

Simon Tagg
County Councillor for Westlands & Thistleberry

Annual Report 9 May 2017 – 31 March 2018

Introduction

I was first elected as County Councillor for the Keele and Westlands electoral division in July 2007. In May 2013 as a result of the Electoral Commission Boundary review my division changed to Westlands and Thistleberry.



My division lies in the north of Newcastle-under-Lyme district and includes the whole of Thistleberry ward, the majority of Westlands ward and part of the ward of Town and covers approximately 587 hectares with a population of 13,289.

Special Responsibilities

I am Chairman of Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee and Cabinet Support Member for Improvement.

Committee Membership and Attendance Record

My committee membership and attendance record can be seen below:

Meeting title	Possible attendances	Actual attendances	Apols	Absent
All Party Member Group – Improvement (Chairman)	4	4	0	0
Corporate Review Committee	3	2	1	0
County Council	8	8	0	0
Joint Informal Session – PCC Business Case Consultation	1	1	0	0
Local Member Priority Meeting – Newcastle	3	1	2	0
Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee	6	5	1	0
Scrutiny Chairs Forum	1	1	0	0
Total	26	22	4	0
Percentage		85%	15%	0%

I was also appointed to represent the county council on the following outside bodies:

- Walley's Quarry Local Liaison Committee
- Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Fire & Rescue Authority
- Newcastle District Safer Neighbourhood Forums

My attendance at Fire Authority meetings is listed below:

Meeting title	Possible attendances	Actual attendances	Apols	Absent
Stoke on Trent and Staffordshire Fire Authority	5	5	0	0
Human Resources and Ethics Committee	2	0	2	0
Service Improvement and Equality Committee	2	1	1	0
Scrutiny and Performance Committee	3	2	1	0
Member Development	2	1	1	0
Total	14	9	5	0
Percentage		64%	36%	0%

Schemes supported under the Staffordshire Local Community Fund

Applicant	Project	Amount
Westlands Primary School	Funding of 2 pavement safety parking signs	£230.00
Thistleberry Residents Association	Funding towards insurance in relation to clearing an ancient trackway in the neighbourhood, and turning it into a nature trail	£500.00
Staffordshire Adults Autistic Society	Funding towards room hire, telephone broadband, mobile phone, stationery and volunteer expenses	£1,000.00
Stafford Welcomes Refugees	Funding towards venue hire, interpreters' fees for trips, social events, mini bus hire, twice weekly ESOL language classes for refugees in Stafford, Newcastle and Cannock	£100.00
Unique Dance Troup	Funding towards materials for costumes for the local dance troupe for boys and girls meeting weekly and for a new PA system for outdoor events	£900.00

Applicant	Project	Amount
Alice Charity	Funding towards food, baby food, nappies, wipes and toiletries to help families in crisis with food and living essentials	£500.00
Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Safer Communities CIC	Funding towards batteries, pads and battery operated heated boxes for the fitting of defibrillators	£385.00
Newcastle District Scouts	Funding towards hire of theatre and rehearsal premises, costumes, performing arts & licences, staging, sound, lighting, musicians, production, printing makeup craft materials as part of a balanced programme of artistic, craft and musical activities	£1,000.00
Newcastle Food Bank	Funding towards racking for the new warehouse	£500.00
Seabridge Primary School – Shaw Educational Trust	Funding towards author presentation and workshops	£200.00
St Mary's PTA	Funding towards playground markings, shuttle run, skipping circles, golden mile, long jump, exercise wheel and trail, and smart multi game playground barriers	£595.00
SCC Highways Team – Leek	Funding of Tree planting at various sites within Westlands and Thistleberry	£1,590.00
Total spend		£7,500.00

Councillor Development

- 22/03/2018 - Cyber Security

Remuneration

My Allowances and Expenses

Mileage	£9,462.24
Special Responsibility Allowance	£6,840.04
Mileage	£429.30
Total expenses cost	£16,731.58

Mileage from my home to County Buildings, where many meetings take place, is 40 miles return.