

## City & County of Swansea - Councillor's Annual Report 2016-2017

This Councillor's Annual Report outlines their activities over the year ending **24 May 2017**. 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>	Anti-Poverty and Communities
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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 (1 Hour Minimum) and dealt with all referred issues/complaints, in a timely manner. I also attended local Police Surgeries and monthly Llchwyr Town Council meetings, the minutes of which are available on the Council's website at [www.llchwyr-town-council.gov.uk](http://www.llchwyr-town-council.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, recreational 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 Llchwyr area.

I compiled and delivered newsletters, 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. I gave my support and took 'Positive' action wherever necessary.

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

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 show below:

Cabinet	12	/	15	80	%
Community / Town Councils Forum	0	/	2	0	%
Council	15	/	16	94	%
External Funding Panel	5	/	8	63	%
Swansea Student Liaison Forum	1	/	1	100	%
Trustees Panel	3	/	3	100	%
<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>/</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>%</b>

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### **Section 3: Councillors role and responsibilities**

Cabinet Member for Anti-Poverty and Communities, which is the top over-arching corporate priority for the Council. Tackling Poverty and its impact on individuals, together with educational attainment, employment opportunities 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 Strategic Partners' Group. (Chairman)  
Community Cohesion Leadership Group (Chairman)  
Community Food and Growing Panel  
Penderry Provider's Forum.

#### ***Outside Bodies (2016-2017)***

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. Llchwyr Town Council.
6. Loughor Town Trust (Vice Chairman)

### **Section 4: Initiatives and Special activities**

I regularly engaged with Planners and my constituents on the Local Development Plan draft proposals and its huge potential impact on future traffic movements in the Kingsbridge and surroundings areas. Public Meetings were held to discuss this issue, together with highways infrastructure and the wider environmental impacts on the estimated 1600 new homes proposed to be built in the Garden Village and Llewitha areas, over the next 15 years.

A proposed Road Traffic Regulation Order in respect of a weight restriction of 7.5 ton for motor vehicles (Except for Access) at Swansea Road, Garden Village, was advertised and circulated for Public Consultation. It is anticipated to come into force at the end of 2017.

Maes Yr Efail Sheltered Accommodation has seen a major refurbishment programme with the fitting of new kitchens, bathrooms, tiling and electrical rewiring, under the Council's HRA Capital Scheme.

### **Section 5: Learning and Development**

I attended the following training sessions:

- 19/05/2017 - Good Decision Making, Bias, Pre-determination & Rules of Natural Justice  
23/05/2017 - Well Being of Future Generations Act

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### Section 6: Other activities and issues

I have been actively involved in the ongoing negotiations to develop the 1.4 km Kingsbridge Cycle link from Garden Village to Gowerton, which has been delayed by Legal Land issues involving the 'Somerset Trust'. Funding has now been secured and I am eagerly awaiting a final outcome.

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. A recent Planning Application for an additional 84 houses at Kingsbridge Fields was turned down by the Planning Committee following objections by local residents which I fully supported.

Money from my Councillor's Community Budget (previously Environmental Allowance) was utilised for the following projects:

1. Improvements to the walking surfaces at three local Public Rights of Way namely, Public Footpath 24 at Garden Village, Footpath 27 at Llewitha and No.37 the Old Roman Road, Kingsbridge. Large quantities of stone chippings have been laid and existing surface water drainage points cleaned out.
2. Purchase and Installation of an exterior Defibrillator at the Garden Village Soccer Club premises, located at Stafford Common.
3. Financial donations were made to the PTA at Pontybrenin English Primary School for IT equipment and to Kingsbridge Colts junior football club.
4. A Financial contribution was made to offset the total costs for footway improvements at Ystrad Einon and Loughor Road junction Maes y Coed, Kingsbridge.

### Section 7: Councillors Remuneration

Senior Salary: £32,000 Cabinet Member for Anti-Poverty & Communities (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>	14.10.2017
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