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Surrey County Council elections: Polling Day 2 May

Election Special

RICHARD SUPPORT SCOUTS

Richard Wilson, in his capacity as a borough Councillor, has been supporting the Byfleet Scouts in their quest to find a new home.



OPPOSING SHEER HOUSE

Richard Wilson has been very active supporting West Byfleet residents opposing the Sheer House planning application.



RICHARD WILSON FOR THE BYFLEETS

■ Richard Wilson has been Woking Borough Councillor for West Byfleet since 2007 and served as Portfolio Holder for Housing. A resident of West Byfleet, he is known as a Scout Leader, School Governor and community figure — now he wants to get results for residents in Byfleet too.

Richard is married to Camilla and has lived continuously in West Byfleet since 1971. They have two children, both of whom are at Heathside School.

An Associate Governor at West Byfleet Infant and Junior School and a Parent Governor at Heathside School, Richard has a particular interest in education and learning.

For the past six years, he has served on the Joint Local Committee with Surrey County Councillors and would like to use his knowledge gained there to get residents' views put first.



Richard Wilson is already a well-known figure in West Byfleet with a track record of getting things done. Now he would like to help Byfleet residents too.

WHAT HAS YOUR COUNTY COUNCIL DONE FOR YOU?

- 1
- **£200million of savings** in the past four years
- 2
- **Identified** a further £80m in savings to be made between now and 2016
- 3
- **Awarded Council of the Year** for this efficiency by Improvement and Efficiency South East
- 4

Funding of £261m for 12,000 new school places and injecting £10m to boost school standards

- 5
- **Committed £100m extra to our highways** to help reduce potholes
 and get the local economy moving
- 6
- Agreed £11m for adult social care to allow people with dementia to stay in their homes longer.
- 7
- **Created 500 Surrey apprenticeships** to give young people a better start in the jobs market

The Council believes residents will understand and support its decision to **fund and deliver** these important services.

LET'S PROTECT THE GREEN BELT

■ At a well-attended public meeting on the planning application for a traveller site in Murrays Lane, Richard has said he will support residents.

During the meeting, he spoke strongly in favour of protecting the Green Belt from inappropriate development and was supported in his view by Woking MP Jonathan Lord.



POSITIVE ABOUT BYFLEET LIBRARY

■ Richard is delighted that the volunteer-run library in Byfleet is proving such a great success thanks to the dedication of local people.

While the change may not have been welcomed initially by some, Richard has visited the library many times and views it as a huge community success.

"I think Byfleet Library is a shining example of what communities can achieve," he said. "I am disappointed that it continues to be used as a political football by some people but I know that it will go from strength to strength and if elected, I will do everything I can to support it and its volunteers."

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SURREY VOTED BEST COUNCIL

■ Surrey County Council has been crowned Local Authority of the Year for its programme of Public Value Reviews that found nearly £280million savings and improved services.

The Conservative-led authority also won a Silver Award for supporting older and vulnerable people. Leader **David Hodge** said: "It is fantastic to say that we have been recognised as the best council and shows that by working together we are stronger and much better placed to provide first-class, efficient services to local people."

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

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Name

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HOW CAN YOU HELP US?

- ☐ Display a poster at election time
- □ Deliver leaflets
- ☐ Help with stuffing envelopes☐ Attend social events
- Join the local Party
- □ Vote by post□ Stand for Council

Bottom: Richard is an Associate Governor at

West Byfleet Infant School

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RICHARD SUPPORTS INVESTMENT IN EDUCATION

■ An active school governor, Richard is delighted that Conservative-controlled Surrey County Council has made education a priority over the past four years. With an enormous increase in the birth rate across the county — particularly in Woking — the authority has detailed plans to add another 12,000 school places over the next five years and has increased its school building budget by £45m to £261m.

This will ease pressure on the demand for places at the most popular schools in the division. Richard is also pleased that the Council has just announced an extra £10m to boost standards in schools across Surrey, aiming to make all schools 'outstanding' or 'good' by 2017.

Richard said: "I want all children in the division to attend the best schools and achieve the best results they possibly can. Some local schools are already judged to be 'outstanding' and I fully support the administration's focus on education and the extra money that is going into it to improve school standards generally.

"It is so vital to give our children the best possible start in life through a good education, and if I'm elected I will make sure that these efforts are continued."

COUNTY BOOSTS APPRENTICESHIPS

■ Surrey County Council is creating 500 new apprenticeships in 2013/14 to give young people a boost in the jobs market.

The Conservative-led Council is funding these opportunities and believes they will eventually save money by reducing the need for Jobseekers' benefits and allow more young people to contribute to the local economy.



SURREY GETS CONNECTED

■ A deal with BT to provide superfast broadband will make Surrey the best connected county in the UK and could boost our economy by almost £30m a year.

Conservatives at Surrey County Council signed a contract to invest £20m with BT to create a county -wide high-speed network to help firms to do business online and ensure communities are not left behind. It will mean connection speeds of up to 80Mbps will be available with BT.