



Powys County Council Councillor's Annual Report

This report gives details of the Councillor's key activities over the year ending 15th May 2013. It is provided for the information of all constituents and for no other purpose.

Councillor: Matthew J. Dorrance	Tel: 01874 611980
Ward: St. John	Mobile: 07507 597503
Shire: Brecknockshire	Email: cllr.matthew.dorrance@powys.gov.uk
Group: Welsh Labour & Co-operative	Date: September, 2013

Section 1: Role & Responsibilities

I served on these Powys County Council committees [actual attendance/number of meetings held] and working groups:

Powys County Council – 8/8

Environment, Infrastructure and Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee – 4/4

People Scrutiny Committee – 4/4

Employment and Appeals Committee – 4/6

Brecknockshire – 7/7

Adult Social Care Scrutiny Group

Car Parking in Brecon Working Group (Lead Member)

ICT Working Group

Community Pooled Equipment Working Group

As a member of Powys County Council, I regularly contributed in the Council Chamber and spoke up for Brecon. I have asked several questions of the council's Cabinet members on issues including housing, education, tackling poverty, public transport, school meals and dog fouling. I also put a motion to council calling for the authority to pay its workforce the Living Wage.

Section 2: Constituency activity

Since being elected in May 2012, I have established and held two advice surgeries per month for residents to meet with me and discuss any issues they need help and support with. These were on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at Brecon Library from 5-6pm.

I have also held specialist surgery sessions for residents in Brecon, St John Ward where confidential advice has been available. In March 2013, I held a Bedroom Tax advice day where I brought Powys County Council, Wales and West Housing Association and Shelter Cymru together to provide the specialist help and support to residents and in October 2012, I hosted an Energy Advice Day at Kensington Church where NEST and the Citizens Advice Bureau were available to help give money management advice and information on reducing energy bills.

Over the last 12 months, I have delivered quarterly 'Local Voice' newsletters to every home in the ward so that residents are kept informed of the work I do on their behalf. This has included the opportunity for residents to return the survey section of the newsletter so that they can let me know what is important to them and how I can help.

Listening to the residents in St John Ward is important to me and I have held numerous 'Street Surgeries' where I have knocked on residents' doors to chat about local issues and their concerns.

I am pleased that following the election, I have been successful in getting Powys County Council to replace the broken and dilapidated safety railings on the promenade – I made a commitment to the community that I would take action to secure the regeneration of the Prom and I am pleased that I have been able to get this started. Last summer, I led a clean up of the old bandstand area that included members of the Gurkha community and Brecon Town Council helping to paint benches and graffiti covered walls and plant new flowers in the planters.

I have successfully worked with members of the community and Powys County Council to address issues that have been raised with me. These include getting footpaths in Beacons Park and The Uplands repaired, street lights switched on where there has been a need and getting our housing estates tidied up – although I want to go further next year!

I worked closely with Priory School and in December 2012, the children designed my Christmas Card and I delivered a copy to every house in the ward. I have supported the members of Brecon Youth Centre and was honoured to have been a judge at one of their competitions. I have spoken to a number of local groups including the Brecon Business Club.

Over the last year, I have attended every Police and Community Together [PACT] meeting held in St John Ward where I have pushed forward on my safer communities' pledge. I have used these meetings to secure speed calming devices for Pendre and Cradoc Road as well as mobile CCTV on the Postern where car crime has been a long standing issue.

In March 2013, I held a coffee morning for residents living in warden controlled accommodation at the new St John's Family Centre. This brought residents and local service providers together to discuss issues and concerns so that we were able to work together to make improvements. I have also taken the Cabinet Member for Housing and several council staff on 'walkabouts' around the ward so that they were aware of the challenges and opportunities in St John Ward. From my regular discussions with the community, I have put several ideas forward for works that would improve our housing estates and I look forward to seeing if these are successful.

Section 3: Learning & Development

After the elections in May 2012 induction sessions were provided during May and June to ensure that Councillors could undertake their roles. Ongoing monthly development is provided.

Induction sessions – Induction 1,2 & 3; Code of Conduct; Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting; Welsh Local Government Association Scrutiny induction.

Ongoing development - Treasury Management, Information handling and data protection, Performance and project management; Adult Social Care.

I have requested a place on a Welsh course as I feel it is important that I develop Welsh language skills so that I can communicate with residents in Welsh and English. I also undertook regular training and development provided by my political party that helps develop my skills as a local representative.

Section 4: Outside organisations and other activities

I was a Director of Theatr Brycheiniog and Care and Repair Powys where I have been appointed to both boards in my capacity as a member of Powys County Council. I was the Vice Chairman of Brecon Leisure Centre Consultative Committee, the Local Education Authority [LEA] governor at Priory Church in Wales School and a member of Brecon Town Council.



Cyngor Sir Powys Adroddiad Blynyddol y Cyngorydd

Mae'r adroddiad hwn yn rhoi manylion am weithgareddau allweddol y Cyngorydd yn ystod y flwyddyn yn diweddu 15 Mai, 2013. Caiff ei ddarparu er gwybodaeth i'r holl etholwyr ac nid at unrhyw ddiben arall.

Cyngorydd: Matthew J. Dorrance	Ffôn: 01874 611980
Ward: St. John	Ffôn symudol: 07507 597503
Ardal: Sir Frycheiniog	E-bost: cllr.matthew.dorrance @ powys.gov.uk
Grŵp Llafur Cymru a'r Blaid Gydweithredol	Dyddiad: Medi 2013

Adran 1: Rôl a Chyfrifoldebau

Rwyf wedi gwasanaethu ar y pwyllgorau a'r gweithgorau hyn o Gyngor Sir Powys [presenoldeb / nifer y cyfarfodydd a gynhaliwyd]:

- Cyngor Sir Powys – 8/8
- Pwyllgor Craffu yr Amgylchedd, Seilwaith a Throsedd ac Anhrefn – 4/4
- Pwyllgor Craffu Pobl – 4/4
- Pwyllgor Cyflogaeth ac Apeliadau 4/6
- Sir Frycheiniog 7/7
- Grŵp Craffu Gofal Cymdeithasol i Oedolion
- Gweithgor Parcio Ceir yn Aberhonddu (Aelod Arweiniol)
- Gweithgor TGCh
- Gweithgor Cyfarpar Cymunedol a Rennir

Fel aelod o Gyngor Sir Powys, rwyf wedi cyfrannu'n rheolaidd yn Siambr y Cyngor ac wedi siarad dros Aberhonddu. Rwyf wedi gofyn nifer o gwestiynau i aelodau Cabinet y Cyngor am faterion yn cynnwys tai, addysg, mynd i'r afael â thlodi, cludiant cyhoeddus, prydau ysgol a baw cŵn. Rwyf hefyd wedi rhoi cynnig gerbron y cyngor yn galw am i'r awdurdod dalu Cyflog Byw i'w weithlu.

Adran 2: Gweithgaredd yr etholaeth

Ers cael fy ethol ym mis Mai 2012, rwyf wedi sefydlu ac wedi cynnal dwy gymhorthfa'r mis i'r trigolion allu fy nghyfarfod i drafod unrhyw faterion y mae arnyn nhw angen cymorth a chefnogaeth gyda nhw. Cynhaliwyd y rhain ar y 1af a'r 3ydd dydd Mawrth o bob mis yn Llyfrgell Aberhonddu o 5-6pm.

Rwyf hefyd wedi cynnal cymorthfeydd arbenigol ar gyfer trigolion yn Ward St John, Aberhonddu, lle mae cyngor cyfrinachol wedi bod ar gael. Ym mis Mawrth 2013, cynhaliais ddiwrnod i roi cyngor am y Dreth Ystafell Wely lle deuthum â Chyngor Sir Powys, Cymdeithas Tai Cymru a'r Gorllewin a Shelter Cymru at ei gilydd i ddarparu cymorth arbenigol a chefnogaeth i breswylwyr ac ym mis Hydref 2012 cynhaliais ddiwrnod Cyngor ar Ynni yn Eglwys Kensington lle roedd NEST a'r Ganolfan Cyngor ar Bopeth ar gael i helpu i roi cyngor am leihau biliau ynni a gwybodaeth am reoli arian.

Dros y 12 mis diwethaf, rwyf wedi dosbarthu cylchlythyrau chwarterol 'Llais Lleol' i bob cartref yn y ward fel bod trigolion yn cael gwybod am y gwaith rwy'n ei wneud ar eu rhan. Mae hyn wedi cynnwys y cyfle i drigolion ddychwelyd adran arolwg y cylchlythyr fel y gallant adael i mi wybod beth sy'n bwysig iddyn nhw a sut rwyf yn gallu helpu.

Mae gwrando ar drigolion Ward St John yn bwysig i mi ac rwyf wedi cynnal nifer o 'Gymorthfeydd Stryd' lle rwyf wedi curo ar ddrysau trigolion i sgwrsio am eu pryderon a materion lleol.

Rwyf yn falch, yn dilyn yr etholiad, fy mod wedi bod yn llwyddiannus o ran cael Cyngor Sir Powys i roi rheiliau newydd yn lle'r rheiliau diogelwch oedd wedi torri ar y promenâd - fe wnes ymrwymiad i'r gymuned y byddwn yn cymryd camau i sicrhau bod y Prom yn cael ei adfywio ac rwy'n falch fy mod wedi gallu rhoi hyn ar waith. Yr haf diwethaf, arweiniais ymgyrch i lanhau ardal yr hen fandstand a daeth aelodau o'r gymuned Gurkha a Chyngor Tref Aberhonddu i helpu i baentio meinciau a waliau wedi'u gorchuddio gan graffiti a phlannu blodau newydd yn y blychau plannu.

Rwyf wedi gweithio'n llwyddiannus gydag aelodau'r gymuned a Chyngor Sir Powys i fynd i'r afael â materion a godwyd gyda mi. Mae'r rhain yn cynnwys cael llwybrau troed wedi'u trwsio ym Mharc y Bannau a'r Uplands, cael goleuadau stryd wedi eu rhoi ymlaen lle roedd eu hangen a chael ein hystadau tai wedi'u tacluso - er fy mod am fynd ymhellach y flwyddyn nesaf!

Rwyf wedi gweithio'n agos gydag Ysgol y Priordy ac ym mis Rhagfyr 2012, aeth y plant ati i ddylunio fy Ngherdyn Nadolig a dosbarthais gopi i bob tŷ yn y ward. Rwyf wedi cefnogi aelodau o Ganolfan Ieuencid Aberhonddu a chefais fy anrhydeddu pan ofynnwyd i mi fod yn feirniad yn un o'u cystadlaethau. Rwyf wedi siarad â nifer o grwpiau lleol, gan gynnwys Clwb Busnes Aberhonddu.

Dros y flwyddyn ddiwethaf, rwyf wedi mynychu pob un o gyfarfodydd yr Heddlu a Chymunedau Gyda'i Gilydd [PACT] a gynhaliwyd yn Ward St John lle rwyf wedi symud ymlaen gyda fy addewid i sicrhau cymunedau mwy diogel. Rwyf wedi defnyddio'r cyfarfodydd hyn i sicrhau dyfeisiau arafu cyflymder ar gyfer Pendre a Ffordd Cradoc yn ogystal â CCTV symudol ar y Postern lle mae troseddau ceir wedi bod yn broblem ers amser maith.

Ym mis Mawrth 2013 cynhaliais fore coffi ar gyfer trigolion sy'n byw mewn llety dan reolaeth warden yng Nghanolfan Deuluol newydd St John's. Daeth hyn â thrigolion a darparwyr gwasanaethau lleol at ei gilydd i drafod problemau a phryderon fel ein bod yn gallu gweithio gyda'n gilydd i wneud gwelliannau. Rwyf hefyd wedi mynd â'r Aelod Cabinet ar gyfer Tai a nifer o staff y cyngor am dro o amgylch y ward fel eu bod yn ymwybodol o'r heriau a'r cyfleoedd yn Ward St. John. Yn dilyn fy nhrafodaethau rheolaidd gyda'r gymuned, rwyf wedi cyflwyno nifer o syniadau ar gyfer gwaith a fyddai'n gwella ein stadau tai ac edrychaf ymlaen at weld a fydd y rhain yn llwyddiannus.

Adran 3: Dysgu a Datblygu:

Ar ôl yr etholiadau ym mis Mai 2012 darparwyd sesiynau ymsefydlu yn ystod mis Mai a mis Mehefin er mwyn sicrhau y gallai Cyngorwyr wneud eu gwaith. Darperir sesiynau datblygu bob mis. Sesiynau ymsefydlu - Ymsefydlu 1, 2 a 3; Cod Ymddygiad; Diogelu a Rhianta Corfforaethol; Cynefino â Chraffu Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru.

Datblygiad parhaus - Rheoli'r Trysorlys, Trin gwybodaeth a diogelu data, Rheoli Perfformiad a Phrosiectau; Gofal Cymdeithasol i Oedolion.

Rwyf wedi gofyn am le ar gwrs Cymraeg gan fy mod yn teimlo ei bod yn bwysig fy mod yn datblygu sgiliau iaith Gymraeg fel y gallaf gyfathrebu â thrigolion yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg. Rwyf hefyd wedi ymgymryd â hyfforddiant a datblygiad rheolaidd a ddarperir gan fy mhlaidd wleidyddol sy'n helpu i ddatblygu fy sgiliau fel cynrychiolydd lleol.

Adran 4: Sefydliadau Allanol a gweithgareddau eraill

Roeddwn yn Gyfarwyddwr Theatr Brycheiniog a Gofal a Thrwsio Powys lle cefais fy mhenodi i'r ddau fwrdd yn rhinwedd fy swydd fel aelod o Gyngor Sir Powys. Roeddwn yn Is-gadeirydd Pwyllgor Ymgynghorol Canolfan Hamdden Aberhonddu, yn llywodraethwr yr Awdurdod Addysg Lleol [AALI] yn Ysgol yr Eglwys yng Nghymru Priordy ac yn aelod o Gyngor Tref Aberhonddu.