

ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 2018 - MAY 2019



Councillor Carl Cuss

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ELECTORAL WARD: Twyn Carno

PARTY: Labour

PROFILE: Cabinet Member for Social Care and Wellbeing

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Cabinet
Cabinet as Trustees for Blackwood Miners Institute
Council

SUBCOMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES/PANELS

Corporate Joint Consultative Committee
EAS Board (substitute)
Pensions Compensation Committee
Rights of Way Cabinet Committee

OUTSIDE BODIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Child Poverty Champion
Corporate Parenting Group
Corporate Safeguarding Group
Young Offenders Service Local Management Board
Gwent Regional Partnership Board LGBTQ Champion
Pen Bryn Oer Wind Farm Fun Advisory Group (Chair)

Youth Forum

SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY

Upper Rhymney Primary School (Vice Chair)
Idris Davies 3-18 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>
Cabinet	23	23
Cabinet as Trustees for BMI	1	3
Council	11	11
Community Council Liaison Sub – Committee	1	3
Joint Consultative Committee	3	3
Pensions Compensation Committee	1	6

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

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

PDR Training (Mandatory)
Civil Parking Enforcement (Seminar)
Unconscious Bias in Decision Making (Recommended)
Sport and Active Recreation Strategy (Seminar)
Medium Term Financial Plan (Seminar)
Corporate Safeguarding Briefing (Seminar)
Gwent Police Station Closures (Seminar)
Information Governance (Mandatory)
Equalities & Diversity (Requested)

CABINET MEMBER ACTIVITY

As Cabinet Member for Social Care and Wellbeing, 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 2017/18 I also attended the following events and meetings:-

Pen y Dre Tenants & Residents Quarterly Meetings, National Regional Partnership Board Meeting, Regional Partnership Board Meeting, Visit St Illtyds Primary School Abertillery, Young Promoters Project, Caerphilly Youth Offending Service, Drop in at Ael y Bryn Community Centre with Community Safety, Patrol Ward with Community Safety, Jobs Fayre at Ael y Bryn Community Centre in Rhymney, visit to Springfield Resource Centre, Ty Gwilym & Montclair House, visit Mental Health and Substance Misuse, Corporate Parenting Group, WLGA Regional Induction Events, Social Services Policy Group Meeting – WLGA, World Mental Health Day, Youth Forum Conference, Gwent Frailty Joint Committee, Meeting with Older Persons North Team, Carers Wales Policy Conference, Twinning visit to

Ludwigsburg, Looked After Children Event (Younger & Older), Meeting re Wind Power funding, Photo Shoot for Santa Appeal, Meeting re: Nelson Luncheon Club, Commonwealth Day – Flag Raising, Armed Forces Day, Carers Event, visit to Sheltered Housing Schemes, meeting with Vaughan Gething AM Re Parliamentary Review of Health and Social Care in Wales, meeting with Gerald Jones MP – railway campaign, Upper Rhymney Valley Sports Provision, Vision 21 Awards Night, Voluntary Sector Awards Evening, 10 Days to Wellbeing – Health Mot, Memory Bags Launch – Caerphilly Library, MTFP Drop in Sessions – Caerphilly & Rhymney, View Point Panel, Heads of Valley Masterplan meeting, Caerphilly Music Service Concert, visit to Ashfield Road Scheme in Newbridge, Youth Forum Conference, LGBT Events, WLGA Brexit and Social Care Event, Childrens Service Induction, Boundary Commission Working Group, Photo launch for Chatty Café & visit with Gerald Jones MP and Dauw Bowden AM.

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: -

I am a member of the Ael y Bryn Community Centre Management Committee and was also re-elected Secretary of the Pen y Dre Tenants & Residents Association. I am now also a Trustee of Rhymney Trust.

I continue to meet on a Quarterly basis with the local Tenants & Residents Association, the police, community safety, dog warden, environmental health and the housing team to discuss and deal with issues within the ward.

I met with Jeff Cuthbert Police Commissioner regarding community safety concerns in Rhymney along with our AM, MP and other Councillors.

Worked with Gerald Jones MP and hosted a Jobs Fayre at Ael y Bryn Community Centre.

Continue to do joint surgeries with our Assembly Member Dawn Bowden and Street Surgeries with our Member of Parliament Gerald Jones & Dawn Bowden. I also run monthly joint surgeries with the Community Safety Officer at Ael y Bryn Community Centre.

Work is still ongoing regarding the £4.2M Regeneration Programme at Rowan Place. I am also part of the Multi Agency Group to look at tackling the wider issues in this area. Over the coming months I will be working with residents to implement the Environmental Programme in this area.

Organised a remembrance service at our new memorial garden in Princetown and Tafarnaubach, honouring those who served in the two world wars.

I will continue to support local community groups and residents regarding issues affecting our area to ensure our place is a better place to live.