

## 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> Mark Thomas	<b>Electoral Division:</b> Penclawdd
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<b>Senior Salary Position:</b>	Cabinet Member for Environment & Transportation – up to 1 September 2015 only
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### Section 1: Constituency activities

During the 2015-2016 municipal year, monthly surgeries were held Penclawdd and Llanmorlais.

Work continued with NRW, to iron out the remaining issues as they reached the completion of the new sea defences in Penclawdd.

A new tarmac drive was laid at the entrance to St Gwynour's Church.

Close working relationships resulted in the successful renovation of the Railway Inn.

There was a continuation of the very popular planting of wild flowers, with even more areas being included than in previous years.

### 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 :

Cabinet	4 / 4	100	%
Corporate Services Cabinet Advisory Committee	5 / 7	71	%
Council	16 / 18	89	%
Development Cabinet Advisory Committee	0 / 1	0	%
External Funding Panel	1 / 1	100	%
Joint Consultative Committee	2 / 5	40	%
Pension Fund Committee	1 / 4	25	%
Planning Committee	6 / 9	67	%
<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>35 / 49</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>%</b>

### Section 3: Councillors role and responsibilities

For the first part of the year, my role included Cabinet Member for Environment and Transportation. Since October 2015, my role reverted back to 'back bench' politician. During this time I have remained as Governor of Penclawdd Primary School.

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### Section 4: Initiatives and Special activities

Duties undertaken as part of the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transportation role included setting budgets, attending workshops examining possible service restructures in accordance with the 'Sustainable Swansea Fit for the Future' initiative.

### Section 5: Learning and Development

04/05/2016 - Development Economics & Financial Viability Training  
19/04/2016 - S.106 Planning Agreements / Obligations  
18/04/2016 - Guidance on Equality & Human Rights Impact Assessment & Scrutinising Changes to Community Services  
12/04/2016 - Residential Design Guide Refresher Training  
08/03/2016 - Wales Planning Act - Development Management Procedures  
25/02/2016 - Planning Committee Training - Rights of Way  
25/02/2016 - Safeguarding Vulnerable People  
09/12/2015 - Members Responsibility to Gypsy & Traveller Communities under the new Housing & Equality Acts  
12/10/2015 - The Determination of Applications for Town or Village Green Status  
16/07/2015 - Recruitment and Selection Training

The various roles undertaken as part of my Councillor role have always required training, which is a continuous process. My role as Councillor requires me to develop and learn so that I may successfully represent constituents within my ward and the whole of the Swansea area.

### Section 6: Other activities and issues

In addition to all of the statutory work undertaken as a Councillor, i.e. council meetings, council bodies, school governor responsibilities, queries are continually received from constituents via telephone calls, emails and visits to my monthly surgeries. The type of issues dealt with range from repairing pot holes, grass and hedge cutting, speeding traffic and street lighting.

### Section 7: Councillors Remuneration

Senior Salary – £32,000 - Cabinet Member for Environment & Transportation – up to 1 September 2015  
Basic Salary: £13,300 from 1 September 2015

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>	10/05/2016
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