City & County of Swansea - Councillor's Annual Report 2018-2019

This Councillor's Annual Report outlines activities over the year ending **08 May 2019**. 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:	Oliver James	Electoral Ward:	Cockett

Senior Salary Position:	N/A

Section 1: Constituency activities

Over the past year I have been involved in many individual cases on behalf of residents within the ward. Together with my fellow ward councillors we held surgeries twice a month in Fforestfach and Waunarlwydd. I am always available to be contacted at any time by residents by phone or email and have helped with a wide range of issues from dog mess, to litter, to unstable pavements to overgrown hedges, planning applications and much more. I have worked closely with residents and our brilliant local PCSOs (Police Community Support Officers) on a wide range of issues from antisocial behaviour, to abandoned vehicles, from speeding to illegal behaviour.

Me and my ward colleagues arranged for road improvements in Waunarlwydd and Gendros, along with wild flower planting and flower boxes across the ward.

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 <u>viewed here</u>. Councillor appointments to outside bodies can be <u>viewed here</u>.

Section 4: Initiatives and Special activities

During 2018-2019 I was Vice Chair of Friends of Ravenhill Park, a group of residents who are passionate about the upkeep and improvement of the great facility. Progress has been made and I hope myself and Mike (Chair) can help the group make further improvements.

I have worked with officers to improve Gendros Park, installing new flooring to tackle the boggy ground and install new swings/bigger slide, using our "Councillors Community Budget" money. This appears to have gone well as the ground is no longer boggy. It is great to have seen the park very busy since the work was undertaken.

Section 5: Learning and Development

Councillors training can be viewed here.

Section 6: Other activities and issues

Together with my colleagues, I continued to support the Roots Foundation and Swansea Community Farm in their great work.

I organised a Christmas-gift hunt during the last week of school term before Christmas. I hid presents for pupils around Gendros school area and they could find them on their way to/from school with their parents. This was very popular with the parents and pupils alike - it was great to see lots of happy faces as I dropped my daughter off in the morning.

I've also been involved in other community initiatives, such as a litter pick organised by St Peters Church, which was really successful.

You can find more updates, pictures and information on my Facebook Face.

Section 7: Councillors Remuneration Basic Salary: £13,600

Councillors travel and subsistence claim forms can be <u>viewed here</u>. Councillors annual expenses and allowances can be <u>viewed here</u>.

Date:	11/02/2020