

City & County of Swansea - Councillor's Annual Report 2016-2017

This Councillor's Annual Report outlines their activities over the year ending **24 May 2017**. 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: Erika Kirchner	Electoral Division: Castle Ward
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Senior Salary Position: Chair of Corporate Services Cabinet Advisory Committee

Section 1: Constituency activity

This is the most important aspect of our work. During the year I have visited many residents to listen to their concerns. During 2016-2017 we held weekly advise Saturday surgeries in the Marina and Greenhill. For the coming year we plan to do more street surgeries. I regularly took calls from the Ward and tried to resolve any issues they had. Many were housing concerns, road markings, pot holes, neighbourhood disputes, bus routes, fly tipping, noise pollution, refuge and other issues such as planning. I attended Residents meetings which are each held every month or bi-monthly. I also worked alongside the police and the PACT I am Chair of Terrace Road Junior School and St. Helen's junior school whose Head has won Wales Head of Year Award.

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.

Corporate Parenting Board	4	/	6	66.67	%
Corporate Services Cabinet Advisory Committee	8	/	10	80.00	%
Council	14	/	16	87.50	%
Democratic Services Committee	2	/	3	66.67	%
Planning Committee	8	/	12	66.67	%
Prevention and Social Care Reform Cabinet Advisory	4	/	7	57.14	%
Swansea Student Liaison Forum	1	/	1	100.00	%
Overall	41	/	55	74.55	%
Scrutiny Meetings:					
Child & Family Services	5	/	12	41.67	%
Corporate Culture	1	/	1	100.00	%
Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services	0	/	1	0.00	%
Overall	6	/	14	42.86	%

Section 3: Councillors role and responsibilities:

Chair of Corporate Services.

This advisory committee has developed to aid Cabinet Members fulfil their duties to make best policy for the residents, employees and tourists who visit our City, that Swansea is the place to be. 2017 saw a change in the title and meaning of the group to: Policy Development and Delivery Committees. (PDDC). The committee deals with many internal practices and performance. Procurement laws and bylaws, eliminating sickness levels across the County, ensuring our staff are well cared for during illness are some of the issues we are driving forward. We looked at the Gender Gap in pay and the opportunities female staff have to climb the ladder, again we are leading the way. We have encouraged and applauded the work of our dedicated volunteers who have won many prestigious awards for their free in-

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house counselling service provide to all members of staff on all levels. It is succeeding in keeping staff in work whilst going through difficult times.

Champion against Domestic Abuse

A key part of my work is working with multi-agencies who work with victims of Domestic Abuse. Together we organise International Women's Day and White Ribbon Day to continue to bring awareness of the issue. We work very closely with the police, schools, the police, businesses and communities. The stats still indicate that 2/3 women are murdered every week. We continue to work tirelessly to reduce these incidents.

Champion of Diversity

Our city is a multicultural City. We are very proud to work alongside our different cultures. I am involved with Racial Equality. Before we consider a policy we work with ethnic minorities groups to ensure we develop good policy relating to all. Whilst some charity organisations have seen cuts to their organisation, we will partner them with our support, to help services continue. It is imperative to say that **diversity is not just about colour and race**. It is about every individual who has a different way of being. We give support to our Carers and Young Carers, to all dis abled friends experiencing some difficulties as well as all the ethnic minority Cultures. We always check over any gaps we may miss to ensure we as councillors do not miss anyone who needs some support.

Section 4: Initiatives and Special activities

Our Ward has clusters of the worse deprivation in Wales. We are all working towards initiatives to expel loneliness and isolation. And, are partnering external funders to help these issues. North Hill residents with Bryn-y-don Park entered into the carnival spirit with their dressed up truck. All good fun!

Section 5: Learning and Development

This section covers the special knowledge or skills that you bring to the role of Councillor. For example, you may be a specialist planner or have particular experience of one facet of Council activities. Please indicate if there is anything special you bring to the role or there is any special training that you have received that helps you in your role.

16/05/2017 - Local Government Finance

17/03/2017 - Attachment Awareness Training

Section 6: Other activities and issues

We fought last year to re-establish a local bus route alongside residents, and were successful. We have asked officers to help St. Phillips Community Centre be cleaned up and were successful with it being repainted. Also supported the two primary schools where I sit to finances to support their projects. I work with the Mayhill, North Hill Growing Garden, again which is very happily supported by residents. We have had picnics and teas by the pond that have been well supported with residents and children and the bat nights have seen many more residents join in for the walks we have taken up on the hill. And also supported the community centres and bowls pavilion with their projects.

Section 7: Councillors Remuneration

Senior Salary: £22,000 - Chair of Corporate Services Cabinet Advisory 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:

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