

BCBC Councillor's Annual Report

Councillor Paula Ford

Ward: St. Brides Minor & Ynysawdre

Party: Welsh Labour

This report identifies my key activities during the year ending May 2023. It is provided for the information of all constituents and for no other purpose. The views expressed in this report are those of the Councillor and do not necessarily reflect the views of Bridgend County Borough Council.

Role & Responsibilities

I was elected to Bridgend County Borough Council to represent St. Brides Minor and Ynysawdre on Thursday 5th May 2022. Since being elected I have undertaken a variety of roles within the Council including being appointed to several committees.

I am a member of Town & Community Council Forum, Subject Overview & Scrutiny 2 Committee, Democratic Services Committee, Coity Wallia Board of Conservators and South Wales Fire & Rescue Authority Authority (SWF&RA). Within my role at SWF&RA, I attend two further committees, Finance & Audit and Pensions. This is in addition to the monthly full council meetings.

I have supported the residents of my ward on a variety of issues and have formally raised a substantial number of constituent queries with the Council and other organisations. This is in addition to informally addressing a number of other issues which you have asked me to help you resolve.

To enable me to fulfil my role as your representative, I have attended a number of Member Development Activities which have assisted me to ensure that my knowledge of national and local issues affecting the Council and my ward is maintained.

Further information can be found by using this link:

[Councillor Paula Ford – Bridgend County Borough Council](#)

Constituency Activity

I have submitted casework / referrals. I have assisted with a wide range of issues, not all that fell within the powers or remit of Bridgend County Borough Council, but regardless of this I responded to help resolve issues wherever possible.

On many occasions, I assisted residents directly and/or signposted quickly to other sources of support without the need of the formal BCBC referral process.

For example: supporting residents to access benefit information, advice and practical support, such as directing to food banks/pantries, Citizens Advice, Care and Repair, V2C and other housing associations and other local expert agencies.

I have held local face-to-face surgeries to actively engage and listen to resident's views and concerns and I am pleased that one of these was a joint surgery held with Chris Elmore, Labour MP for Ogmore.

Initiatives and Special Activities

As a member of SWF&RA, I have attended visits to Ogmore Vale Fire Station, memorial occasions, training events, passing out parades and had the honour to meet with the Welsh members of the teams who responded to the earthquake in Turkey-Syria and the floods in Malawi.

Other Activities/Issues

I am a community councillor with St. Brides Minor Community Council. I actively support and petition for road improvements to alleviate the traffic on the A4061 between Blackmill Road, Bryncethin and Junction 36 of the M4

I attend regular PACT meetings, along with the local PCSO's and officers from V2C, working together to support and improve the local area.

I have attended meetings with Ynysawdre Elderly Residents Association, supporting them with issues arising in their community.

I am accessible to residents via 1-2-1 surgeries, telephone, text, post, email, Facebook direct messaging and WhatsApp. I also maintain a social media presence which keeps the community up to date on local, regional, and national policy, news and events. I support and promote local businesses wherever possible and maintain a good visible presence in the area.

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Date: 27th June 2023