

City & County of Swansea - Councillor's Annual Report 2013-2014

This Councillor's Annual Report outlines their activities over the year ending **7/05/14**. It is provided for the information of all constituents and for no other purpose. The views expressed in this report are those of the Councillor and do not necessarily reflect the views of the City and County of Swansea.

Councillor: Mike Day	Electoral Division: Sketty
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Section 1: Constituency activities

Surgeries were held twice a month at the Community Centre and the Library. In addition we were present at the Monthly Produce Market in Sketty. As there are five councillors we had a rota for making ourselves available at these events. We regularly attended PACT meetings and in most cases chaired those meetings. I have attended meetings of the Sketty Residents' Association and the Blackpill, Derwen Fawr and Mayals Residents Association. As Sketty Park is a Communities First area, along with the other Sketty Councillors, I represented the ward on groups seeking to develop the actions to support the local community. We supported the residents of Warwick Road in their efforts to reduce the impact of the Clyne Civic Amenity site on their daily lives.

There have been meetings about general provision of parks and playing facilities in Sketty resulting in setting up the Friends of Parry's Park. I attended meetings about the refurbishment of Clyne Court flats in Sketty. There have been a large number of individual constituents (in excess of 40) helped with problems including parking problems, planning issues, overhanging and dangerous trees and branches, personal issues, housing problems, education advice and guidance and employment and benefits challenges. By far the largest group of enquiries has been on planning issues.

The most concerning issue has been the draconian application of criteria for issue of disabled parking permits, where at least one worthy case has been denied a Blue Badge. I also reported and followed up on highways defects and issues, such as the non-working of street lights, potholes and non-working of Speed Indicator Display signs.

Section 2: Councillor attendance at selected Council body meetings

Attendance at Council body meetings is only one of the important elements of a Councillor's duties. Councillors are also active by holding surgeries, attending meetings and dealing with general electoral division enquiries.

Council	13	/	15	87	%
Development Management & Control Committee	3	/	8	38	%
Scrutiny Programme Committee	13	/	15	87	%
Student Liaison Forum	0	/	3	0	%
OVERALL	29	/	41	71	%

Attendance % based on Committee membership shown above.

As a result of my Chairing the Scrutiny Programme Committee, I am involved in attending other meetings such as pre-meetings and discussions with officers on developments, which are not reflected in the formal attendance figures for official meetings. Please note that my attendance figures for the Scrutiny Programme Committee's meetings are affected when they relate to Special meetings of the Gypsy / Traveller issue. As such I have had to declare a personal and prejudicial interest and am not permitted to attend them.

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Section 3: Councillors role and responsibilities

I was a Local Authority Governor at Olchfa Comprehensive and Sketty Primary, and for a short time, Hendrefoilan Primary Schools. I have been a member of Gower College Swansea's Governing Board, as a Community representative. I have chaired the Building Enterprise Education in Swansea (BEES) group which seeks to encourage the development of enterprise skills among children and young people aged 5 to 25 in the Swansea Bay region. I was and still am a member of the Careers Wales West Advisory Board.

I was nominated by the WLGA to represent all Welsh Councillors on the Welsh Government's Public Services Scrutiny Reference Panel which involves seeking ways to improve the performance and practice of scrutiny activities in all public sector bodies in Wales. I was also a member of the Welsh Government's Youth Entrepreneurship Strategy (YES) Plan Action Panel advising on how the YES could be put into effect.

Section 4: Initiatives and Special activities

I worked with others to set up a Friends of DeLa Beche Park whose aim was to raise funds to refurbish the tennis courts which had fallen into disrepair. This involved weekly meetings since January. In addition I have worked with others to set up a Friends of Parry's Park group which is seeking to bring back this green space into beneficial use.

Section 5: Learning and Development

I have undertaken the following training:

25/10/2013 - Corporate Parenting
17/10/2013 - Emotional Intelligence
14/10/2013 - Pre Decision Making

In addition to the formal training undertaken, I also attended Scrutiny related workshops provided internally on, for example, work planning for the Committee, as well as external programmes, such as the National Scrutiny Conference.

Section 6: Other activities and issues

I was and continue to be a Leader and Trustee of Parklands Church, a Patron of St Madoc Youth Camp on Gower and a member of the Council of Reference for Gweini, a voluntary organisation seeking to encourage and promote the voluntary activities of churches in Wales.

Section 7: Councillors Remuneration

Senior Salary - £21,910 per annum (Chair of Scrutiny Programme Committee).

Councillors travel and subsistence claim forms can be viewed here:

<http://democracy.swansea.gov.uk/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=13266&path=0&LLL=0>

Councillors annual expenses and allowances can be viewed here:

<http://democracy.swansea.gov.uk/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=13284&path=0&LLL=0>

Date:	29.05.14
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