

**Julia Jessel**  
**County Councillor for Needwood Forest**

**Annual Report 9 May 2017 – 31 March 2018**

**Introduction**

I was first elected as County Councillor for the Needwood Forest electoral division in May 2017.

My division lies in the south east of East Staffordshire and includes the wards of Needwood and Yoxall and part of the ward of Branston and covers approximately 8947 hectares with a population of 14,251.



**Special Responsibilities**

I am Vice-Chairman of the Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee.

**Committee Membership and Attendance Record**

My committee membership and attendance record can be seen below:

<b>Meeting title</b>	<b>Possible attendances</b>	<b>Actual attendances</b>	<b>Apols</b>	<b>Absent</b>
All Party Member Group – Communities	2	1	1	0
Countryside and Rights of Way Panel (Chairman)	5	5	0	0
County Council	8	7	1	0
Local Member Priority Meeting – East Staffordshire	6	4	2	0
Planning Committee	4	3	1	0
Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee (Vice-Chairman)	6	6	0	0
Safe and Strong Communities Select Committee	3	3	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>

<b>Percentage</b>		<b>85%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>0%</b>
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I was also appointed to represent the county council on the following outside bodies:

- Newbold Quarry Liaison Group
- Barton Quarry Liaison Committee
- Yoxall Town Lands Charity

### **Divisional activities**

My main focus this year relates to a number of local highways issues:

1. finding workable solutions to reducing the number of HGVs using the A515 through Yoxall.
2. Implementing a number of Road Traffic Orders in Branston and Barton to address parking problems.
3. Supporting Barton Parish Council and their Better Barton Scheme, including raising additional funds.
4. Pursuing solutions for pedestrian safety, Branston Bridge.

I have also set up a Needwood Divisional Forum with members drawn from the 7 Parish Councils and 6 Borough Councillors. Mechanisms for better sharing of information have been set up as a result, as well as presentations on items of mutual interest.

### **Schemes supported under the Staffordshire Local Community Fund**

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Safer Communities CIC	Funding towards batteries, pads and battery operated heated boxes for the fitting of defibrillators	£385.00
SCC Highways	Funding towards new restrictions throughout Branston to improve traffic flows and help road safety and parking issues	£4,000.00
Age UK Burton	Funding towards accommodation costs and insurance cover for 2 volunteers to support & assist the elderly & those with poor mobility who will	£100.00

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Amount</b>
	be taking a 5-day break in Blackpool in November	
SCC Highways	Funding towards new on street parking restrictions in the areas of Palmer Close, Barton Lodge and Radhurst Rise to improve road safety and long-standing parking issues	£3,000.00
<b>Total Spend</b>		<b>£7,485.00</b>

## **Councillor Development**

- 27/03/2018 - Members Spring Event
- 05/02/2018 - Cyber Security
- 29/01/2018 - Time Management for Members
- 13/12/2017 - Level 1 Child Protection Training
- 13/11/2017 - Connecting with your Communities - Social media training for members
- 07/11/2017 - Members' Autumn Event
- 05/10/2017 - Staffordshire Observatory Training
- 26/09/2017 - Chairing Skills
- 14/09/2017 - Finance Training
- 30/08/2017 - Members Claims Training
- 27/07/2017 - Planning for Personal Safety
- 28/06/2017 - Emergency Planning Briefing for Members
- 30/05/2017 - Overview and Scrutiny Training
- 16/05/2017 - Code of Conduct Training
- 16/05/2017 - Getting to Know your Computer
- 11/05/2017 - Welcome Day

## **Remuneration**

### **My Allowances and Expenses**

<b>Basic allowance</b>	£8,361.85
<b>Special Responsibility Allowance</b>	£2,050.17
<b>Mileage</b>	£711.90
<b>Total allowances cost</b>	<b>£11,123.92</b>

Mileage from my home to County Buildings, where many meetings take place, is 34 miles return.