

# ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 2018 - MAY 2019



Councillor Barbara Jones

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**ELECTORAL WARD:** St. James

**PARTY:** Labour

**PROFILE:** Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance and Governance.

## **COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

Council

Cabinet

Cabinet as Trustees of Blackwood Miners Institute

Appeals Panel (Nominated Substitute)

## **SUBCOMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES/PANELS**

Caerphilly Town Centre Management Group

Caerphilly Homes Task Group

Corporate Joint Consultative Committee

Non-Domestic Ratepayers Committee

Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee

## **OUTSIDE BODIES AND ASSOCIATIONS**

Anti Poverty Champion

Glamorgan Archives Joint Committee

Gwent Archives Joint Committee

Local Government Association

Older Persons Champion

Schools Budget Forum  
Welsh Church Fund (substitute)  
Welsh Local Government Association

### **SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY**

St. James Primary School  
St. Cenydd Comprehensive School

### **ATTENDANCE**

From May 2018 to May 2019 my attendance at Council meetings was as follows:

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>No. Attended</u>	<u>No. Held</u>
Council	10	11
Cabinet	21	23
Cabinet as Trustees of BMI	2	3
Caerphilly Town Centre Management Group	1	2
Non-Domestic Rate Payers Committee	1	1
Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee	2	4
Pensions Compensation Committee	1	6
Caerphilly Homes Task Group	4	8
Appointments Committee	1	1

### **TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT**

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

PDR Training  
Unconscious Bias in Decision Making (Requested)  
Gwent Police Station Closures (Seminar)  
Corporate Safeguarding Briefing (Seminar)  
Medium Term Financial Plan (Seminar)  
Schools Causing Concern (Recommended)  
Treasury Management (Seminar)

### **CABINET MEMBER ACTIVITY**

As Deputy Leader of Council and Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance and Governance, I acted 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 Scrutiny meetings where I regularly updated other Members about my key portfolio activities.

Along with my regularly scheduled committee, cabinet and council meetings during 2018/19. I also attended the following events and meetings:-

WLGA Councils, Armed Forces Day Celebrations, Meeting between 50+ Forum Champions & Caerphilly 50+ Forum, Citizenship Ceremony, Police & Parenting Network day at St James School, Mayor's Civic Service, Merchant Navy Day, HR Strategy Group, 50+ Forum Steering Group, BIP Board, Gwent Archives Joint Committee, Glamorgan Archives Joint Committee, WLGA Regional Induction Event, Corporate Governance Panel, Policy Forum

for Wales Keynote Seminar: Tackling Poverty in Wales, Youth Forum Conference, Voluntary Sector Awards Event, Twinning visit to Ludwigsburg, Memory Bags Launch in Caerphilly Library, Christina Harray & Hefin David AM, Meeting with Caerphilly County Credit Union, Looked After Children Event (Younger and Older group), Caerphilly Remembers Event, Mayor's Carol Service, MSO/Lead Members Network (Democratic Services), WAO Scrutiny Review Interview (Focus Group) Wellbeing for Future Generations, Business Rate Meeting, Holocaust Memorial Day, Luncheon Club's, Town Centre Improvement Group, Commonwealth Day – Raising of the Flag, Lansbury Park Masterplan, WLGA Brexit and Social Care Event, Boundary Commission Working Group.

I also met regularly with Heads of Service, Directors, the Chief Executive, Police and Crime Commissioner and Trade Unions with regard to my portfolio priorities.

I attend WLGA Co-ordinating Committee, Looked After Children Event, BIP Board Meeting, Governors Meetings, Caerphilly Homes Celebration Evening, Waste Challenge Board Meeting, Corporate Parenting, Lansbury Park Deep Place Study Focus Group, WLGA Conference, Disability CANDO Celebration, Business Awards, Launch of the Corporate Parenting Handbook, Pension Fund Actuarial.

## **CONSTITUENCY ACTIVITY**

These are the issues that I have worked on over the past year many of which are ongoing, planning applications, ward members issues which I needed to resolve, pothole maintenance, speaking to various groups about my role and the work I undertake, I am also the chair of the Van Community Council and recently took part in a family fun day at St James school organised by the parenting association

Taking part in a number of Community Council events i.e. Soup and Carols for the children and parents of the Van area last Christmas, also an Easter event for the same group where every child received an Easter Egg and entertainment was provided by a young entertainer named "Rio".

I attend the Draethen, Waterloo and Rudry Community Lunch once a month in Rudry in Rudry village hall, I was pleased to attend a walkabout in Lansbury Park when we were accompanied by Rebecca Evans A.M.

I have dealt with housing matters for residents from damp in the home to lease issues I don't hold regular surgeries, however I have many visitors to my home and people know that I am available.