



**VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
COUNCILLOR'S ANNUAL REPORT – MAY 2025 – MAY 2026**

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

Council Positions / Committee Memberships Held (May 2025 – May 2026)

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
 Globally Responsible Barry Committee Chair, at Barry Town Council
 Barry Arts Festival volunteer
 Barry Town United Football Club matchday magazine editor

Constituency Activity and Achievements

This is the fourth year of this council term, and I have continued in my role as Plaid Cymru Group Leader, Chair of the Democratic Services Committee and a member of the Resources Scrutiny Committee, Planning, Senior Management Appointments Committee and the Corporate Parenting Panel.

Throughout the year, I have been active in the committee chamber and in the wider community, supporting residents in my role as local representative and also engaged with community groups.

Unfortunately, I am regularly required to contact the Council's Neighbourhood Services team to report fly-tipping in the town centre, particularly in service lanes. I am pleased to support the new StreetScene service which aims to keep these lanes freshly cleared on a more regular basis.

I am also pleased that, following continued pressure, the Vale Council decided not to go ahead with the proposed closure of the Court Road multi-storey car park, which would negatively affect Holton Primary School as well as local businesses in the Holton Road area.

Having supported the proposal to turn the Old Hockey Field on College Road into a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation, I attended a presentation and site visit with Ysgol Sant Curig and enjoyed a volunteering session there with the Vale Local Nature Partnership where we were removing non-native invasive species from the site.

In Full Council debates, in July I expressed my concern at the Cosmeston Aqua Park proposals, and, in September, I spoke in favour of the Vale Council's Nation of Sanctuary which helps to integrate asylum seekers into the local community.

In December, I spoke in the debate on Barry Housing Growth and the Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP), moving a motion to remove the Weycock Cross proposals from the plan – a motion defeated by a single vote.

Then, in March, I spoke and voted against the proposal to increase council tax by 6.5%, the highest level of increase in Wales this year, noting the increase in the council's grant from Welsh Government after Plaid Cymru had reached a deal to increase local government funding.

I have drawn attention to the ongoing need to improve facilities at the Colcot Sports Centre, including a report to the Live Well Committee (May 2025) and a question to Full Council in March 2026.

I am pleased that the Barry Docks Incinerator planning situation appears to be concluded with the demolition of much of the site.

As a member of the Council's Resources Committee, I have been part of two task & finish groups which reported this year, focusing on social value and procurement, and how best to tackle disinformation in the public sphere.

I have supported the Alexandra Gardens Community Association in developing a

successful grant application for improved facilities, including better security and audiovisual equipment, being completed in May 2026.

During the year, I have regularly attended workshops and briefings on the 'Your Place / Eich Lle' programme by the council which focuses on neighbourhoods, including one in my ward, which are in the highest 10% of deprivation in Wales, according to the Wales Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD).

External to the Vale Council, I continue to serve as a Barry Town Councillor, where I am chair of the Globally Responsible Barry Committee, and deputy chair of the Personnel Committee.

I write about Barry Town United FC for the club's matchday magazine and local newspapers, and help the Barry Arts Festival to put on events, including at St Mary's Church in my ward.

Learning and Development

DATE	BRIEFING / TRAINING UNDERTAKEN	MANDATORY
14.05.25	WLGA Chairing Skills and Members Code of Conduct	No
25.06.25	WLGA Member Workshop	No
25.06.25	WLGA Progressive Community Leadership Workshop	No
01.07.25	Member EXPO Event	No
10.11.25	Public Participation Strategy	No
12.11.25	Planning Committee Briefing Session	Yes
03.12.25	Refresher Member Code of Conduct Training	Yes
15.12.25	Member Briefing: Budget and Procurement	No
26.01.26	Member Briefing: Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation	No
09.02.26	Member Briefing: GVS	No
23.02.26	Treasury Management Training 4.30pm	No
11.03.26	Member Development: Community Cohesion 1 5:00	No

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: 26.05.2026