



**VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
COUNCILLOR'S ANNUAL REPORT – MAY 2023 – MAY 2024**

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|---------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| Name of Councillor | Marianne Cowpe | Group | Plaid Cymru |
| Ward | Dinas Powys | Date Last Elected | May 2022 |
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Council Positions / Committee Memberships Held (May 2023– May 2024)

Healthy Living and Social Care Scrutiny
 Planning
 Investigating
 Joint Consultative Forum

I am also a member of, and contribute to the work of, the following Outside Bodies, School Governing Bodies and Partnerships:

Council representative

Other (e.g. WLGA capacity)

- Michaelston Le Pit Community Council.
- I represent Dinas Powys Community Council on the Public Services Board.
- I represent Dinas Powys on the Eastern Vale Community Group run by Cardiff and Vale University Health Board.
- I am a governor at St Andrews Church in Wales School.
- Took part in a Community survey on behalf of Dinas Powys Community Council.

Constituency Activity and Achievements

- Regular meetings with highways department both on site and in the office

Again this year I have dealt with the following issues, housing, streetlights, potholes, unsafe parking, litter, road markings near school, speeding, unsafe junctions, unsafe pavements, dropped kerbs. New items this year: dental services, sewage problems, nursery provision, access to medical services for disabled people, repairs to housing, response times of housing provider, neighbour disputes, mowing during May.

On Dinas Powys community Council I sit on the Planning Committee and the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

I am a member of the Dinas Powys Transport Group set up by Plaid Cymru.

I am a trustee and volunteer at Dinas Powys Library and Activity Centre and assist two other local groups/charities. One by acting as treasurer and home visitor and the other I act as Secretary to Dinas Powys Cytun (Council of Churches).

Some examples of questions I have raised in Council and Committees:

- Recruitment of staff from abroad (mainly social workers).
- Questions regarding actions for Social Work department regarding their built in Quality Assurance mechanism for supervision and reflection for staff.
- Frequency of visiting and assessment of Children on the child protection register.
- Waiting times for dementia diagnosis and admission to dementia ward if appropriate.
- Impact of proposed housing developments and lack of infrastructure to support new developments.
- Maintenance and improvements of services to vulnerable people.
- Planning applications where necessary called into planning committee.
- Site visited requested for planning applications where necessary.
- Efficient hospital discharge plans for people waiting to be discharged from hospital.
- Reassurance that the VOG Council working with primary school children who may also be carers.
- Suggestion that staff may need to 'Work differently/innovatively' to meet objectives in times of austerity.
- Demand for the Vale parenting service has increased in the last 6 months (May 2024) what plans are there to address this.
- Questions on the procedure to go ahead with the Butrills site in Barry (proposals for new community centre and housing).

Learning and Development

This section covers your Personal Development in your role as a Councillor. You should include all training events that you have participated in and any developmental events that you have attended.

I have attended all mandatory training

| DATE | BRIEFING / TRAINING UNDERTAKEN | MANDATORY |
|-------------|---|------------------|
| Nov-23 | Easy Conf Hybrid Meetings iDev module | Yes |
| | | |
| 10.07.23 | Annual Self Assessment workshop | No |
| 25.09.23 | Data and managing Council performance for Councillors (virtual) | No |
| 09.11.23 | Planning training for Committee Members | No |
| 05.03.24 | Service Plans and Target Setting (HLSC) | No |
| 22.03.24 | Effective Scrutiny Workshop | Yes |
| 02.04.24 | Colcot and Buttrills Recreational Site Inspection | Yes |
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| 15.11.23 | Information shared with Members re Additional Personal Security Awareness run by WLGA | Yes |

Priorities For The Year Ahead

- To continue to work to the highest possible standard for my constituents and to bring up their concerns appropriately.
- To continue to forge links and build on those links with officers/staff of the Council in order to work better together.
- To continue to learn about the functions/legal framework of Local Government.
- To continue to be an active contributor to the Scrutiny Committee and to Council in order to scrutinise Council Activities to ensure best service for the people of the Vale of Glamorgan.
- To be proactive in picking up case work when appropriate.
- To continue with ongoing training and updating as offered by VOG/DPCC and other organisations if appropriate.

Signature Of Councillor: M Cowpe **Date:** May 2024