**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 2024. It is provided for the information of all constituents and for no other purpose.

**Councillor: Julie Holt**

**Party: N/A Independent**

**Ward: Abertillery/Six Bells**

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| **Section 1 – Roles and Responsibilities** |
| On behalf of my constituents:  Actively taking part in Full Council meetings and attending briefings on various subjects e.g. budget monitoring, CCTV.  My ward work is the most important thing within my role and I do my best to help my constituents wherever I can. I attend Police and Councillor surgeries, coffee mornings and meetings with community groups.  Communications with residents include site meetings, public meetings, telephone enquiries, emails and social media, take up the majority of my time as a Councillor. |
| **Section 2: Constituency Activity** |
| Include:  Straying Animals Working Group.  Site meetings with officers, Police, traders and other external agencies to help resolve local issues e.g. anti-social behaviour, straying animals, traffic nuisance, off road bike issues, community cohesion.  Dealing with issues with and on behalf of constituents e.g. property issues, highways issues, accessibility issues and helping to signpost to other agencies they may not be aware of.  Fundraising for local charities.  Litter Champion for my ward and I help out in other wards occasionally.  Visiting schools and attending local events in the town and surrounding area. |

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| **Section 3: Cabinet and Scrutiny Activities** |
| Full Council Meetings.  Local area meetings with Cabinet Members.  Planning Committee.  Corporate and Performance Scrutiny.  Urgent meetings as and when they arise. |
| **Section 4: Training and Development** |
| Attending briefings and training which will help me to fulfil my role e.g.   * Planning * Understanding budgets * Roles and Responsibilities * The Constitution * Technical Services * Social Services * Regeneration * Home to School transport * Education * Post 16 results * The role of Democratic Services * Digital Inclusion * Comms * Code of Conduct * Biodiversity * Corporate Parenting * LDP |
| **Section 5: Initiatives, Special Activities and Issues** |
| I am Secretary and a Trustee of Abertillery Institute and alongside 6 other trustees, we are working hard to raise funds and reopen this very important building as a community hub for local people, this takes up a lot of time but we are moving forward.  I am proud to be the President of Abertillery Town Brass Band - a role which I take very seriously. I attend meetings and concerts etc and help promote the band in the Community and in the wider area via Social media.  I run several social media accounts and pages on Twitter (X), Facebook and Instagram, on behalf of Abertillery Institute. I have a separate page on Facebook for my Council work, which is very active and is a great communication tool. This page has many followers and people get in touch with me via these channels on a daily basis.  I run a Facebook page called ‘What’s on in Abertillery’ and the Ebbw Fach Valley, which promotes local groups, sport teams, venues and events in and around our area.  I am a litter champion for BG and regularly litter pick my own area and take part in bigger community litter picking/clean up events when my diary allows. |
| **Signature of Councillor: J Holt**  **Date: 01/05/2024** |