

ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 2020 - MAY 2021



Councillor Carl Cuss

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ELECTORAL WARD: Twyn Carno

PARTY: Labour

PROFILE: Ward Member for Twyn Carno
Cabinet Member for Social Care and Wellbeing until 9th September 2020

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Council

Cabinet until 9th September 2020

Cabinet as Trustees for Blackwood Miners Institute until 9th September 2020

Education Scrutiny Committee since September 2020

Audit Committee since September 2020

SUBCOMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES/PANELS

Corporate Joint Consultative Committee until 9th September 2020

EAS Board (substitute) until 9th September 2020

Pensions Compensation Committee until 9th September 2020

Rights of Way Cabinet Committee until 9th September 2020

Community Council Liaison Sub Committee until 9th September 2020

OUTSIDE BODIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Child Poverty Champion until 9th September 2020

Corporate Parenting Group until 9th September 2020

Corporate Safeguarding Group until 9th September 2020
Young Offenders Service Local Management Board until 9th September 2020
Gwent Regional Partnership Board (Vice Chair) until 9th September 2020
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

To view my attendance record, please follow the link below:

<https://democracy.caerphilly.gov.uk/mqUserAttendanceSummary.aspx?LLL=0>

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Mass Vaccination Programme (recommended)
Team Caerphilly (seminar)
Treasury Management (seminar)

CABINET MEMBER ACTIVITY

Lockdown brought many new challenges to my Cabinet role, with daily updates and situations never before experienced.

Until September 2020, 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 2020/21. I also attended the following events and meetings:

Regional Partnership Board Meetings, Social Services Policy Group, Caerphilly Youth Offending Service, Woodland Planting/Carbon Offsetting, visit Idris Davies School Hub.

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.

WARD ACTIVITY

Over the past year I have continued carrying out my role as a Councillor, representing my community and providing assistance during a difficult time.

I am a member of the Ael y Bryn Community Centre Management Committee and was re-elected Secretary of the Pen y Dre Tenants & Residents Association. I am also a Trustee of Rhymney Trust which decides on funding community groups in the Rhymney area.

I have been working with the Council to see if it's feasible to have a 3G pitch in the North of the County Borough. Discussion have been extremely positive and it has now been adopted in the Council's Place shaping plans, which will hopefully offer opportunities to our local community. We haven't been given a date yet but we hope to hear something soon.

I continue to meet the Police, along with Dawn Bowden MS and Gerald Jones MP, to discuss ASB issues in the area albeit virtually due to the pandemic, but we continue to raise issues on behalf of residents.

I have also been appointed to the Rhymney Community Council as a Community Councillor and, within that role, I have put it to Council to put together a Memorial Stone in the area to remember those who sadly died of COVID19. I am continuing to work with the County and Community Council on this project.

I have also met with officers to look at some improvements and enhancements in our parks and town centre. We have had agreement from the Council for some enhancement works to take place on our High Street in Rhymney, and to also look at improving the equipment in some of our parks in the area.

I continue to support community groups and residents during a very difficult time with help on advice and support during this time. Hopefully, when restrictions ease, I will carry out some street surgeries to gather information on key issues and priorities for the area.