

ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 2022 - MAY 2023



Councillor Carol Andrews

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ELECTORAL WARD: Gilfach

PARTY: Labour

PROFILE: Ward Member for Gilfach
Cabinet Member for Education & Communities

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Council

Cabinet

Cabinet as Trustees of Blackwood Miners Institute

Cabinet as Trustees of Cwmcarn Memorial Cottage Hospital Fund

Cabinet as Trustees of Dafydd Williams Park Caerphilly

Joint Scrutiny Committee

Bargoed Town Centre Management Group

Pensions/Compensation Committee

SUBCOMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES/PANELS

Advisory Panel for the Appointment and Removal of Local Authority Governors

Corporate Joint Consultative Committee

View Point Panel

OUTSIDE BODIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Dementia Friend Champion
Inclusion Champion
LGBTQ+ Champion
Age Friendly Champion (Formerly Older Persons Champion)
Coleg Gwent Further Education Corporation (Crosskeys Community Partnership)
Coleg Harlech WEA North
Corporate Parenting Group
Corporate Safeguarding Group
Education Achievement Service (EAS)
Glamorgan Archives Joint Committee
Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations
Gwent Archives Joint Committee
Monmouthshire Farm School Endowment Trust
PFI Liaison Committee
Schools Admissions Forum
Schools Budget Forum
St Johns Cymru Wales
WJEC
50+ forum
Ystrad Mynach College Board of Governors

ATTENDANCE

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

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

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Code of Conduct Training
Information Governance & Data Protection Training
Introduction to Social Services & Housing Seminar
Planning Seminar
Licensing Seminar
Equalities & Diversity Training
Unconscious Bias/Protected Characteristics Equalities Training
Housing Rent Act Seminar
Performance Framework & corporate Plan Seminar
Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Training
Public Speaking Training
Houses in Multiple Occupation
Equalities & Unconscious Bias

CABINET MEMBER ACTIVITY

As Cabinet Member for Education and Communities 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 2022/23, I also attended the following Teams events and meetings:

Photocalls – (Free School Meals, Ysgol Cwm Gwyddon, Winner of Best School Based Youth Worker, Llanbradach Library & Operation Santa), School Budget Forum, Tour of Borough & numerous site visits, numerous school visits, MJ Awards Ceremony, Which Way Now events, LGC Awards Ceremony, Launch of Community Cooking Champion, Cost of Living Crisis meetings, Pride Caerffili, Young Enterprise Competition events, Caerphilly in Welsh Education Forum, Disability Play event, GAVO Achievements Awards, Youth Forum Conference, Cwm Gwyddon Ground Breaking, New Trains Showcase Caerphilly Station, Ministerial meetings, Young Promoters School events, South Wales Argus Pride of Gwent Awards, Disability 6 National Rugby Festival.

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.

CHAMPION ROLES

I am the Dementia Friend Champion for the Authority and continue to raise awareness of dementia in Caerphilly in memory of my father-in-law, the late Councillor Harry Andrews MBE. As part of this role, I work closely with the Gwent Regional Partnership Team. Organisations and Schools continue to join Caerphilly's Dementia Friendly Community. I also attend meetings of the Bargoed Integrated Wellbeing Network organised by Dr David Llewellyn of Aneurin Bevan University Health Board. We have achieved an aim of this network to gain accreditation for Bargoed to become a Dementia Friendly Community. I am the Age Friendly Community Champion and work closely with Caerphilly Over 50 Forum and Cymru Older People's Alliance (COPRA). CCBC has recently submitted a Letter of Commitment.

As the LGBTQ+ Champion I have been involved in the first Caerphilly Pride event to be held in June 2023.

I am also the Inclusion Champion and recently the Youth Forum decided that the Cabinet Member for Education and Communities should be the Youth Champion.

WARD ACTIVITY

Over the past year I have continued carrying out my role as a Councillor, enjoying representing the Gilfach community.

I hold monthly surgeries at the YMCA and regular Coffee with your Councillor sessions at Hancox Pies, both in Gilfach. I am also happy to be contacted at home, by phone, email or by my dedicated councillor social media accounts.

Issues I have dealt with this year have included, litter, housing, parking issues and changes on double yellow lines in the village. 1st Gilfach St Margaret's Scout Group and Caerphilly People First applied for the Gilfach Community Empowerment Fund allocation. I meet regularly with Gwent Police during Town Council meetings.