

Councillor Annual Report 2021/2

Name: Councillor Graham Chapman

1. Introduction

Graham Chapman is one of three Councillors for Aspley Ward, which covers the Aspley, Broxtowe and Bells Lane Estates. He has been a Councillor since 1987. He enjoys the variety of the challenges, from dealing with individual casework, to working with community groups, to trying to ensure council services are delivered for the area, to helping manage Nottingham City Transport, of which he is the chair.

2. Council Involvement

Cllr Chapman is Chair of Nottingham City Transport and vice Chair of the Planning Committee. He also serves on the Audit Committee.

3. Community Involvement

He is helping to revive the Bells Lane Community Centre, supports Evolve, a youth, employment and advice agency based in the Strelley Club, and is involved with the Broxtowe Community Club.

4. Ward Work and Achievements

Cllr Chapman has overseen a number of developments over the 30 years as councillor, including the renewal of Ambleside and Rosslyn Schools, the building of the Children's Centre on Bradfield Road, the creation of new council bungalows on Westleigh Road and Oakford Close and the renewal of the new Strelley Library.

However, the biggest achievement to date, is his contribution to calming the anti-social behaviour in the area which used to involve, in the 1990s, high levels of car theft, arson, and vandalism to empty property, which no longer occurs.

His main concern is increasing the education and skill levels in the area and keeping on top of ASB and crime by liaising with the CPOs and police. Crime in the area has dropped at a greater rate than most other areas in the city.

5. Learning and Development

As Chair of Nottingham City Transport, he undertook Director training organised by the Institute of Directors. He has also undertaken training on Child Protection and Data Protection. He is keen to get to grips with the latest developments in local government finance.

6. Use of Devolved Budgets

In the past year funding has been approved for two Jubilee events, gating of a number of alleyways, improvement to pavements in the Camborne Road area, improvements to flats in Calcroft Close, a parking scheme on Hilcot Drive, a

Christmas lights event, support for the Bells Lane Community Centre refurbishment, and a Community book scheme.

7. Challenges

There are many challenges:

- 1 the cost of living crisis and its impact on people in the ward
- 2 health issues in the ward especially given the crisis in the NHS
- 3 how to help improve skills and training in the ward
- 4 just keeping services going when the council has been subject to so many cuts in government funding.