

City & County of Swansea - Councillor's Annual Report 2013-2014

This Councillor's Annual Report outlines their activities over the year ending **7 May 2014**. 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
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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 attend local Police Surgeries and where possible addressed any complaints or queries in a timely manner.

As a member and past Mayor of Llŵchwr Town Council, I regularly attended monthly meetings Minutes of these meetings are available on the Town Council website at www.llwchwrTownCouncil.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 collaboration with Gorseinon Town Council, awarding financial grants to worthy causes in the Llŵchwr area and 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 and e-mails 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 to the appropriate Council Department.

I visited the sites of all Planning Applications which affected the Kingsbridge Ward and called 'Site' visits where necessary. I regularly liaised with the local Police Neighbourhood team based at Gorseinon and referred complaints from local residents such as, excessive motor vehicle speed, indiscriminate parking, motor vehicle obstruction, and litter. I also informed Council Enforcement Officers of complaints received in relation to breaches of Road Traffic Regulation Orders, such as illegal parking (Yellow Line offences) and requested their attendance, whenever 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	11	/	12	92	%
Cabinet	18	/	18	100	%
Community / Town Councils Forum	2	/	3	67	%
Council	15	/	15	100	%
Development Management & Control Committee	8	/	8	100	%
Student Liaison Forum	3	/	3	100	%
Trustees Panel	5	/	5	100	%
OVERALL	62	/	64	97	%

Attendance % based on Committee membership shown above.

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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 continue to have strategic responsibility. I continue to be the 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 throughout the Authority and implementing Policy decisions on Educational matters.

I sat 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. Quality in Education 2020 Steering Group. (Chairman)
5. Swansea Association of Governing Bodies.
6. Education Budget Forum.
7. RHAG (Welsh Medium Education Pressure Group)
8. The Regional Education Joint Committee (ERW)
9. Education Leadership Board.

Outside Bodies (2103-2014)

1. Student Advisory Council on Religious Education.
2. Trustee/Director Gorseinon Development Trust. (Chairman)
3. School Governor at Tre-Uchaf Primary School.
4. School Governor at Pontybrenin Primary School.
5. Pontybrenin Labour Ward.

Section 4: Initiatives and Special activities

I continue to engage with my constituents on the Local Development Preferred Strategy Plan and its potential impact on the Garden Village area in particular.

As part of the Cabinet team, I was and continue to be extremely involved in delivering successful outcomes on our Labour Manifesto commitments of May, 2012. Delivering high quality education/ensuring better life chances to all learners and tackling poverty are two of the priorities contained in that document.

Section 5: Learning and Development

I attended the following training sessions:

14/10/2013 - Pre Decision Making
Various dates – Leadership Academy

I also commenced a Development Programme for elected members in relation to Equalities – this spans the 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 municipal years.

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Section 6: Other activities and issues

Work is progressing on the Kingsbridge Cycle link from Garden Village to Gowerton, but this has been held up by Legal land issues involving the Somerset Trust.

The new Housing Development by Persimmon Homes at Loughor Road (86 houses) has now commenced. This site was previously allocated for 'Housing' in the Urban Development Plan prior to 2008. The likely date for completion of the site is 2014/15.

The Financial contribution to enable the new drop-off and pick-up point to the rear of Pontybrenin School has now been secured and it is anticipated that construction work will commence later this year.

Section 7: Councillors Remuneration

Senior Salary (Cabinet Member) - £31,900 per annum.

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:	29.05.14
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