

ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 2014 - MAY 2015



Councillor Barbara Jones

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ELECTORAL WARD: St. James

PARTY: Labour

PROFILE: Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Corporate Services

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Council

Cabinet

Joint Consultative Committee

SUBCOMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES/PANELS

Caerphilly Town Centre Management Group

Caerphilly Homes Task Group

Rights of Way Cabinet Sub-Committee

WLGA Deputy spokes person for Community safety, Police and Fire Authorities.

OUTSIDE BODIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Association of Public Services Excellence (APSE) Welsh Regional Committee

Catalogue Supplies Joint Committee

Greater Gwent (Torfaen) Pension Fund Management Group

Heads of the Valley Joint Organics Project Joint Committee

Local Government Association

Prosiect Gwyrdd Joint Committee

Schools Budget Forum

Welsh Church Fund

Welsh Local Government Association

Welsh Purchasing Consortium

SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY

St. James Primary School

St. Cenydd Comprehensive School

ATTENDANCE

From May 2014 to May 2015 my attendance at Council meetings was as follows:

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>No. Attended</u>	<u>No. Held</u>
Council	9	12
Cabinet	23	26
Caerphilly Homes Task Group	3	7
Joint Consultative Committee	4	4
Rights of Way Cabinet Sub Committee	0	1
Caerphilly Town Centre Management Group	3	3

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

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

Webcasting	NATO Summit (Seminar)
Performance Objectives (Seminar)	20mph Zones (Seminar)
Role and Responsibilities of Cabinet Members	Constitution (Mandatory)
Information Governance (Mandatory)	
Appointments Committee (Mandatory)	
Pensions Compensation Committee (Mandatory)	
Rights of Way Cabinet Sub Committee (Mandatory)	
CCBC Website Re-Launch (Seminar)	
Microsoft Upgrade IT Training	
Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (Seminar)	
Caerphilly Collection Services (Seminar)	
Medium Term Financial Plan (x2) (Seminar)	
Common Housing Register (Seminar)	

CABINET MEMBER ACTIVITY

As Cabinet Member for Corporate Services, I act as the Cabinet expert in these areas, to ensure that the views and needs of the service are built into the Council's policy framework and the decision making process. I attended 6 Scrutiny meetings where I regularly updated other Members about my key portfolio activities.

I updated Members on the detailed preparations ahead of the budget settlement for 2015/16, including a series of drop-in sessions around the county borough ensuring residents had access to information on the savings proposals. I also provided updates on the launch of the new look CCBC Website and the Corporate Information Governance Unit's successful European Social Fund project to improve the sharing of personal information across the Council, Health Board, Police and Third Sectors.

I attended a number of events across the county borough including the successful "One Beat" event held in partnership with GAVO and assisted with the Council's annual "Operation Santa" appeal.

CONSTITUENCY ACTIVITY

I have held a number of well attended surgeries but have also had an open door policy for anyone to call at my home, telephone or email me with their concerns or problems and this appears to work well and people call regularly with many varied issues. These range from the dreaded potholes to speeding traffic, burst water mains, financial issues and housing issues.

I have on Constituents behalf liaised with Officers, Cabinet Members and other Councillors to resolve these issues and concerns.

I have arranged a site meeting to discuss with Officers flooding issues and also signs warning of the danger of horses in the roads in and around Rudry, I have arranged for a new Manhole Cover to be fitted and the offending drains cleaned, overhanging trees and branches which were becoming a hazard to traffic, speeding issues, a traffic survey has been held in St James's to make Police aware of the amount of traffic using the lanes around Rudry, Draethen and Waterloo, this has been very successful, Enabled access to Resources and Services, made referrals for Aids and Adaptations, and to Social Services. I have attended a Communities First Partnership meeting, PACT meetings in which I have raised concerns brought to my attention by Constituents.

I hope to continue to represent the people of St. James Ward for the rest of my term of office, I have thoroughly enjoyed doing so to date, I hope that together with we can make a better future for all.