

Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council COUNCILLOR'S ANNUAL REPORT MUNICIPAL YEAR 2012 / 2013



Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council operates under executive arrangements. Responsibility for the authority's functions is overseen by a Leader and Cabinet made up of Councillors from the party or group with the most members. The allocation of Chair and Vice Chair posts is also based by law on the number of seats each party or group has, and this number again will have influence on the appointment of Councillors to outside bodies.

Opinions, advice, conclusions and other information in this report shall be understood as neither given nor endorsed by the authority or on its behalf. It is a report by the Councillor referred to below regarding their key activities over the period from the day they signed their Declaration of Office in 2012 up to and including 14th May 2013. It is provided for the information of constituents and for no other purpose.

Councillor:	LISA MYTTON
Political Party:	INDEPENDENT
Electoral Division:	VAYNOR

Committee Membership, Roles and Attendance

This section relates to membership as an elected member, not in a personal capacity. Democratic Services has provided information on committee membership and attendance for Council Committees. However, where Councillors are a member of any other committees, they have provided details from their own records.

Council Committees: 80% Attendance

Full Council (Mayor / Chair)
Appeals Committee
Scrutiny: Social Services & Social Regeneration

External Committees and Outside Bodies:

Member Development Panel
Merthyr and Cynon Groundwork Trust
Wales Council for the Blind

My Work as a Local Councillor

Under this heading, Councillors have identified the work undertaken on behalf of local constituents. Reference has also been made to any major initiatives or special projects they have been associated with on behalf of MTCBC, which have a direct impact on local constituents.

I hold monthly surgeries within my ward, the surgeries focus on key developments within the ward and are an opportunity for residents to attend and receive advice, guidance and support on any issues they may be facing, some issues I have dealt with include, Grit bin requests, pot holes, safeguarding, Anti-social behaviour, etc.

I also have telephone calls and house visits on a regular basis where again advice, guidance and support is given to residents, follow up support is always given and I engage with third parties in order to get answers for my residents and ensure that they receive a satisfactory outcome.

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My Work as a Local Councillor Cont'd...

I use social networking to inform residents throughout Merthyr Tydfil and wider afield about events and activities taking place within the borough, consultation events, and current issues facing the council. I have also sent out requests for suggestions from the public on scrutiny items that could be looked at.

I have organised and attended many charity events, supporting local charities and organisations with the services they provide.

During the last year I have received calls from residents requesting support in dealing with Anti-Social behaviour, I ensured that I exhausted every avenue available in order to support them including the Police, Housing Associations, Council etc. to ensure I had a positive result, the outcome was a successful one and residents felt supported.

I attend local PACT meetings, where over the last year I have highlighted many of our residents' concerns and ensured that action is taken as a result.

I attend the Vaynor Community Forum (every third Monday of the month). This Forum looks at the issues and concerns of the Vaynor Ward. Topics have included Tree Felling, Rights of Way's, Potholes and Waste and Recycling issues etc., which I take responsibility for along with my ward colleague.

I endeavoured to support residents when a local bus service ceased to operate, I was successful in maintaining a service and this is being monitored monthly to ensure it is a successful operation.

I have been successful in ensuring a local playing field under threat from redevelopment has been saved.

I have attended and supported many local groups and organisations throughout the ward and county borough, such as dance groups, after school clubs, local village hall, churches, OAP's, theatre groups, etc., with advice, guidance and grant funding.

I supported the first Carnival in Cefn Coed (this was very successful) on the local playing field. This is going to be hopefully an annual event.

All of the above is undertaken in partnership with my fellow ward colleague Cllr Howard Barrett which I firmly believe the partnership supports our community and ensures that we can meet resident's needs.

Learning and Development

In the Learning and Development section, Councillors have demonstrated instances where they have taken the opportunity for personal development by taking part in initiatives and events aimed at improving their understanding and awareness.

I have taken part in the following Learning and Development initiatives during the past year:

Planning Training
Single Integrated Plan
Signing of Covenant
LCSB Safeguarding Level 2

I have attended the following pre-Council Presentations:

Tourism Day
Branding and Marketing Consultation

Other Activities and Issues

Under this heading, Councillors have provided information on themselves to demonstrate the 'personal' aspect of their role as a local Councillor which they believe would be of interest to constituents.

During 2012/13 I became the youngest ever Mayor of Merthyr Tydfil, this was both an honour and privilege to represent the people of Merthyr Tydfil. The experience allowed me to engage with a wider representative of people throughout the borough, gain understanding of some of the issues people face and also the fantastic work that is being undertaken by community groups, volunteers, schools etc. During this time I engaged in many different conferences and launches to showcase the very best Merthyr Tydfil has to offer and look forward to continuing to share this information and future developments via surgeries, newspaper column and social media.

Over the last 5 years I have been instrumental in organising an annual Christmas event in the ward which has grown year on year and feedback from residents say they feel it brings the community together.

I have also been working on the safeguarding a playing field within the ward which was under threat of development, the tireless work undertaken by myself and my ward colleague Cllr Howard Barrett has resulted in the field being saved and named a Queen Elizabeth II jubilee field.

Councillor Lisa Mytton
Date: 5th July 2013