



VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
COUNCILLOR'S ANNUAL REPORT – MAY 2024 – MAY 2025

Name of Councillor	Dr Ian Johnson	Group	Plaid Cymru – the Party of Wales
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Ward	Buttrills	Date Last Elected	May 2022
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Council Positions / Committee Memberships Held (May 2024 – May 2025)

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 Council Member
Chair of Shop Local Advisory Committee at Barry Town Council
Barry Arts Festival volunteer
Barry Town United Football Club matchday magazine editor

Constituency Activity and Achievements

This is the third year of the current Local Authority term and, as a County Councillor and leader of the Plaid Cymru group, I continue to play a major role inside and outside the Council Chamber.

As a town centre Councillor and Chair of Barry Town Council's Shop Local Committee, 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.

While welcoming the announcement of £20m investment for Barry over a period of a decade, I have expressed concerns about the delays and the likely effectiveness of this spend.

I spoke in the Council's Extraordinary Environment and Regeneration Committee meeting against proposals to close Barry Town Centre's Multi-Storey Car Park, which are now under review.

I am an active participant in Full Council meetings, and have brought Motions to Full Council relating to:

- Withdrawal of the Winter Fuel Allowance
- Women's State Pension Inequalities
- Devolution of the Crown Estate
- Proposed changes to Personal Independence Payments (PIP) Benefits
- Delays to the 'Long Term Plan for Towns' (now the 'Plan for Neighbourhoods')
- Introducing Proportional Representation for Local Council Elections.

I have asked questions at Full Council on:

- Identifying a location for a new Welsh Language Secondary School in the Vale
- Housing and Temporary Accommodation
- Future plans for the Barry Docks Incinerator Site
- Council Employee Mental Health Provision
- Delays in the Construction of the new Ysgol Iolo Morgannwg in Cowbridge.

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 and use my experience to make casework interventions or signpost residents to the right place for assistance and support.

I am pleased that replacement alley gates are now being erected across the town centre to replace the original scheme from nearly twenty years ago and that work is underway to level pavements and reduce barriers for wheelchairs, prams and mobility scooters.

I work closely with the Vale's Senior Community Development Officer, meeting frequently and attending workshops to consider how we can best tackle embedded poverty in central Barry locations.

Following the decision in late 2024 not to pursue proposals for new sports facilities at the Colcot and Buttrills Fields, I have requested a report on how those goals of increasing sports participation will be met by the Council.

As a council trustee at the Alexandra Gardens Community Association, I have supported them with developing their Strong Communities Grant Fund application to make the building carbon neutral. I am looking forward to receiving further proposals around the development of a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation on the Old Hockey Field at Ysgol Sant Curig.

I am a member of the Council's Task and Finish Group on improved procurement practices, which is due to publish its final report shortly.

As Chair of Democratic Services Committee, I was involved in proposals for Reshaping Scrutiny in the Vale and interviewed as part of the Council's Panel Performance Assessment.

Learning and Development

One Voice Wales Training:

- The Council as an Employer
- Managing Your Staff
- Chairing Skills

DATE	BRIEFING / TRAINING UNDERTAKEN	MANDATORY
02.12.24	MTFP Refresh	No
06.12.24	Planning Training	No
17.02.25	Treasury Management	No
Non Mandatory Training via i'Dev offered to Members	Managing your Time	
	Building Better Habits	
	365 Handy Hints	

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
- Developing the Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) at Ysgol Sant Curig
- Influencing the Council's Tackling Poverty Work to benefit local residents

Signature Of Councillor: *Ian Johnson*

Date: 07.05.2025