

COUNCILLORS' ANNUAL REPORTS 2016- 2017

Councillor:	Joanne Dodds
Ward:	Great Horton
Party:	The Labour Party
Date Elected:	May 2006
Basic:	£13,463.16
Special Responsibility:	£955.74
Other Allowances:	£6,028.35 (West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority)

Positions held in 2016 – 2017:

Bradford South Area Committee
Chair of Community Safety Committee – West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue
Exec Member - West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue

How many neighbourhood forums have you attended? (Please state a number and not all)

Two out of two

Other meetings/bodies which you regularly attend: (e.g School governing bodies, outside bodies etc)

Lidget Green Primary School
West Yorkshire Fire Authority
Greenmoor Big Local
Friends of Brackenhill Park
Ward Partnership Meetings
Scholemoor Beacon
Cornerstone Church Trustee Meetings
Dragon Boat 2017 committee
Co op Party
Bradford South CLP
Great Horton Branch Meetings
Attack on Firefighters working group
Street Angel patrols

My priorities for the past year were (May 2016 to April 2017)

I am looking forward to getting involved again in my community following my civic year. My passion is for communities and people, and to make a difference. I will continue to work with the community and partners to develop projects, initiatives to try and make the Great Horton ward a better place to live and work. I am also very proud to be back on the West Yorkshire Fire Authority and chair of the Community Safety Committee.

**My priorities for the coming year (May 2017 to April 2018) are:
(Please list or describe your priorities or targets as a Councillor for the coming year)**

I am proud to be a Councillor for the Great Horton Ward. I will continue to work hard and do my best for the communities of Great Horton, Lidget Green & Scholemoor.

I do believe in the People Can initiative and it is one of my priorities this year to develop a ward partnership involving all the community groups, organisations, schools, businesses, faith organisations, housing providers, council officers, police, fire, health that work within the ward. With limited resources and increasing need I believe that we need to work together and be creating this partnership it will enable us all to work together and pool our resources and strengthen our community.

**What I have achieved in the past year (May 2016 to May 2017)
(Please list or describe some of your activities as a Councillor and what you see as your key achievements)**

Following my very hectic year as Lord Mayor it did seem to take me some time to get back into normality. I have had a good and busy year. The highlight of the year was winning the award for the Metropolitan District Councillor of the year in November. I felt so honoured when my colleagues nominated me, the competition is very high with many applications and so to actually win it was such a proud & exhilarating feeling.

I have been fully engaged in my community again and I have been involved in a number of events and projects such as the Great Horton community festival, a community safety day on Scholemoor, and I organised a community speedwatch. I am concerned about dementia and the impact the condition has on family and the community. I have been working towards developing Great Horton into a dementia friendly community and I have helped to set up some wellbeing singing sessions which are targeted at older people and especially those with dementia.

I have been working with the Lidget Green Community Partnership, Greenmoor Big Local and the Council to create a memorial garden in Lidget Green. The children from local schools have helped with the planting of shrubs and trees and together we have created a beautiful shared space, which I officially opened at a wonderful ceremony attended by dignitaries, local schools and community members.

I have worked together with the various Council departments and other key people on a pilot project in an area of Great Horton. This small area was chosen because of the continued problems with fly tipping, litter and general cleanliness. The project was around trying to engage the community to take some pride in their area. The wardens completed a consultation to find out what the main issues were and we held litter picks and a drop in event to feedback the results of the consultation and evidence what the council officers had done.

I have continued to work closely with my colleagues. The street surgeries are still very well received and we do pick up quite a bit of casework from them, with a variety of issues.

I have had a full and active year on the Fire Authority. I have this year again chaired the community safety committee and a member of the executive. Earlier in the year I was concerned about the number of attacks on fire fighters especially in the Bradford District. A working group was set up to look at this issue. I am pleased about how the group have progressed. The authority is keen for us members to have a good understanding on the service and so I have had training around incident command, blue light driving and a demonstration on urban search and rescue. I attended the Fire Conference at Gateshead which is always informative and a good networking opportunity. They also provided an excellent session on Mental Health Awareness which I found to be very informative and useful.

I was asked by the Leader, to look at how we, as Councillors communicate with our constituents and how we use Members Support. My task was to create a report with my findings and suggest ways forward to improve communication, the way we use resources such as Members Support and share good practice with recommendations for approval. As part of my research I visited Nottingham City Council who has developed a wonderful communication system and way of working. I will be presenting my report shortly to the group.

Because of my earlier support and interest in FGM I was asked by Peacemaker International to be the Bradford champion for FGM which I was delighted to accept. I brought a motion to full council to support the international day of zero tolerance for FGM and I have attended a couple of events to raise awareness.

I am now the Bradford Armed Forces Champion and my first engagement was to attend the Royal 21 Gun Salute at York.

What training sessions, seminars, briefings and conferences have you attended to develop your skills and gain knowledge that has helped you to serve the people of the district? (Please list them).

CSE Training
Trading Standards Open Day
Public Forum for Education
Delivering Council Priorities
Workshop on better skills, jobs
Hate Crime Prevent Training
The Divide – a film
Travel Training
Mental Health Awareness Session – WYF&R
Diversity & Inclusion – WYF&R
Dementia Alliance
Mister Shapeshifter – performance
Dementia Friends
IRMP – WYF&R
Chairing Skills – WYF&R
FGM Zero Tolerance Pledge
Community Collaboration – LGIU
Signs of safety training session
Command Training – WYF&R
Streetwise – performance on road safety
Fire Conference

Looked after children – governor training
Blue Light Training
FGM awareness
Waste Collections briefing
Urban Search & Rescue Demonstration
Mind Training
Safeguarding Creating Safer Space
Keighley & Bingley station PMV