

**Tameside Council
Elected Member
Annual Report of Activities 2022/23**

Councillor Name: Adrian Pearce

Ward Name: Stalybridge North

Participation at Council Meetings and Panels

During 2022-23, My attendance at Council meetings and other Council and community related activities, particularly between July and October and January, was limited due to illness and recuperating from treatment.

I was Chair of the East Area Strategic Neighbourhood Forum.

I was also a member of:
Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel
Speakers' Panel (Planning)
The Climate Emergency Panel
The Corporate Parenting Board
Enforcement Panel
Inequalities Reference Group
Stalybridge Delivery Group.

Participation on Outside Bodies and Partnerships

I have remained a Board Member on the Ridgehill Big Local, which was set up as a partnership between local people and local agencies to promote services and opportunities for local residents. It has also increasingly become an important focus for the local community, providing support to mitigate against the effects of rising prices and growing poverty.

Of particular importance has been the continued good work of the Bread & Butter Thing at the Big local hub used by around 80 families a week with good quality food, which would otherwise have been sent to landfill.

We have continued to support the Baptist Church volunteers, where work to create a fabulous community garden has progressed well. We have also continued to fund the Holiday Club based at Silver Springs for children during the holidays assisting families across Ridgehill.

This year, local Councillors and the Big Local have set up a community gardening competition. This will run throughout the summer of 2023 and aims to increase residents' pride in their local area.

I have also continued to support the Stalybridge Town Team, although my attendance at meetings was limited.

I am also a Board member of the Carrbrook Conservation Group which has met irregularly this year.

Beside this, I have attended Labour Group meetings as part of my Council work.

I am a director of The New Stalybridge Labour Club. We are determined that this will become an increasingly important community asset for Stalybridge, although progress has been slower than I would have liked.

The New Stalybridge Labour Club continues to host the Getting Together Project's Tea Dance. It is still proving popular with a Christmas meal and jubilee celebrations planned as well as fortnightly gatherings. My thanks to the Rotary Club and all the volunteers for making this possible.

Constituency Work and Local Issues

Work I have undertaken in the local constituency includes:

- Supporting residents to oppose the Plans for the development of the Former Hartshead Power Station and development of associated land. This includes building 162 houses adjacent to the Churchfields and Crowswood estates. This would, amongst other things, destroy local woodlands and damage the SSSI; create traffic nuisance for residents throughout the estate and congestion on Huddersfield Road.
- Supporting Carrbrook residents to run community events including a gardening competition, litter pick and egg hunt for the children;
- Supporting Stamford Park bowlers, Dementia café and other initiatives at Saint George's Church
- Resolved problems for local people including bin collections, fly tipping, highways maintenance and lighting, dog fouling, crime and housing. In addition, I represented residents to ensure that road crossings were changed to become safer and pressure was put on some property owners to clean up or maintain their buildings.

Members Advice Surgeries

Training and Development

I have not attended training events this year due to illness.

Achievements during the Year

The relentless cuts, year on year, by the Tory Government to Council funding have meant services have continued to be reduced. Despite this, I have supported the local community to obtain the services they deserve by providing advice, information and access to Officers from the Council and other organisations to resolve local issues and promote local initiatives.

I was delighted that Stalybridge received £20 million to further the regeneration of the Town in March. This is the culmination of many years work, initially by the Stalybridge Town Challenge Partnership, which I chaired, as well as officers and members, local people and businesses. It will enable key projects such as the reuse of the Market Hall, revamp of Market Street and allow housing upon the Stalybridge West site to progress. It is vital to the future of the Town and an endorsement of the work promoted by the Stalybridge Town challenge Steering Group. It has led the way for other regeneration initiatives in Tameside. I am working with other members of the Stalybridge Delivery Group to work upon a long overdue Development Framework and Local Plan to ensure that regeneration continues into the future.

Any other comments

It has been a difficult year for me personally and I would like to thank the leader of the Council Ged Cooney, Councillor Bill Fairfoull and my fellow Ward Councillor Jan Jackson for their support. I would also like to thank my partner and now Councillor Christine Beardmore for her encouragement and help to progress my Council work during the year as well as a million other things.

Finally, financial cuts across the Board continue to put pressure on all our communities; so I would like to thank all those Council officers, volunteers, local businesses and workers from all agencies, particularly health workers, who make the delivery of every day services possible.

