

# BCBC Councillor's Annual Report

**Councillor Martin Hughes**

**Ward: Maesteg East**

**Party: Welsh Labour**

This report identifies my key activities during the year ending April 2024. 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 Maesteg East on 5 May 2022. I have undertaken a variety of roles within the Council this year including being appointed to four committees. My attendance record of all council and committee meetings is 100%.

I have supported the residents of my ward on a variety of issues and have formally raised 190 constituent and / or ward queries with the Council. I have also taken up issues on behalf of constituents with other organisations, mainly Valleys to Coast HA. This is in addition to assisting with about 30 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 range 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: -

[Cllr Martin Hughes](#)

## **Constituency Activity**

I have arranged two surgeries which are termed "Residents' Drop In Sessions" and held jointly with Maesteg Town Councillors from Maesteg East. I hold a weekly "walk of the ward", making sure that I regularly visit all streets and areas in the ward.

I have a good working relationship with the area's MP and MS, and have taken up numerous cases which they have referred on to me. I also liaise with Councillor Philip Jenkins - who also represents the Maesteg East ward – to avoid duplication of reports and referrals which we each might make on highways and environmental related matters.

I spend much of my free time in and around the town of Maesteg and am always prepared to discuss any issues of concern which you might wish to raise with me.

I have a dedicated mobile phone number so that residents can contact me at all times.

I regularly post on my councillor's Facebook page, which provides an effective way to publicise Council services locally and to encourage feedback and dialogue. I started the page shortly after being elected, and I now have more than 380 followers. This also allows for residents to message me if my assistance is required:

<https://www.facebook.com/martin4maestegeast/>

I have taken a teamwork approach to local issues and am in regular contact with colleagues serving on Maesteg Town Council.

### **Initiatives and Special Activities**

I am keenly interested in ensuring that the renovation works to Maesteg Town Hall are completed to a high standard as soon as possible, and I am looking forward to providing my practical assistance when the Hall is operational.

I am focussed on regenerating the local area and those parts of the town centre which I represent, and I have promoted improvement grants to local organisations and enterprises.

I have developed links with the various sports clubs in the area, and have assisted in matters relating to land, building and boundary issues, and to community asset transfer.

I look forward to promoting an improvement scheme for the Maesteg East Washery site which would improve the recreational and visual amenity of this part of our countryside.

I have been chasing progress on the development of a new community route for the Llynfi Valley

My attention remains on tackling the problem of derelict properties in the ward, including those colonies of abandoned garages which blight our local environment.

### **Other Activities/Issues**

I have met with local PCSO's and have regularly reviewed issues of concern with them. I carried out patrols with a PCSO on two occasions.

I am a Governor of Plasnewydd and Garth Primary Schools.

I represented the Council on South Wales Fire and Rescue Authority, also as Vice Chair to the Scrutiny Committee, until February 2024.

I will continue to attend all relevant local stakeholder events, including the local health board's meetings to develop health services in the Llynfi Valley as part of the Maesteg Hospital redevelopment.

**Councillor Martin Hughes:**

**Date: 7/06/2024**