

## City & County of Swansea - Councillor's Annual Report 2015-2016

This Councillor's Annual Report outlines their activities over the year ending **18 May 2016**. 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.

<b>Councillor:</b> Bob Clay	<b>Electoral Division:</b> Llansamlet
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<b>Senior Salary Position:</b>	Chair of Communities Cabinet Advisory Committee
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### Section 1: Constituency activities

All Llansamlet councillors held regular surgeries (every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday, 5-6 pm at Birchgrove Community Centre, Lon Gwesyn, and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday, 10.30-11.30 am at Trallwn Community Centre, Bethel Road. I also attended PACT and Community Association meetings.

### 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.*

Attendance % based on Committee membership shown below:

Audit Committee	7	/	9	78	%
Communites Cabinet Advisory Committee	11	/	13	85	%
Council	14	/	18	78	%
Democratic Services Committee	3	/	4	75	%
LA Governor Panel	2	/	4	50	%
Scrutiny Programme Committee	3	/	7	43	%
<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>/</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Scrutiny Meeting:</b>					
Transformation of Adult Social Services Scrutiny Panel	4	/	6	67	%
<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>/</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>%</b>

### Section 3: Councillors role and responsibilities

Governor of Birchgrove Junior School.

Chair of the Communities Cabinet Advisory Committee and during the past year we have dealt with a range of topics relating to Housing, Energy, Poverty and new services.

The Special Scrutiny Committee that examined the process for identifying Gypsy Traveller sites continued its work during the year and I spent significant time in hearing evidence and considering its implications.

Together with colleagues my work on the Audit Committee contributed to some valuable improvements to the Council's financial affairs.

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### **Section 4: Initiatives and Special activities**

The consequences of traffic congestion and inappropriate car parking continued to cause serious problems in various areas of the ward. The situation affecting Tregof has been particularly difficult and there was no solution by the end of this year.

Great progress was made in resolving the issues on the Brynheulog Estate. After many delays the Lighting was finally restored and Upgraded on Ynysallen Road.

The re-build of Lon Las School finally got under way after a series of worrying and time-consuming delays.

As Deputy Cabinet Member supporting the New Homes programme I spent a great deal of time on the process that has led to Swansea's first new council houses for decades. This is creating jobs and the houses will be built to the highest standards of energy efficiency.

I'm proud to have moved the successful motion to full Council that started to create a planning policy that enabled us to stop all fracking related activities within our area.

### **Section 5: Learning and Development**

I attended the following training session:

25/11/2015 - Introduction to Community Engagement

During the year I have attended numerous briefings and seminar on various aspects of Council services. I have also invested a very significant part of my time to receiving expert advice on forward looking local energy strategies and a range of matters relating to house building.

I have continued my interest in changes to Adult Social Care with particular reference to the way in which housing policy contributes to the 'prevention agenda' and the eradication of fuel poverty.

### **Section 6: Other activities and issues**

Along with ward colleagues I have tried to engage the community in taking over important but non-essential assets and services. I have been delighted with the progress made by Friends of Heol Las Park and Friends of Swansea Vale Nature Reserve.

The spending reductions that the Council has been forced to adopt are causing increasing frustration with constituents who have expectations that they believe should be met.

I have been particularly interested in income generation from the 'commercialisation of Council services' and have contributed a number of proposals. Far from this being 'privatisation', it is broadly characterised as enabling a public body – the Council – to generate income for essential services by offering some of our services to commercial clients.

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### Section 7: Councillors Remuneration

Senior Salary: £22,000

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>

<b>Date:</b>	27.05.2016
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