

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MAIN TOPICS DISCUSSED AT MEETING ON 3 JUNE 2010

At its meeting on 3 June 2010, the Development Services Scrutiny Committee discussed three main topics, as set out below.

RURAL HIGHWAYS CONDITION IN SOUTHERN SHROPSHIRE – REPORT FROM CRAVEN ARMS AND RURAL LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE AND RESPONSE REPORT

The Committee received a report from the Craven Arms and Rural Local Joint Committee, expressing concern at the condition of rural roads, and a report by highways officers in response to those concerns.

Members expressed their thanks to the Craven Arms and Rural Local Joint Committee for raising these issues and it was agreed both reports should be circulated to all Local Joint Committees for information, as the issues raised were applicable across the county.

REPORT ON DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT FUNDING FOR FROST DAMAGED ROADS

The Committee was pleased to note Shropshire had received an additional £1.5 million in funding from the Department for Transport to compensate the authority for the damage caused to the road network during the harsh winter of 2009/10. Although this additional money was very welcome, it was insufficient to cover all the costs of repairing frost damaged roads across the county.

The Committee was aware that some money had been planned to be spent this year on developing the North West Relief Road, but that this project was currently on hold. The Committee agreed to recommend to Cabinet that this money should be re-designated for the repair of frost-damaged roads.

REVIEW OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING DELIVERY

The Committee received a report setting out the progress made over the past year in delivering affordable homes. It was noted that significant progress had been made and that a recent inspection by the Audit Commission had been very positive. The Committee congratulated all concerned.

WORK PROGRAMME

Further development of the work programme will be put in place once Council has considered the recommendations of the Scrutiny Review Task & Finish Group and the structures for Overview and Scrutiny Committees have been agreed. The meeting of the Committee on the 13 July 2010 will be considering the results of the consultation on the North West Relief Road. This will be held in the Council Chamber at the later time of 7.00pm.

Cllr Alan Mosley (Chairman)
Development Services Scrutiny Committee