

Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council

COUNCILLOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2017 / 2018



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 for the municipal year 2017/18. It is provided for the information of constituents and for no other purpose.

Councillor:

Ernie Galsworthy

Political Party:

Labour

Ward:

Treharris

Comprising the communities of:

Treharris, Cilhaul, Edwardsville and Quakers Yard

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 Ernie Galsworthy's Attendance Page](#)

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

[Link to Councillor Ernie Galsworthy's Personal Page](#)

Nuclear Free Local Authorities - I attended a Conference in Machynlleth 'Open Nuclear Free Wales' including a Meeting about a Radiation Consultant.

Welsh Books Council, Merthyr Tydfil Heritage Trust, Community Health Council

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.

Together with my Ward colleagues we have held regular monthly advice surgeries at Treharris Library and also once a month we've held less formal "Cuppa with your Councillors" sessions. These circulate between Edwardsville, Quakers Yard and Treharris.

I make myself as accessible as possible by face to face meetings, telephone, email. I've been involved in litter picks in Quakers Yard with Keep Wales Tidy. I've attended Police and Community Together [PACT] meetings held in Treharris Ward when I have been available. I wasn't able to attend meetings at the beginning of the year due to illness.

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 Schedule of Remuneration which lists what each individual receives.

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

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:

- Members' Code of Conduct
- General Notice of Registerable Interests
- Data Protection Training
- Introduction to the Services provided by Social Services
- Introduction to the Services provided by Education
- Introduction to the Services provided by Community Regeneration
- Introduction to the Services provided by Neighbourhood Services
- Introduction to Democratic Services, Scrutiny and Corporate Communications
- Introduction to Ethics and Standards
- Introduction to Finance Services
- Wellbeing and Future Generations (Wales) Act - The objectives and overview of the Act
- Wellbeing and Future Generations (Wales) Act - Corporate Plan
- Introduction to Scrutiny
- The Role of Councillors in Planning Committees
- Equalities/Welsh Language/Risk Management
- Role of the Licensing Committee
- Fly Tipping Briefing Session
- Performance Reports on the Authority's Wellbeing Objectives
- What Elected Members of Local Authorities need to know about Health and Safety also including the Authority's Lone Worker facility
- IPAD Training
- Social Media Training
- Violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence

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've taken part in and supported numerous community events.

Councillor Ernie Galsworthy
Date: 15 June 2018