

City & County of Swansea - Councillor's Annual Report 2017-2018

This Councillor's Annual Report outlines activities over the year ending **23 May 2018**. 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:	Will Evans	Electoral Ward:	Kingsbridge
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Senior Salary Position:	Cabinet Member – Stronger 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 Llŵchwr Town Council meetings, the minutes of which are available on the Council's website at 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, 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 Llŵchwr 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 highway 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.

Councillors attendance can be [viewed here](#).

Section 3: Councillors role and responsibilities

Councillor responsibilities can be [viewed here](#).

City & County of Swansea - Councillor's Annual Report 2017-2018

Councillor appointments to outside bodies can be [viewed here](#).

Cabinet Member for Stronger Communities and Poverty which is an 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 the Council's strategic aims and objectives.

I also sat on the following Bodies:

Safer Swansea Partnership's Steering Group
Poverty partnership Forum
Community Cohesion Leadership Group (Chairman)
Penderry Provider's Forum
Student Advisory Council on Religious Education.
Trustee Director Gorseinon Development Trust. (Chairman)
School Governor at Tre-Uchaf Primary School.
School Governor at Pontybrenin Primary School.
Llwchwr Town Council.
Loughor Town Trust (Vice Chairman)

Section 4: Initiatives and Special activities

A huge amount of my time has been spent engaging 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. September 2017, I attended the Public Inquiry at the Canolfan Centre, held by the Planning Inspectorate for Wales in respect of an exchange of land application under Section 16 Commons Act, 2006. The Common Land in question was earmarked for the new entrance into the proposed Garden Village Housing Estate (Planning Application 2016/1478).

A also attended the formal Local Development Plan Independent Consultation Hearing Sessions held at the Civic Centre, Swansea and spoke against the proposals for large scale Housing Developments at Garden Village and Llewitha, on the grounds of inadequate roads infrastructure, traffic issues, lack of health facilities.

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, has been advertised and has gone out for Public Consultation. It is anticipated to come into force at the end of 2018.

Section 5: Learning and Development

Councillors training can be [viewed here](#).

Section 6: Other activities and issues

City & County of Swansea - Councillor's Annual Report 2017-2018

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 nearing completion 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. Details can be found on the Council's Website <http://www.swansea.gov.uk/councillorcommunitybudget>

1. 13/10/17 Footpath and lighting improvements at Ffordd Bryngwyn, Garden Village.
2. 02/02/18 Footpath and lighting improvements at Maes Dafydd, Kingsbridge.
3. 06/03/18 Donation to Garden Village AFC towards Ground Facilities.

Section 7: Councillors Remuneration

Senior Salary (Cabinet Member): £32,100

Councillors travel and subsistence claim forms can be [viewed here](#).
Councillors annual expenses and allowances can be [viewed here](#).

Date:	20/10/2018
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