

BCBC Councillor's Annual Report

Councillor C E Smith

Ward: Llangewydd and Brynhyfryd

Party: Labour

This report identifies my key activities during the year ending 30 April 2018. It is provided for the information of all constituents and for no other purpose. The views expressed in this report are those of the Councillor and do not necessarily reflect the views of Bridgend County Borough Council.

Role & Responsibilities

I was elected to Bridgend County Borough Council to represent Llangewydd and Brynhyfryd on 4th May 2017. I have undertaken a variety of roles within the Council this year including being appointed to several committees.

I have supported the residents of my ward on a variety of issues and have formally raised 64 constituent queries with the council and other organisations. This is in addition to informally addressing a number of other issues which you have asked me to help you resolve.

To enable me to fulfil my role as your representative, I have attended a number of member development activities which have assisted me to ensure that my knowledge of national and local issues affecting the council and my ward is maintained.

Further information of my [roles, responsibilities and activities](#) can be found by using this link.

Constituency Activity

I have supported the residents of my ward on a variety of issues and have formally raised 64 constituent queries with the council and other organisations.

I have a ward Facebook page (Charles 4 Llangewydd and Brynhyfryd) and I hold a regular surgery (appointment recommended) at Westward Community Centre, normally at 9.30 am on the first Saturday of the month. My contact details are on the BCBC website.

I live within the ward, and have done since the 1970s, so I am approachable, available and nearby for informal discussions or advice on council matters. I am often to be seen walking or cycling round the ward, and I regularly use our local bus service (Cefn Glas circular, routes 68 and 69).

Initiatives and Special Activities

I personally hand deliver a Christmas card and at least one newsletter to every house in

the ward every year, and this ensures that you have a reminder of my contact details, and I get a close look at every street in the area.

Additionally, a little while ago, I delivered a personal letter informing everyone in the ward of a new housing development off Barnes Avenue. This matter is ongoing, and with other local councillors I am keeping a very close eye on it, particularly with respect to traffic and road safety issues.

I am a strong supporter of our Westward Community Centre, and attend the Friday afternoon sessions of the over-50s "Young at Heart" group whenever I can. I am also a governor of Cefn Glas Infants School, which my son and daughter attended some years ago.

Ward councillors this year have been granted a budget to support local organisations. To date I have used my allocation to contribute towards a new kitchen at the Westward Community Centre, workshop activities for the Young at Heart Club, and outdoor environmental work at Llangewydd Junior School. I am awaiting applications from the Scouts and Cubs and from Cefn Glas Infants.

Other Activities/Issues

As Cabinet member for Education and Regeneration I have contributed to a number of major policy initiatives. However I think it's very important that councillors should actively represent their local community, and that is always my first priority. I believe that the county borough council should cooperate closely with town and community councils, and I think the modernisation and maintenance of our local childrens' playgrounds, and the protection of our open spaces, are good examples of such cooperation, with visible and positive results

Councillor Charles Smith

Date: 31.5.18