

# Elected Member Annual Report and Review – 2010/11



**PLEASE READ THE ACCOMPANYING GUIDANCE NOTES BEFORE COMPLETING THIS FORM**

**Member Name:** Roger Gough

**Electoral Division:** Darent Valley

**Year first elected:** 2005

**Telephone Number:** 01959 525109 **e-Mail:** roger.gough@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)?

YES	
-----	--

*If yes, please give details in the box below*

I have carried out research and writing work for the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Extraordinary Rendition. I also have an unpaid role as Senior Adviser to the local government think tank Localis.

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

Basic Allowance		£
		13,000
<b>Special Responsibility Allowance</b> (please give details of the nature of your duties in the next column and the amount received in the third column)	Cabinet Member for Business Strategy, Performance and Health Reform (previously Corporate Support Services and Performance Management). The areas for which I have lead political responsibility include: Personnel and Development; Property; Information Services Group; Legal Services; Policy; Performance Management; Information and Transparency. Since September 2010, I have led the County Council's response to the coalition government's NHS reforms.	28,795

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

	<b>NO</b>
--	-----------

**B. If yes, you must give details in the box below, including details of any remuneration received**

	<b>£</b>
<b>Total Payments for A &amp; B above</b>	41,795

**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
Cabinet	9	9	Member
Cabinet Scrutiny Committee	4	11	In attendance
Corporate Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee	5	6	In attendance
Governance and Audit Committee	2	5	In attendance
Personnel Committee	5	5	Vice-Chairman

## **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 have frequent contact with the five parish councils in my Division, with Swanley Town Council, with the three residents' associations, and with bodies such as the Eynsford and Crockenhill Rights of Way Group, Rural Age Concern Darent Valley, the Royal British Legion in South Darent, village societies and others. I attended the AGM of Well Hill Residents' Association and a public meeting organised by the Swanley Village Residents' Association, as well as the AGM of the Rights of Way Group. I chair regular meetings of the Lullingstone Park Liaison Group, which brings together KCC officers with local representatives. During the year I spoke at a special 'Democracy Week' assembly at Crockenhill Primary School (I have also visited the school in connection with its building works); I visited and took part in an assembly at St Paul's Church of England Primary School, Swanley Village; I have also visited Anthony Roper Primary School and Shoreham Village School.

See next section for more detail of my activity within my Division.

## **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 am easily contactable by phone, letter or email, and use all these means to respond to constituents (the latter being increasingly predominant). My contact details are publicly available on the KCC website and those of some parish councils. I provide my contact details when I contribute to parish magazines. I have taken up many issues for individual constituents. These have included: supporting two school transport appeals and one school place appeal; ensuring that Kent Highways recognised a salt bin in a remote part of my Division as part of their network when this had been adopted but not been properly recorded; and assisting a constituent on issues to do with a dropped curve. In terms of wider local issues, I have worked with Crockenhill Parish Council and Well Hill Residents' Association concerning their application for a community broadband grant; I have helped resolve drainage and flooding issues in Boakes Meadow, Shoreham; I took up the question of the village of Crockenhill being excluded from a grammar school catchment area; I have worked on a variety of road and traffic issues in Eynsford, including works in Riverside. I arranged the visit of a drainage expert to South Darent, Well Hill and Swanley; schemes are being worked up following these visits. In South Darent, I worked on a protracted road closure which caused major distress and inconvenience to local residents, working to ensure that residents were kept as informed as possible. During the heavy snows of December 2010, I worked to tackle problems of roads in my Division becoming impassable. A number of aspects of Kent Highways' response in this part of North-West Kent were much less satisfactory than in other parts of the County. I raised this with Kent Highways, and was closely consulted on their assessment of where problems had arisen and how these could be avoided or mitigated in the future.

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

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Rural Age Concern, Darent Valley	Refurbishment, Meeting Point Day Centre	£2,000
Swanley Village Residents Association	CCTV in Swanley Village	£2,000
Horton Kirby & South Darenth PC	Removal of a Barrier	£ 900
Shoreham Parish Council	Restoring View of the Cross	£ 300
Farningham Village Hall	Work in the entrance hall and ladies toilets at Farningham Village Hall	£2,100
Management Committee TTME	Trident Trust for Musical Education	£1,200
Eynsford Parish Council	Harrow Meadow Football Pitch	£1,500
<b>Total:</b>		<b>£10,000</b>

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

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Resurfacing of Manse Way, Swanley	13,735
Salt bin for Charnock, Swanley	595
Kerbside works for Riverside, Eynsford	28,500
Investigation of change of priorities for Main Road/ Cray Road/ Broadway, Crockenhill	1,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>43,830</b>

*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)*

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Number of Meetings Attended</b>	<b>Number of Meetings held each year</b>	<b>Nature of responsibility</b>
Horton Kirby & South Darenth Parish Council	6	12	Local County Councillor, reporting on County Council issues and taking up parish concerns on County matters
Farningham Parish Council	6	12	As above
Shoreham Parish Council	6	12	As above
Crockenhill Parish Council	6	12	As above
Eynsford Parish Council	4	12	As above
Sevenoaks Joint Transportation Board	4	4	One of seven Sevenoaks Members
Swanley Forum	1	3	County Councillor for part of Swanley
Sevenoaks Youth Advisory Group	1	3	One of seven Sevenoaks Members

#### **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.*

I took part in a crisis leadership course at KCC's National Crisis Management Centre in June 2010. This proved most valuable in understanding how individuals and organisations mishandle crises, and ways to avoid such missteps.

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

I chaired a conference for councils on the Total Place initiative in May 2010, and attended a national cross public sector conference on the same issue some weeks later. Both addressed important issues of achieving better services and reduced duplication in the public sector and were directly relevant to my Cabinet responsibilities. I spoke at a LGID conference in Leeds in March 2011 on community budgets, in which Kent is a national pilot area. I have attended and spoken at a number of health service seminars in Kent, as part of my work on the health reforms and in particular as part of KCC's building of relationships with GPs. I have also (although neither of these was any cost to KCC) given evidence to the House of Commons Political and Constitutional Reform Select Committee on central-local government relations (November 2010) and given a presentation on local government commissioning of services at the Institute for Government (December 2010). Within KCC, I have led seminars for members on Total Place and on the health reforms.

## **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 have attended meetings of the Conservative Group, in addition to several Conservative Group away days. At many of these I have spoken or presented on aspects of my Cabinet responsibilities.

## 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:**

--	--

**Signature of Leader:**

**Date:**

--	--

**THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED BY 31 March 2011**

