

ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 2020 - MAY 2021



Councillor Barbara Jones

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ELECTORAL WARD: St. James

PARTY: Labour

PROFILE: Ward Member for St James
Deputy Leader until 3rd September 2020
Cabinet Member for Education and Achievement until 3rd September 2020
Vice-Chair of Van Community Council

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Council

Cabinet until 3rd September 2020

Cabinet as Trustees of Blackwood Miners Institute until 3rd September 2020

SUBCOMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES/PANELS

Caerphilly Town Centre Management Group

Caerphilly Homes Task Group until 3rd September 2020

Corporate Joint Consultative Committee until 3rd September 2020

Non-Domestic Ratepayers Committee

OUTSIDE BODIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Anti Poverty Champion until 3rd September 2020

Local Government Association until 3rd September 2020

Older Persons Champion until 3rd September 2020

Schools Budget Forum until 3rd September 2020

Welsh Church Fund (substitute) until 3rd September 2020

Welsh Local Government Association until 3rd September 2020

ATTENDANCE

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

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

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

CABINET MEMBER ACTIVITY

As Deputy Leader of Council and 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 2020/21. I also attended the following events and meetings:

WLGA Council, Welsh Education Forum, Ministerial meetings re Covid, and Joint Education 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.

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 continue to carry out my ward work which consists of any issues brought to me by residents for help and advice, eg reporting fly tipping, housing matters, repairs, damp, financial issues. However, one of the most consistent matters brought to my attention is the repair of potholes, which are a constant concern.

During this lockdown, I have received numerous requests from residents regarding concerns about illegal and frightening fire setting around the Rudry area, and also anti-social behaviour of people gathering in groups with their mountain bikes and motor cross bikes. However, I am pleased that these incidents have been attended by Gwent Police.

I attended remote meetings of Van Community Council.

I am a member of the Draethen, Warterloo and Rudry Lunch club and these will resume when restrictions allow. Attendance at this club often acts as a surgery where members know they can speak to me about their concerns. I don't hold regular surgeries, but constituents know that I am available via telephone or email. I look forward to receiving the many visitors back to my home when the current rules change.