**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: Joanna Wilkins**

**Party: Independent**

**Ward: Cwmtillery**

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| **Section 1 – Roles and Responsibilities** |
| Leader of the Independent Group  Chair of Corporate and Performance Scrutiny Committee  Chair of Democratic Services Committee  Member of the Cost of Living Working Group |
| **Section 2: Constituency Activity** |
| Together with Councillor Day, I have set up regular joint police and councillor surgeries for residents to drop into.  I run a business in town where people (from across Blaenau Gwent) can drop in and ask questions or pass on comments.  Have dealt with numerous issues ranging from neighbour harassment, Tai Calon housing issues to waste and recycling to parking to planning.  Attended public meeting relating to town centre anti-social behaviour issues.  Attend police briefings and meetings.  Meet with Town Council clerks and councillors. |

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| **Section 3: Cabinet and Scrutiny Activities** |
| As above – Chair of Corporate and Performance Scrutiny Committee.  I also chair member briefings connected to Corporate and Performance.  Chair of Democratic Services Committee. |
| **Section 4: Training and Development** |
| Numerous briefings attended. |
| **Section 5: Initiatives, Special Activities and Issues** |
| Councillor Day and myself have set up a small fund of our own money to support local groups (above and beyond our special levy fund). This has enabled us to support things such as a nursing home fun day and sports groups.  We both have taken a special interest in parks – we are supporting a local group to become a ‘friends of group’ and have set up meetings with council officers.  We are also keen supporters of Abertillery Park and Caffi Tyleri.  Volunteered to work at events (e.g. Slug Fest/ Aber Rocks/ Party in the Park).  I am a regular litter picker in my area and have also taken part in organised group litter picks both in Abertillery and Cwmtillery. |
| **Signature of Councillor: J Wilkins**  **Date:12/10/23** |