

District Report from Cllr. Keith Flunder Feb. 2026

For the Endon with Stanley Parish Council meeting Feb. 10nd 2026

1. LGR Update and summary: -
 - a) Myself, and the other Champions and SMDC officers etc. are looking at organising locality group meetings, from the end of February / early March. These meetings will include an agreed up-dated presentation to go through. As well as summarising the LGR process for the coming years, there will also be a plan to produce locality plans, Town and Parish plans will also be outlined and spread sheets to help Parish and Town councils to log their assets, will also be provided. These will include public areas and street furniture etc. It is hoped that this process will help them look at their own assets and support their own local strategic plans.
 - b) Future meetings and possible visits to parishes are also available. Although it might be best to get a report on the agenda from the planned locality meetings.
 - c) At recent meeting with the LGR locality champions and SMDC officers. The way forward and rough timetable in providing support to Parish and Town councils, were discussed.
 - d) The community transfer policy for SMDC was passed last Tuesday at the cabinet meeting. I did manage to get some questions and observations to be discussed at last week's Resources scrutiny meeting in Leek.
2. The Parish Assembly and the SPCA will support Parish and Town councils over the coming years to produce their own plans. This was agreed at the recent SPCA executive meeting in Stafford.
3. Brown Bin charges will start from April 1st, 2026, along with a new food pick up services for the SMDC district for the remaining 2 years, is planned to continue. I will work with the other district councillors to provide more details over the coming months. NO extra info. at the moment.
4. I have asked and will report back on the progress for some of the many training courses being delivered by the SPCA and SMDC. For example it was great last week to see some parish councillors at the on-line Observatory well-being statistics training, which will be very helpful to support the parishes strategic plans, moving forward.
5. Planning committee meeting was held on January 22nd and the next planning meeting will be on Feb. 26th. There was another training session just for committee members (a recording was taken) regarding appeals training, mostly for larger projects. A difficult subject, due to geography of the district and the relatively small number of larger applications for houses coming through.

6. At Service Delivery scrutiny committee there were discussions on the Renters Rights Act and the Green Spaces Strategy. The last of these will be useful for future Strategy plans and there was some funding options announced. A good plan for Endon PC perhaps?
7. I have received and will follow up on issues around grit bins and grit piles (this is a county responsibility). All the grit bins I visited recently in Endon are full.
8. Other case work being looked into include a blocked footpath, the on-going presence of rats on the estate and anti-social behaviour by the scout hut.
9. I have supported a request from the local Girl Guides for some funding from my CCIF fund and other organisations are applying for the remaining funds. All applications have to be completed by Feb. 20th!!!!
10. I attended a session regarding the safety of councillors and some of the comments may be appropriate for other councillors. I believe there is a recording of this presentation.
11. There is a footpath plan being looked at by the Counties footpath team and committee. I will see if this affects Endon (and Brown Edge) and get back to the clerks. This is on-going.....
12. Some progress has been made on the speed repeater/camera signs (30), these should start to be installed over the coming weeks.
13. There is a Full Council meeting on Feb. 25th this meeting will set the precept and budget for the coming year. In addition, there are meetings including, a members training working group, a Partnership Board meeting, a joint climate change and nature steering group meeting, Audit and accounts meeting and a street furniture working group meeting, over the coming few weeks
14. There are a couple of surgeries planned in February and March, dates to be promoted. The next is on Feb. 21st at Morrisons in Brown Edge from 9.30 to 11am. I attended the Burns Night event in Biddulph and Holocaust remembrance event in Leek. I will be attending quite a few events and gatherings over the coming weeks. This includes litter picks., speed watch and other local events.
15. Questions ? Please call me on 07836 526834 or send me an email at keith.flunder@staffs Moorlands.gov.uk