



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

<b>Name of Councillor</b>	Dr Ian Johnson	<b>Group</b>	Plaid Cymru – the Party of Wales
<b>Ward</b>	Buttrills	<b>Date Last Elected</b>	May 2022

**Council Positions / Committee Memberships Held (May 2023 – May 2024)**

Plaid Cymru Group Leader  
Full Council  
Corporate Parenting Panel for Looked After Children  
Corporate Performance and Resources  
Democratic Services (Chair)  
Democratic Services sub-committee  
Planning  
Senior Management Appointments Committee

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

**Council representative**

Alexandra Gardens Community Association trustee

**Other (e.g. WLGA capacity)**

Barry Town Mayor 2023-24  
Barry Town Council Member  
Chair of Globally Responsible Barry Committee at Barry Town Council  
Barry Arts Festival volunteer  
Barry Town United Football Club matchday magazine editor

## **Constituency Activity and Achievements**

As a County Councillor, I continue to play a major role inside and outside the Council Chamber.

This includes drawing attention to the £2.7m expenditure on a bus station at Barry Docks which continues to receive limited service and use, and the Council's published over-spend of £3.7m on their new Oracle Fusion, whose 'Lessons Learnt' report was brought to committee following my earlier request.

I support local residents in reporting fly-tipping and potholes, providing advice, and support around housing and planning queries. I often work with partners inside and outside the council, for example arranging a multi-agency joint meeting with residents, leisure, highways and Police to resolve parking issues near Jenner Park Stadium; touring the area with residents to understand mobility challenges, leading to improvements in accessible travel along Gladstone Road, and working with council officers to resolve issues around a dangerous building in Regent Street.

As a town centre councillor, I am always concerned that Holton Road receives appropriate funding and support to prevent anti-social behaviour in the area and that businesses are given assistance required.

I voted against the 6.7% increase in council tax in this year's Budget and the same increase in council house rents, recognising the impact that this level of increase has upon residents and tenants.

I have spoken frequently in Council, bringing forward motions about Bus Services in the Vale, and amending the process for an electronic vote in Council to increase transparency. I contribute to the Council's Corporate Performance and Resources Committee and Planning meetings, where I voted against plans to turn Crossway Methodist Church into housing because of the size of the proposed units, and against the Barry Docks Incinerator proposals.

I requested that the proposals for sports facilities at the Colcot and Buttrills Fields were discussed by the Healthy Living and Social Care Committee, and that Homes & Safe Communities committee scrutinised the Safe Vale Partnership's Five-Year Plan.

As a council trustee at the Alexandra Gardens Community Association, I have supported them with their Strong Communities Fund application to make the building carbon neutral.

I am a member of the Council's Task & Finish Group on improved procurement practices and have also worked closely with the newly-appointed Senior Community Development Officer, meeting frequently to consider how we can best tackle poverty in the area.

In Full Council, I have raised questions on the following matters:

- The number of subscriptions to the new Paid Gardening Waste Service
- Fly-tipping Incidents in the Vale of Glamorgan
- The number of schools in the Vale of Glamorgan setting 'deficit budgets', meaning

that they anticipated a loss during the current financial year

- How the Vale Council would make up for Welsh Government's failure to provide Free School Meals during the school Summer Holidays
- The number of proposed services at the Barry Docks Transport Interchange, which I had previously raised in 2022-23
- The introduction of the 20mph speed limit in September 2023
- Predicted carbon emissions from the Barry Docks Incinerator
- The Planning Framework and decision-making process for the Incinerator
- Progress towards the Vale of Glamorgan becoming a County of Sanctuary
- Promotion of Arts and Culture in the Vale of Glamorgan

### 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.

DATE	BRIEFING / TRAINING UNDERTAKEN	MANDATORY
Nov-23	Easy Conf Hybrid Meetings iDev module	Yes
10.07.23	Annual Self Assessment workshop	No
09.11.23	Planning training for Committee Members	No
01.02.24	Service Plans and Performance Targets Briefing	No
19.03.24	Effective Scrutiny Workshop	No
02.04.24	Colcot and Buttrills Recreational Site Inspection	No
15.11.23	Information shared with Members re Additional Personal Security Awareness run by WLGA	

### Priorities For The Year Ahead

- To continue to provide a responsive service to local residents
- Secure investment in local services to support the needs of local people
- Continue to scrutinise cabinet and council decisions to deliver effective services which provide both quality and value for money

**Signature Of Councillor:** *Ian Johnson*

**Date:** 20.05.2024