

WREXHAM COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEMBER ANNUAL REPORT

This is the report by the Councillor below regarding their key activities over the year ending 31 May 2014. It is provided for the information of all constituents and for no other purpose.

Councillor: David A Bithell

Party: Independent

Ward: Johnstown

Section 1: Role & Responsibilities

I sit on the following committees (Attendance figures supplied by WCBC) :

1. Executive Board
2. Executive Board Corporate Trusts
3. Leader of Wrexham Independent Group
4. Change Board
5. Review of Political Management Working Group
6. Full Council.
7. Pay and Reward Panel
8. Corporate Land and Building Strategy Working Group

I sit on the following external committees (Attendance figures supplied by Councillor) :

1. Rhos Community Council.(Johnstown ward)
2. Johnstown Resource Centre Management Committee
3. Governor at Johnstown Junior School
4. Chair of Governors Johnstown Infant School
5. Hafod Liaison Group Co- Chair

Section 2: Constituency Activity

1. Continue to monitor 20mph zones in Johnstown and liaise with the police and community council to raise the awareness of the speeding.
2. Work daily on a large number of individual cases some of which include housing applications and council complaints.
3. I have been working to address flooding problems over the winter in Plas Hafan and Johnstown Infant school.
4. Work with North Wales Police and hold regular meetings to address resident's concerns on crime and disorder and hold focus meetings with residents. Supported the introduction of a pilot OWL scheme in Delyn and look to expend the scheme further in the village.
5. Helped secure funding from Rhos Community council for two new street lights following concern of crime and dark area in Worsley Avenue.
6. Over the past 12 months have been liaising with Rhos Community Council to secure continued funding for Play Areas, Community Centre and School Crossing Patrols.
7. Continue to support tenants with off road parking and security lighting schemes on the Moreton Estate.
8. Working with Wrexham council on serious safety issues of trespass of a local railway crossing in Johnstown and looking to close the public rights of way crossing.
9. In my role as School Governor work closely with local schools to help support and promote schools and raise standards. Both schools have recently undergone Estyn Inspections.
10. Liaising with the new community trust to support the re-opening of Plas Madoc following the decision to close the Centre.
11. Meet with local businesses twice yearly in Vauxhall Industrial Estate to address local concerns. Worked with Brother to secure sponsorship for Johnstown under 11 Football team.

Section 3: Initiatives and Special Activities

I have been working with Johnstown Bowls Club to secure funding for a new all-purpose built building. This has involved many meetings with Wrexham council and developing a business case to secure funding.

Section 4: Learning & Development

1. Attended training sessions provided by the council as well as workshops on various subjects during the calendar year.

Section 5: Other Activities and Issues

1. As Leader of Wrexham Independent Group, I meet on a monthly basis with the Chief Executive and officers of the council to ensure that members of the group are kept informed on current issues and raise any particular areas of concern in particular the budget issues effecting constituents.
2. I meet on a regular basis with some North Wales Assembly Members to discuss key issues in Welsh Government and the impact this has on local government given the severe financial cuts across Wales.
3. Act as spokesperson for Wrexham Independent Group on key issues at meetings at full council and executive board meeting including responding to the media.
4. Attend Scrutiny Committees of which I am not a member to monitor council activities and work programmes.

Signature of Councillor: David A Bithell

Date: 28 August 2014