

Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council

COUNCILLOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2013 / 2014



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 of the date of the Annual General Meeting on 14th May 2013 to the Annual General meeting on 21st May 2014. It is provided for the information of constituents and for no other purpose.

Councillor:	ERNIE GALSWORTHY
Political Party:	LABOUR
Electoral Division:	TREHARRIS

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: 73%Attendance

Full Council
Chief Executive's Scrutiny Committee (incorporating Crime and Disorder Committee)
Customer Services Scrutiny Committee
Planning, Regulatory and Licensing Committee
Appeals Committee
SACRE

External Committees and Outside Bodies:

50+ Steering Group
Merthyr Care and Repair
Treharris Boys and Girls club
Afon Taf High School governors
Ysgol Rhyd y Grug Governors
South Wales Police and Crime Panel (Chair)
The Tydfilian society
Bedlinog Community Council

Other:

Welsh Language Champion
Older Persons Champion
Cwm Taf Community Health Council
Merthyr Tydfil Heritage Trust
Nuclear Free Councils
South Wales Police and Crime Panel
Taff Bargoed Regeneration Partnership Board
Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) – Joint Council for Wales (Substitute Member)

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.

My work as a local councillor is varied and interesting. Most of my work involves local issues such as road repairs and grass cutting. My major project during the past year has been the funding for Treharris boys and girls club. The club has lost £23000 in funding during the year, mostly from the local authority, and I have been working closely with the youth and community officer to find alternative funding. I have been able to assist in replacing some of the funding but it will be an on-going problem for some time yet. I am also the Welsh language and Older persons champion for the county borough and I have spent much time visiting a number of organisations within the borough in particular the Bedlinog ward. It is for this reason that I have become a co-opted member of Bedlinog Community council.

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 attended the following pre-Council Presentations:

I make every effort to attend these pre-Council presentations

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.

I am Chairman of the South Wales Police and crime panel whose role it is to hold the Commissioner to account. I am also Treasurer of the Tydfilian Society who organise the Roman run and raise over £3000 annually for the Mayors appeal. I am chairman of the Standing advisory committee for Religious Education and in this capacity represent the council on the Wales Standing advisory committee for Religious Education which meets all over Wales and I have attended meetings in Caernarfon. As the council representative on the Council of Nuclear Free local Authorities I attend meetings in Manchester usually but this body also meets in Scotland and in Caernarfon.

Councillor Ernie Galsworthy

Date: July 2014