

# 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> Lynda James	<b>Electoral Division:</b> Pennard
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## Section 1: Constituency activities

**General constituency issues** - I have dealt with many local problems such as bus services, pot holes, sink holes, rubbish collections, litter and flooding etc. I also 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 currently on the second Saturday and Sunday of each month between 10.30 am – 12.00 pm].

**Planning** – I have reviewed all planning applications for the ward and visited the majority of the sites. I “called in” contentious applications to go to committee and contacted enforcement officers when considered necessary.

## 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	%
Council	14	/	18	78	%
<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>/</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>%</b>

### Scrutiny Meetings

Service Improvement & Finance Scrutiny Performance Panel	9	/	11	82	%
School Governance	8	/	8	100	%
Streetscene Scrutiny Inquiry Panel	1	/	1	100	%
Tackling Poverty Scrutiny Working Group	1	/	1	100	%
Tree Preservation Scrutiny Working Group	1	/	1	100	%
Welsh Housing Quality Standard Scrutiny Working Group	1	/	1	100	%
<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>/</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>%</b>

## Section 3: Councillors role and responsibilities

I was a member of several Scrutiny Inquiry and Working Groups (as outlined above in section 2).

## Section 4: Initiatives and Special activities

**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

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(FoPL), to design and gain funding to rebuild the present library buildings and make it sustainable for the future. Also to acquire a lease for the land from Swansea Council.

**School Governor** - I took an active part in both Pennard Primary School and Bishopston Comprehensive as a school governor. I promoted a speed awareness campaign in the villages especially around the primary school. This was in conjunction with the school council.

**LDP** One of the most significant concerns I continued to be involved with was the Local Development Plan (LDP) and its potential impact on our community. I held a well-attended public meeting to update residents on the LDP process.

### Section 5: Learning and Development

I undertook the following training:

13/04/2016 - S.106 Planning Agreements / Obligations

25/02/2016 - Planning Committee Training - Rights of Way

13/11/2015 – Supporting Looked After Children in our Schools (Governor Training)

09/11/2015 – Child Protection (Governor Training)

05/11/2015 - Introduction to Community Engagement

29/10/2015 - United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) Training

22/10/2015 – Special Educational Needs (Governor Training)

16/07/2015 - Anti-Slavery & Human Trafficking Awareness

### Section 6: Other activities and issues

I produced regular non-political Newsletters to all constituents covering topics relevant to the Pennard Ward and which I believe would be of interest. I have always voted according to my conscience and what I believe is the best for my constituents.

**PACT meetings** – I attended the Police and Communities Together (PACT) meetings organised by Pennard Neighbourhood Watch with the local Police Officer and Police Community Support Officer (PCSO), 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, pedestrian crossings and roaming cattle, to which relevant people have been invited.

**Pennard Community Council** - I have attended the majority of the community council meetings and taken forward issues raised in that forum. As a member of the community council I took an active lead in many of the community projects and run the monthly Produce and Craft Market for the council.

### 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>

<b>Date:</b>	25.04.2016
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