

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: Jane Harris	Electoral Division: Pontarddulais
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Cabinet / Executive Portfolio:	Services for Adults & Vulnerable People
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Section 1: Constituency activities

I participated in monthly advice surgeries held on the second and last Friday of each month between 5pm and 7pm in Canolfan Y Bont. I worked as Governor of Pontarddulais Comprehensive School and Governor of Pontarddulais Primary School. As a member of Pontarddulais Town Council I attended monthly meetings.

Constituents contacted me with a range of issues and I advocated, supported, talked to officers and provided advice on; access to disability parking; planning; highway issues. I worked together with officers to find resources to manage and plan to resolve: excessive traffic speed; a lack of road marking (recently advertised for marking); signage (new road signs are installed); lighting issues and pot holes.

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:

Area 1 Development Control Committee	3	/	7	43	%
Cabinet	10	/	11	91	%
Corporate Parenting Forum	4	/	4	100	%
Council	15	/	17	88	%
Development Management & Control Committee	6	/	7	86	%
Gower AONB Partnership Group	3	/	5	60	%
Local Development Plan Advisory Group	1	/	1	100	%
Rights of Way and Commons Sub Committee	2	/	5	40	%
Scrutiny Programme Committee	7	/	8	88	%
Trustees Panel	0	/	2	0	%
OVERALL	51	/	67	76	%

Scrutiny Meetings:

Economic Inactivity Scrutiny Inquiry Panel	0	/	1	0	%
Inward Investment Scrutiny Inquiry Panel	3	/	4	75	%
Planning Services Scrutiny Working Group	1	/	1	100	%
Service Improvement & Finance Scrutiny Performance Panel	2	/	4	50	%
Social Care at Home Scrutiny Inquiry Panel	5	/	5	100	%
Streetscene Scrutiny Inquiry Panel	3	/	3	100	%
OVERALL	14	/	18	78	%

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Section 3: Councillors role and responsibilities

Cabinet Member for Adults and Vulnerable People. Since achieving my role as Cabinet Member I: visited the council residential homes, day services for learning disabilities, and the majority of the sheltered homes; visited extra care facilities in Bridgend, Pembrokeshire, Ceredigion and Swansea; visited a range of community facilities including Topic House, and the Community Farm; reviewed C.S.S.I.W. individual reports on domiciliary and residential care and met with the local lead for C.S.S.I.W to review monitoring arrangements for residential homes . I am participating in a review of domiciliary care arrangements given the importance of focusing on delivering services that are safe and promote independence so as to maintain health and support people where they wish to live whether it be within their own homes, sheltered accommodation, extra care facilities or residential care. As part of this process we are looking at the role of carers.

Chair Corporate Parenting Forum & Locality Substance Misuse group. Deputy Chair of Western Bay Area Planning Board for Substance Misuse. Health and Wellbeing Champion

I attended the following meetings and events:

Foster Carers Let's get It Right Workshop; High Five Awards;
Western Bay Area Planning Board; Western Bay Community Cohesion Committee
Western Bay Partnership Forum
Western Bay Regional Coordinating Committee for Supporting People
Western Bay Scrutiny seminar; Welsh Local Government Association
Ageing Well Network 50+ Meetings; Community Meeting on Legal Highs in Morriston

Outside Bodies (2014- 2015):

Abertawe and Bro Morgannwg Community Health Council; Dementia Forum;
Swansea Council Voluntary Services Management Meetings

Section 4: Initiatives and Special activities

Following representation from constituents I pursued the potential for local cycle routes. Following the development of the new path from Siding Fach to Goppa road I continued to pursue further path development along other routes. Following representation from constituents I worked with colleagues to preserve the Primary School Field for the use of the children of Pontarddulais.

Continuously advocated and negotiated for the wishes of the population of Pontarddulais where there was evidence of concern, a potential for the development of services and an improved lifestyle and a need to support potential developments for the benefit of the community. Put on a musical event to raise resources for local activities in conjunction with others.

Met with the Professor of Gerontology and Director of the Research Institute for Applied Social Sciences, Swansea University to review existing research on ageing and explore future developments that would promote healthy ageing.

Section 5: Learning and Development

I attended the following training sessions:

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07/05/2015 - Basic Drug Awareness (Sands Cymru)
25/03/2015 - New Psychoactive Substances (Sands Cymru)
23/10/2014 - Safeguarding
15/10/2014 - Treasury Management in Local Government
14/08/2014 - How to get the most out of your tablet / smart phone
06/08/2014 - Public Engagement
23/07/2014 - Data Protection (including role as Data Controller)
23/07/2014 - Freedom of Information

I also completed an Equalities Champion Development programme run by the Welsh Local Government Association on various dates during 2014.

In my role as Governor, I also attended Looked after Children training.

Section 6: Other activities and issues

I chaired the charity organisation called the Pontarddulais Partnership that works with constituents in Pontarddulais from the community centre Canolfan Y Bont to: provided a job club and access to work through skills development, volunteering and I.C.T; promoted digital inclusion and skills development for all ages; provided local access to a part time degree (BA humanities including psychology and counselling), focused on heritage issues such as the contribution of local people to the war effort with local schools; provided literature reflecting the history of Pontarddulais and new signs for the town; responded to community needs including working with a diversity of organisations to support their access to grants for facilities such as the skate board in the park; continued to work on the Churchyard and Rights of Way on the Marsh; completion of the second phase of the work on the Railway Station; completed the Tennis Courts; maintained and continue to develop the training centre Canolfan Y Bont; produced and delivered Bont Bulletin community news leaflet; expanded the charity shop that has been set up to support the work of the Pontarddulais Partnership.

Chair and finance officer of Pontarddulais Age Concern luncheon club that provides a weekly opportunity to meet socially and has organised trips to Cheltenham, Narbeth and Abergavenny and a holiday opportunity to Eastbourne for adults aged 50 plus to support positive lifestyles. The club obtained grants of £550 from two grant funders.

Trustee for Swansea Council for Voluntary Services.

Section 7: Councillors Remuneration

Basic Salary: £13,300 up to 17 September 2014
Senior Salary: £32,000 from 17 September 2014 (Cabinet Member)

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:	05.06.15
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