

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

This Councillor's Annual Report outlines their activities over the year ending **18 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> William Evans	<b>Electoral Division:</b> Kingsbridge
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<b>Cabinet / Executive Portfolio</b>	Learning & Skills (Pre October 2014) Anti-Poverty (From October 2014)
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### Section 1: Constituency activities

I held monthly advice surgeries at Garden Village AFC Clubhouse on Saturdays between 11.30 am and 12.30pm (Minimum) and dealt with all referred issues/complaints, in a timely manner. I also attended local Police Surgeries and monthly Llŵchwr Town Council meetings, the minutes of which are available on the Council's website at [www.llwchwrtaowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.llwchwrtaowncouncil.gov.uk). The Town Council serves and supports the residents of Kingsbridge, Garden Village and Loughor Wards, by supplementing some of the services provided by the City and County of Swansea. For example, recreation facilities at the Welfare Hall, hanging baskets and wild flower displays, Christmas Lantern Parade and fireworks display in collaboration with Gorseinon Town Council, providing community seats and awarding financial grants to worthy causes in the Llŵchwr area.

I compiled and delivered a newsletter highlighting local issues and dealt with a considerable number of telephone calls and e-mails for constituents, seeking advice and assistance on a range of topics and offered my support where necessary.

I regularly walked around my Ward and reported defects such as pot-holes, unlit street lamps in residential areas, damaged street furniture and fly-tipping, to the appropriate Council Departments.

I visited the sites of all Planning Applications within the Kingsbridge Ward and called 'Site' visits, where necessary. I regularly liaised with the local Police Neighbourhood team based at Gorseinon and referred local residents complaints such as excessive motor vehicle speed, indiscriminate parking, motor vehicles causing an unnecessary obstruction of the highway, dog fouling and litter. I also informed Council's Enforcement Officers of complaints in relation to blatant abuse and breaches of Road Traffic Regulation Orders (Yellow Lines) and requested their attendance, when appropriate.

### 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:

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Area 2 Development Control Committee	7	/	8	88	%
Cabinet	15	/	15	100	%
Council	17	/	17	100	%
Development Management & Control Committee	7	/	7	100	%
External Funding Panel	3	/	3	100	%
Swansea Student Liaison Forum	3	/	3	100	%
Trustees Panel	3	/	3	100	%
OVERALL	55	/	56	98	%

### Section 3: Councillors role and responsibilities

Up until October, 2014 I held the Cabinet Member Portfolio for Learning and Skills throughout the City and since that date I have taken over a new role as Cabinet Member and Political lead for Anti-Poverty, which is one of the top corporate priorities for this Council. Tackling Poverty and its impact on individuals, together with educational attainment and economic growth, are vital in achieving our strategic aims and objectives.

I also sat on the following Committees not listed in 2 above:

Five Community First Steering Groups. (Chairman)  
Community First Programme Board. (Chairman)  
Community Cohesion Leadership Group  
Community Food and Growing Panel  
Penderry Providers Forum.

#### **Outside Bodies (2014-2015)**

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. Llŵchwr Town Council.

### Section 4: Initiatives and Special activities

I engaged with Planners and my constituents on the Local Development Preferred Strategy Plan and its huge potential impact on future traffic movements in the Kingsbridge and surroundings areas. Public Meetings were held to discuss the estimated 1600 new homes proposed to be built in the Garden Village and Llewitha areas, over the next 15 years.

Planning consent has now been approved for the construction of a drop-off and pick-up facility at the rear of YGG Pontybrenin Primary School, to alleviate indiscriminate parking and vehicular congestion at Loughor Road and Glyn Rhosyn during peak times of the day. The finances for this work have been secured and work is due to commence during July, in readiness for the new School term starting September, 2015.

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### Section 5: Learning and Development

I attended the following training sessions:

07/04/2015 - Human Trafficking & Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness

08/10/2014 - How to get the most out of your tablet / smart phone

25/03/2015 – Media Training & Interview Skills

07/04/2015 - Anti-Slavery and Human Trafficking Awareness Session (1/2 day)

### Section 6: Other activities and issues

I have been involved in the ongoing work in relation to the Kingsbridge Cycle link from Garden Village to Gowerton, which has been held up by Legal Land issues involving the 'Somerset Trust'.

Two new Housing Developments (220 dwellings) in Kingsbridge Ward are now underway at Kingsbridge Fields (Persimmon) and Horizon Walk (Barratts). Both these sites were allocated for Housing development in successive Urban Development Plans, dating back many years.

Money from my Councillor's Environmental Allowance was used to improve the walking surfaces at two local Public Rights of Way - Public Footpath 24 located in Garden Village and No.37 at the Old Roman Road. Large quantities of stone chippings have been laid and surface water drainage points cleaned out.

A new raised kerb was installed at the 'Bus Stop in Swansea Road, Garden Village outside Kingsbridge Cemetery, to facilitate wheelchair users and children in pushchairs, easier access onto the 'bus. Further work needs to be carried out to remove a small traffic island which currently prevents 'buses from gaining easy access into the marked 'bus stop area.

### Section 7: Councillors Remuneration

Senior Salary: £32,000 Cabinet Member for Anti-Poverty (Previously Learning & Skills)

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>	29.05.15.
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