

# Elected Member Annual Report and Review – 2010/11



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

**Member Name:** Leyland Ridings

**Electoral Division:** Sandwich

**Year first elected:** 1997

**Telephone Number:** 01304 612631 **e-Mail:** Leyland.ridings@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 ✓
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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.**

<b>Basic Allowance</b>		£ 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)	Chairman Education, Learning & Skills	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 ✓
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**B. If yes, you must give details in the box below, including details of any remuneration received**

	£
<b>Total Payments for A &amp; B above</b>	20,750

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

<b>Name of Board or Committee</b>	<b>Number of Meetings attended</b>	<b>Number of Meetings each year</b>	<b>Position on Board or Committee and nature of responsibility</b>
County Council	7	7	Member
Children's Champions Board	2	2	Member
Children, Families & Education – Learning and Development Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee	1	3	In attendance
Children, Families & Education – Vulnerable Children and Partnerships Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee	2	3	In attendance
Governor Appointments Panel	1	5	Present as substitute
Joint Meeting of Children, Families and Education Resources & Infrastructure, Learning & Development and Vulnerable Children & Partnerships Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee	1	2	In attendance

Sandwich Neighbourhood Forum	3	3	Member
Scrutiny Board	1	1	Member
Select Committee – Education Attainment	1	1	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)*

Organisation within the community with which I have contact are:-

Sandwich Technology School (Governor)  
 Marsh Academy (Governor)  
 Preston Primary School (Governor)  
 Thanet College (Governor) Chair of Audit Committee, Member of Chairman's Committee  
 Canterbury Christ Church University (Member of various committees) – Retired July 2010 - Hon Fellow for Services to University November 2010  
 Ash Parish Council (Member)  
 Eastry Parish Council (Member)  
 Goodnestone Parish Council (Member)  
 Preston Parish Council (Member) (3)  
 Sandwich Town Council (Member) (2)  
 Sholden Parish Council (Member)  
 Stourmouth Parish Council (Member) (3)  
 Wingham Parish Council (Member) (3)  
 Woodnesborough Parish Council (Member)  
 Worth Parish Council (Member)(3)

Sandwich Neighbourhood Forum (Member)

Sandwich Cricket Club (Helping with some of their concerns)  
 Walmer Cricket Club (Helping with some of their concerns)

Phoenix Youth Centre (Responded to enquiries for assistance)

I attend as many local meetings as I can in order to help the constituents of Sandwich division to the best of my ability.

Sandwich – Liaised with Town Council over speeding matters, flood defences and restoring the Delf Stream which flows through Sandwich.

Wingham – Numerous discussions with Wingham Traffic Group – MPs, Julian Brazier and Laura Sandys – re-synchronisation of speed limits on the A257 with Michael Northey between Canterbury and Sandwich (Junction with A256) and Kent Highways. Similarly, Stourmouth, Preston and Worth.

### **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 endeavour to assist my constituents by using my Local Members Grant to support the projects that they would like to see happen. For example, this year, I have paid for some CCTV cameras to cover areas in Sandwich where pretty crimes/vandalism tends to occur. I have also liaised with the Police so that we can gain support for a speed indicating device.

I have regular meetings with the Mayor and Town Clerk of Sandwich.

I do regularly meet with the highways officers from Kent County Council to inform them of the problems with the roads and pathways in my division. This year, I have specifically mentioned highway problems in Eastry, Preston, Sandwich, Stourmouth, Wingham and Woodnesborough.

I have responded to requests for support at school admissions appeals and will be supporting parents through the process.

I try my best to respond to any further queries that are received via e-mail or telephone.

I attend as many parish council meetings as I can possibly make, and also ask the parish council clerks to send me any queries that arise when I am not present.

I respond to any requests for assistance that arrive by letter, e-mail or are passed to me verbally.

From April to June 2009, I was the Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education and from June 2009, I have been the Deputy Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education. In these roles I have visited several schools across the County to see what changes can be made at County Hall to help improve education in Kent. I also have a specific brief for Children's Social Services, so do meet with the finance department on a regular basis to review CSS accounts, visit CSS departments to see how work is progressing in the front-line, and discuss policy improvements with the Director for CSS.

Furthermore, I am KCC's Champion for the Armed Forces, so I have regular meetings with the lieutenancy on matters to do with youth and military service. I am a member of SERFCA and have particularly supported the Cadet Force this year and arranged celebrations on the Forces' 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

I also meet regularly with the Police's Area Commanders for Dover, Shepway and Canterbury to keep up-to-date on matters on importance in East Kent.

I am also a member of several outside bodies (as shown below) and I use these networks to help my constituents.

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

Organisation	Purpose	Amount
Sandwich Town Council	Improvement of Lighting on Sandwich	£2,000
10 <sup>th</sup> Deal (Eastry) Scout Group	Guildhall Forecourt	£1,000
Sandwich – Honfieur Twinning Association	Le Weekend	£ 500
EBP Kent	Business of Enterprise	£ 500
Eastry Cricket Club	Re-thatching of Cricket Pavilion	£1,000
Sandwich Community Lights Committee	Sandwich Christmas Lights and Carnival	£1,000
Community Action Group, Sandwich	Sandwich Environment and Woodland Project	£ 500
Technology School	Poetry City	£ 200
Workers of Art	Community Courses	£2,000
Dover Grammar School for Girls	Skills Fair	£ 600
Educational Project Management	The Kent 2012 Schools Torch Project	£ 200
Workers of Art CIC	Bill Chesterfield Commemorative Plaque	£ 500
Sandwich Junior School		
<b>Total:</b>		<b>£10,000</b>

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

Purpose	Amount
Mill Road, Staple – new streetlight	£ 1,140
Foxburgh Hill – problems with traffic speeds	£ 3,680
Lower Street, Eastry – traffic calming	£ 5,115
Guilton, Ash – traffic calming	£ 3,845
High Street, Wingham – traffic survey	£ 1,000
Woodnesborough Road, Sandwich – construct new section of footway on north side of Woodnesborough Road to provide safe passage past The Butts, to new include new bollards.	£ 3,222
A257 Shatterling – To reduce the number of drivers approaching the bend on the A257 at Shatterling too fast, installation of two bend warning interactive signs is proposed	£ 8,800
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£26,802</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)

Name of Organisation	Number of Meetings Attended	Number of Meetings held each year	Nature of responsibility
Canterbury Christ Church University Chairman's Committee till I retired	3	3 times per academic year Sept-Aug	Governor (retired 31.7.2010)
Canterbury Christ Church University Governing Body	2	4	Governor (retired 31.7.2010)
Canterbury Christ Church University Audit Committee	2	3 times per academic year Sept-Aug	Chairman (retired 31.7.2010)
Canterbury Christ Church university Graduation Ceremonies	3	3	Governor (retired 31.7.2010)
Canterbury Christ Church University Annual Meeting	1	1	Governor
Court of the University of Kent	1	1	Member
Preston Primary School Governing Body	3	4	Governor
Preston primary School's Finance Committee	1	4	Member
Sandwich Technology School governing Body Meeting	3	4	Governor
Sandwich Technology School Resources Team	2	3	Governor
Sandwich Technology School Pay Committee	2	2	Governor
Marsh Academy's Governing Body	4	4	Governor
Council for St John's Ambulance	3	3	Member

St John's Ambulance Fundraising Committee	2	3	Member
SE RFCA (TA)	3	3	Member
Channel Theatre Board Committee	1	3	Member
Dover joint Transportation Board	2	3	Sandwich Local Member
Kent Music	2	4	Member

### 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.*

Interviews for Officer Appointment Training

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

### 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.*

**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 have attended 7 out of 8 Conservative Group Meetings. (This figure is low because the scheduling of Conservative Group Meetings tends to conflict with my weekly hospital appointments.)

I am the Hon-Auditor for the Conservative Group.

I canvass the local area with Laura Sandys, the Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for Thanet South and assist her in her campaign. I also attend various fundraising functions.

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

**Signature of Member:**

**Date:**

**L B Ridings**

**21 March 2011**

**Signature of Leader:**

**Date:**

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