

## ANNUAL REPORT - 2015/16

<p><b>Councillor:</b> Gareth Thomas</p> <p><b>Ward:</b> Penrhyndeudraeth</p>	<p><b>Group:</b> Plaid Cymru</p>																								
<p><b>Purpose of the annual report:</b> 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.</p>																									
<p><b>Role and responsibilities:</b> Local Member representing the Penrhyndeudraeth Constituency Cabinet Member with responsibility for Education</p>																									
<p><b>Constituency activities:</b></p> <p>Regular meetings with the Police to discuss local matters Discussions with the Highways Agency regarding road safety at the Square and Castle Street Collaborated with Council Officers and the Headteacher of Ysgol Cefn Coch to plan safe routes to the School Responded to the Gwynedd and Anglesey Joint Local Development Plan Worked with the Football Club/Sports Association/Town Council to secure the future of the Park's Sports Field Chairman of the Briwet Bridge Liaison Committee Meetings with Council Officers and residents of Penlan Uchaf and Penlan Isaf to try to resolve a land ownership dispute Worked with Llanfrothen Community Council to slow the speed of traffic by the memorial Worked with Penrhyn and Llanfrothen Councils to undertake a transport survey in the area Work with the Town Council to establish allotments at Cae Cookes Discussions with Ffestiniog Railway regarding repair work on train tracks near Hen Fecws Supported a number of electors with housing and accommodation matters</p> <p>The main matters I campaigned on were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minffordd playing field (including a successful application for funding from the National Grid for £10,000)</li> <li>• Restoration of Llanfrothen bus services</li> <li>• Objected to the downgrading and re-location of the Post Office Service in Penrhyn</li> <li>• Parking Problems in various places in the constituency</li> <li>• Impact of the Local Development Plan on Penrhyndeudraeth</li> <li>• Objected to charging a fee in Sarn Car Park</li> <li>• Changes to the Library Service</li> <li>• Installation of underground electric cables under Afon Dwyryd</li> </ul> <p>These include a number of meetings with officers from different Council Departments and officers from other agencies.</p>																									
<p><b>Other initiatives and activities:</b></p> <p>Chairman of Penrhyndeudraeth Town Council Attended the meetings of Llanfrothen Community Council Attended the meetings of Minffordd residents and Festival No. 6 organisers Member of a group that seeks to develop a Community Energy project in the Area Member of a Local Committee that seeks to restore and develop the Cob Tollgate building</p>																									
<p><b>I attended the following Committees:</b></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #d3d3d3;"> <th style="width: 15%;">COMMITTEE</th> <th style="width: 15%;">NUMBER OF MEETINGS*</th> <th style="width: 15%;">PRESENT</th> <th style="width: 15%;">LOCAL MEMBER / OBSERVER / SCRUTINY</th> <th style="width: 15%;">APOLOGISED</th> <th style="width: 15%;">ABSENT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Meirionnydd Area Forum</td> <td>5</td> <td>1</td> <td>0</td> <td>4</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>The Cabinet</td> <td>14</td> <td>13</td> <td>0</td> <td>1</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>The Council</td> <td>6</td> <td>4</td> <td>0</td> <td>2</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>* NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS DURING 2015/16</p> <p>Percentage of Attendance: 72%</p>		COMMITTEE	NUMBER OF MEETINGS*	PRESENT	LOCAL MEMBER / OBSERVER / SCRUTINY	APOLOGISED	ABSENT	Meirionnydd Area Forum	5	1	0	4	0	The Cabinet	14	13	0	1	0	The Council	6	4	0	2	0
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**I was absent from the Committees noted because:**

Commitments as Cabinet Member and clashes with other meetings

**I participated in the following additional meetings, seminars, investigations and workshops:**As Cabinet Member for Education:

Corporate Parent Panel  
 Children and Young People Delivery Panel  
 Strategic Panel for Safeguarding Children and Adults  
 Working Group to Influence Children's Social Use of Welsh  
 Strategic Meetings of Secondary School Headteachers  
 Strategic Meetings of Primary School Headteachers  
 Schools Organisation Programme Board (Chairman)  
 Berwyn Catchment Area Education Project Board  
 Gader Catchment Area Education Project Board  
 Cynnal Management Board  
 Additional Education Project Board  
 Schools Budget Forum  
 Schools Savings Target Working Group  
 Education Management Team  
 Schools Admission Forum  
 Special Educational Needs Joint Committee  
 Primary Headteachers Conference  
 WLGA Annual Conference  
 The Welsh Language Charter Conference  
 Attended the Services Scrutiny Committee meetings  
 Attended Scrutiny Investigations

As a Local Member:

Strategic Plan Workshop  
 Savings Workshops  
 Cuts Workshops  
 Meirionnydd Area Forum  
 Council's Engagement Group

**I represented Gwynedd Council on the following external bodies or following meetings:**

Ysgol Ardudwy (Governor)  
 Ysgol Cefn Coch (Governor)  
 Ysgol Hafod Lon (Governor)  
 Ysgol y Garreg – observer at Governors' meetings  
 Gwynedd and Anglesey Post-16 Education Consortium (Chairman)  
 GWE Joint Committee - the schools improvement service  
 Llandrillo Menai Group Board  
 Estyn  
 Welsh Government  
 WLGA

**I attended the following Learning and Development training sessions:**

	<b>Date</b>
Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014	07/07/15 and 21/01/16
2016 Code of Conduct - Update	23/03/16
Effective Chairing Skills	28/04/16
Awareness Raising Session about Hate Crimes	28/04/16
Dementia - Raising Awareness and developing dementia friendly communities	09/05/16

**Total number of hours: 18.5**