

Member's Annual Report 2017/18

This is the report by the Councillor below regarding his key activities over the year ending 31 March 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 they do not necessarily reflect the views of the Isle of Anglesey County Council.

Councillor: Dafydd Rhys Thomas
Group: The Independent Group

Ward: Ynys Gybi

1 - Role & Responsibilities

Between May 2017 and March 2018, I sat on the following main committees / sub-committees:	Number of meetings arranged	Number attended
Council	9	9
The Executive	11	9
Standards Committee	2	2
<p>The statistics provided are relevant only to the committees listed in this table. The statistics do not include attendance at other meetings related to the work of the Council. Attendance may also be dependent on the availability of a Member who is in employment.</p> <p><i>Attendance levels may vary due to the nature of work and responsibilities of members - as portfolio holder, committee chair or representing the Council on outside bodies, for example.</i></p>		

I am a member of the Isle of Anglesey Charitable Trust and attended 6 of the 6 meetings arranged. I am also a member of the Investments and Contracts committee of the Trust and did not attend the 1 meeting arranged

I represent the Council on the following outside bodies:	Number of meetings arranged	Number attended
Joint Council for Wales		
Governor – Ysgol Cybi Primary School		
Wylfa Newydd Project Liaison Group		

2 - Constituency Activity

As well as being a member of the Ynys Môn County Council I am also a member of the Trearddur Community Council and attended all their monthly meetings. Although not a member of the Rhoscolyn Community Council I have been regularly attending their meetings as a guest. I represent the County Council on the governing bodies of Ysgol Gybi and Ysgol Gymraeg Morswyn. I am a member of the Horizon Wylfa Newydd stakeholder group and regularly attend those meetings.

3 - Initiatives and Special Activities

I take an active interest in all aspects of the constituency life and am always willing to meet formally or informally with the electors to discuss any issues of concern for example littering, waste, dog fouling, planning and highways issues, flooding, rights of way amenities, etc. and am always available to be contacted by phone, by email or face to face. I try to resolve issues myself or referring issues to the appropriate department on behalf of the electors and I am very grateful to the Council Officers for the help and support in addressing and resolving issues.

I am still involved in community clean-ups and applaud the community spirit in particular work done to improve the appearance of the village, cutting vegetation, litter picking, planting, etc. and this is an excellent way to bring the community together to achieve something positive.

I'm very grateful that I was re-elected to represent the Cybi ward in May 2017. It is a great honour for me to represent this very special area and I do my very best to represent the whole area from Rhoscolyn to Mynydd Tŵr.

The area is very geographically varied and has some very prosperous parts but I also represent some of the poorest most deprived communities in Wales.

After my election I was fortunate enough to have been given a post on the cabinet responsible for Corporate matters and this has given me an opportunity to learn how complex the Council is and how the democratic process works.

We as a Council are facing huge challenges in all fields but particularly in Social Services, Children and Adult Services, in Education and are striving to improve educational standards and to bring in reform and introduce 21st-century schools.

There are many other challenges against the background of the greatest of austerity in living memory.

I am of course very interested in the economic development of Ynys Môn and Ynys Gybi.

I recognise the importance of tourism to our economy and issues such as Horizon Wylfa Newydd, the National Grid pylons, Orthios and developments at the Anglesey Aluminium site, the port of Holyhead, Bluestone and the Morlais development on an off shore.

4 - Learning and Development

I have attended the following learning and development initiatives during the past year (information supplied by the Isle of Anglesey County Council):

Introduction to the Authority's Services	11/05/2017
Introduction to the Authority's Services	18/05/2017
IPad training	18/05/2017
Briefing Session – Corporate Plan and Code	18/05/2017
The Constitution	05/06/2017
Housing Act	06/07/2017

Safeguarding Training	07/07/2017
Planning Matters Training	21/07/2017
Violence Against Women/Domestic Abuse	24/10/2017
Effective questioning in Scrutiny	04/12/2017
ACE Training	28/03/2018
Member Briefing Sessions (7 out of 12)	May 2017 – March 2018
<i>Attendance levels may vary due to the nature of work and responsibilities of members - as portfolio holder, committee chair or representing the Council on outside bodies, for example.</i>	

5 - Other Activities and Issues

As a cancer patient I am a member of the North Wales Cancer Forum which focuses on patient centred care.

I am also a member of the Alaw Unit Charity funding panel.

I am working with consultants and staff at Ysbyty Gwynedd to improve patient experience and patient safety particularly regarding human factors and safety.

I have also helped develop an app to help cancer patients with their symptoms funded by Tenovus.

We have a very unique land and seascape here on Ynys Gybi and indeed the whole of Ynys Môn and I'm very keen to protect and enhance our environment and I have proposed a motion to the full County Council that Ynys Môn becomes a plastic free county. I am working with Surfers Against Sewage and the community to promote the reduction, reuse and recycling of plastics. It would be great to see Ynys Môn becoming the first 'plastic free' County in Wales.

It has been a pleasure and privilege to represent the people of the Gybi ward and enjoyed the past 12 months immensely and look forward to the future with enthusiasm and optimism, despite the challenges ahead.

I would also like to thank my fellow Councillors, Council Officials, Council workers for their support and help, and of course my fellow Ynys Gybi members Trefor and John Arwel and the people of Cybi ward for their continued support and friendship and emphasise that I am always available to advise and help in any way I can.

More information about me can be found here:

<http://democracy.anglesey.gov.uk/mgUserInfo.aspx?UID=650&LLL=0>

Councillor Dafydd Rhys Thomas

April 2018
