



## **Press Release Stafford & Stone Green Party**

### **Green County Council Candidate On BBC TV's Politics Show**

County council candidate Mike Shone reinforced the Green Party's commitment to tackling local government spending waste when he featured on the Midlands slot of BBC TV's Politics Show on Sunday.

Among only five out of 267 election candidates to be picked to appear on the flagship political programme, Mike outlined how ill-thought-out spending had deprived both young and old of much-needed services in Stafford.

The former Mayor of Stafford said of particular concern was the council's decision to leave a cluster of ex-police houses at Baswich empty at a time when affordable and social housing was in massive demand.

"At a time when there is such a shortage of affordable homes and long housing association waiting lists, this is appalling." Mike told us yesterday.

He added: "I am campaigning for better management of the county's finances and services, tackling senseless waste and focussing support on those who need it most."

If elected, another area on which Mike has pledged to focus is the yearly cost of county councillors to the taxpayer.

Mike told BBC presenter Patrick Burns: "We are very keen at the moment to be looking at allowances nationally. We can look at them locally; the 62 members claimed and got nearly a million pounds last year in allowances and expenses."

The Green Party has proposed reviewing and cutting councillors' expenses.

Along side Mike on The Politics Show were local leaders of the Conservatives, Labour and the Liberal Democrats, in addition to a sitting independent member.

Later in the programme, Prof. Mick Temple of Staffordshire University discussed his predictions for the six local seats up for grabs in the European Parliament elections.

Prof. Temple said the Green Party was set to gain one of the seats. He added that Labour, the Liberal Democrats and UKIP would also gain a seat apiece, while the Conservatives would win two. A Daily Telegraph poll predicted that nationally the Green Party would return eight MEPs.

---

Mike's appearance on The Politics Show can be viewed via the BBC iPlayer at: [www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b00kwh8w/The Politics Show West Midlands 31 05 2009](http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b00kwh8w/The_Politics_Show_West_Midlands_31_05_2009) Mike appears 33 minutes 30 seconds into the show.

-----

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT TOM HARRIS BY  
TELEPHONE ON 07966 488690 OR EMAIL AT [mr.tom.harris@googlemail.com](mailto:mr.tom.harris@googlemail.com)

[www.staffordandstonegreenparty.org](http://www.staffordandstonegreenparty.org)

1st JUNE 2009

PROMOTED BY TOM HARRIS FOR STAFFORD AND STONE GREEN PARTY  
BOTH OF 15 DOXEY ROAD, STAFFORD