

SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL'S ONGOING CONSULTATIONS

Further information on all consultations can be found on the Council's website www.shropshire.gov.uk

Outdoor Recreation User Survey 2013

To help improve our services Shropshire Council undertakes an annual rights of way user satisfaction survey.

This will help us to develop and improve the rights of way network, and countryside parks, sites and play areas. In these days of stringent financial restrictions your responses will help us to identify key areas for maintenance and development.

Shropshire Council manages more than 130 parks, play areas, and country parks across the county. We work with local communities and consult widely in order to manage these sites for people, landscape and wildlife. We are always looking for opportunities to improve their potential for play and quiet recreation whilst also aiming to improve habitats, protect wildlife and preserve and enhance Shropshire's landscape.

The closing date for responses is **31 March 2013**.

Adult Social Care Survey 2012/13 - Feedback continues to shape care and support services

Hundreds of people receiving care and support from Shropshire Council are being asked for their views as part of ongoing work to develop and improve adult social care services.

Almost 900 people at the heart of these services are being urged to share their thoughts and ideas on the care and support provided by the council and how this affects their quality of life.

The Council is running the Adult Social Care Survey for two months to gain this feedback, from 16 January until 8 March 2013.

The annual survey, a national initiative which the government requires all councils providing adult social care services to carry out, enables the council to build on previous recent consultations on adult social care. The consultations have looked at how the council can deliver the best care possible through a variety of services, which offer more choice to meet each individual's needs, developed by the people who use them, their carers, supporters, families and friends.

Councillor Ann Hartley, Shropshire Council's cabinet member for health and wellbeing, said: "The Adult Social Care Survey provides a valuable insight into the needs, experiences and views of the people who use these services.

"We will be inviting about one in seven people receiving nursing, residential and home care services to share their feedback. We would urge anyone who receives a questionnaire to make sure they fill it in. People can ask a member of their family or a friend to help if needed, and we can provide large print and easy read versions, so please take your chance to tell us what you think. Your opinions and experiences are vital."

Councillor Hartley added that the results from last year's survey had helped to identify which services were valued the most, and the areas where further improvements could be made. The results were influencing the ongoing development of services, and this year's results would be used in the same way.

"Last year's survey showed that people receiving social care and support services from Shropshire Council are experiencing a better quality of life year-on-year, but that people would like to have more control over their daily life.

"We are working to give people more choice and control over services, and want to hear if we are helping people to achieve this at a fast enough pace and in the best way possible.

"By taking every opportunity to involve people at the centre of our services, they can continue to shape the future of adult social care and help us to ensure services are what they want and need," she said.

The sample of people being surveyed has been taken from people receiving, or people who have received, care and support services from Shropshire Council in the past year.

For more information about the survey contact Shropshire Council's Communications and Engagement team on Tel: 01743 253898.

The closing date for responses is **8 April 2013**.

Private Sector Housing Assistance and Adaptations Policy

Private Sector Housing provides assistance towards resolving poor housing conditions, mandatory disabled facilities grants (DFGs) and improving domestic energy efficiency.

The policy is currently under review and we would welcome your comments on the new draft policy.

If you would like to receive a hard copy of the questionnaire to complete and return by post or e-mail, please contact us on 0345 678 9005 or email privatesectorhousing@shropshire.gov.uk

The closing date for responses is **29 April 2013**.

Site Allocations and Management of Development (SAMDev) Plan

As part of the ongoing preparation of the Site Allocations and Management of Development Plan (SAMDev) Plan, Shropshire Council is now consulting on a set of draft Development Management Policies.

This consultation document includes the following:

- 16 draft Development Management policies;
- **examples** of potential settlement strategies for the market towns and key centres and Community Hubs and Community Clusters

The document does **not** contain any information relating to site allocations for future development.

What will the draft Development Management Policies be used for?

When adopted these policies will sit alongside the 20 policies in the Core Strategy and will replace the remaining 117 'saved' policies from the previous Local and Structure Plans leading to a radically simplified planning policy framework against which planning applications will be judged.

How to comment

This consultation allows everyone the opportunity to have their say on the 16 draft Development Management policies. There are a number of ways to make comments:

on-line questionnaire

We are encouraging people to make their comments via the 'Survey Monkey' on-line questionnaire

e-mail

Alternatively if you wish to make your comments via e-mail please send them to planning.policy@shropshire.gov.uk (please subject your e-mail SAMDev Draft Policy Consultation)

Post

If you wish to send your comments to us by post please send them to:
Strategic Planning

Shropshire Council
Shirehall
Abbey Foregate
Shrewsbury
SY2 6ND

You can keep informed via Facebook. To find out more, log on to Facebook and search for 'Plan My Shropshire'.

Where to view the Draft Development Management Policies

You can view the draft policies by selecting the relevant links on this page. Alternatively reference copies of the consultation document will be available at your local Library, Customer First Point and will be on display at Council offices within normal opening hours in:

- Shrewsbury: Shirehall and Guildhall
- Bridgnorth: Westgate
- Ludlow: Stone House
- Oswestry: Castle View
- Wem: Edinburgh House

The consultation runs for 8 weeks closing on the **28 March 2013**.

Campaign launched to bring better broadband to Shropshire

A campaign is being launched to encourage residents and businesses to pledge their support for bringing better broadband to Shropshire.

The aim is that every household and business will have access to the industry-standard level of broadband, with as many properties as possible having access to a superfast broadband service, by the end of 2015.

The Government has ploughed £8.2 million into the Connecting Shropshire project, with the same being invested by Shropshire Council, and the campaign has now reached a crucial stage.

The private sector will be expected to invest in the project, and it is really important to demonstrate a high demand from residents and businesses – hopefully leading to a greater investment and faster speeds for more people.

Councillor Martin Taylor-Smith, Shropshire Council's Cabinet member for IT, said:

"It is absolutely crucial that as many people as possible register their interest, because we need to show any potential investors that we want superfast broadband in Shropshire. As a council, we think improving broadband provision is incredibly

important as it will not only improve people's quality of life, but it gives businesses the opportunity to thrive wherever they are based.

"We are asking the people of Shropshire to really get behind this campaign, and would urge everyone to do their bit by adding their name to the survey. The more people that register their interest, the more chance we have of getting superfast broadband to every corner of our county."

Anyone who does not have internet access can fill in the survey at their local library or Broadplace.

Alternatively you can call Shropshire Council's customer service team on 0345 678 9000 and an adviser will be able to take your details.

This consultation is **ongoing**.
