

Statement

- MS LIZ GREEN

1. My name is Liz green and I am a Head of Policy and Community Services at North Hertfordshire District Council.
2. I have known Cllr Leal-Bennett since his election to the authority in May 2012.
3. As Head of Policy and Community Services I have attended pre-agenda meetings with Cllr Leal-Bennett both in his capacity as Chair of Hitchin Area Committee and other meetings concerning various grants, the charring arrangements/conduct of the Authority's Area Committees and the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee, of which he is also a member.
4. I have also attended many Hitchin Area Committees which he has chaired during the past four years.
5. In my dealings with Cllr Leal-Bennett I have found him to be keen to engage with the various communities living in Hitchin, and that he will question when he does not believe a grant application (for which my team are responsible) is sound or sufficiently 'examined' prior to being submitted to the area committee for decision. He has expressed frustration in regard to the time the Council takes in making decisions, and in progressing larger, capital projects; for the latter he has requested more regular updates to the area committee, although I cannot comment further on the individual project issues as they have not been areas which my service directly delivers.

E Green

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