian Crossing by Leeds Primary School Investigation	£1,000
Downswood – 2 Salt Bins (including removal fees)	£2,191
Leeds – 1 Salt Bins	£ 595
Otham – 2 Salt Bins	£1,191
Total:	£5,572

N.B. There is a facility that if this fund is not used in the current financial year this money can be forwarded to the next financial year.

Section 4: Representing the County Council on outside bodies

Please set out here any bodies to which you have been appointed by the Council or which you attend in your role as a County Member, in order to promote joint working and improved service delivery to the public.

(List any involvement with Parish Councils and membership of schools governing bodies)

Name of Organisation	Number of Meetings Attended	Number of Meetings held each year	Nature of responsibility
Adoption Panel	9	10	Member of Area 3 Panel
Leeds Parish Council	8	11	Local County Councillor
Otham Parish Council	9	11	Local County Councillor
Downswood Parish Council	9	11	Local County Councillor

Section 5: Learning & Development

Please set out in this box specific training courses which you have attended to further develop your role as a Councillor, including the benefits of learning.

In the last 12 months I have attended media training.

As a member of the adoption panel have attended specific courses regarding adoption which has included training on equality and diversity.

Please set out in this box any attendance at conferences, seminars etc including the benefits of attending

Attended Conservative Party Conference promoting a better understanding of government policy that affects Kent residents and schools.

Section 6: Political Activity

Please use this space to give a full picture of your Political activities, including attendance at Group meetings and any offices held, and/or responsibilities held within your Group or within your electoral division or Parliamentary constituency.

I am Chairman of the Faversham and Mid Kent Constituency Conservatives and attend branch and executive meetings throughout the year.

I am also a member of the Conservative Group on KCC and attend as many meetings as I am able (over 90%).

Section 7: Supplementary Information

Please feel free to add any information you feel may assist in defining your role as an Elected Member, or indeed any additional information you wish to add:

Ensure that the section below is signed and dated both by you and your Group Leader.

Signature of Member:

Date:

Gary Cooke

11.04.2011

Signature of Leader:

Date:

THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED BY 31 March 2011