

REVIEW

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www.sstaffs.gov.uk



Summer 2011

Issue No. 49

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Places to see, things to do, good food, fun & entertainment - we've got it all

Summer comes alive in South Staffordshire!

The forecast is for a long, hot summer - and what better place to enjoy it than right here on your doorstep in South Staffordshire!

The District has some of the most exciting and interesting tourist attractions around - and we like to think there's something for everyone!

And with fuel prices rocketing by the day, you can spend your money on some Great Days Out instead of at the petrol pump.

"South Staffordshire has a huge and varied selection of tourist attractions, from beautiful countryside to action adventure."

Steeped in history, heritage and rural splendour, South Staffordshire has a huge and varied selection of tourist attractions, from beautiful countryside and historic houses to action

adventure and quality crafts.

We're also home to the V-Festival - one of the country's top rock and pop music festivals.

With fresh produce, fine dining, traditional pubs, swish bars and the best takeaways - South Staffordshire is also THE place to go for food and drink. Whether you're looking to cook up a delight at home, find a delicious takeaway, a good pub or a gourmet feast for that special occasion - you can bet that South Staffordshire's got exactly what you're looking for.

Tourism brings in almost TWO MILLION visitors a year to the District - generating £85 million for the local economy, and with lots of South Staffordshire's major attractions open all year round, you're always spoilt for choice!

A family day out here won't break the bank either. Apart from saving on fuel, there are great discounts and offers for some of the most popular attractions in our brand new tourism 'Treasure Trail'.

Also, our 'Great Days Out' guide is full of ideas, including attractions, events and festivals, and moreover, it's FREE! To find out how to get your free copy see page 3.



*A taste of South Staffordshire
this summer.*

FOR GREAT OFFERS ON GREAT DAYS OUT! - Turn to page 3

Cheslyn Hay chip shop: Clarification

In the last edition of South Staffordshire Review, an article headed 'Fish shop owner gutted about fly-tipping fine' was published on page 3.

We would like to make it clear that the man referred to in this article was the former owner of the C&C Fish Bar in Cheslyn Hay.

The fish bar has since been taken over by new management and renamed 'Cheslyn Hay Fish Bar'. The new owners of 'Cheslyn Hay Fish Bar' have no association with the former C&C Fish Bar.

get composting
recycle
for South Staffordshire
working in partnership with SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

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Guaranteed for 13 years

Order NOW online at www.getcomposting.com or call **0844 571 4444** quoting reference SAS06A

Cutting the grass and cutting the cost

Over £100,000 a year is expected to be trimmed from South Staffordshire's grass cutting and grounds maintenance costs as a result of an innovative partnership deal.

South Staffordshire Council and South Staffordshire Housing Association (SSHA) have joined forces to change the way the District's open spaces, shrub beds and trees are looked after.

With a growing focus on lean efficiencies due to the Government's comprehensive spending review, it's great news for local residents and housing tenants.

The partnership is expected to save over £100,000 a year, simply by getting the same company to look after the grounds of both bodies.

"The Landscape Group will now be working on behalf of us both to look after our open spaces, the highway verges and the housing association's grassed areas and shrub beds at its own housing developments", said Cllr Mrs Joan Williams, Cabinet Member for Environmental Services at

South Staffordshire Council.

"Teaming up with the Housing Association is going to offer great value for money for the local tax payer and could save over £100,000 a year. By working together in this new and innovative way we're maintaining a top quality local service but driving the costs down.

"We're leading the way in this type of shared service and we're just one of a handful of local councils in rural areas working this way with regional housing associations."

Ralph Middlemore, Director of Property Services at SSHA, added: "Beforehand, one street might have had its grass verges cut on a Tuesday and the neighbouring street had its done on a Friday. This was because these areas were the responsibility of different contractors appointed by both parties. This new approach ensures co-ordination of our grounds maintenance operation."



Michelle Maybury (left) from the Landscape Group, Ralph Middlemore (right) from SSHA, with Howard Medicott, Cllr Mrs Joan Williams and Jackie Smith from South Staffordshire Council.

Fly tipping? Don't even think about it!

Illegal rubbish dumpers are getting the message - try it in South Staffordshire and you will pay the price!

Latest figures show the incidents of fly-tipping in the District are down by 40 per cent.

It follows a successful high-profile campaign by South Staffordshire Council to pursue and prosecute offenders who blight our countryside.

Over the past 12 months, the Council has successfully prosecuted 11 people, in fly-tipping related cases, who have had to cough up a total of more than £7,000 in fines and costs.

In 2007/8 there were more than 700 incidents of fly-tipping, but after falling for the third consecutive year, there were over 270 fewer cases last year, a drop of 40 per cent.

The cost to taxpayers of clearing the rubbish has also reduced by over £20,000 during the same period.

South Staffordshire Council chiefs believe the fall in fly-tipping is the result of the

no-nonsense approach to the problem which saw the Council achieve 11 successful prosecutions over the past twelve months.

Cllr Roger Lees, Cabinet Member for Public Health Protection Services at South Staffordshire Council, said: "Year by year the number of fly tipping cases are coming down. A 40 per cent reduction in the number of cases in just three years is a great result. We're bucking the national trend and we're determined to get these figures down again next year.

"We've said from the start that it's not fair that local taxpayers should have to pay to clean up the mess which other people have simply dumped."

The Council has also revealed that fly-tipping offenders were forced to fork out £7,043 in fines and court costs, as well as £2,000 in fixed penalty notices over the past twelve months.

DON'T LET YOUR HOME BURN YOUR MONEY!

Make heating bills more affordable.

South Staffordshire Council is working in association with the Energy Saving Trust advice centre West Midlands to offer you free and impartial advice on:

- reducing your fuel bills
- how to make your home more energy efficient
- grants available for insulation and central heating

Residents who are 70 or over may be eligible for a 100% grant and pay nothing at all for the insulation measures.

Simply call the Energy Saving Trust advice centre and find out what grants you are eligible for to make your home more energy efficient and start saving money.



Get reduced price cavity wall and loft insulation.

- Around 60% of the heat lost from your home goes through the walls and the roof.
- Cavity wall insulation is one of the most cost-effective ways to reduce heat loss and can save you around £115 each year on your fuel bill.
- Putting in 270mm (around 10 inches) of loft insulation can save up to £150 per year.

Please quote 'South Staffs Energy Advert' when calling the Energy Saving Trust advice centre for further information on:

Free phone 0800 512 012



South Staffordshire Council

AN ASSOCIATOR WITH



Tourism 'In Focus'

Treasured pleasures worth a King's ransom!

GREAT OFFERS for GREAT DAYS OUT!

There's hidden treasure at South Staffordshire's top tourist attractions - and there could be real treats in store for visitors who can find it.

An exciting treasure trail has been laid at nine of the District's most popular venues where clues have been left to help people work it out.

Visitors who get the answers and submit the final treasure 'code' by 31st October, 2011, will go into a super prize draw.



This is what you could win...



A FREE Family Thrill Hopper Ticket to Staffordshire's top 4 attractions

An overnight stay for 2 people in the stunning, Grade II listed, Dunsley Hall Hotel in Kinver

Gift vouchers and family tickets into a number of our local attractions

New 2-in-1 Guide



To request your FREE copy:
Telephone: 01902 696538
www.sstaffs.gov.uk/brochure

The visitor attractions on the treasure trail include: the Rock House at Kinver, Boscobel House, Rodbaston Animal Zone and Weston Park - to name but a few.

Treasure Trails are available for as little as £2.99, which includes extra discount vouchers into some of our most popular visitor attractions!

As well as the treasure trail, visitors can also enjoy the increasingly popular 'Footsteps of A King' which traces the escape of the then future King Charles II through South Staffordshire.

There's a special deal giving entry into two of the monarch's hiding places, the historic Boscobel House and Moseley Old Hall, on one ticket with a saving of 15% off normal admission prices!

Family ticket:	£28.35
Adults:	£11.65
Children:	£6.75 (5-15 years)
Concessions	£11.14
Under 5's	FREE



More information about the 'Treasure Trails' and 'Footsteps of a King' tickets can be found on the Council's website www.sstaffs.gov.uk/tourism.

You can buy your Treasure Trails from any of the following leisure centres: Cheslyn Hay, Codsall, Wombourne or Penkridge, or by calling 01902 696538.

For a FREE copy of South Staffordshire's Great Days Out & Food and Drink Guide, phone 01902 696538 or apply online at www.sstaffs.gov.uk/brochure.



What's on in South Staffordshire

Discover and enjoy many of our local events and festivals. Visit our website to find out what's on where:
www.sstaffs.gov.uk/whatson

AT YOUR LEISURE

New pitch is perfect for England's Number One

Cheslyn Hay Leisure Centre's brand new artificial sports pitch takes some beating, according to soccer star Joe Hart.

The Manchester City and England's current number 1 shot-stopper took time out to officially open the new floodlit pitches in March.

And he was mightily impressed with the set-up.

The playing area is ideal for football and hockey, and can even be divided into smaller pitches for faster and more furious 5 or 6-a-side!

The pitch is open 6pm - 10pm weekdays and 8am - 9pm at weekends.

Don't forget, along with the new all-weather surface, Cheslyn Hay leisure centre also boasts SIX floodlit tennis courts and FOUR netball courts!

For more information about the new pitch or the courts at Cheslyn Hay Leisure Centre:

- call **01922 417790**
- email: cheslynhay@sstaffs.gov.uk
- visit www.sstaffs.gov.uk/leisure



Footy Sixes are booming

Taking advantage of the new artificial surface, one of the UK's leading 6-a-side football operators, PITCH INVASION, is running a new 6-a-side football league at Cheslyn Hay, which is expanding fast.

Even more teams can now experience the latest playing surface and the excitement of a fast moving match.

Think you've got what it takes to be champions?

The league takes place on Thursdays between 8pm and 10pm. Players and teams can sign up at www.pitch-invasion.com or by calling **0844 745 2020**.

South Staffordshire Council

Interactive wall, floor & dance mats

iACTIVE

Come & check it out....

A brand new interactive room featuring the very latest technological fitness equipment for children aged from 3 yrs upwards. Now available after school, weekends and school holidays! Qualified personnel will be delivering sessions in a fun, safe and supervised environment.

Exciting interactive gaming technology provides an educational, active and fun way to improve health and fitness.

Wombourne Leisure Centre
Dunadale Road
Wombourne
WV5 8BJ
Tel : 01902 898202

Fantastic FOOTBALL facility, Cheslyn Hay

- New state-of-the-art 3G pitch - no more sand burns.
- High-energy 6-a-side league. FA refs and disciplinary system.
- Enter now and claim a **FREE TEAM KIT**.

pitch invasion

0844 745 2020
www.pitch-invasion.com

THANK YOU FOR ENTERING

The correct answer to the word search in Issue 48 of Review was **ONLINE**.

A big thank you to everyone who entered and well done to those who got the answer correct!

Word Search Competition

Can you find the following names of Visitor Attractions in South Staffordshire hidden in this puzzle? They may be horizontal, vertical or diagonal and could be backwards or forwards.

BAGGERIDGE • COUNTRY • PARK BOULTON PAUL • AIRCRAFT HERITAGE • MUSEUM BOSCOBEL • ROYAL OAK CHILLINGTON • WESTON MOSELEY OLD HALL ASHWOOD • NURSERIES GAILEY • POTTERY • FRUIT • FARM HALFPENNY • GREEN • VINEYARDS ROCK • HOUSES RODBASTON • ANIMAL ZONE

L	B	R	O	D	B	A	S	T	O	N	N	E	T
L	A	E	A	N	I	M	A	L	Z	O	N	E	F
A	G	G	M	E	H	E	R	T	T	L	G	K	A
H	G	A	U	E	A	H	I	G	E	B	A	W	R
D	E	T	S	R	E	U	N	B	A	O	I	E	C
L	R	T	E	G	R	I	O	S	L	U	L	S	R
O	I	R	U	F	L	C	H	A	S	L	E	T	I
Y	D	E	M	L	S	W	Y	A	E	T	Y	O	A
E	G	H	I	O	O	G	D	S	O	L	N	O	
L	E	H	B	O	R	E	C	O	U	N	T	R	Y
E	C	P	D	Y	R	E	T	T	O	P	K	F	R
S	E	I	R	E	S	R	U	N	H	A	R	A	O
O	Y	N	N	E	P	F	L	A	H	U	A	R	C
M	V	I	N	E	Y	A	R	D	S	L	P	M	K

There is one word in the list that is **NOT** included in the grid.

Write it on the back of a postcard (or sealed envelope) TOGETHER WITH YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS and send to:

Helen Dye
Word Search Competition,
South Staffordshire Council,
Council Offices, Codsall,
South Staffordshire. WV8 1PX

The first correct entry picked after the closing date of

14th September, 2011
will win a
£25 Prize

WORDSEARCH WINNER:

Congratulations to
Ann Miller
from Wheaton Aston
who won £25 in the
Word Search
Competition
in the Spring 2011
Edition of the
South Staffordshire
Review.

VALUE FOR MONEY? You can bank on us!

Council bosses in South Staffordshire have followed up their freeze on Council Tax with a pledge to squeeze the last drop of value from reduced revenues. The Council has seen its funding from the Government cut by 35%, but is promising local taxpayers 'more bang for your buck'. Money saving measures will try to ensure the quality of services people really rely on is maintained.

With South Staffordshire Council this is what you get:

- ✓ **Your Council Tax frozen**
- ✓ **Fourth lowest district council tax in the country**
- ✓ **Paying less than £2 a week* for services**
- ✓ **A 100% debt-free Council (still).**



The Council is:



Helping you to recycle and compost 49% of our waste which otherwise would go to landfill



Delivering waste and recycling collections for every home

Freezing the costs of leisure memberships



Giving £500,000 in grants for disabled and vulnerable adults every year

Giving £65,000 a year to local community and voluntary groups

Delivering £24 million a year in benefit support to the most vulnerable



Working with Staffordshire Police to cut crime and keep our communities safe



South Staffordshire Council has also:



Brought fly-tipping figures to an all-time low and the pioneering work in this field has been recognised nationally

Built a new cemetery for the District - and another one is on its way.



AND...

Our streets are some of the cleanest in the county



Baggeridge Country Park and the Wom Brook Walk in Wombourne are nationally acclaimed Green Flag parks



How's that for Value?

*based on an average Band D property

BUSINESS = JOBS

South Staffordshire Council

Calling All Job Seekers!!!!

**Featherstone Work Café
@ Featherstone & Hilton Community Centre**



Help get yourself back into work at the Featherstone Work Café!

Come and see us every Friday at the Community Centre for a cup of tea and a chat.

We're here to help and to offer advice on CV writing and interview techniques, as well as pointing you in the right direction towards new training, work experience and qualifications.

You can also speak with local employers and other professionals about how best to get back on the road to work.

Come down and see us - this is a great chance to see what's out there for you.



South Staffordshire Council

Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service
preventing • protecting • responding

FIRE SAFETY TRAINING

It's now a legal requirement for all employees to have received fire safety training!

Together with Staffordshire Fire and Rescue, we can help you meet this requirement.

This includes a certificate and refreshments.
(Normal RRP £40pp)

2011 Training dates:

- 12 Sep 10:00am - 12:00 noon

£4.99 per person BOOK NOW!

Venue: Council Offices, Codsall.

How to register:

1. Registration can be done via our brand new 'My Place My Say for Business' web forum.
2. Simply log on at www.myplacemysay.co.uk/business
3. Register (if new to the site)
4. Click onto the Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service logo
5. Complete the online form.

South Staffordshire Council

TO LET INDUSTRIAL UNITS AT:

- Four Ashes Enterprise Centre**
807 sq ft & 1,076 sq ft
- Heathmill Enterprise Centre, Wombourne**
1,460 sq ft & 2,350 sq ft
- Hilton Main Industrial Estate, Essington**
921 sq ft
- Landywood Enterprise Park, Great Wyrley**
1,161 sq ft - 2,807 sq ft
- Littleton Business Park, Huntington**
807 sq ft - 1,345 sq ft
- South Staffordshire Business Park, Cheslyn Hay**
1,076 sq ft - 2,422 sq ft

Contact:
David Broadhead, Commercial Development Section,
Council Offices, Codsall, South Staffordshire WV8 1PX
Tel: **01902 696118** Fax: **01902 696705**
E-mail: d.broadhead@sstaffs.gov.uk

Want to find out more?
Just get in touch.

THINK LOCAL!

Support local jobs and support local businesses - Think Local

Log on to Staffordshire's FREE business directory and find a local tradesman or service:

www.thinklocal4business.co.uk

think local
4 business.co.uk





TRANSPORT

Taxi-Bus for our Friends in the North

A brand new public taxi-bus service will get rural residents in the north of the District from B to C - Brewood to Cannock that is - via Penkrige and most of the villages and hamlets in-between.

The "Village Buzz" will run on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and if you need to use it, you can flag one down from the side of the road.

It's a six-month pilot project to gauge demand, by the South Staffordshire Rural Transport Partnership, who have been listening to local concerns about the scarcity of public transport in rural areas.

The Village Buzz could offer a really useful solution - and the fares are pretty reasonable, £1.50 for a return trip (75p for children). What's more, people holding national bus passes can use it for FREE, subject to normal bus rules.

Instead of a bus, though, it will be an 8-seater mini-bus, operated by Codsall Cars on behalf of the Partnership.

The service is running twice a week, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, starting at 9am from Brewood Market Place.

The route runs from Brewood to Penkrige via Bishops Wood, Blymhill, Stretton, Sunnybank caravan park and Lapley. It then goes on to Cannock Bus Station via Featherstone, Shareshill, Little Saredon, Calf Heath, Wedges Mills and into Cannock. A second loop run takes people back to their homes. The service also provides a link for residents in Dean Court to the centre of Brewood.

On Saturdays, the service includes Cavans Wood Caravan Park in Huntington, taking residents into Cannock at 10.55am and then returning from Cannock bus station at 2.18pm.

Full timetables are available online at:

www.sstaffs.gov.uk/travel

or through your local parish council office.

More information about the Village Buzz will be coming through your letterbox soon, if you live in the area covered by the service.



Cllr Kath Perry and Cllr David Billson with the new 'Village Buzz' taxi-bus which is helping to make access to public transport easier.

NEW BUS ROUTE IS A GREAT HIT

Residents living in the South Staffordshire villages of Penkrige, Whiston, Lapley, Wheaton Aston, Bishops Wood, Brewood and Coven are making the most of a new bus service to Telford on Saturdays!

The South Staffordshire Rural Transport Partnership launched the new bus service in March - and they've been overwhelmed with how popular the service has been so far.

The new service is helping residents from local villages to get to Telford and back on

Saturdays - with transport bosses hoping that if the service remains popular enough, it might even become a full time fixture!

The route has been such a triumph so far, that not only is it getting local people to Telford; it's getting people from Shropshire into Penkrige for the Saturday market.

The new service has already proved a hit with its users, with one satisfied passenger commenting, "I have been there and back twice on the two early busses and they give plenty of time for a good look around including a sit down

and a cup of coffee".

The new Saturday service, the 12/X12, is being run by bus operator, Arriva.

Councillor David Billson, Deputy Leader of South Staffordshire Council is delighted that local people are using the new service:

"Local people told us that they wanted to get to Telford at the weekend but there wasn't the public transport available to do it. This is why we stepped in and we've even found that people are coming into South Staffordshire from Telford which is a bonus.



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Staffordshire County Council

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* Terms and conditions apply, see web for details or call 0560 111 0000



2006-2007
Transforming the Delivery of
Services Through Partnerships

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE REVIEW



The Council's New Chairman for 2011-2012



Councillor Sonja Oatley MBE

Councillor Sonja Oatley MBE has been elected Chairman of South Staffordshire Council for the coming year 2011-12.

First elected to the Council in 2007, she represents the village of Bilbrook.

Supporting her in her year of office as Chairman will be her friend and fellow district councillor, Janet Johnson.

Cllr Oatley's chosen charity for the year is Combat Stress - the UK's leading military charity specialising in the care of Veterans' mental health.

Following her election, Councillor Oatley said: "It's an honour to be Chairman. I'm proud to live in South Staffordshire and I'll be spending the next twelve months working hard to promote the District and all it has to offer. "I'll also be working to promote the work of Combat Stress and the excellent work they're doing to support our armed forces."

It's been a double celebration for Cllr Oatley. As well as being appointed Chairman, she was also awarded an MBE in the recent Queen's Birthday Honours List for services to the community of South Staffordshire.

Cllr Oatley takes over from last year's Chairman, Cllr Bob McCardle. In his twelve months of office, Cllr McCardle raised £7,408 for his nominated charity, TroopAid. TroopAid supports wounded service personnel on their return from active service overseas.



Cllr Bob McCardle hands over a cheque for £7,408 to his nominated charity, TroopAid.

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get all the latest news

South Staffordshire Council

CONTACTS:

Telephone: **(01902) 696000**
Website: **www.sstaffs.gov.uk**

OPENING TIMES

The new opening times for personal visits and telephone calls to the Council's Customer Contact Centre are:

Monday	8.45am to 5.00pm
Tuesday	8.45am to 5.00pm
Wednesday	8.45am to 5.00pm
Thursday	8.45am to 5.00pm
Friday	8.45am to 5.00pm

Library opening times remain unchanged

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

اگر آپ اس دستاویز کی کاپی میں چاہتے ہیں تو براہ کرم رابطہ کریں
یہ دستاویز صرف انگریزی میں ہے۔ اگر آپ کو اس دستاویز کی کاپی دوسری زبان میں چاہیے ہے تو براہ کرم رابطہ کریں
یہ دستاویز صرف انگریزی میں ہے۔ اگر آپ کو اس دستاویز کی کاپی دوسری زبان میں چاہیے ہے تو براہ کرم رابطہ کریں
یہ دستاویز صرف انگریزی میں ہے۔ اگر آپ کو اس دستاویز کی کاپی دوسری زبان میں چاہیے ہے تو براہ کرم رابطہ کریں

If you would like a copy of this document in another language or format (e.g. Braille, audio cassette), please contact:

South Staffordshire Council, Council Offices, Codsall, South Staffordshire. WV8 1PX
Tel: (01902) 696000
E-mail: thereview@sstaffs.gov.uk

Once is enough for anybody



The days of seemingly endless repetition of the same information to public bodies are numbered - thanks to new reporting measures spearheaded by South Staffordshire Council.

The scheme means that people who have to report important changes in their life, such as a death, a marriage or a birth need make only ONE phone call or make ONE visit to the Council Offices.

Until now, people have often had to repeat the same information over and over again, sometimes at the most traumatic or stressful times.

But South Staffordshire is leading the other local councils in Staffordshire in a new project which means that you only have to do it once.

In fact, South Staffordshire will be one of the first areas in the whole country to

introduce the Tell Us Once service.

It means that, for example, when someone dies, next of kin will have to notify just one organisation who will then tell everyone else who needs to know. This includes the electoral register, the benefits agencies - even the driving licence authorities or bus pass issuers.

The service is being organised nationally by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). The system will make it easy for customer service advisors and registrars to ask the right questions and then share the resulting information - at the flick of a switch - with everyone else who needs to know.

Leaflets about Tell Us Once will be available from the Council offices, your local doctor's surgery, hospitals and registration offices, later this summer. The leaflet will also be included in

bereavement packs when you go to register a death. Your local funeral directors will be able to advise you about the new service.

Cllr Roy Wright, Cabinet Member for Direct Services at South Staffordshire Council, said: "In the past, residents have had to tell lots of different people about their life events, often at stressful times when they really don't need the hassle."

"We're leading the way on this new project and we want to make things easier for everyone because we know that people's time matters."

To find out about Tell Us Once, call the Council on **01902 696000** or visit www.sstaffs.gov.uk.



Community Safety

Summer 2011

"Your local council and police working together to keep your community safe"



SAFE and SECURE IN SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE

Anyone worried about crime can rest assured ... South Staffordshire IS a safer place to live - and that's official.

Latest figures from the Home Office show crime rates in South Staffordshire are down ten per cent and our county police force is one of the most highly rated in the country!

The statistics reflect the hard work put in by local people and organisations to work with Staffordshire Police to stop the villains and reduce the fear of crime itself.

The Home Office report released a few months ago also shows that local people

think that the police and the Council are working together to tackle local issues.

In fact, local people's perception of the police and councils working together puts Staffordshire Police in the top ten police forces in the country.

Crime has fallen significantly in recent years - there were 33,500 fewer victims in the county last year, compared to five years ago.

Last year in Staffordshire:

- Violent crime was **down 6%**
- Violence with injury **down 12%**

- Robbery **down nearly a third (30%)**
- Domestic burglary **down 17%**
- Vehicle crime **down nearly a quarter (23%)**
- Criminal damage **down 19%**

The message from Staffordshire's crimefighters is: We're working together to keep you and your family safe.

For more information about your local police team visit www.staffordshire.police.uk. In an emergency always call 999 - but in a non-emergency you can call **0300 123 44 55**.



Your guide to Anti-Social Behaviour

What is Anti-Social Behaviour?

It can mean different things to different people - but basically it's any kind of repeated behaviour that affects your quality of life.

Everyone has different levels of tolerance and what is considered unreasonable behaviour to one person may be felt more acceptable to others.

Anti-social behaviour (ASB) can be caused by people of all ages from different backgrounds and is not confined just to young people.

What can you do about ASB?

ASB is one of the top priorities for local councils, police and other partners and we're all working together to make your communities even safer and improve your quality of life.

There is a range of support available to respond to your concerns and listed opposite are details of organisations that are able to take action and provide long lasting solutions to the issues you've identified.



Young people's BMX Track in Kinver

What action can be taken?

South Staffordshire Council, the police and other partners can use various methods to deal with those things you've highlighted as a priority in your neighbourhood. These include:

- Warning Letters
- Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs)
- Parenting Orders, Individual Support Orders and Noise Abatement Notices
- Possession proceedings against tenants
- Anti-Social Behaviour Orders

Support and regular contact will keep you up to date with the work being done to address your concerns. This aims to ensure those responsible understand the impact of their actions and change their behaviour.



Your local council and police working together to keep your community safe



Help and advice

Agency to help	Type of Behaviour	Other useful contact numbers
 All non-emergency calls to Staffordshire Police 0300 123 4455 In an emergency dial 999 Crimestoppers anonymously 0800 555111	Rowdy/nuisance behaviour including: • Street drinking • Noise nuisance • Criminal damage/vandalism • Intimidation/harassment • Drug/alcohol misuse • Off-road nuisance biking • Inappropriate use of fireworks	South Staffordshire Housing Association 0800 096 8690 Accord Housing Association 0300 111 7000 Bromford Housing Group 0845 6050 603 Sanctuary Housing Group 0800 131 3329 Heanton Housing Association 01902 571100 Midland Heart 0345 60 20 540
 South Staffordshire Council 01902 696000	• Litter • Rubbish • Fly tipping • Dog fouling • Graffiti • Abandoned vehicles	If you're unhappy about the way in which your concerns are being dealt with, contact: Community Safety Team South Staffordshire Council Wolverhampton Road Codsall WV8 1PX Tel: 01902 696530 Email: communitysafety@sstaffs.gov.uk Or Staffordshire Police Tel: 0300 123 4455 www.staffordshire.police.uk
Registered Social Landlord or South Staffordshire Council	• Noisy neighbours & neighbour disputes	



Your local council and police working together to keep your community safe





Looking at Localities

Locality Two

Play park is a winner

There's no doubt what Wheaton Aston youngsters think about the village's new play park - it's the tops.

The £52,000 facility, funded by the Staffordshire Play Builder project, features 'natural' play elements, including a variety of logs and beams for children to climb on as well as swings and a zip wire.

Opened in February, these exciting new facilities on the Marston Road Recreation Ground have been made possible due to the hard work and dedication of the Wheaton Aston Play Strategy Group, a group of local residents young and old, who have come together to improve facilities for children and young people in the village.

It comes in addition to the £46,000 investment in a new skate park in the village last year.

Group Chairman, Kath Doyle said: "This is a valuable asset to the village. It enhances the skate park and we're sure the children of Wheaton Aston will have many hours of fun on it."



Locality Two

- Brewwood and Coven
- Lapley, Stretton and Wheaton Aston
- Blymhill and Weston-under-Lizard

Locality One

Proud to be a villager

Residents of South Staffordshire take great pride in their villages - and Huntington is no exception.

A new project recently launched in the area is called just that, Huntington Pride, and its aim is to pull together the whole community to improve the village and the services for local people.

To kick off the new venture, the group held a consultation exercise called 'Huntington have your say'.

Local people were asked about their views on the village, about any problems they wanted sorted out and how the place could be improved generally.

The responses were overwhelmingly upbeat, showing that there are lots of things that Huntington folk love about their village.

Asked what they liked, the comments included:

- The open space and surrounding countryside.
- Community spirit along with friends and family.
- It's friendly, it's quiet, and the school.

Among the things they would like to see improved were:

- Amount of litter and dog mess.

- Lack of play areas and things to do.
- Traffic and busy roads.
- Anti-social behaviour.

This was just the first step for Huntington Pride, whose message is: "We're listening to what local people say".

If you want to find more about the Huntington Pride project, or if you're keen to get involved, then get in touch with Rachel Taylor on r.taylor@sstaffs.gov.uk or call 01902 696534.

Locality One

- Coppenhall
- Dunston
- Acton Trussell and Bednall
- Teddesley Hay
- Huntington
- Hatherton
- Penkridge

Locality Three

Youngsters toil like Navvies

A group of environment-conscious youngsters from Great Wyrley rolled up their sleeves for two days of hard graft to help clean up a section of canal near the village.

Members of the Great Wyrley Youth Forum gave up part of their half term break to team up with local youth organisation Gecko and South Staffordshire Council to clear a stretch of the Essington-Wyrley canal.

The job included picking up litter, cutting back overgrown weeds and sprucing up the blue bricks which edge the canal side.

The good work hasn't stopped there, however, as these enthusiastic youngsters went on to assist Staffordshire Wildlife Trust in doing more environmentally useful work at Highgate Common.



Locality Four

Help at hand for Perton jobseekers

Job hunters in the village of Perton are being offered a helping hand to get back to work at a new 'Job Café' which has just opened.

Local people looking to land a job can get advice and support from employment experts and local businesses.

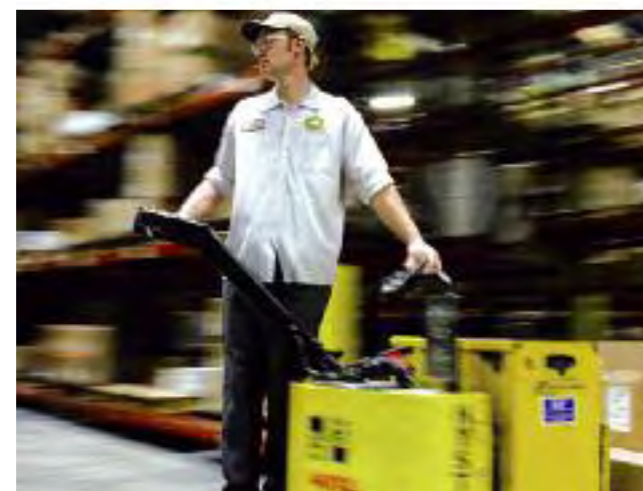
The job café is being supported by Job Centre Plus and South Staffordshire Council and will run at Perton Library on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month from 2pm-4pm.

Jobseekers can get top tips and advice about preparing CV's, filling in online job applications, covering letters, interview techniques and job searching.

Other support agencies will also be on hand to offer advice on a range of issues such as confidence, finance, training and volunteering opportunities.

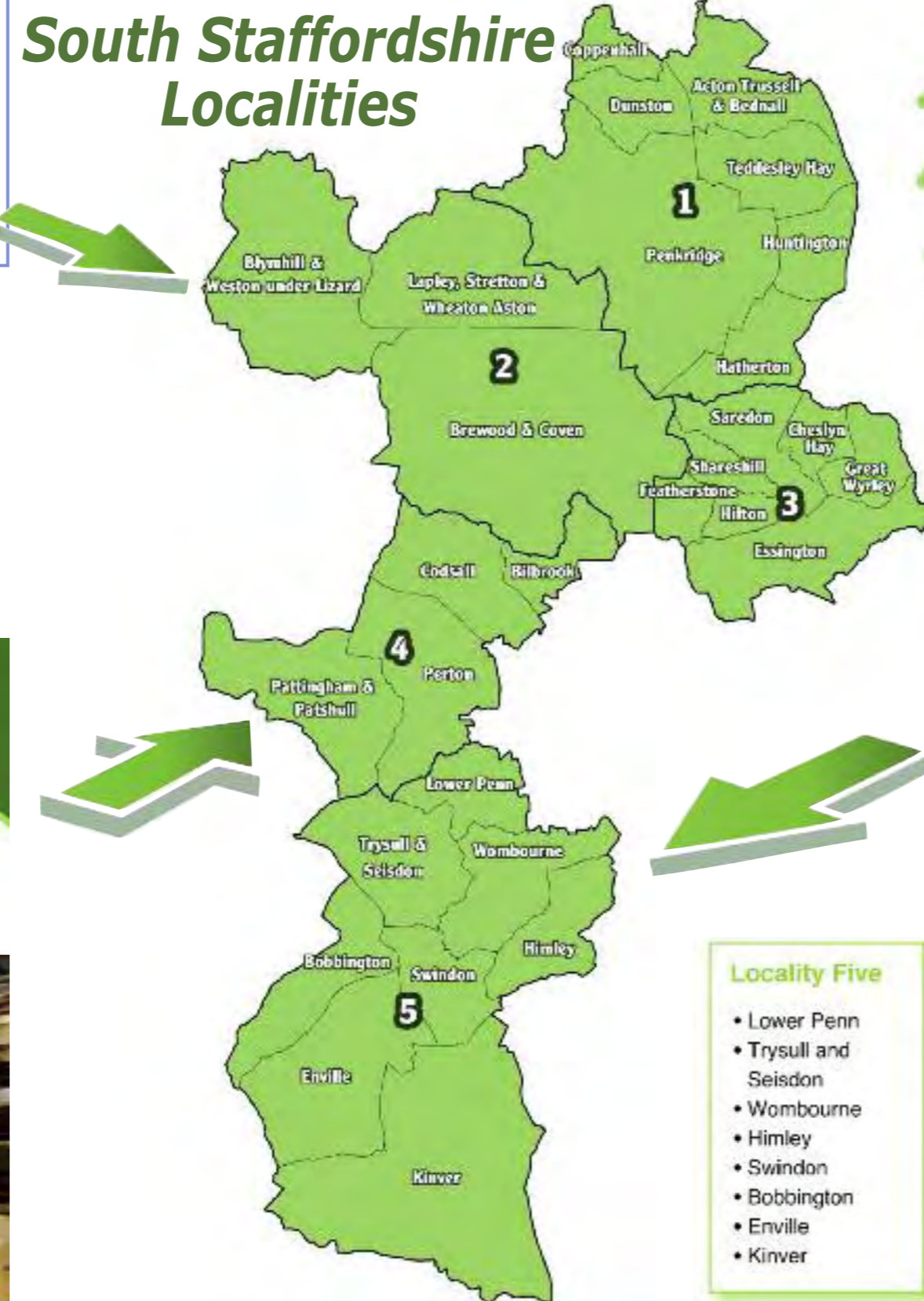
Local businesses such as Sainsbury's have also pledged their support to the new scheme.

Cllr David Billson, Deputy Leader of South Staffordshire Council, who represents Perton East, said: "We want to do everything we can to help local people back into work. The last few years have been difficult - especially for the Midlands - so anything we can do to help people get back into work is a bonus".



Locality Four

- Bilbrook
- Codsall
- Perton
- Pattingham and Patshull



Locality Five

Affordable homes for local people



Mr and Mrs Weston

Fourteen new affordable homes for rent and shared ownership, in the village of Swindon, have been given the seal of approval by South Staffordshire's M.P., as well as a big thumbs-up from local people.

The development, in Himley Lane, Swindon, has all been reserved for local people. It means helping local homehunters, who might otherwise be priced out of the

housing market, continue to live in the area where they've lived all their lives.

The official opening saw Gavin Williamson, MP for the District, joining local councillors and residents to show their support for South Staffordshire Housing Association's latest housing scheme.

Cllr David Billson, Deputy Leader of South Staffordshire Council, said: "These are some of the nicest affordable homes I've seen. We're a rural district and proud of it but we

know that there's a real shortage of homes for local people. Helping local families to stay in their local villages is what we need and this is why projects like this are so important."

One local family benefiting from the new homes is the Westons, who are now able to get on the property ladder for the first time. Mr and Mrs Weston have two daughters and were keen to buy a family home in the area where their children have always lived.

Health & Wellbeing

THESE ROUTES WERE MADE FOR WALKING



South Staffordshire has miles and miles of breathtaking countryside – and some of the best walking routes in the county.

So, why not dust off your boots, put your best foot forward and walk yourself to fitness this summer!

There are scores of different walking routes and trails across the district - and for the first time you can download route guides to the very best of them.

The brand new, easy to follow walking routes include some of the most popular walks through the villages of Brewood, Wombourne, Codsall and many more.

The routes range in length from one to four miles and take in some of the stunning sights in South Staffordshire.

They can all be downloaded from:

www.sstaffs.gov.uk/walking

Copies of the new walks can also be obtained by phoning **01902 696410** or simply visit

www.sstaffs.gov.uk/walking.

SUZANNE GETS ROYAL SEAL OF APPROVAL

A South Staffordshire volunteer, who has dedicated almost a quarter of a century to a local charity, has been honoured with an MBE from the Queen.

Suzanne Edwards, who lives in Perton, has been Chairman of the South Staffordshire Local Village Transport for almost 25 years.

The charity was founded to help elderly and disabled people living in Codsall, Bilbrook, Perton, Pattingham, Brewood and Coven to get out and about and access local services.

The organisation is run entirely by volunteers and now operates 2 specially adapted 12-seater vehicles fitted with a tail lift and restraints for up to 3 wheelchairs.

Suzanne received her MBE from Prince Charles for 'Services to the Community in South Staffordshire' at a ceremony in May at Buckingham Palace.

To find out more about the transport charity call **01902 755482**.



Suzanne Edwards MBE outside Buckingham Palace shortly after receiving her MBE from HRH Prince Charles on 11th May 2011.

South Staffordshire **NHS**
Primary Care Trust

For urgent medical attention
Out-of-Hours

If you require urgent medical attention in the evening, at weekends or on bank holidays, then call the Out-of-Hours telephone number:

0300 555 0277

Weekdays: Monday to Friday
6.30 pm - 8.00 am
Weekends: Friday 6.30 pm -
Monday 8.00 am
Bank Holidays: 24 hours

The Out-of-Hours service will help if you become ill after your local GP surgery is closed or if you need to contact a doctor or trained nurse because of a serious medical need or an urgent healthcare problem

primecare

Further information is available at
www.southstaffordshirepct.nhs.uk



"There's no way I'm going back to smoking"

Call **0345 245 0759** to find your nearest NHS stop smoking service

SMOKEFREE
STAFFORDSHIRE



**South
Staffordshire
Council**

Elections

2011

The votes are in and counted...

Voters in South Staffordshire delivered their verdict in May's local elections and the Referendum on a new voting system.

And while the result was pretty much 'as you were' in the Council elections, residents of South Staffordshire who went to the polls said a resounding 'No' to the proposed Alternative Vote scheme.

The last District elections were held in 2007, when the Conservative Party comfortably retained its position in control. This time there were 99 candidates standing for election to South Staffordshire Council, with just 49 places on the Council up for grabs.

Following the election on 5th May the political landscape in

South Staffordshire remains little changed.

Despite losing three previously held seats, one in Essington and two in Cheslyn Hay North and Saredon, the Conservatives returned 42 councillors - the same number as last time.

The Labour Party now has two councillors following victory for Mac Harris in the Cheslyn Hay North and Saredon Ward. He joins Councillor Jeff Ashley on the Labour benches.

There are also 5 Independent representatives on the Council. Councillors Bob Cope and Frank Beardsmore retained their seats in Featherstone and Shareshill, as did Councillor David Clifft in Essington. Mike Boyle topped the poll in Cheslyn Hay North and Saredon, whilst Wayne Whitehouse was also elected as an Independent councillor in

Essington. Former councillors Ena Ray and Andy Ball, however, failed to retain their seats in Kinver and Coven & Brewood respectively.

The Liberal Democrats failed to field any candidates this year and as a result their seat in Kinver was gained by the Conservatives.

Conservative:	42	(+/- 0)
Labour:	2	(+1)
Independent:	5	(+/- 0)
Liberal Democrats:	0	(-1)

New Council Leader Elected

Councillor Brian Edwards has been formally re-appointed Leader of South Staffordshire Council and will head-up a new style administration for the next four years.

First elected to the authority in 1983, Cllr Edwards became Leader in 2003. He was returned again by voters in Kinver in May - and one of his first tasks was to appoint his 'cabinet' at the first full Council meeting following the election.

In a change to the way the Council is organised, these cabinet councillors will each have responsibility for specific services.

Cllr Edwards said: "It's a privilege to be returned by the people of Kinver for the eighth time to the District Council and it's an honour to be Leader again.

"It is a difficult time for the public sector, but years of prudent financial planning means that, although we're having to really tighten our belt, we're still in a position to deliver the services on which local people rely.

"I'll be spending the next four years working with a committed team to take this Council forward and to make sure we get value for your money."

IT'S NO TO AV

Voters in South Staffordshire delivered a clear verdict on the Alternative Vote (AV) Referendum at the polls in May - with nearly 4 out of 5 people giving a big thumbs down to plans to change the voting system.

Whilst thousands flocked to the polling stations to elect their district and parish councillors - every voter was also given the chance to have their say on plans to change the voting system we use to elect MPs.

Over 35,000 people voted in the referendum - with an overwhelming majority rejecting the plans to replace the 'First Past the Post' system with the 'Alternative Vote'.

The Alternative Vote Referendum results in full:

Votes against AV:	27,769	(79%)
Votes for AV:	7,349	(21%)
Rejected ballots:	157	



MEET THE NEW CABINET...



Cllr Brian Edwards
Leader

Cllr Edwards also has responsibility for Partnership Services



Cllr David Billson
Deputy Leader

Cllr Billson also has responsibility for Strategic Services



Cllr Roger Lees

Cabinet Member for Public Health Protection Services



Cllr Robert Reade

Cabinet Member for Support Services



Cllr Mrs Joan Williams

Cabinet Member for Environmental Services



Cllr Roy Wright

Cabinet Member for Direct Services

South Staffordshire Council Members



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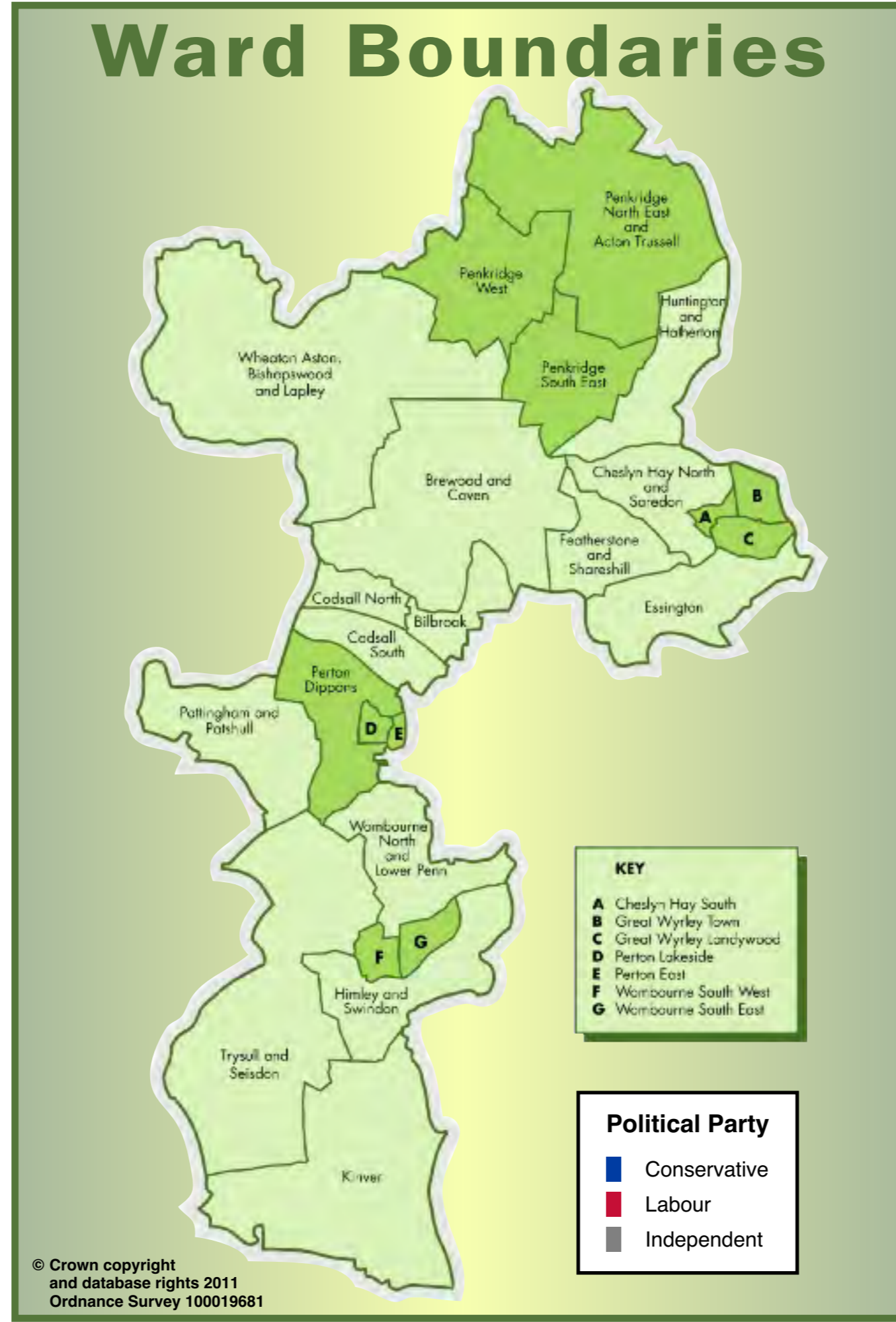
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Election Results

Bilbrook

43% Turnout

Party Represented	Name of Candidate	Number of Votes
Conservative	Val Chapman	648 - ELECTED
Labour	Kevin McEluff	409
Conservative	Sonja Galley MBE	825 - ELECTED
Labour	Anthony Wynne-Jones	478

CON HOLD
CON HOLD

Brewood & Coven

44% Turnout

Party Represented	Name of Candidate	Number of Votes
Independent	Andy Ball	941
Conservative	Ian Clay	1369 - ELECTED
Conservative	Michael Hampson	1193 - ELECTED
Conservative	Anne Holmes	1221 - ELECTED
Labour	Lena Holmes	661
Labour	Lorna Jones	765

CON HOLD
CON HOLD
CON GAIN from IND

Cheslyn Hay North & Saredon

37% Turnout

Party Represented	Name of Candidate	Number of Votes
Independent	Hiko Boyle	431 - ELECTED
Labour	Alex Brindle	325
Conservative	Alta Caine	388
Conservative	Nigel Caine	384
UK Independence Party (UKIP)	Ken Gould	747
Labour	Mer Harris	410 - ELECTED

IND GAIN from CON

LAB GAIN from CON

Cheslyn Hay South

37% Turnout

Party Represented	Name of Candidate	Number of Votes
Labour	Joseph Davison	396
Conservative	David Hesdline	441 - ELECTED
UK Independence Party (UKIP)	Steve Hollie	246
Independent	Ann Pugh	312
Conservative	Bernard Williams	412 - ELECTED

CON HOLD

CON HOLD

Codsall North

42% Turnout

Party Represented	Name of Candidate	Number of Votes
Conservative	Pat Campbell	861 - ELECTED
Independent	John Evans	337
Conservative	Mark Ewart	797 - ELECTED
Labour	Jaden Williams	306
Labour	Tina Williams	250

CON HOLD
CON HOLD

Codsall South

46% Turnout

Party Represented	Name of Candidate	Number of Votes
UK Independence Party (UKIP)	Hiko Lynch	377
Conservative	Robert Marshall	1016 - ELECTED
Conservative	John Mitchell	909 - ELECTED
Labour	Genina Smith	354
Labour	Patricia Wall	304

CON HOLD
CON HOLD

Essington

41% Turnout

Party Represented	Name of Candidate	Number of Votes
Conservative	Berry Bond	361
Independent	Dave CHM	1135 - ELECTED
Labour	Charlotte Hale	307
Independent	Wayne Whitehouse	483 - ELECTED
Conservative	Ursula Young	406

IND HOLD

IND GAIN from CON

Featherstone & Sharesill

39% Turnout

Party Represented	Name of Candidate	Number of Votes
Independent	Tina Beardmore	536 - ELECTED
Labour	John Brindle	482
Independent	Seb Cops	639 - ELECTED
Conservative	Nika Lawrence	475
Labour	Phil Light	231

IND HOLD
IND HOLD

Great Wyrley Landywood

39% Turnout

Party Represented	Name of Candidate	Number of Votes
Labour	Ken Bullack	453
Labour	John Jones	423
UK Independence Party (UKIP)	Glen Keatley	179
Conservative	Ray Perry	611 - ELECTED
Conservative	Kath Williams	646 - ELECTED

CON HOLD
CON HOLD

Great Wyrley Town

36% Turnout

Party Represented	Name of Candidate	Number of Votes
Conservative	Brian Bates	1645 - ELECTED
Conservative	Jane Johnson	1101 - ELECTED
Labour	Tom Lowe	537
UK Independence Party (UKIP)	Malcolm McRae	361
Conservative	Kath Perry	1162 - ELECTED

CON HOLD
CON HOLD

CON HOLD

Himley & Swindon

48% Turnout

Party Represented	Name of Candidate	Number of Votes
UK Independence Party (UKIP)	Gordon Parham	261
Conservative	Roger Linn	437 - ELECTED
Independent	Keith Pincher	152

CON HOLD

Huntington & Hatherton

30% Turnout

Party Represented	Name of Candidate	Number of Votes
Labour	Jeff Ashley	557 - ELECTED
Labour	Ron Kenyon	406
Conservative	David Williams	369 - ELECTED

LAB HOLD
CON HOLD

Kinver

45% Turnout

Party Represented	Name of Candidate	Number of Votes
Conservative	Brian Edwards	1658 - ELECTED
Conservative	Lin Hingley	1655 - ELECTED
Independent	Eric Ray	1071
Labour	Christine Ridgeway	644
Conservative	Paul Wooddiss	1122 - ELECTED

CON HOLD
CON GAIN over LIB DEM

CON GAIN over IND

Pattingham & Patshull

50% Turnout

Party Represented	Name of Candidate	Number of Votes
Independent	Stephanie Brindle	130
Conservative	Ian Burton MBE	758 - ELECTED

CON HOLD

Penkridge North East & Acton Trussell

48% Turnout

Party Represented	Name of Candidate	Number of Votes
Conservative	Leonard Bates	611 - ELECTED
Independent	Seven Craddock	416
Conservative	Isabel Ford	635 - ELECTED
Labour	Sandra Morris	367

CON HOLD
CON HOLD

Penkridge South East

42% Turnout

Party Represented	Name of Candidate	Number of Votes
Labour	Vincent Brennan	474
Independent	Dave Oldfield	496
Conservative	Christine Raven	795 - ELECTED
Conservative	John Raven	636 - ELECTED

CON HOLD
CON HOLD

Penkridge West

42% Turnout

Party Represented	Name of Candidate	Number of Votes
Conservative	Donald Cartwright	170 - ELECTED
Independent	Sam Murphy	115
Independent	Lewitt Stonehouse	101

CON HOLD

Perton Dippons

41% Turnout

Party Represented	Name of Candidate	Number of Votes
	Charlene Duffell	248
Conservative	Keith James	302 - ELECTED

CON HOLD

Perton East

47% Turnout

Party Represented	Name of Candidate	Number of Votes
Conservative	David Billson	432 - ELECTED
Independent	Anthony Bourke	402

CON HOLD

Perton Lakeside

36% Turnout

Party Represented	Name of Candidate	Number of Votes
Independent	Alan Black	513
Labour	John Fenby	438
Conservative	David Feraday	856 - ELECTED
Conservative	Rita Hesdline	850 - ELECTED
Independent	Angie James	592
Conservative	Roy Marston	800 - ELECTED
	Patricia PRT	452

CON HOLD
CON HOLD
CON HOLD
CON HOLD

Trysull & Seisdon

45% Turnout

Party Represented	Name of Candidate	Number of Votes
Independent	Niel Compton	263
Conservative	Robert McCordle	532 - ELECTED

CON HOLD

Wheaton Aston, Bishopwood & Lapley

Party Represented	Name of Candidate	Number of Votes
Conservative	Brian Cox	UNCONTESTED
Conservative	Roy Wright	UNCONTESTED

CON HOLD
CON HOLD

Wombourne North & Lower Penn

41% Turnout

Party Represented	Name of Candidate	Number of Votes
Conservative	Alyn Hales	1345 - ELECTED
UK Independence Party (UKIP)	Lyndon Jones	707
Conservative	Robert Reade	1267 - ELECTED
Conservative	Joan Williams	1236 - ELECTED

CON HOLD
CON HOLD
CON HOLD
CON HOLD

Wombourne South East

45% Turnout

Party Represented	Name of Candidate	Number of Votes
Conservative	Jackie Granger	890 - ELECTED
UK Independence Party (UKIP)	Stuart Parr	501
Conservative	Reginald Williams	873 - ELECTED

CON HOLD
CON HOLD

Wombourne South West

Party Represented	Name of Candidate	Number of Votes
Conservative	Mary Bond	UNCONTESTED
Conservative	Mia Davies	UNCONTESTED

CON HOLD
CON HOLD

For the results
of the
Parish Elections
go to
www.sstaffs.gov.uk/elections