

Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council

COUNCILLOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2014 / 2015



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 the date of the Annual General Meeting on 21st May 2014 to the Annual General meeting on 20th May 2015. It is provided for the information of constituents and for no other purpose.

Councillor:

LISA MYTTON

Political Party:

INDEPENDENT

Electoral Division:

VAYNOR

Comprising the communities of:

*Cefn Coed, Trefechan, Pontsarn,
Pontsticill & Cwm Taf*

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 outside the Council's responsibility, they have provided details from their own records.

Council Committees:

[Link to Councillor Mytton's attendance page](#)

External Committees and Outside Bodies (as a representative of MTCBC):

[Link to Councillor Mytton's personal page](#)

Other Bodies (not in their capacity as a Councillor):

- School Governor at Ysgol y Graig and Cyfarthfa Primary,
- I sit on the PTA at Cyfarthfa Primary and Cyfarthfa High School.
- I sit on the Board at MTIB Merthyr Tydfil Institute for the Blind
- I sit on the Board of Stephens and George Charitable Trust.

Salary

The Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales sets how much is paid to a Councillor depending on their role is, e.g. Cabinet Member, Chair of a Committee, Scrutiny Member, etc. The attached link will take you to the 2014/2015 Schedule of Remuneration which lists what each individual receives.

[Link to salaries, expenses and allowances](#)

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.

Over the past 12 months I've taken on a number of housing cases, including lobbying for fairer systems for housing allocations, disabled properties. In more recent months my workload has comprised of supporting residents with the new recycling initiative, grant applications to sustain community facilities, supporting local community groups and advice and guidance to residents on parking, land and neighbour issues. The results to date have been positive, however where an issue has needed further intervention I have always ensured I have let residents know the outcome. Current workload comprises of liaising with Merthyr Valley Homes and my colleague Howard Barrett to help residents living in MVH flats in Cefn Coed to agree repairs, upkeep and insulation issues which are causing some stress and anxiety. In partnership with Howard we undertake regular assessments of the ward and report these to MTCBC departments for work to be undertaken, unfortunately due to efficiency savings and a downsized workforce some of the work is taking a little longer than we would hope, however officers are supporting our requests as much as possible. Recently we held meetings in Ysgol y Graig School to discuss the future new school build on the old Vaynor and Penderyn site and we are both excited and eager for this to progress quickly, it is envisaged that work will commence shortly and the new school should be ready for 2018. I regularly put reports into the Merthyr Express on ward issues or updates on behalf of Howard and myself and continue to hold our monthly surgeries. My role as Chair of Schools scrutiny now named Learning and LAESCYP scrutiny continues to be challenging and rewarding we are seeing great improvement in the borough not only with the schools but also our education department and the service/support they provide, My scrutiny panel continue to do great work in challenging officers and outside bodies and together I believe we will have a positive future for children and young people achieving and improving results across the board.

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:

- Social Media training, Scrutiny Questioning Skills

I have attended the following pre-Council Presentations:

- Safeguarding, Electoral Change
-

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.

Over the past year I have continued to help, support and get positive results for residents, I take part in many local events, and attend as many local forums, meetings as possible. I'm always responsive and always on hand to help not only my ward constituents but those who have approached me for help in other areas of Merthyr Tydfil where support wasn't forthcoming. I believe that the partnership I have with my fellow colleague Cllr Howard Barrett serves the Borough and our Ward effectively as we work so well together.

Councillor Lisa Mytton
Date: July 2015