

ANNUAL REPORT FOR COUNCILLORS 2013/14

NAME: RONALD JAMES HIGGINSON

WARD: SEVERN

ELECTORATE: 1385

REPORTING YEAR : CURRENT YEAR OF ADMINISTRATION 2013/14

I have attended most of the meetings of Council and Committees I am delegated to. The Committees are – Licensing and Regulatory and Audit. Presently, on a temporary basis I am standing in for Cllr James George on the Planning Committee.

These Committees apart, I am a Council delegate to the Gwent Joint Records Committee which is now based at Ebbw Vale.

I am one of the Council's representatives to the W.L.G.A. Employers Organisation.

In a busier activity, I Chair Valuation Tribunal meetings. In that capacity I have to attend a few training seminars throughout the year to keep abreast of legislative changes. The commitment to the Valuation Tribunal is such that the Eastern part of Wales is the geographic map and travelling to a tribunal can mean extensive and time consuming journeys. Tribunals can sometimes take a few days to administer.

I am a member of the Tribunal's H.R. Committee covering all Wales.

I am a School Governor at Durand Primary of which I am Chairman, a position I have held since the Governing Body first formed some 28/30 years ago.

On that body I also chair the finance and interview panels. I keep informed of legislation as it affects School's management by attending training seminars as frequently as necessary.

In another capacity I am a member of Newport City Council's school appeals and exclusions panel. I have been attending these panel hearings since 1986 starting with Gwent County Council

I regularly attend to constituents/organisations problems/queries attempting to provide some satisfaction towards resolution of their problems. That can be by visiting at their venues/homes, or, as is often the case, when I meet them in the Town Centre. Occasionally it is a matter of pointing them in the right direction by providing points of contact.

On my movement around I frequently encounter environment problems like dumped fridges etc which I promptly report appropriately and follow up to ensure a matter is dealt with.

Currently, I am pursuing the appropriation of section 106 monies for much needed playground equipment in my ward.

I deal with issues presented promptly. Sometimes however resolution, if possible can take some time depending upon complex processes.