

ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 2013 - MAY 2014



Councillor Dave Rees

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ELECTORAL WARD: Risca West

PARTY: Independent

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Council

Education for Life Scrutiny Committee (until November 2013)

Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee

Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee

Audit Committee - Chair

Investigating and Disciplinary Committee

Planning Committee (from November 2013)

Scrutiny Leadership Group (from December 2013)

SUBCOMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES/PANELS

Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal - Crumlin Arm Working Group

Risca Town Centre Management Group

OUTSIDE BODIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Aneurin Bevan Community Health Council (until October 2013)

Risca West and East Community Activity Group - Chair

SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY

Risca Primary

Trinity Fields Special School

ATTENDANCE

From May 2013 to May 2014 my attendance at Council meetings was as follows:

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>No. Attended</u>	<u>No. Held</u>
Council	7	9
Crime and Disorder	2	2
Policy and Resources	6	8
Education for Life (until November 2013)	4	5
Audit	5	7
Planning Committee (from November 2013)	4	4

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

I undertook the following training and development seminars and courses: -

Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation	E Voting
Planning (New Permitted Development Rights)	Questioning and Listening Skills
Chairing Skills	Holding Effective Pre-Meetings
Audit (Risk Management)	

CONSTITUENCY ACTIVITY

I held weekly Sunday Street Surgeries where two hundred households per week were given the opportunity to meet face to face with their councillors to have a chat and raise any concerns/issues they might have. Constituents can also communicate with me via telephone, e-mail and twitter. Once again during the past twelve months I received and responded to just over 3000 e-mails, received and made in excess of 1100 telephone calls and travelled 3,500 miles undertaking constituency duties.

Over the past 12 months due to constituency commitments and priorities I was not always available to attend all Council Committee meetings but I always prioritised my attendance to ensure that where resident's issues were concerned they took precedence and those concerns were always fully represented.

As Chair of the Risca West & East Community Events Group I met weekly with the community members to organise the two annual major events in Risca Park- The Summer Fayre and Christmas Event.

I produced a bi-annual newsletter for my constituency, which highlighted areas of interest, events and updates of the work being carried out by myself and other ward member.

I have successfully worked closely with the Council, National Resource Wales and the Environment Minister Mr Allan Davies to find a solution that would bring Risca West out of danger from floods. Work will commence in the Autumn.

I met and spoke to officers of the Housing Dept. on a regular basis with regards to repair and re-housing issues.

I worked closely with many sporting clubs in our area to ensure that leisure and play facilities in Risca meet the needs of the community. Working with Leisure officers, significant improvements, maintenance of facilities and repairs has been made at all our parks.

I worked closely with officers from highways over the past year to improve road conditions and traffic management systems in my area, which included gaining a resolution to the ongoing flooding at Commercial Street by the Tesco Bridge.

After clocking over 3500 miles carrying out constituency duties during this year, no claims were made by me for the mileage undertaken.

Finally, constituents should be aware that for this coming financial year (2014/15) I have decided to donate my Councillor Salary increase to local causes in Risca West.