

ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 2020 - MAY 2021



Councillor Eluned Stenner

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ELECTORAL WARD: New Tredegar

PARTY: Labour

PROFILE: Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance & Planning until 3rd September
Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance & Customer Services since
3rd September 2020

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Council
Cabinet
Cabinet as Trustees for Blackwood Miners institute
Appointments Committee
Rights of Way Cabinet Committee

SUBCOMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES/PANELS

Caerphilly Community Safety Delivery Group
Corporate Joint Consultative Committee
Caerphilly Homes Task Group
Pensions/Compensation Committee
Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee
NNDR
Viewpoint Panel

OUTSIDE BODIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Joint Council for Wales since 3rd September 2020

Local Government Association since 3rd September 2020

Schools Budget Forum

Welsh Church Fund

Welsh Local Government Association

Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal Regeneration Partnership

SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY

Phillipstown Primary School

White Rose Primary School

ATTENDANCE

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

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

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Hate Crime Training (recommended)

Armed Forces Covenant Briefing (recommended)

2021 Census (Seminar)

Mass Vaccination Programme Briefing (recommended)

Team Caerphilly (seminar)

CABINET MEMBER ACTIVITY

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

As Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance & Planning until 3rd September 2020 and Finance, Performance & Customer Services since 3rd September 2020, 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 Teams events and meetings:

Regeneration Board meetings, Viewpoint Panel meetings, Brexit Strategic Group meetings, WAO Assurance & Risk Assessment Workshop, Team Caerphilly Programme Board meeting, WLGA Finance Cabinet Members Network, Upper Rhymney Valley Place Shaping meetings, WLGA Equality Cabinet/Lead Member meeting, School Budget Forum, Caerphilly Placemaking Plan meetings, JCC, HR Strategy, JCW, Walking Tour of Caerphilly Town Council, Digital Leadership Meeting, Joint LA Cabinet Member for Finance & Economic Development, Business Awards Photoshoot, WLGA Council, LDP Focus Group

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

WARD ACTIVITY

During lockdown I continued carrying out my role as a Councillor, representing my community and providing assistance during a difficult time. At the start of the pandemic, just before full lockdown, I along with my ward colleague Mark Evans delivered letters with our

contact details on to our OAP's complexes stating if residents required any help or support then to contact us.

As the pandemic continued, I was acutely aware that there were many families who were enduring a loss of income through furlough, job losses and isolation because of Covid 19. I arranged a Covid Support Grant Scheme through my role as Chair of New Tredegar Community Council. The scheme was run by the White Rose Information and Resource Centre and applicants, whose household income had been affected by Covid, could apply for a one off payment of £100.

Over the last year I have been contacted by many residents and very often the complaints are quite similar. These issues range from housing problems, anti-social behaviour, litter, fly-tipping, stray animals and dog mess. Details of complaints received are passed onto the relevant Council Department to pick up, and on most occasions are dealt with swiftly. However, there are occasions when complaints are not easily resolved, and this leads to working with other partners such as Police, Fire Brigade etc.

I operate an open-door policy and any persons wishing to speak to me can call at my home at any time (restrictions permitting). I can also be contacted by phone, email or social media.

Prior to the pandemic I held street surgeries with Gerald Jones MP and Dawn Bowden MS along with my ward colleague, Cllr M Evans. I work closely with the relevant agencies to try and solve the problems that are presented to me.

Prior to Covid, I attended meetings with the local residents associations from all areas of New Tredegar, where again complaints were received and solutions sought.

I attended regular meetings with New Tredegar Community Partnership where I am Vice Chair, when restrictions allowed,

I also sit on the Board of Directors at White Rose Resource Centre where, along with other directors, we work to keep this facility open and thriving in New Tredegar. I was instrumental in setting up a meeting with other directors of the centre and the Post Office and this has led to the Post Office opening on a Friday morning at the Centre, providing a service that is vital to the residents of New Tredegar. Since restrictions have been slowly lifting this service is proving vital within the community.

I am also Chairperson of the Phillipstown Forever Fund working alongside Building Community Trust and, along with other members, attend monthly meetings. Throughout lockdown virtual meetings have been held via Zoom.

I have close links with both primary schools within my ward. I am Chair of Governors at Phillipstown Primary School and a Governor at White Rose Primary School. Throughout lockdown, virtual meetings have been held and the day to day business of school governors has continued. These roles make me proud of the young people who attend both schools. Being a Governor gives me the opportunity to see these children develop and see what huge talent the children of New Tredegar have.