

COUNCILLORS' ANNUAL REPORTS 2016- 2017

Councillor: Cath Bacon
Ward: Keighley West
Party: Labour
Date Elected: 2015
Basic: £13,463.16
Special Responsibility: £2,964.48
Other Allowances: N/A

Positions held in 2016 – 2017:

Education Appeals Panel (DCh)
Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Childrens Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Alt)
Keighley Area Committee
Area Planning Panel Keighley and Shipley
Bradford Anti Poverty Champion

How many neighbourhood forums have you attended? (Please state a number and not all)

I am not sure of the number

Other meetings/bodies which you regularly attend: (e.g. School governing bodies, outside bodies etc)

Tenant Board Member - Manningham Housing Association
Chair – Customer Scrutiny Panel - Manningham Housing Association
Friends of Keighley Tarn

My priorities for the past year were (May 2016 to April 2017)

Raising awareness around speeding and littering in the ward.

Working with the Police and Intelligence Officers around drug crime and associated low level offences and ASB.

Making sure I was as available for residents as possible, through ward walkabouts and surgeries as well as the use of social media as a contact tool.

**My priorities for the coming year (May 2017 to April 2018) are:
(Please list or describe your priorities or targets as a Councillor for the coming year)**

Working in partnership with Council Officers and partners to expand on the work of the anti poverty co-ordination group, raising awareness of wealth inequality throughout the District and especially within the ward.

Raising awareness around mental health issues and the resources available locally, despite the continuing decimation of funding to this vital area.

Assisting residents with appeals for benefits such as PIP and ESA as well as blue badge disability tribunals.

Working closely with ward officers and the Police as well as volunteers and residents to ensure that I prioritise the workload properly in Keighley West, assisting on the ground with community issues, helping individuals and groups and speaking in Council to continue to ensure that Keighley West remains on the agenda where funding is concerned.

**What I have achieved in the past year (May 2016 to May 2017)
(Please list or describe some of your activities as a Councillor and what you see as your key achievements)**

I was appointed Anti Poverty Champion and now work with a multi partnership team raising awareness, highlighting issues, attracting funding and resources for the District and especially for my ward.

I worked closely with the Police on targeted speed watches and drug raids/investigations, collaborated with Neighbourhood Watch teams and helped gather local intelligence.

I took part in a number of community clean ups throughout the ward with teams from Laycock, Bracken Bank, Ingrow, Braithwaite and volunteers from around the area.

I have raised issues in the Council chamber around the welfare benefit cap and have taken an in depth part in helping to set targets and criteria for eligibility for Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP) and Council Tax Reductions (CTR).

I have attended meetings of Friends of Keighley Tarn to ascertain where funding can be found and developing a team of volunteers interested in the maintenance and welfare of the area.

What training sessions, seminars, briefings and conferences have you attended to develop your skills and gain knowledge that has helped you to serve the people of the district? (Please list them).

Healthy Lives
Chairing skills
CSE E learning