

# 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.

<b>Councillor:</b> Uta Clay	<b>Electoral Division:</b> Llansamlet
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## Section 1: Constituency activities

All Llansamlet councillors held regular surgeries (every 1st and 3rd Friday, 5-6pm at Birchgrove Community Centre, Lon Gwesyn, and 2nd and 4th Saturday, 10.30-11.30am at Trallwn Community Centre, Bethel Road.

## 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:

Communities Cabinet Advisory Committee	1	/	1	100	%
Council	14	/	18	78	%
Prevention & Social Care Reform Cabinet Advisory Committee	6	/	7	86	%
Scrutiny Programme Committee	9	/	9	100	%
Services Cabinet Advisory Committee	1	/	4	25	%
<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>/</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>%</b>

### Scrutiny Meetings:

Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services Scrutiny Working Group	5	/	9	56	%
Child & Family Services Scrutiny Performance Panel	3	/	6	50	%
Transformation of Adult Social Services Scrutiny Panel	12	/	12	100	%
Welsh Housing Quality Standards Scrutiny Working Group	1	/	1	100	%
<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>/</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>%</b>

## Section 3: Councillors role and responsibilities

I have attended PACT meetings for Birchgrove / Llansamlet and Trallwn areas. I am serving on Glais and Trallwn primary schools governing bodies and regularly attend meetings of the Birchgrove Community Association (BCA).

Last year I set up Friends of Swansea Vale Nature Reserve and two years earlier Friends of Heol Las Park and Scotts Pit and continue to attend meetings.

I am involved in the Swansea Bay Inland Waterway Partnership (SBIWP) which aims to link the Swansea, Neath and Tennant canals, an ambitious aim which, if successful, will bring enormous benefits to the area for local people and a fantastic boost to tourism. I also have links to Swansea University with the aim to tie in cycle/foot paths with the canal and the Copperworks (when they have been restored) with Scotts Pit.

## Section 4: Initiatives and Special activities

Localised Flooding in Birchgrove: After the Persimmon Contractor, Cuddy, stripped the site during the dry, hot summer of 2014, subsequent heavy rainfalls lead to a number of serious local flooding incidents. Llansamlet Councillors organised numerous meetings which lead to measure being implemented; these brought considerable relief but the problem still raises serious concerns.

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Heol Las – Speeding and Congestion: in 2014 Llansamlet Councillors objected to the planning permission by Persimmon Homes which forced the developer to agree to £65,000 for Heol Las Park and £60,000 for traffic safety improvements. The £60K will now be spent to install a pedestrian pavement between Ffordd Scott and Heol Las Park and speed cushions on the upper part of Heol Las to force cars to slow down.

Safety Routes, underpass to Railway Bridge on Station Road: this was an accident waiting to happen – since before I was elected I campaigned for safety improvements to this underpass; we were finally successful with our bid to the Welsh Assembly government to implemented to make children’s walk to and from school safer.

Ongoing community campaigns - Emily: Due to the ongoing flooding problems I arranged a number of site meetings and meetings with Welsh Water, Persimmon, Council officers, residents and ward Councillors.

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

I attended the following training sessions:

18/04/2016 - Guidance on Equality & Human Rights Impact Assessment & Scrutinising Changes to Community Services

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

23/02/2016 - Regional Member Development Session - Disabilities

25/11/2015 - Introduction to Community Engagement

### **Section 6: Other activities and issues**

The unresolved issue of Traveller sites is a continuing matter that takes a large amount of time. Llansamlet councillors are supporting the efforts of the lead councillor, Bob Clay, in the continued battle to achieve a just settlement for the people of Llansamlet.

Adult Services is one of the most pressing problems local authorities are facing because Tory government cuts and we now live longer. My expertise as a retired social worker came in handy on the various scrutiny panels I have served on over the years. I believe I made a significant contribution towards the improvement of Adult Services and made a convincing case for maintaining in-house services.

In this last year, intend to start ‘food growing groups’. I would welcome interest constituents in Llansamlet to contact me about setting up a group in Birchgrove.

### **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>

<b>Date:</b>	25.05.2016
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