

Press Release

**From Councillor Barry Stamp
Stafford Borough Councillor
Church Eaton Ward**

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Use: Immediate

Council Accused Of Showing A Total Lack Of Disregard For Village Residents Safety

A leading Stafford Councillor has this week accused the County Council of showing a total lack of disregard for the safety of elderly residents in Haughton.

Barry Stamp, Councillor for Haughton, said he was appalled that after twelve months and numerous promises from the County Council they had still failed to install a new streetlight in Royds Close, without which the elderly residents who live there were in danger of falling in the darkness.

“Twelve months ago the County Council replaced the only streetlight in Royds Close with a new, more energy efficient model, which did not give out as much light. This meant that half the road was plunged into darkness. I was pleased that within days of carrying out the work the Council agreed that a new light was needed as a matter of urgency. However after a year and numerous letters, e-mails, and telephone calls they have still failed to put in the new light. The last time I raised the matter with them I was promised that regardless of any other work that was planned the light would be installed by the end of April at the latest. Like all the other promises I, and the residents have been made, this date has now come and gone. I am really worried that without this extra light an elderly resident could easily stumble and fall in the darkness. The situation is intolerable and something must be done now. One can only draw the conclusion that the residents of Haughton have been completely abandoned by the County Council,” said Barry Stamp.

“I will be yet again writing to the Highways Department asking both why the work has not been carried out and when a light is going to be installed. However it has now got to the stage where no-one in Royds Close will believe what they are being told,” added Cllr Stamp.

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Notes to editors:

i) Royds Close is situated in the centre of Haughton and is a warden-linked housing scheme for the elderly. It is made up of a mixture of bungalows and flats.