

## Annual Members Report

Report by Councillor Les Day, Garth Ward, 31<sup>st</sup> May 2013

The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 requires that local authorities make provision to enable individual councillors to produce and publish an Annual Report if they so wish. The Welsh Government desire the electorate to become better informed of the activities of their elected local authority member.

Whilst it is not compulsory for any councillor to produce an Annual Report, it has been agreed that the Cabinet Member for Customer Care and myself as Chair of the Democratic Services Committee (together with any other member who would wish to) would produce an annual report for 2012/13 to be published on the Gwynedd Council's website. This pilot will help councillors to learn from different experiences and examples, and for Gwynedd council to identify and assess the appropriate resources necessary to achieve this undertaking.

Since my election in May 2012 I serve on the Corporate Scrutiny Committee, Democratic Services Committee and Traeth Lafan Local Nature Reserve Management Committee. I have undertaken 2 special investigations for the Corporate Scrutiny Committee as part of the Systems Thinking Group and the Rural Agenda Working Party which is still ongoing. I am also a member of the Bangor Project Group and the Area Committee. I attend the Planning Committee as the local member as and when anything concerning Garth is discussed. I have also attended meetings and workshops concerning the Joint Local Development Plan

### 1. Council Meetings Attended

Meeting	Number of Meetings	Number of Meetings attended
Full Council	6	6
Corporate Scrutiny Committee	6	5
Corporate Scrutiny Preparatory Meeting	6	5
Systems Thinking Working Group	7	7
Rural Agenda Working Group	1	1
Democratic Services Committee	4	4
Planning (as local member)	4	4
Traeth Lafan Local Nature Reserve Management Committee	1	1
Bangor Project Group	3	3

### 2. Training Courses Attended

I am undertaken as much training as possible in order to gain greater understanding of Gwynedd Council, its workings and its services in order to best serve my ward. I hope to have gained sufficient understanding to enable me to give advice at my ward surgeries in Garth starting from September 2013. I have attended 18 training sessions:-

- General Induction for New Members
- Introduction to Planning
- Introduction to the new culture and protocols
- Scrutiny Committee
- North Wales Regional Induction
- Managing Change (Strategic & Improvement)
- Welsh Assembly – Regional Event
- Habituation Workshops
- North Wales Regional Induction
- Questioning Skills for Scrutiny
- North Wales Regional Induction

Corporate Parenting  
Education Training  
Code of Conduct  
Ipad  
Information about People: Your Responsibility  
Data Performance Schools & Authorities  
School Governing & Child Protection

3. Seminars and Workshops Attended

Strategic Plan  
Seminar on Gwynedd Council's Financial Position

4. Outside Bodies where I represent Gwynedd Council

Governor at Ysgol Hirael, Bangor  
Member of Lafan Sands Management committee

5. Other meetings I attend as a Gwynedd Councillor

Joint Local Development planning  
Feasibility of refurbishing the Cathedral's Bible Gardens

6. Meetings arranged with Gwynedd Officers

In March I was elected chairman of the Democratic Services Committee and now have regular meetings with Gwynedd Officers.

7. Site Meetings with Gwynedd Officers

I have held site visits and inspections with Officers of Gwynedd Council, in particular looking at parking, possible conservation areas, road signs and markings, state of roads and pavements including potholes and cleanliness, rights of way and especially Love Lane, where there is a feasibility study being undertaken at the moment. I have also attended a site meeting for Allotments in Bangor

8. Other Meetings

I am a member of the Bangor University Liaison Group where we have discussed matters such as Student accommodation, use of University buildings and Pontio.

9. Other Activities

I am Chairman of Garth community Centre where we try to provide classes and services which we believe will interest the local people and also provide a small income for the Centre in terms of rental. We believe that this also provides a work opportunity for anyone who provides classes. The Centre acts as a focal point for the community.

10. Constituency Activities

I have received a considerable number of telephone calls, emails and letters from residents seeking help and advice from Planning Issues to Refuse Collection. In particular, in Garth we have a controversial issue regarding Dickie's Boatyard, in March following a Public Consultation exercise carried out by Messrs Watkin Jones, I instigated a Public Meeting with Garth Residents to discuss these proposals which was well attended. We agreed a plan of action and were pleased when our efforts were successful.

During my Election Campaign and since being elected in May 2012, I have been working towards resolving the issue of Love Lane both in terms of the road surface and the safety of users, especially for pedestrians. I am pleased that Gwynedd Council are conducting a Feasibility Study and Traffic Survey on traffic users which will look for ways of alleviating the problem.

