

City & County of Swansea - Councillor's Annual Report 2015-2016

This Councillor's Annual Report outlines their activities over the year ending **18 May 2016**. 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:	David Phillips	Electoral Division:	Castle
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Section 1: Constituency activities

I attended a significant number of representative meetings, both formal and informal, with constituents, council officers and the many residents groups in the ward as well as local businesses. I have met with police and PCSOs (Police Community Support Officers) to discuss issues around licensing activity, substance misuse and anti-social behaviour and attended various PACT meetings. Together with colleagues I attend our Saturday morning councillor surgeries across the ward in Marina, Sandfields, Brynmelin and Dyfatty. Additionally I attended various Residents and PACT (Police and Communities Together) meetings across the ward, plus other community meetings, including District Housing & the Sandfields Renewal Area. I also attended meetings of Community First cluster groups.

I responded and dealt with a significant number of electorate issues and complaints, by phone email, on-site or home visits. These continue to mainly relate to, Street Scene, (litter, dog mess, waste collections, footpaths and parking), anti-social behaviour and alcohol and drug related problems, housing issues (both allocation and condition). I have also had a more direct representative role in some Social Services/Education issues and tenancy agreements. I maintain a close interest in ward planning issues and represented resident's concerns at committee.

I regularly visit events & organisations and seek to maintain good relations with the various ethnic communities living in the ward. I act as auditor to various groups, continue to take an interest the Vetch Veg project and the development of Bryn-y-Don Park.

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:

Audit Committee	4	/	9	44	%
Council	10	/	18	56	%
Swansea Student Liaison Forum	0	/	3	0	%
Swansea Student Liaison Forum - Residents Partnership	1	/	1	100	%
OVERALL	15	/	31	48	%
Scrutiny Meetings:					
Tackling Poverty Scrutiny Working Group	1	/	1	100	%
OVERALL	1	/	1	100	%

Section 3: Councillors role and responsibilities

Trustee of World Heritage UK.

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Section 4: Initiatives and Special activities

I continued to take a keen interest in proposals to rebuild the now derelict Boys & Girls Club for the benefit of local youngsters, including organising local consultation meetings and look forward to taking an even more active role once the funding is secured. I have also with Cllr Crouch been active in supporting a local bowls club in their efforts to take over their bowling green and park and assisted in their recent successful application for financial and other support.

I continued to support the Friends of Bryn Y Don Park and am pleased that it continues from strength to strength in developing and improving the park for the benefit of local people, which now includes many activities for local residents especially children.

Together with colleagues I continued to argue for more green space in the City Centre and support residents' campaign to retain the Vetch Field as a proper park.

Whilst investment in the City Centre is welcome I continue to be concerned that such development has to take account of its impact on the present and future resident population – that it cannot be development at any price.

Despite its inherent wealth Castle ward also has extreme poverty and deprivation - just a few minutes' walk apart - and I remained committed to ensuring that the Authority responds to the challenges that this presents.

Section 5: Learning and Development

I attended the following training sessions:

13/04/2016 - S.106 Planning Agreements / Obligations

05/11/2015 - Introduction to Community Engagement

Section 6: Other activities and issues

Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts & Business and a Trustee of World Heritage UK.

Castle includes some of the most deprived communities in Wales and I have taken an active interest in the development of the foodbank in Bonymaen where I am a volunteer and the Treasurer.

Section 7: Councillors Remuneration

Basic Salary: £13,300

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:	17.06.2016
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