

## City & County of Swansea - Councillor's Annual Report 2014-2015

This Councillor's Annual Report outlines their activities over the year ending **8 May 2015**. 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> Lynda James	<b>Electoral Division:</b> Pennard
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### Section 1: Constituency activities

**General constituency issues**, I dealt with many local problems as pot holes, sink holes, rubbish collections and flooding etc. I provided advice and support on a number of individual issues and passed on referrals of a wide range of topics. I am always available at home, by telephone or email and will visit constituents at their homes if it is more convenient for them.

**Monthly surgeries** – I held two surgeries each month at Pennard Library and Pennard Produce Market. (The dates and times are now on the second Saturday and Sunday of each month between 10.30 am– 12.00 pm).

**PACT meetings** – I regularly attended the PACT meeting which are organised by Pennard Neighbourhood Watch with the local Police Officer and PSO, as well as the regular Pennard and Kittle Neighbourhood Watch meetings. The PACT meetings have included specific issues such as the local bus services, speeding, roaming cattle to which relevant people have been invited.

**Newsletters** – I have produced regular E- newsletters to all constituents covering topics relevant to the Pennard Ward and which I believe would be of interest.

**Planning** – I have reviewed all planning applications for the ward and visited the majority of the sites. Called in contentious applications to be heard by committee and contacted enforcement officers when considered necessary.

**Pennard Community Council** - I attended the majority of the community council meetings and taken forward issues raised in that forum. As a member of the community council I have taken an active lead in many of the community projects such as the rebuilding of the playing field pavilion.

### 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:

Area 2 Development Control Committee	7	/	8	88	%
Audit Committee	10	/	10	100	%
Council	15	/	17	88	%
Development Management & Control Committee	6	/	7	86	%
OVERALL	38	/	42	90	%

Also see attendance at Scrutiny meetings in section 3 below.

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### Section 3: Councillors role and responsibilities

Member of the following Scrutiny Meetings:

Streetscene Scrutiny Inquiry Panel	3	3	100	%
Social Care at Home Scrutiny Inquiry Panel	6	7	86	%
Service Improvement & Finance Scrutiny Performance Panel	12	15	80	%
Planning Services Scrutiny Working Group	2	2	100	%
School Governance (pre-inquiry)	1	1	100	%
Affordable Housing Scrutiny Inquiry Panel	1	1	100	%
Public Transport Scrutiny Inquiry Panel	1	1	100	%
OVERALL	26	30	87	%

### Section 4: Initiatives and Special activities

**Pennard Library** - Arranged public meetings to fight against the closure of Pennard Library and to maintain the excellent librarian-led service. Worked with the Friends of Pennard Library (FoPL), to design and gain funding to rebuild the present library buildings to make them sustainable for the future and to acquire a lease for the land from Swansea Council.

**Other public issues** - Arranged various public meetings: **1.** with Pennard Community Council to raise the profile of the Local Development Plan as it pertains to Pennard. **2.** with Post Office Counters to discuss the changes to the village post office. **3.** also a public meeting to discuss the proposed changes to Local Government.

### Section 5: Learning and Development

I attended the following training sessions:

29/01/2015 - Making Scrutiny More Effective

09/12/2014 - Defamation

25/11/2014 - Making the best use of Performance Information

31/10/2014 - Safeguarding

14/08/2014 - How to get the most out of your tablet / smart phone

05/08/2014 - Public Engagement

03/07/2014 - Freedom of Information Training

03/07/2014 - Data Protection (Including role as Data Controller) Training

### Section 6: Other activities and issues

I voted on all issues according to my conscience in balance with the needs of Pennard constituents particularly, and Swansea in general. Governor at both Pennard Primary and Bishopston Comprehensive schools. Member of Pennard Community Council; Pennard Neighbourhood Watch; Trustee of Pennard Community Charity; Member of Friends of Pennard library; Pennard Parish Hall committee and Pennard Carnival Committee.

### Section 7: Councillors Remuneration

Basic Salary - £13,300

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:** 19.05.15