

ANNUAL REPORT 2013/14

Councillor: Lesley Day

Group: Independent

Ward: Garth

Purpose of the annual report:

The aim of the Annual Report is to assist the electorate to become better informed of the work and activities of their elected local authority member during the year.

Role and responsibilities:

Chairman of the Democratic Services Committee, Member of The Council, Corporate Scrutiny Committee, Local Joint Consultative Committee, Bangor Project Team and Ogwen Area Forum

Constituency activities :

I receive a considerable number of telephone calls, emails and letters from residents seeking help and advice on a wide range of issues from Planning to Refuse Collection.

I attend the Planning Committee as the local member as and when anything concerning Garth is discussed. In Garth we have been able to successfully influence the Design Commission and Developers not to go ahead with five 7 - storey buildings on Phase 2 of the former Dickies' Boatyard as well as the student accommodation blocks at Bron Derw.

I have organised a series of public workshops. There was an 'Introduction to Planning' evening where we had experts talking to us about the planning process - from a planning application through to the responsibilities and powers of your local councillors, Bangor City Council and Gwynedd Council, through to the Joint Local Development Plan and how to contribute. There were further sessions on Understanding the Former Dickies Boatyard Site – Constraints, Limitations and Possibilities. Following the latest Public Consultation by Watkin Jones, we passed our comments to Watkin Jones Group and are currently awaiting their revised plans.

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 was delighted when Gwynedd Council undertook repairs and resurfaced Love Lane in October, and pleased that, following Gwynedd Council's Feasibility Study and Traffic Survey, there was a Public Consultation on the possible alternative methods of a safe route for pedestrians.

I regularly walk the ward and I have undertaken a detailed Street Scene Survey in Garth; it is disappointing that there is so little money when it is necessary to repair so many potholes and patch road defects. But it is useful to have a inventory which can be updated as necessary.

I am on the Gwynedd Working Group Waste and Recycling Initiative looking at Bangor. This Working Group is made up of Gwynedd Officers, Councillors, and the University including the Students' Union. In Garth, and some areas of Bangor, much of the housing stock has been adapted to become Houses of Multiple Occupation for students which can exacerbate waste issues in particular. We are seeking to improve the current situation of food waste, recycling and rubbish and to achieve cleaner streets, because in the near future due to EU Regulations we will be unable to send our rubbish to landfill.

Other initiatives and activities :

I am Chairman of Garth Community Centre where we provide classes and activities which we hope will interest the local people. We believe that this also provides a work opportunity for anyone who provides classes as well as a small income for the Centre. The Centre acts as a focal point for the Community.

I represent Garth as a Bangor City Councillor and have attended 13 meetings with apologies for 3 meetings of the possible 17 meetings.

I represent Bangor City Council on the Bangor University Liaison Group.

I am the Treasurer for the Bangor Soest Twinning Association. Over the past 40 years we have had many exchanges – schools, choirs, councillors, sport and other groups have enjoyed their exchanges and made firm friends. We celebrated our 40th anniversary in September with an exchange of old friends and Mayors. We hold several fund raising activities each year.

I attended the following Committees:

COMMITTEE	PRESENT
The Council	4
Corporate Scrutiny Committee	4
Democratic Services Committee	4
Standards Committee	1
Local Consultative Joint Committee	1
Corporate Scrutiny Committee Preparatory Meeting	3
Ogwen Area Forum	2
Gwyrfai Area Forum	1

Percentage of Attendance: 83%

I participated in the following additional meetings, seminars, investigations and workshops:

*Scrutiny Forum
 Scrutiny Investigation –Systems thinking and Rural Agenda
 Strategic Plan Workshop
 Savings Workshop
 Disabled Access Hours to the High Street Meetings
 Bangor Project Group
 Extra Care Housing for Elderly
 Housing Sites - Bangor
 JLDP Housing Sites
 JLDP HMO Planning
 Recycling and Composting Consultation
 Planning Meetings
 Engagement with the Public
 Social Media Protocol Working Party*

I represented Gwynedd Council on the following outside bodies:

*Ysgol Hiraef (School Governor)
 Lavan Sands Management Committee*

I represented Gwynedd Council in the following meetings:

*Joint Member Support Officer / Lead
 Member Support
 North Wales Practice Exchange Meetings
 North Wales Probation Trust*

I attended the following Learning and Development training sessions:

Corporate
Authority and Schools Performance Data
School Governance and Child Protection
Housing Letting Policy and Statutory Responsibilities
Propriety Matters and Planning Appeals
Corporate Parenting Panel

Additional
I-pad
Effective Chairing Skills
Dealing with the Press

Total Number of hours: 24

