

BCBC Councillor's Annual Report

Councillor R L Thomas

Ward: Maesteg West

Party: Llynfi Independents, as part of the Democratic Alliance

This report identifies my key activities during the year ending **May 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 West** on 5 May 2022, *this being my third full-term since 2012*. I have undertaken a variety of roles within the Council this year including being appointed to several committees.

I have supported the residents of my ward on a variety of issues and have formally raised 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 of my roles, responsibilities and activities can be found by using this link:

[Cllr Ross Thomas](#)

Constituency Activity

I have made myself readily available to constituents by phone, email and social media – as well as in-person and at my home. I try to provide an initial response within 24 hours (often far quicker) and will seek advice from council officers where necessary. Queries from residents have, as ever, been very wide ranging, from highways and street scene, waste and recycling and town centre regeneration, to schools, environmental health, social services and many more.

I diligently represent the interests of my constituents at full council and other committee meetings e.g. social services scrutiny and corporate overview scrutiny.

I would draw residents' attention to my Facebook page – Cllr Ross Thomas, Maesteg – for a more detailed and timely overview of my activity in recent months.

Initiatives and Special Activities

I work closely with local stakeholders, including:

South Wales Police – meeting regularly with local officers to discuss concerns and observations from residents

Social landlords, such as Valleys to Coast – raising issues and seeking resolutions on behalf of tenants

In particular over the past year, I have liaised on behalf of residents with commercial contractors undertaking extensive infrastructure works in the Llynfi Valley (e.g. broadband) where work to ‘make good’ defects has been below par. This has been a significant issue on local roads and pavements.

Other Activities/Issues

I am a member of and support a number of community groups/organisations including Maesteg Musical Theatre Society (Vice President); Noteworthy Musical Choir (Vice President); Friends of Maesteg Welfare Park (Vice Chair); Maesteg Hospital League of Friends (Chair).

I also represent the LEA on the governing bodies of St Mary’s & St Patrick’s RC Primary School (Vice Chair) and Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwd.

As a Group Leader, I sit on/am invited to contribute to additional committees such as Social Services & Wellbeing Improvement Group, regular Group Leaders’ meetings with senior officers, the council’s Standards Committee and others.

Councillor: R L Thomas

Date: July 2024