

## Elected Member Annual Report and Review – 2008/09



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

**Member Name:** Kevin Lynes  
**Electoral Division:** Tunbridge Wells East  
**Year first elected:** 2001  
**Telephone Number:** 01892 890922 **e-mail:** kevin.lynes@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**

*If yes, please give details in the box below*

I undertake my Cabinet role at KCC on almost a full time basis. In addition, this year I have continued to accept work from the IDeA as a Member Peer; from both South East and South West Employers as a Regional Assessor for the Elected Member Development Programme, and I will also be paid a retainer from the LGA as a member of the Safer Communities Board.

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

Name of Board or Committee	Number of Meetings attended	Number of Meetings each year	Position on Board or Committee and nature of responsibility
County Council	7	7	Member
Cabinet	9	9	Member
Adult Services Policy Overview	2	4	Cabinet Member
Selection Committee	3	3	Member
Personnel Committee	3	4	Vice Chairman
Supporting People Commissioning Body	2	2	Chairman (elected by the Body yearly)
Tunbridge Wells Local Board	4	4	Member
Environment & Regeneration Policy Overview Committee	3	3	Cabinet 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)*

**Tunbridge Wells Borough Council** – I meet regularly with the Conservative Borough Councillors in my division, with whom I hold a regular monthly joint surgery. Sadly I have never received any communication from the two Liberal Democrat Borough Councillors in St James.

**Pembury Community Partnership** – This is a regular partnership group which combines the main organizations in Pembury – school, scouts and guides, Parish Council, Police, health, churches etc. I attend around five meetings a year of this group.

**Pembury Primary School** – I meet quarterly with both the Head Teacher and the Chair of Governors, and am always available to assist with school problems and issues, as well as attending assemblies and visiting during Local Democracy Week and Reading Festival.

**Sherwood Park Primary School** – I hold a surgery at the "Little Foresters" Children's Centre on the same site, and visit the school regularly. Last year I became a Community Governor and take an active interest in the school.

**St Barnabas Primary School** – I make contact with the Head Teacher from time to time, and this year invited Years 5 and 6 to visit County Hall as part of Local Democracy Week. I receive regular e-mail updates on school issues, and brought a meeting of the Tunbridge Wells Local Board to the school hall this year. I also attended the school play.

**St Barnabas Church** – Next to the school is St Barnabas Church, and I have become a member of the St Barnabas Community Centre Steering Group, which is seeking to raise the funding to build a Community Centre. This year I launched the "Barna-Bus" preschool nursery by planting an apple tree with some of the children.

**Pembury Parish Council** – as County Councillor for Pembury, I am automatically a Co-opted Member of the Parish Council, and as such I attend regularly and input on matters of KCC service provision.

**Sherwood TN2 Trust** – Having been instrumental in getting the new Community Centre built (I was the original Chairman of the project group with local residents), I attend the meetings of the Trustees, and usually find time to drop in at weekends for a coffee and a chat.

**Community of Oak Road Estate (CORE)** – I attend meetings of this community action group whenever asked, and also find time to attend their events for local residents.

**Pepenbury** – Pepenbury is a charitable trust providing residential accommodation for adults with learning disabilities, as well as social enterprise facilities and day care. In summer 2009 I hope to launch a motorbike trials club from the Pepenbury site, which will engage local youth alongside Pepenbury residents.

### Section 3: Assisting Constituents

Please set out here how you contact your constituents, if you have made a contribution in advising and assisting constituents, and/or resolving problems in the delivery of KCC services:

**In Touch** – I write and produce regular “In Touch” newsletters for the wards of Pembury, Sherwood and St James. These are well received and have a consistent branding and perceived value among locals.

**Pembury Village News** – this is a quarterly, A5 full colour glossy magazine distributed by the Parish Council to every house in the village of Pembury. I take a regular page of “News from your County Councillor” editorial, which enables me to strengthen my personal profile as well as disseminating information on KCC matters to local residents.

**Surgeries** – I hold regular surgeries at Pembury Village Hall (jointly with Borough Councillors); at Little Forest Children’s Centre in Sherwood; and more recently I have begun to hold monthly surgeries at Elizabeth Garlick Court in St James’ Ward, which is a warden-assisted residential facility.

How did you recommend your £15,000 allocation be spent (£10k + £5k Tunbridge Wells Second Homes money)?

Recipient	Amount	Project
Sherwood Park Primary School	£ 500.00	Daily tooth-brushing project
Little Forest Children's Centre	£ 1,500.00	Play Bubble Project
Pembury Athletic Youth Football Club	£ 2,000.00	Pavilion fittings
Pembury Baptist Church	£ 500.00	inflatable fun at Fun Day
Pembury Baptist Church	£ 1,000.00	stage & PA at Fun Day
Glenda Ratcliffe - St Phillips Church	£ 806.00	Parenting Courses
Community of Oak Road Estate (CORE)	£ 1,500.00	Bouncy Castle purchase
Pembury Primary School	£ 800.00	Buddy Bench
Pembury Primary School	£ 2,000.00	Contribution to multi-sports pitch
TN2 Community Trust	£ 250.00	Football kit - balls & pumps
Pembury Networking Evening	£ 250.00	Contribution to costs of evening
Camden Road production?	£ 1,300.00	
Pembury Scouts and Guides	£ 1,398.00	Hall
- flooring for clubhouse areas	£ 416.00	Ladies
	£ 332.00	Mens
	£ 198.00	Disabled
	£ 250.00	Office
	<b>£ 15,000.00</b>	

How do you make it easier for constituents to contact you?

My website – [www.kevinlynes.com](http://www.kevinlynes.com) – presents my activities in my division, and has over the last year given me an excellent opportunity to experiment with online polls and e-petitions on various local issues.

I organize public meetings on local concerns – most recently on roads and pavements in St James' ward, and on a proposed withdrawal of bus services in Sherwood.

I have also for the past two years run a blog site – [www.kevinlynes.wordpress.com](http://www.kevinlynes.wordpress.com) – which attracts a large number of hits daily.

Surgeries – my various surgeries are mentioned above. In addition, I have recently tried for the first time a joint surgery with my Borough Council colleagues using the mobile Gateway sited in the car park of Tesco in Pembury, which went really well.

How else have you made a contribution?

Through regular speaking opportunities both within my constituency, as well as regionally and occasionally on national platforms, I take every opportunity to speak about the innovation, drive and success which typifies Kent County Council.

#### **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 each year	Nature of responsibility
Sherwood Park Primary School	3	5	Community Governor since March 2007
Pembury Parish Council	9	10	Co-opted member
TN2 Community Trust	5	10	Advisory Member
Pembury Community Partnership	5	5	KCC representative
County Councils Network	1	1	KCC representative on the CCN Executive
Local Government Association	3	3	Member of Safer Communities Board

## Section 5: Special Responsibilities

Please itemise here any Special Responsibility for which you receive SRA

Responsibility	Nature of your duties
<p><b>Cabinet Member for Kent Adult Social Services</b></p>	<p>Older People, Physical Disability, Learning Disability, In-house Provision, Supporting People, TeleHealth, Gypsies and Travellers, Occupational Therapy, Commissioning and Contracting, Day Services, Supported Employment.</p>
<p><b>Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economic Development</b></p>	<p>In September 2008 the Leader asked me to change portfolios, taking over the Regeneration and Economic Development role.</p> <p>I greatly enjoy this new challenge, which has involved forging a strong relationship with the new management team, and taking over several external directorships.</p> <p>My first challenge was to work alongside the Leader, Cabinet colleagues and senior officers to rewrite and launch the Kent Regeneration Strategy, which was successfully done at the beginning of 2009. I have visited all the Borough and District councils and attended the Kent Partnership and various other partnerships to discuss the Framework, building relationships at the same time.</p> <p>I devised and launched the "Backing Kent Business" campaign to assist Kent businesses, and have formed a steering group with external partners to oversee delivery of this programme.</p> <p>More recently I have launched "Backing Kent People" as a package of measures to assist citizens in difficult circumstances.</p> <p>I attend various regeneration partnerships - Ashford's Future, Swale Forward, and Kent Thameside Delivery Partnership, of which I am Chairman. In this last case, I also sit on the main Thames Gateway Delivery Partnership.</p> <p>I have taken the deliberate decision to prioritise my responsibilities, and have made use of both Richard Long and Sarah Hohler to deputise for me on one or two boards, notably Visit Kent, the Rural Board, Produced in Kent and the Margate Renewal Partnership.</p> <p>I also present awards, launch events and give keynote speeches at numerous KCC conferences and seminars across the county, as well as speaking often at events held by our partner agencies, and in addition, have written articles in national local government media on various issues, and conducted numerous interviews in both local and national TV, radio and press.</p>

**Section 6: Learning & Development**

*Please set out in this box specific training courses which you have attended to further develop your role in the previous year*

The main learning and development opportunity for me over the last eighteen months has been my attendance on the Kent Leadership Programme, alongside a cohort of public and private sector colleagues. This course has proved to be immensely useful, looking at the specifics of leadership across various sectors.

**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:*

Surprisingly, my new Cabinet role has proved to take up even more time than my Social Services responsibility, although I am trying hard to manage my time efficiently.

However, my enthusiasm for public service has not diminished in the slightest, and I still feel extremely fortunate to have been elected to Kent County Council. It's both a pleasure and a honour to serve my constituents and the wider population of Kent.

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


**Signature of Member:**

**Date:**

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**Signature of Leader:**

**Date:**

	1/05/09
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