

# ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 2018 - MAY 2019



Councillor Philippa Marsden

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**ELECTORAL WARD:** Ynysddu

**PARTY:** Labour

**PROFILE:** Cabinet Member for Education and Achievement

## **COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

Council  
Cabinet  
Appointments Committee

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

Advisory Panel for the Appointment and Removal of Local Authority Governors  
Corporate Joint Consultative Committee  
Pensions Compensation Committee

## **OUTSIDE BODIES AND ASSOCIATIONS**

Coleg Harlech WEA North  
Corporate Parenting Group  
Corporate Safeguarding Group  
PFI Liaison Committee  
School Admission Forum

Schools Budget Forum  
WJEC  
Youth Forum

## **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>
Appointments Committee	0	1
Council	9	11
Cabinet	22	23
Cabinet as Trustees of BMI	1	2
Pensions Compensation Committee	0	6

## **TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT**

I have undertaken the following training and development: -

Unconscious Bias in Decision Making (Requested)

PDR Training

The Appeals Process – Planning (Recommended)

New Curriculum and Performance Indicators for Education (Recommended)

Corporate Safeguarding Briefing (Seminar)

The Importance of Questioning Skills (Requested)

Education Reform Conference (Welsh Government)

Schools Causing Concern (Recommended)

Admissions and Complaints – Education (Recommended)

## **CABINET MEMBER ACTIVITY**

As Cabinet Member for Education and Achievement, 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:-

Art Presentation at Graig y Rhacca Primary, Gwent Adult Community Celebration of Achievement Event, Launch of Land of Song Report at Cardiff Royal College of Music and Drama, End Youth Homelessness Anniversary Event, Live Vacancy Event – Sue Noakes Leisure Centre, National Youth Work Excellence Awards, Meeting with Waunfawr Primary Eco Committee, Tea with retiring Head teachers, Press release for 'A' level and GCSE Results, Velvet Coalmine Event, Voluntary Sector Awards Evening, Photo shoot – launch of construction of 3G pitch in Blackwood, Blackwood Town Council Civic Awards Evening, Caerphilly Remembers Event, Book Launch Innovate 2, WLGA meeting with LA Cabinet Members for Education, visit by First Minister for Caerphilly Youth, KS4 Awards at Blackwood Comprehensive School, Official Opening of new classroom at Newbridge School, Corporate Safeguarding Board, Lower Sirhowy Valley Residents Group, Welsh Medium 14-16 Provision, Annual Ynysddu Community Flood Group Meeting, Admission Forum Meeting,

Looked After Children Event Younger and Older, MTFP Drop in sessions in Caerphilly Library, Caerphilly Music Service Concert, Trinity Fields Carol Service, Four Counties Youth Music Service, Sanitary Protection Working Group, Period Dignity Film Viewing and Competition Judging, Ministers visit to Trinity Fields & Risca Comprehensive, Youth Forum Conference, Photoshoots – Caerphilly Library, Period Poverty Competition Winner, Dementia Friendly Award, EIB Meetings – Lewis Girls, Panside Primary, Idris Davies, YGCR and Park Primary, School Budget Forum, Conference – Accountability Summit, Youth Service Awards

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.

## **CONSTITUENCY ACTIVITY**

These are the issues that I have worked on over the past year many of which are ongoing: -

**Lower Sirhowy Communities Partnership** – regularly attended meetings and contributed to several actions (Christmas lights fundraiser- delivered letters to local businesses Wattsville and Cwmfelinfach).

**Lower Sirhowy Residents Group** - attended regular meetings around the planned fuel recycling plant at Nine Mile point – as a key member being involved in protests, petitions, liaison with the media and holding public meetings keeping residents informed on the current position-ongoing, trip to hand in a letter/petition to the Welsh Assembly Government.

**Police and Councillor Surgeries** – Did a walk through Cwmfelinfach combined on a raising awareness of Bonfire night safety, carried out a door knock with PCSO and Charter Housing in Cwmfelinfach to speak to residents around anti social behaviour on one street in particular.

**Air Quality Updates** - providing residents with CCBC tube readings for set periods of time plus an update on the newly installed air quality machine in Wattsville.

## **General Activity**

- Attended local Christmas lights switch on in Wattsville
- Took part in a litter pick on footpath below Syndicate Terrace.
- Attended community events
- Held a public meeting to discuss the potential closure of the Cwmfelinfach GP surgery, to talk about the request for closure from the GP practice in Risca The Health Board did not approve the application and we have also held meetings with ABHB representatives to discuss changes to services, that have emerged over recent months.
- Casework – both local and general household issues.