

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:	Christine Richards	Electoral Division:	Lower Loughor
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Cabinet / Executive Portfolio:	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Children's Services
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Section 1: Constituency activities

I ensured that local residents are able to easily contact me. Throughout the year I dealt with a variety of local issues and personal cases for people in Lower Loughor.

I held regular surgeries at Casllwchwr Primary & Parc Williams pavilion.

During the 2014-2015 municipal year I used my councillor's environmental budget to plant wild flowers and daffodil bulbs throughout Lower Loughor; improve Parc Williams pavilion and fund a defibrillator for the locality.

In addition, I was (and still am) a Councillor for Llŵchwr Town Council where I supported local initiatives and activities, including litter-picking. I monitored planning applications for Lower Loughor and tried my best to make sure that local residents had their say. I issued newsletters [Lower Loughor Voice] to keep residents informed of my activities, concerns and local initiatives.

I was (and still am) Governor of Casllwchwr Primary, Penyrheol Comprehensive & Gower College Swansea.

Section 2: Councillor attendance at selected Council body meetings

Please note I was absent from Council on sick leave from January 2015 to April 2015.

Appeals and Awards Committee	2	/	3	67	%
Appointments Committee	1	/	3	33	%
Area 2 Development Control Committee	2	/	8	25	%
Cabinet	8	/	16	50	%
Chief Executive's Appraisal & Remuneration Committee	1	/	1	100	%
Constitution Working Group	1	/	2	50	%
Council	12	/	17	71	%
Development Management & Control Committee	2	/	7	29	%
Joint Consultative Committee	1	/	1	100	%
Student Liaison Forum	0	/	3	0	%
Trustees Panel	2	/	3	67	%
OVERALL	32	/	64	50	%

Attendance % based on Committee membership shown above.

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Section 3: Councillors role and responsibilities

Part of my role as Deputy Leader was to support & Deputise for the Leader of the Council.

My Cabinet portfolio includes: Social Services for children & families; Play; Youth Services & promoting youth inclusion; Early Intervention & Prevention; Youth Offending Service; Youth Citizenship; Children's Rights [including United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) Champion & Rights Respecting Schools]; Young people neither earning or learning [NEETS -Link with education]; Regional Adoption Service; Children & Young People's Board; Flying Start.

I Chaired (and still Chair) the board of Directors of Swansea Stadium Management Company [Liberty Stadium]. I also sat on various outside bodies & partnership boards such as Welsh Local Government Association, Joint Council of Wales, Swansea Local Service Board and the Joint Resilience Board.

I was (and still am) the Lead Member for Safeguarding [keeping people safe], both Adults and Children and Councillor Champion for Children & Young people.

Section 4: Initiatives and Special activities

In November 2014, Swansea became the first UK authority to embed due regard for Children's Rights into its business.

As Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Children's Services I continue to do all I can to ensure the voice of our young people is heard and that they are aware of their rights.

Locally, I supported the installation of a defibrillator in Parc Williams & training for local people.

Section 5: Learning and Development

I attended the following training sessions:

12/11/2014 - Recruitment & Selection

13/04/2015 - Child Sexual Exploitation awareness raising

Section 6: Other activities and issues

Supported local Forget-me-Not dementia club by a sponsored dip in the Loughor Estuary on Christmas morning!

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Section 7: Councillors Remuneration

Senior Salary: Deputy Leader - £37,000.

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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