

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNCILLOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

This is the report by Councillor Mike Forey below regarding his/her key activities over the year ending 31st March 2014. It is provided for the information of all constituents and for no other purpose.

Councillors are free to include as much or as little information as they wish in each section, however the report is to be kept to this 2 page (maximum) format.

Councillor: **Mike Forey**

Electoral Division: **Aberdare East**

Section 1: Role & Responsibilities

Cabinet Members for Health & Adult Social Services.

- Champion for Older People
- Liaison with the Health Service and its Partnerships Arrangements
- Health Education
- Well-being services
- Care Strategies
- Older People
- Community Health Care
- Community Day Centres
- Residential Care
- Home Care
- Physical Disability Services
- Mental Health
- Mental Health Champion
- Environmental Health

Member of the following Committees / Bodies

- Council
- Cabinet
- Development Board
- Cabinet Performance & Resources Committee

- Ynysangharad War Memorial Park Cabinet Committee
- Corporate Parenting Cabinet Committee
- Rhondda Cynon Taf Charity for the Visually impaired Cabinet Committee
- International Links Cabinet Committee
- Joint Consultative Committee
- Central South Consortium Joint Education Committee
- Independent Board Member of Cwm Taf Local Health Board
- Age Concern Cymru
- Investment and Advisory Panel (Pensions)
- Local Education Authority (Governor Appointments) Committee
- OPAG
- Chair of the RCT Carers Strategy Group
- Chair of the RCT over 50 Planning Group
- Carers Quarterly Strategy Group
- Stakeholders Reference Group
- National partnerships Forum
- Aberdare Town Centre Forum

Appointed as Cabinet Member for Health & Adult Social Services on 28th May 2014.

Section 2: Constituency Activity

I have engaged with residents and officers to secure improvements in 'residents only' parking arrangements in Aberdare, in general, and in Maesydre in particular. This has now reached an advanced stage with final implementation anticipated by approximately April 2016. This will be of lasting benefit to residents who are experiencing problems attributable to the fact that the number of permit holders exceeds parking spaces available.

I have continued to liaise with officers to secure highway improvements on the Aberdare bypass road, particularly at the Commercial street and Tinney street roundabouts.

An attempt to progress the ACIG scheme to renovate a local church for community areas continues but progress has been halted by the refusal of the church diocese to consider the building for community use. A change of opinion by the diocese at a future date could result in the resurrection of the scheme.

I have worked with residents of the 'Friends of Ty Mynydd' (effectively the Heol y Mynydd Residents Association) and officers to secure a bus stop on Monk Street to assist elderly and disabled residents to obtain access to their local GP surgery. This scheme is nearing completion with a successful outcome.

I continue to attend PACT meetings and meetings of the Maesydre neighbourhood watch, resulting in strong engagement on issues impacting on the local community.

Section 3: Initiatives and Special Activities

As Cabinet member for Health and Adult Social Services, I have had substantial involvement in progressing the requirements of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act, both as a member of the National Partnership Forum and also, as Chairman of the Cwm Taf Regional Board. The act will have a fundamental impact on social services when it goes 'live' in April 2016.

There has been significant improvement in terms of the identification of carers and the support and advice made available to them within Cwm Taf. I have had substantial involvement with this and was pleased to chair the first Carers Champions conference in Cwm Taf.

Section 4: Learning & Development

EMC – Winter Maintenance
EMC – Alzheimer's & Dementia
EMC - Child Protection
EMC - Corporate Parenting
Pension Panel Training

Section 5: Other Activities and Issues

In my capacity as Older People's Champion, I was pleased to receive a plaque from Sarah Rochira, the Older People's Commissioner for Wales, which reflected RCT's commitment to the principles of the 'Dublin Declaration' recognising that RCT is an age friendly community.

In November 2014, in my role as Mental Health Champion for RCT, I joined with the Health Board Champion and other partners in a 'Time to Change' campaign pledge event to demonstrate a unified commitment to the National Anti-Stigma campaign.

I am a member of the Aberdare Town Centre Forum and have successfully supported the regeneration of Aberdare Town Centre with improvements of the infrastructure including, roads, pavements renovations of prominent listed buildings.