

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.

Councillor:	Rob Stewart	Electoral Division:	Morriston
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Cabinet / Executive Portfolio:	Leader & Cabinet Member - Finance & Strategy
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Section 1: Constituency activities

I have continued to work hard in representing the people of Morriston. I have continued to hold regular ward surgeries, and attended many support PACT meetings, resident meetings, and community action meetings throughout. I have taken action to address residents' concerns over anti-social behaviour, litter, road and pathway repairs, housing needs and other local issues. I was very pleased to work with my ward colleagues to prevent the closure of the main Post Office in Woodfield Street, provide hanging baskets and flower displays throughout the ward, and also bringing back Christmas lights to Morriston for the first time in 20 years. The switch on event was a huge success and was attended by over 2500 people. I have also worked hard to campaign against the sale or use of legal highs in Morriston to protect children and young people from the very dangerous substances.

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.

Appointments Committee	3	/	3	100	%
Area 2 Development Control Committee	0	/	5	0	%
Cabinet	13	/	14	93	%
Constitution Working Group	0		1	0	%
Council	15	/	17	88	%
Development Advisory Group	1	/	1	100	%
Development Management & Control Committee	3	/	7	43	%
External Funding Panel	4	/	4	100	%
Joint Consultative Committee	1	/	1	100	%
Pension Fund Committee	2	/	6	33	%
OVERALL	42	/	59	71	%

Attendance % based on Committee membership shown above.

Following election to Leader In Sept 2014, I stepped down as a member of some of the committees listed above.

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Section 3: Councillors role and responsibilities

I have attended the following bodies which are in addition to the meeting stated above:

Corporate Briefing
Swansea Stadium Management Company
Business Improvement District (BID)
Swansea Bay City Region Board
Western Bay Partnership Forum
Education through Regional Working (ERW)
Regional Partnership

I also attended local:

Police and Communities Together (PACT) meetings
Residents Meetings
Traders Meeting
Local surgeries
Action meetings
Local planning consultation meetings
Community meetings

Section 4: Initiatives and Special activities

I was very pleased to be able to help fund (with my ward colleagues) and bring the wonderful flower displays across Morrison this year. These were extremely well received by the public and made a big impact on the feel of many areas.

I was also very pleased with the outcome of the long campaign I supported to save the main Post Office in Woodfield Street Morrison. The Post Office has now removed the threat of closure from this office. This is a hugely important community facility.

I was also very proud of the event I organised (with my ward colleagues & local traders) to bring Christmas lights back to Morrison for the first time in over 20 years. The switch on event was a huge success with over 2500 people attending to hear choirs sing and see Santa arrive on top of a large red fire engine. I wish to place on record my thanks to the police, fire service, council officers, local businesses and everyone else who made this a fantastic success

I have also been actively involved in the campaign to stop the sale and use of legal highs in Morrison and the city. We have had a 'head shop' operating in Morrison which is selling legal highs. These substances are dangerous and should be banned. I and other councillors want the sale and use banned as soon as we have the powers to do so.

I was pleased to visit the brand new £22m school at Morrison. The facilities are amazing and these will benefit our children and the wider community, I was also pleased to help open the new teaching buildings at Glyncollen School. These replaced the old prefabricated buildings with fully equipped modern classrooms.

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Section 5: Learning and Development

I attended the following training session:

18/11/2014 - Recruitment & Selection

I have been a civil & public servant for over 24 years and a trade unionist for over 20 years. During that time I have worked in a range of discipline and more recently have led a number of priority national projects. Specifically, delivery of online services for DVLA and redesign of the UK driving license and other national documents for the home office.

I am fully qualified project & programme manager. I have also undertaken and obtained a number of financial & leadership development courses. I am committed to lifelong learning.

Section 6: Other activities and issues

I was very proud to become leader of the City & County of Swansea this year. I decided to retain the challenging finance portfolio and combine it with the strategy portfolio to ensure clear direction and a delivery focused emphasis was created. Since taking over as leader I have commenced a very ambitious redevelopment of the city centre and introduced a commercial programme into the council which will see the council return to building new council houses and potentially start renewable energy generation and other commercial enterprises. This will potentially help us raise additional resources to invest in key services like Education & Social care and tackle poverty in a very direct and measurable way.

I have been grateful to receive excellent reviews of both our Education & Social Services and a very positive National Audit Office report which demonstrated this council is now one of the strongest performers in Wales.

I look forward to continuing to increase the pace and scale of change in Swansea and make Swansea the leading city & authority in Wales, providing excellent services to the people of Swansea.

Section 7: Councillors Remuneration

Senior Salary: £32,000 Cabinet Member (Finance) prior to 17 September 2014
Senior Salary: £53,000 Leader & Cabinet Member (Finance & Strategy) from 17 September 2014.

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:	04.06.15
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