

Elected Member Annual Report and Review – 2010/11



PLEASE READ THE ACCOMPANYING GUIDANCE NOTES BEFORE COMPLETING THIS FORM

Member Name: Richard King

Electoral Division: Ashford Rural West

Year first elected: 1997

Telephone Number: 01233 756592 **e-Mail:** richard.king@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	NO x
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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)	Chairman – Flood Risk Management Committee	-
	Chairman – Planning Applications Committee	£7,750

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

YES	NO x
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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	£20,750

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	6	7	Member
Ashford Local Board	1	1	Member
Cabinet Scrutiny Committee	5	10	Member
Flood Risk Management Committee	4	4	Chairman
Planning Applications Committee	10	11	Chairman
Select Committee – Renewable Energy	6	7	Member
Private Committee / Meeting	2	2	Member

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 represent one of the largest Divisions in the County, both in area and population. My Division has 12 Parishes (Bethersden, Boughton Aluph, Challock, Charing, Egerton, Great Chart & Singleton (part), High Halden, Hothfield, Little Chart, Pluckley, Smarden and Westwell). I have now instituted liaison meetings which bring together Parish Council Chairmen and the relevant Borough Council members to discuss local issues of mutual concern and these are well received and are proving most useful. As in previous years, I have endeavored to attend all Parish Arms and as many of the 140 plus Parish Council meetings as I can, as well as meetings of residents associations and community Groups (Sandyhurst Lane Residents, Great Chart Allotments etc). I am an elected member (and Vice Chairman) of Egerton Parish Council. Locally I am a Member of the local Music Club, Film Society (I am Chairman), Telecottage Committee, Fete Committee and the local Players. I am a former Chairman and currently a Council Member for the Weald of Kent Protection Society and governor of my local primary school and the new John Wallis Academy in Ashford. During the year I also try to spend time at the primary schools in my division. I make myself available in different parts of my Division in conjunction with local Parish Councils, Borough Council Members and occasionally the local MP, Damian Green, and undertake site visits with my constituents, particularly with regard to highway issues. I find the various member grant schemes most valuable, enabling me to be in touch with and assist a wide range of local groups. I strive to make sure the money is awarded across all of my Parishes as evenly and as wisely as possible. I am a well known figure in most of my rural area, and enjoy helping the communities I serve.

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:

My contact details can be found in almost all of the parish and community magazines in my division. I continue to help constituents resolve problems with overflowing drains and highway damage, school & transport appeals, obtaining grants, Borough and County planning issues and a wide range of other issues. These include developing the Goat Lees Primary School and resolving the continuing problems with the adoption, repair and cleaning of highways at Goat Lees, continuing moral and financial support for Wealden Wheels (the community transport scheme I was instrumental in establishing some years back), and funding changes to supported local bus service route 523. I have continued to be particularly supportive of the Hothfield community, facilitating improvements to the car park at the Childrens Centre there, liaising with the parish council chairman, local community police, our community warden, also attending PACT meetings and funding various local projects. I've advised and helped with traffic calming, speed limits (including funding the A28 30mph speed restrictions requested by Bethersden Parish Council), promoting a proposed lorry ban in the Charing/Pluckley/Egerton area and working to fix problems with potholes, gullies, verges, salt bins and footpaths. Each day sees either letters, phone calls or e-mails from constituents who I regularly meet face to face to help them with their problems.

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

Organisation	Purpose	Amount
Westwell Playing Fields	Youth Shelter	£ 500
Hoathfield Village Hall	New Doors	£ 500
Westwell Playing Fields	Bounce Mat	£ 500
Kennington Cricket Club	Junior Section	£ 500
Pluckley PC	Recreation Ground Improvement	£ 500
Wealden Wheels	Mini Bus	£1,000
Pluckley PC	Village Hall	£ 500
Hoathfield History Society	Display Case	£ 500
Egerton	After School Club	£ 500
ABC	Bethersden Youth	£ 500
RDA	Horse Carriage	£ 500
Hoathfield PC	Whealden Wheels	£ 350
Egerton CofE School	Library	£ 500
Bethersden PC	Car Park	£ 500
Charlton Athletic FC	Hothfield Coaching	£ 500
St Margrets	Hearing Loop	£1,000
Hoathfield	After School Club	£ 650
Egerton	Music Festival	£ 500
Total:		£10,000

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

Purpose	Amount
The Street, Smarden – Introduce double yellow lines to replace single yellow lines and introduce zig zag markings outside school	£4,290
523 Bus Service – Varying route to include Headcorn at request of Egerton and Smarden Parish Councils	£7,500
Station Road, Charing – request to look at changing the sequence of pedestrian lights	£5,000
School road, Hothfield – request for kerb buildouts to reduce speed	£1,000
Total:	£17,790

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
ACRK	3	5	Trustee
EA's Regional Flood Defence Committee	5	5	Local Levy Sub Committee Chairman
Remade SE	1	-	Director
Sussex Community Rail Partnership	1	-	
John Wallis Academy, Ashford	7	12	Trustee (from July 2010)
Ashford Environment Forum	4	4	

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.

All KCC planning training sessions (which I chair), Environment Agency and ACRK training, various 1 to 1 computer skills training (etc.), Social Media training day, Minerals and Waste workshop, School Governors appraisals etc. All these have extended my knowledge in various areas and have been useful in the fulfillment of my role as a County Councillor.

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

I have attended various planning briefings and seminars, the Minerals and Waste seminar and other workshops (including ACRK, KALC etc.), briefings and stakeholder meetings including SE Coastal Group Members Forum and Kent Communities Conference.

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.

With a couple of exceptions (due to illness or prior commitments) I have attended all of my political group briefings and away days. I am a member of the committee of local branch of the constituency Conservative Association, but other than that hold no office either within my group or my electoral division or Parliamentary constituency. During the year I participated in various election activities both in Ashford and in other parts of Kent during the general election and local elections.

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:

I am Chairman of the County's Planning Applications Committee with responsibility for chairing the monthly meetings of the Committee which has the statutory responsibility for determining all planning applications to KCC (waste and mineral related applications and all KCC developments including schools, highways, social services and all other KCC related applications). These can often be of strategic nature and are frequently controversial with high public attendance and participation. I also have regular meetings and structured briefings with key staff prior to formal meetings of the Committee. I have also chaired the Committee's training sessions (3) and site visits and Public Meetings (10), which require skill, tact and diplomacy. Planning Committee Chairman is a demanding role involving many hours of reading, visiting sites (both with the committee and on my own) and requires a proper understanding of planning law as well as the ability to chair meetings effectively.

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

Signature of Member:

Date:

Richard King

31/03/11

Signature of Leader:

Date:

[Redacted signature and date fields]

THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED BY 31 March 2011