

RHONDDA CYNON TAF

COUNCILLOR'S ANNUAL REPORT 2014-15

This is the report by Councillor Rhys Robert Lewis regarding his key activities over the year ending 30 April 2015. It is provided for the information of all constituents and for no other purpose.

Councillor: Rhys Robert Lewis

Electoral Division: Abercynon

Section 1: Role & Responsibilities

- To represent those who reside or use services within the Abercynon Ward.
- To act as an advocate for residents, businesses, individuals, community organizations and groups in Abercynon and R.C.T C.B.C
- To scrutinise council policy and delivery of services
- To scrutinise the council executive and cabinet
- To act in a responsible manner recognising that although I am elected to represent the Abercynon Ward on R.C.T C.B.C, it is also my duty to consider my county wide responsibility to all residents in R.C.T C.B.C.
- To ensure that R.C.T. C.B.C delivers its statutory obligations.
- To be a corporate parent
- To bring any matters that I consider important the attention of my Councillor colleagues and the executive
- To help shape and improve council services as a 'critical friend'.
- To recognise the responsibilities associated with the role of a County Councillor abiding by the Councillor Code and Conduct and the law at all times.

Section 2: Constituency Activity

- Monthly advice surgeries
- Public meetings
- Street walkabouts
- Meeting with individual members of Abercynon Ward
- Leafleting
- Advisory and guidance meetings with local organisations and groups
- Serving as a governor on the governing body of YGG Abercynon
- Street walk-about
- Attending and promoting local community events
- Launched local campaigns against landowners who keep their land in derelict condition.
- Campaigned and lobbied for investment in road infrastructure, local leisure services, educational facilities and flood prevention schemes.

Section 3: Initiatives and Special Activities

- Advisory and guidance role with community organisations
- Abercynon Paddling Pool Committee
- Abercynon Community Hall Committee
- Communities First Lower Cynon Cluster Board Vice Chair
- Abercynon Male Voice Choir
- Bryntirion Residents and Tenants Association
- Abercynon Rugby Football Club
- I have created a resident email list from which to inform residents about council services, service changes and matters in Abercynon.
- I use social media – Facebook and Twitter – to communicate with residents.
- I have recently created a blog by which to keep residents informed of my activities and news in and around Abercynon and R.C.T.

Section 4: Learning & Development

- Attended the WGLA Local Government Leadership Academy
- Regular councillor training sessions on: Planning, data protection, I.T services, Education policy, changes to service delivery
- I.T. training
- Social media training
- Training on the introduction of individual voting registration.
- Study of other local authorities to access best practice and scrutiny

Section 5: Other Activities and Issues