

Annual Report: Cllr. Shabir Pandor 2011/12

Introduction

This is the Tenth Annual report I have presented since I was first elected in 2002.

This report aims to provide an overview of the work and achievements from May 2011 to April 2012.

In May 2012 I was up for election. With the support of the people of Batley West I managed to get re-elected for another 4 year term with a majority of well over 2000 votes.

Leadership of the Council

I have continued to work with all parties across the council who shared a common set of values in how we wish Kirklees to develop and flourish amidst the challenges that are facing all local authorities. As a member of the Cabinet of the Council.

I have continued to engage with other democratically elected members to support them in their role as local ward members. As joint Cabinet member for Corporate Policy I have developed my understanding and appreciation of the importance of the services within this portfolio.

I have taken an active lead in rolling out the Innovation and Efficiency programme. My objectives have been refreshed and include:

- Continue to develop strong action orientated relationships with leading members, and EMT and to engage members in the challenges we face in next 3 years
- Lead on the I&E programme including business change programme and shared responsibility for service reviews
- Lead on Organisational Development programme and to commit political engagement on a cross party basis
- Continue to work and develop ward work through leading on local campaigns and supporting ward colleagues and communities.

Participation at Council Meeting Committees

I have attended all full council meetings, attended the Labour Group meetings and contributed to the way the council has conducted its business with a view to providing services that are responsive to the people of Kirklees and my own ward.

The last 12 months have also included Labour Group away days where the cabinet and the Executive Management Team got together to with the Labour Group to share strategic aims and objectives.

In my role as Cabinet members I attended O&S committee for Corporate Resources and updated them on the outcomes of the I&E Programme.

The Area Committee..... moving towards new locality structures.... Town & Valley Committee

I have continued to be an active member of the area committee and have supported the chairs and my other councillor colleagues and officers who sit on and service this committee.

The programme to deliver at a local level continues to pose major challenges and opportunities and I will continue to use my influence to ensure we continue to make changes and make a positive difference to peoples lives.

Ward Work

This area of my work continues to provide me with a real grasp of how national and local policies are having an impact and making a difference on local communities at a ward level. Over the past year I have seen my ward work becoming more complex and demanding. The demands have primarily come from Housing, Education and Highways. I do get a lot out of, and learn a great deal from, the issues my constituents bring to me.

Achievements During the Year

I have achieved a substantial amount during the year a few examples include:

- Achieved the savings under the I&E Programme
- spent £ 770k on internal staffing to deliver £ 35.7m of savings (with an ongoing year on year savings of £14.6m).
- Minimised the number of compulsory redundancies
- A strand of the I&E programme has been the modernisation and consolidation of support services. That said, £2.7m of savings have been achieved through this consolidation.
- Procurement: £2.4m of savings have been made in 2011/12 which are permanent reductions in spend, with this money being removed from Directorate budgets. This has been achieved through organising ourselves differently and buying in different ways (eg through corporate contracts rather than local contracts) NOT through a reduction in demand. On top of that sum, other savings have been made by services.
- Use of IT: We have developed an IS/IT strategy. We now understand what systems we have across the Council, what they achieve and where the "gaps" are. We have developed an outline business case for a system to support the modernisation of back office services (HR, payroll, finance and procurement) and have started a procurement process for that. We need it to be able to support the level of staffing reduction already made and planned (in the business support review for example).

Members Surgeries

I continue to hold regular surgeries through out our ward and I am accessible at the request of my constituents.

Training and Development

This year I have attended training events organised by the Labour Group. The training revolved around Political skills, Communications skills, Lobbying skills and neighbourhood planning.

My next phase of development is to attend the Next Generation councillor development programme.