



## **KIRKLEES GREEN PARTY**

**Councillor Graham Simpson**



### **Biography in Brief**

Graham was educated locally in Huddersfield and has lived in Taylor Hill since 1980 with his partner and son.

Active in the Green Party since 1995, Graham has been a Green Party Councillor on Kirklees Metropolitan Council for 6 years.

Graham works for Kirklees Federation of Tenants and Residents Associations supporting tenant involvement in social housing.

### **Motivations for Serving**

Graham first became involved with the Green Party during a campaign to stop development on urban green space near where he lived and has since been actively involved in promoting recycling (until Green wheelie bins were introduced in Newsome Graham ran a recycling round for local residents collecting 1.5 tonnes of waste for recycling every month)

### **Political History**

During his six years as a Cllr, Graham was actively involved in representing the people of Newsome. He followed up over 3,000 issues raised by local people, was involved in getting traffic calming for Newsome Road and NRS and helped obtain over £700,000 extra funding to be spent in our area through Neighbourhood Renewal.

For 3 ½ years Graham held a cabinet position for Housing on Kirklees Council, obtained an extra £143 million to be spent on housing in Kirklees and helped boost the performance of the housing department to one of the best performing in the country.

## Present Portfolio

Graham is currently the Green Party business manager on the council and serves on Huddersfield South Area Committee and the Licensing and Appeals panels.

Graham's priorities are the continuation of the Kirklees Green Parties excellent representation of the people of Newsome Ward.

Graham will seek to increase the amount of say that local people have in how council money is spent on the services they receive in our area.

Graham and the Green Party team want to ensure that our local greenspaces are preserved and that the derelict land at Hart Street in the centre of Newsome village is brought back into use.

## Recent Achievements

- Grahams last Local Election victory for the Green Party was May 2006 for Newsome Ward
- Graham and the Green Party team successfully campaigned for £143 Million extra government money to be spent on modernizing council housing in Kirklees.
- Highways have agreed to move a lamp post on Close Hill Lane to allow wheelchair users to gain access to Taylor Hill Horticultural Centre which they were previously unable to do.

## Current Activities

- Graham is enjoying being back on the Council and is already busy following up issues raised by local people.
- Graham will be organizing 'clean ups of our area and would like people to contact him if they know of a 'grot spot' that needs attention.

## Other Interests

In his own time Graham enjoys photography, hill walking and a good book.

## Contact Details

Telephone: 01484 308789

Mobile: 07976 555830

Email: [graham.simpson@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:graham.simpson@kirklees.gov.uk)