

City & County of Swansea - Councillor's Annual Report 2017-2018

This Councillor's Annual Report outlines activities over the year ending **23 May 2018**. 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:	Louise Gibbard	Electoral Ward:	Dunvant
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Senior Salary Position:	n/a
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Section 1: Constituency activities

Alongside my ward colleague, Cllr Jenifer Raynor, I have held monthly no-appointment surgeries open to all residents in Dunvant.

I received many casework issues via email and phone calls ensuring that I responded in a timely manner, chasing up with relevant council officers as required.

We were in regular contact with constituents via newsletters, two community noticeboards which we have had installed and via our Facebook page.

We have made road safety one of our top priorities in response to residents' concerns and as a result have arranged for a new zebra crossing on Derlwyn to assist families going to and from Dunvant Primary school, an extension of double yellow lines on Y Berllan and warning signage on Garrod Avenue and in Dunvant Square. We continue to look at other areas of concern around the ward with the help of officers.

We are similarly committed to keeping Dunvant a clean and attractive community for all.

We have once again funded displays of wildflowers around the ward, regularly report fly-tipping and have carried out litter picks and cleaned bus shelters ourselves. We worked with pupils at our local schools on a competition to produce signs encouraging dog owners to clean up after them.

Over the past year I've had the honour of attending many community events such as the Annual Flower Show, 90th Birthday of the WI and chapel coffee mornings.

I am a governor at both Pen Y Fro and Dunvant Primary schools and a committee member of Friends of Dunvant Park.

I regularly attended PACT meetings and continued to work with our PCSOs and police officers regarding community safety.

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.

Councillors attendance can be [viewed here](#).

Section 3: Councillors role and responsibilities

Councillor responsibilities can be [viewed here](#).

Councillor appointments to outside bodies can be [viewed here](#).

I am Swansea Council Member Champion for Women, this involves meeting with women's groups and individuals across the city and raising issues relating to women and equality in with Council colleagues.

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Section 4: Initiatives and Special activities

I am trying to do more to bring Dunvant together as a community as I'm particularly concerned about loneliness and isolation. I have been organising a programme of free events to bring community groups and individuals together. As Champion for Women I have been looking at the issue of Period Poverty with colleagues in the Cabinet. I helped to plan several council wide activities for International Women's Day and the centenary of partial women's suffrage designed to raise awareness of women in politics.

Section 5: Learning and Development

Councillors training can be [viewed here](#).

Section 6: Other activities and issues

I have brought past experience as a teacher/lecturer and trade union rep to the role of Councillor as well as my current full-time 'job' as a mum. I've attended a range of training opportunities including "5 years to make a difference" run by Welsh Local Government Association. I was selected for the Labour Party's national Jo Cox Women in Leadership programme which gave me useful skills and information that I've been able to apply to life as a Councillor. I have been working hard to improve my own knowledge and understanding of issues facing our city and diverse communities and have attended events such as the Wales Race Equality Conference, Spring Pride, Homeless Period Swansea and many more.

Section 7: Councillors Remuneration

Basic Salary: £13,400

Councillors travel and subsistence claim forms can be [viewed here](#).

Councillors annual expenses and allowances can be [viewed here](#).

Date:	15/11/2018
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