
City & County of Swansea

Councillor's Annual Report 2012-2013

This is the report by the Councillor below concerning their activities over the **year ending 8 May 2013**. 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: William Evans

Electoral Division: Kingsbridge

Cabinet Member for Learning and Skills

Section 1: Constituency activities

I held monthly advice surgeries on Saturdays between 11.30 am and 12.30 pm (Minimum) at Garden Village AFC Clubhouse. I also regularly attended the local PACT meetings and where able addressed any complaints or queries in a timely manner.

As a member and past Mayor of Llchwyr Town Council I regularly attended monthly meetings. Minutes of these meetings are available on the Council website at www.llchwyr-town-council.gov.uk. The Town Council serves and supports the residents of Kingsbridge and Loughor Wards by supplementing some of the services provided by the County Council. For example recreation facilities at The Welfare Hall, Woodlands Road, hanging basket displays, Christmas Lantern Parade & fireworks display in conjunction with Gorseinon Town Council, awarding financial grants to worthy causes in the Llchwyr area, providing community seats.

I compiled and delivered a newsletter to my constituents, based on topics which I considered my constituency would like information on. I received a considerable number of telephone calls from residents seeking advice and assistance on a range of personal issues and I was prepared to listen to their concerns and offer appropriate advice and support. I regularly walked around my Ward and reported defects such as pot-holes, unlit street lamps located in residential areas, damaged road signs and fly-tipping.

I visited the sites of all Planning Applications which affected the Kingsbridge Ward and I regularly liaised with the local Police Neighbourhood team and reported complaints I received from local residents such as, excessive motor vehicle speed, indiscriminate parking, litter and dog fouling.

I informed Council enforcement Officers of all complaints received regarding breaches of Traffic Regulation Orders, such as illegal parking (Yellow Line offences) and requested their attendance where 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.

Area 2 Development Control Committee	9 / 11	82 %
Cabinet	14 / 15	93 %
Community / Town Councils Forum	4 / 4	100 %
Council	15 / 16	94 %
Development Management & Control Committee	6 / 7	86 %
Student Liaison Forum	2 / 3	67 %
Trustees Panel	4 / 5	80 %
OVERALL	54 / 61	89 %

Attendance % based on Committee membership shown above.

Section 3: Councillors role and responsibilities

My Cabinet Member portfolio included Learning and Skills, Lifelong Learning, Employment Training and work-based learning, for which I had and still have strategic responsibility. I was and remain the designated lead member and champion for Children and Young People as required by The Children's Act, 2004. An important part of my work included visits to the 104 Schools across the Authority.

I sit on the following Committees not listed in 2 above.

1. Chairman of the Children and Young People Board. (Multi Agency).
2. Local Service Board.
3. Swansea Learning Partnership Steering Group.
4. Chairperson of the Quality in Education 2020 Steering Group (Manages the delivery of the 21st Century Schools Programme).
5. Welsh Joint Education Board.
6. Swansea Association of Governing Bodies.
7. Education Budget Forum.
8. RHAG (Welsh Medium Education Pressure Group)
9. The Regional Education Consortium Board. (SWAMWAC) School Improvement.

Outside Bodies. (2012-2013)

1. Student Advisory Council on Religious Education.
2. Trustee Director Gorseinon Development Trust.
3. School Governor at Tre-Uchaf Primary School, Loughor.
4. School Governor at Pontybrenin Primary School, Kingsbridge.
5. Pontybrenin Labour Ward.

Section 4: Initiatives and Special activities

I actively engaged with my constituents in raising awareness to the new Candidate Sites and Local Development Plan procedures. 11 potential Housing Development sites were registered for the Garden Village area and consequently I sent over a thousand letters to local residents explaining this very important Planning process and methods of responses. A Public Meeting was held and well attended by constituents.

As part of the Cabinet team I was and continue to be extremely involved in delivering successful outcomes to our Labour Manifesto Commitments of May, 2012. Delivering high quality education for our Children and young people and tackling poverty are two of the priorities contained in that document.

My involvement on behalf of residents at Heritage Park, Kingsbridge, resulted in the Council finally adopting the highways and street lighting on the Estate, after a period of approximately 12 years. Maintenance on the Estate is now the responsibility of the Local Authority.

Section 5: Learning and Development

Chairs and Vice Chairs	04.07.2012
Area Development Control	16.07.2012
Code of Conduct / Standards	28.08.2012
Equalities	27.09.2012
Corporate Parenting	15.10.2012
Good Decision making, Bias, pre-determination and rules of natural justice	29.11.2012
Interests, Gifts and Hospitality	29.11.2012

Section 6: Other activities and issues

I was and am still actively involved in the Kingsbridge Cycle Link scheme from Garden Village to Gowerton. Design work is underway with option assessment and feasibility work being undertaken for the route across Stafford Common. The project secured funding through the Regional Transport Consortia from Welsh Government.

The removal of the Pedestrian Refuge at West Street near Maes yr Efail, Sheltered Accommodation has been completed. This followed a long campaign by Local residents to have it taken away on the grounds of road safety.

New signs were erected at Llys –y Brenin Playing fields, prohibiting entry by person(s) on horseback. Complaints had been received that horses were being taken onto the grassed area and causing damage.

Section 7: Councillors Remuneration

Remuneration for 2012-2013 = £31,900 (Senior Salary – Cabinet Member)

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: 02.01.2014