**BLAENAU GWENT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**COUNCILLORS ANNUAL REPORT**

This is the report by the Councillor named below regarding their key activities over the year ending 30th April 2023. It is provided for the information of all constituents and for no other purpose.

*Completion instructions: 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: Ross Leadbeater**

 **Party: Labour**

**Ward: Abertillery & Six Bells**

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| **Section 1 – Roles and Responsibilities** |
| Elected member for Abertillery & Six BellsVice Chair of Place ScrutinyMember of Corporate & Performance Scrutiny |
| **Section 2: Constituency Activity** |
| Several successful casework outcomes for residents and local businesses including dropped curbs for disabled residents, renewed litter bins, old phone box removal, traffic bollards installed and improvement to highways including resurfacing. Dealt with resident issues including overgrown paths, central heating, dumped rubbish, retaining walls, waste bins, pigeons, broken drain covers, pest control, burger van licenses, illegal parking, housing and ALN provision. Six Bells Car Park extension, Six Bells Tennis, Cwmtillery Lakes pathway improvements, Multi Story Car park opening hours extended.Regular advice and street surgeries including with the local MP for Blaenau Gwent. Regular police meetings and a public meeting with local traders regarding anti-social behaviour. Made written representations regarding proposed Windfarm developments. Special Member’s Levy allocation to community groups and charitable causes.  |

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| **Section 3: Cabinet and Scrutiny Activities** |
| Vice Chair of Place Scrutiny. Strong advocate for ‘Abertillery Placemaking Plan’ and future regeneration opportunities for Abertillery and Six Bells around culture, leisure and tourism including the Trinity Chapel project. Strong advocate for increasing resources to highways budget. I led a successful scrutiny recommendation to allocate £500k to increase road resurfacing budget to address the worst roads in BG. The A467 Warm Turn Aberbeeg Road is a ‘top priority’. Will continue to advocate for increased resources to ‘Community Services & Regeneration’ portfolio. |
| **Section 4: Training and Development** |
| Weekly attendance and participation in council briefings relating to Education, Social Services, Community Services, Regeneration and Corporate Services portfolios. Future plan to attend WLGA Community Leadership training.  |
| **Section 5: Initiatives, Special Activities and Issues** |
| Abertillery needs to find a new role around culture, leisure, and tourism. I am currently working with several community groups and local champions to explore projects around how we increase ‘destination awareness’ and help develop the visitor economy. Attend litter picks and looking to develop a litter hotspot map and other initiatives to help clean up the community. Strong advocate for music, theatre and the arts and increasing opportunities for young people from working class backgrounds. Continue to campaign hard for the Abertillery Train Station.  |
| **Signature of Councillor: Ross Leadbeater****Date: 20th October, 2023** |