

ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 2021 - MAY 2022



Councillor Andrew Whitcombe

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ELECTORAL WARD: Abercarn

PARTY: Labour

PROFILE: Ward Member for Abercarn
Cabinet Member for Sustainability, Planning and Fleet

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
Viewpoint Panel

OUTSIDE BODIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Carbon Reduction Group

Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal Joint Steering Group
Regional Technical Statement (Aggregates)
South East Area Environment Group
South East Wales Strategic Planning Group
South Wales Regional Aggregates Working Party

OUTSIDE BODIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Cardiff Capitol Region Joint Scrutiny Committee
Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal Joint Steering Group Chair

ATTENDANCE

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

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

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Asylum Dispersal (seminar)
Gwent Public Services Board (seminar)
Corporate Joint Committees (seminar)
Team Caerphilly (seminar)
Elected Members Safety (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 Sustainability, Planning and Fleet, 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 2021/22, I also attended the following Teams events and meetings:

South East Wales Strategic Planning Group, Cwm Ifor Solar, Regeneration Partnership Board, visit to Twmbarlwm Ancient Site with CADW, LDP Focus Group, WPO Stakeholder workshop, Virtual Housing Road Trip, LGC Award Ceremony, Ministerial meetings, Remembrance Day Service, Tydfil Training Consortium Board, LDP Focus Group, EAS Company Board, Cwmcarn Project Board, Mynydd Maen Wind Farm, PTI Holdings Board,

I also met regularly with the Chief Executive, Directors and Heads of Service 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.

Despite Covid, I have maintained close links with the two Residents Associations in my ward. I have acted on constituents concerns on a whole range of issues. All council departments have generated a reaction from the residents of my ward, and I have enjoyed representing their interactions with the authority.

Furthermore, I helped create a campaign group opposed to the expansion of the recycling plant in Cwmcarn.

Environmental issues at Cwmcarn Scenic drive and the Nant Gwyddon and, unfortunately, vandalism have increasingly become causes for concern. Our local police officers have responded well and again I have enjoyed the collaboration between the council, local citizens and other agencies.