

# ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 2015 - MAY 2016



Councillor Patricia Cook

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**ELECTORAL WARD:** Blackwood

**PARTY:** Labour

**PROFILE:**

I am a Trustee of Caerphilly Disability CanDo.

**COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

Appointments Committee  
Council  
Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee  
Health Social Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee  
Licensing Committee  
Planning Committee  
Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee  
Standards Committee  
Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee  
Fostering Panel

**SUBCOMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES/PANELS**

Blackwood Town Centre Management Group  
Hospital Discharge Task and Finish Group  
Scrutiny Leadership Group

## **OUTSIDE BODIES AND ASSOCIATIONS**

Blackwood Town Council  
Disability Caerphilly CanDo  
Blackwood and District Crime Prevention Panel  
Aneurin Bevan Community Health Council  
Groundwork Wales Trust

## **SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY**

Blackwood Primary  
Blackwood Comprehensive

## **ATTENDANCE**

From May 2015 to May 2016 my attendance at Council meetings was as follows:

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>No. Attended</u>	<u>No. Held</u>
Blackwood Town Centre Management Group	2	3
Council	10	12
Crime and Disorder Scrutiny	2	2
Health Social Care and Wellbeing	6	8
Hospital Discharge Task and Finish Group	4	4
Licensing and Gambling Sub Committee	2	2
Licensing Committee	3	5
Planning Committee	11	14
Policy and Resources Scrutiny	8	8
Scrutiny Leadership Group	3	3
Standards Committee	3	4
Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee	2	4

## **TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT**

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

Senior Councillors Development Programme	HSCWB Scrutiny (Annual)
Medium Term Financial Plan (Seminar x2)	Voluntary Sector (Annual)
Finance (Seminar)	Policy and Resources (Annual)
New Thinking in Performance Management	Licensing (Annual)
Licensing Gambling Act	
Information Governance (Mandatory)	
Licensing Hearings	
Crime and Disorder (Annual)	
Planning Committee (Annual & 6 Month Update)	
Health and Wellbeing Act	

## **CONSTITUENCY ACTIVITY**

Although my ward colleagues and I initially held weekly surgeries, these were very poorly attended and I now find that constituents prefer to communicate by phone or email. I am available via telephone seven days a week and I ensure my number is widely circulated. If requested I will visit them at home.

This year I have been fortunate enough to have been able to help a number of people with council issues. I am often asked to deal with residents' concerns about Social Services matters, and I have developed a greater understanding of these issues since becoming Vice Chair of the Health Social Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee.

As Blackwood is one of the principal towns in the Borough and has a busy town centre we sometimes encounter problems that are unique to us that required a specifically tailored resolution. I have, along with my ward colleagues been involved in meetings with local police at the Bus Station Problem Solving Group. We have been successful, using a multi-disciplinary approach in helping to alleviate issues concerning anti-social behaviour and drunkenness at the bus station.

I continued to respond to residents concerns with regard to community, environment and housing issues and work hard to achieve successful outcomes for individuals as well as the ward as a whole.