

Councillor Tafheen Sharif (Taf) **Mossley Ward** **Annual Report of Activities 2020/2021**

This year has been somewhat odd and demanding in all aspects, with the COVID 19 and lockdown restrictions. Despite the challenging and uncertain environment, it has been both an honour and privilege representing the people and communities of Mossley in my second term as a Councillor for Mossley. I would like to thank everyone who has put faith in me to look after all, who live and work in Mossley, and beyond in Tameside. I thoroughly enjoy working for constituents, as well as community organisations and partners to make things happen. I have taken on the responsibility with a view to achieving as much as I can for the people of Mossley.

This year I have dealt with a number of controversial planning matters including land at Brookfields. By working closely with the community I have represented 100's of residents at the Speakers Panel (Planning) and won on a number of grounds, by having the application rejected. We can expect an appeal and will continue to fight any development that is not fit. Mossley needs affordable housing at the right locations, and with the supportive infrastructure in place.

I have also spoken on a further proposed development on Stamford Rd, which again would have caused havoc to traffic flow in the town for example. After doing much groundwork with the community, and speaking at Panel, the application was rejected.

I have kept residents informed on other key developments in the town including land on Hey Farm, Roaches application, Woodend View etc.

I have also spent an awful amount of time dealing with the build of the Buckton View development, on Earnshaw Clough, being heavily involved in meetings with the contractors, liaising with residents and Tameside Council with all the problems that have come with this build.

I have continued to work on many other projects, including Mossley Cemetery.

In each year of my tenure, I hope to continue to:

- work on and tackle issues important to our community
- support community events
- case-work- resolve issues for individuals and community organisations
- contribute effectively to meetings
- speak and write on important issues
- be involved in policy making
- learn from training and so forth.

I love making a positive difference to the lives of people and am available to all. I carry out this position of responsibility to the best of my abilities.

Participation at Council Meetings and Panels

- I have attended meetings of Full Council
- I have spoken on motions at Full Council meetings

- I am a member of the Place and External Relations Scrutiny Panel, reviewing matters and making recommendations to the Council. Many issues have been considered this year, what I found most profound was the HMIC Inspection of GM Police.
- I am member of the Speakers Panel (Licensing). I have heard many cases on taxi licences, as well considered and recommended policy changes Ensuring Tameside residents are kept safe.

Participation on Outside Bodies and Partnerships

- POLICE

My colleagues and I used to meet with the police in person to consider statistics and issues for Mossley on crime and ASB. Due to the demand on police during lockdown COVID 19, meetings have halted however, I wish for these to resume, even online going into next year.

- SCHOOLS

I have continued to lend my support to Mossley schools and this year I have dealt with case work from Mosley Hollins, Milton St John's, as well as Micklehurst Schools. I continue to govern at Buckton Vale Primary School, part of the Mossley partnership.

- TAMESIDE REPORTER and MOSSLEY CORRESPONDENT

I have continued to contribute and write to both papers on issues of interest.

Constituency Work

- CASE WORK

I have had a range of casework from my constituents. I like to resolve matters concerning my residents as quickly and effectively as possible. Casework this year has ranged from food bank requests, food parcel and prescription deliveries, housing, education, employment, planning permission and development, speeding, services for the disabled, flooding, bus services, post boxes, lampposts and lighting, green services, potholes, ASB and crime, bins and recycling and much more.

The major issues in particular this year have been the ongoing applications for development in Mossley. I have had many queries and objections on pre-planning and planning applications over the year due to the volume of applications coming into Mossley. I have attended to many communications including meetings, telephone conversations, emails, and research as well as speaking at online public meetings. This year the big ones have been:

- Earnshaw Clough
- Stamford Road
- Brookfields

- MOSSLEY LITTERBUGS

Mossley Litterbugs are a fantastic team of volunteers who keep our town tidy. I have gone out and helped during COVID, and will continue to do so. I also report in to Tameside

Council any bag collections and other issues after litter picks. Recently a WhatsApp group has been created which enable me to pick case work including litter, Flytipping and unblocking drains. I have also enabled Tameside Council to provide visible stickers for the group so people do not mistaken the bag collections for Flytipping.

Members Advice Surgeries

My ward colleagues and I usually attend to residents on their doorstep via holding roving surgeries. Due to the restrictions, we have not been able to visit many homes and speak to residents on their issues. I have however enabled our most vulnerable residents with hot meals and essential packs by working with the COVID Emergency Response team based in Ashton.

The type case work I have had to resolve ranges from housing, education, employment, developments and planning permission, speeding, hate crime, services for the disabled, flooding, bus services, post-boxes, lampposts and lighting, green services, pot holes, ASB and crime, bins and recycling

Training and Development

I am a graduate of the “Next Generation” programme provided by the Local Government Association covering policy making and strategy, community leadership, political management and personal skills development

Tameside Council provides for in house training. I have attended all Member Development Sessions this year, with umpteen updates on the COVID19 situation, which has been beneficial.

Achievements during the Year

There have been many achievements over the year. Particularly humbling for me has been being able to resolve casework for individuals which I hope makes a difference to their lives. Other important achievements for me are as follows:

- COMMUNITY

One of my personal goals and achievements was to get to know the Mossley community and residents as best as possible, enabling me to support residents to the best of my abilities. By taking the initiative to visit, and hear from as many individuals, community organisations, partners, schools and businesses. I am proud of the people I know today in Mossley.

- BROOKFIELDS (as set out above)- application WON
- STAMFORD Rd (as set out above)- application WON

Any other comments

- I have met many fantastic people throughout the year and I would like to thank those who have supported me in my second term as Mossley Councillor.
- I have continued to meet many volunteers who tirelessly give their time and commitment in helping others. You deserve every credit for the work you do in the community, thank you.
- I look forward to the challenge of new opportunities to further add value in the responsibility that my residents have entrusted me with.

It has been a tough year with the lockdown, but through each other's support, things can only improve.