

Annual Report: Cllr. Elizabeth E Smaje 2011/12

Participation at Council Meeting Committees

I attended Council meetings throughout the year.

I attended the Wellbeing and Communities Scrutiny panel, undertaking several assigned tasks including an update on the 'Independence Without Isolation' scrutiny previously undertaken.

I attended the Batley, Birstall and Birkenshaw Area Committee meetings.

I am a member of the Joint Health Scrutiny Panel which meets with Wakefield Council to scrutinise changes in services within Mid Yorkshire Trust. I was also the Kirklees scrutiny representative on the regional scrutiny panel looking at the proposed changes to the Children's Congenital Cardiac Services provision for the region.

I am also a member of the Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board in Kirklees.

Participation on Outside Bodies

I continued on the West Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority with the position of Shadow Chair, attending both formal meetings and briefings at the Authority.

I also continued on the Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing Board, attending board meetings and meetings of other board committees. My involvement with Kirklees Historic Buildings Trust and the Kirklees Theatre Trust Board also continued.

Ward Work

I dealt with a wide variety of ward issues during the year and continue to support local TRA's, attend the Batley & Spennings Tenant Committee as well as the Birstall TRA forum and the Birstall and Birkenshaw Neighbourhood Management Group.

Together with my ward colleagues, we have held Neighbourhood Forum meetings throughout the year to discuss issues that affect our ward directly and have run our regular garden competition.

I continue as a Governor at Birkenshaw First and Nursery School and being a member of the Friends of Oakwell, East Bierley Preservation Society, Birkenshaw Village Association (Secretary) and Birstall Village Improvement Group also continued. I also attend Howden Clough Community Centre Committee meetings and am a trustee of the Sunshine Community Centre, Fieldhead, Birstall.

I am also supporting Birstall in Bloom.

During the year I again continued to be closely involved with the Fieldhead Regeneration Project.

I attended our ward team meetings at which I, and my ward colleagues, discuss local issues in detail.

Together and in association with my ward colleagues I have continued to attend a wide range of local meetings, liaised with a variety of local groups and attended briefings by partner agencies.

Members Surgeries

Surgeries for the Birstall and Birkenshaw Ward continued to be held a number of times each week, at a variety of different venues by myself and my ward colleagues, Andrew Palfreeman and Robert Light.

Training and Development

I attended planning training.