

## PARISH COUNCILLOR JOHN PERRY

### WRITTEN STATEMENT

Staplehurst Parish Council and the Borough Ward cover exactly the same area and I am honoured to have been elected to Staplehurst Parish Council as well as being one of the two Councillors elected to represent Staplehurst at Maidstone Borough Council.

I have an honours degree in Classics and an MBA from one of the UK's leading business schools; and I am a Chartered Certified Accountant. I have extensive experience in the private sector and in government organisations. I have represented the UK at United Nations Committees and Panels and in Europe at the European Commission and other European Institutions. As Vice-Chairman I am an ex-officio member of all committees and groups but, I take a particular interest in the Finance and Strategy Group where I can make good use of my experience. I also liaise with our Internal Auditor to ensure we are meeting our audit requirements and we have maintained our internal controls. I was also actively involved in developing our Neighbourhood Plan and challenged the housing targets adopted by Maidstone Borough Council. This remains an issue and I am a Member of the Neighbourhood Plan Review Group and will continue to challenge the housing targets if necessary.

As a Maidstone Borough Councillor, I am currently Opposition Leader. I am also Vice-Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee and a Member of the Planning Committee. I continue to support the work of the Parish Councils and as the Borough's Parish Champion I work closely with the Kent Association of Local Councils (KALC).