

Shropshire Council
Legal and Democratic Services
Guildhall,
Frankwell Quay,
Shrewsbury
SY3 8HQ

Date: Wednesday, 6 May 2026

Committee: Council

Date: Thursday, 14 May 2026

Time: 10.00 am

Venue: The Council Chamber, The Guildhall, Frankwell Quay, Shrewsbury, SY3 8HQ

You are requested to attend the above meeting. The Agenda is attached

Members of the Council – a briefing note will be circulated by e-mail prior to the meeting with important housekeeping details and arrangements for the meeting.

Members of the Public – If you wish to attend the meeting, please e-mail democracy@shropshire.gov.uk to check whether a seat will be available for you.

Please click [here](#) to view the livestream of the meeting on the date and time stated on the agenda (Please note that while we strive to live stream meetings, technical issues may occasionally occur. In the event of a technical disruption, the meeting will be paused to try to resolve the issue. Should it not be possible to resume the live stream, the meeting will proceed as scheduled, and a backup recording will be made available after the meeting. Any disruption to the live stream does not affect the legality of the meeting)

The recording of the event will also be made available shortly after the meeting on the Shropshire Council Youtube Channel [Here](#)

Tim Collard
Service Director – Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer)

Duncan Borrowman
(Chairman)
Gary Groves (Vice-Chair)
Heather Kidd (Leader)
Alex Wagner (Deputy Leader)
Sho Abdul
Caroline Bagnall
Elizabeth Barker
Bernie Bentick
Neil Bentley
Ed Bird
Jeremy Blandford
Andy Boddington
Thomas Clayton
Susan Coleman
Rachel Connolly

Tom Dainty
Jamie Daniels
Rosemary Dartnall
David Davies
Pamela Davies
Andy Davis
Julian Dean
Joshua Dickin
Mandy Duncan
Greg Ebbs
Susan Eden
Donna Edmunds
Craig Emery
Brian Evans
Roger Evans
Adam Fejfer

Rhys Gratton
Andy Hall
Kate Halliday
Harry Hancock-Davies
Nick Hignett
Alan Holford
George Hollyhead
Ruth Houghton
Dawn Husemann
Peter Husemann
Benedict Jephcott
Robert Jones
Duncan Kerr
Christopher Lemon
Nigel Lumby
Brendan Mallon

Sarah Marston
David Minnery
Vicky Moore
Mark Morris
Alan Mosley
Malcolm Myles-Hook
Chris Naylor
James Owen
Mark Owen
Wendy Owen

Vivienne Parry
Ed Potter
Rosie Radford
Sharon Ritchie-Simmons
Carl Rowley
Charles Shackerley-Bennett
Colin Stanford
Jon Tandy
Colin Taylor
Dan Thomas

Teri Trickett
David Vasmer
Beverley Waite
David Walker
Sam Walmsley
Alison Williams
Rob Wilson

Your Committee Officer is:

Tim Ward Committee Officer

Tel: 01743 257713

Email: tim.ward@shropshire.gov.uk

AGENDA

1 Election of Chairman

To elect a Chairman for the ensuing year.

2 Apologies for Absence

3 Appointment of Vice Chairman

To appoint a Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year

4 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Members are reminded that they must declare their disclosable pecuniary interests and other registrable or non-registrable interests in any matter being considered at the meeting as set out in Appendix B of the Members' Code of Conduct and consider if they should leave the room prior to the item being considered. Further advice can be sought from the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting.

5 Minutes (Pages 1 - 12)

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting held on 26 February 2026

6 Announcements

To receive such communications as the Chairman, Leader and Head of Paid Service may desire to lay before the Council.

7 Public Questions

To receive any questions from the public, notice of which has been given in accordance with Procedure Rule 14. Deadline for notification is 12.00 noon on Friday 8 May 2026

8 Questions from Members

To receive any questions from Members, notice of which has been given in accordance with Procedure Rule 15.2.

9 Scrutiny Reorganisation/Housing Supervisory Board (Pages 13 - 20)

Report of the Service Director – Legal and Governance and the Statutory Scrutiny Officer is attached

Contact Tim Collard Tel 01743 252756
Tom Dodds Tel 01743 258518

10 Constitution of Committees and Allocation of Seats to Political Groups (Pages 21 - 38)

Report of the Service Director – Legal and Governance is attached

Contact Tim Collard Tel 01743 252756

11 Scheme of Delegation (Pages 39 - 96)

Report of the Service Director – Legal and Governance is attached

Contact Tim Collard Tel 01743 252756

12 Appointment of Head of Paid Service (Chief Executive) (Pages 97 - 100)

Report of the Service Director Enabling is attached

Contact: Sam Williams. Tel. 01743 252817

13 Appointment of Monitoring Officer (Service Director Legal and Governance) (Pages 101 - 104)

Report of the Interim Chief Executive is attached

Contact: Tanya Miles. Tel. 01743 252817

14 Shropshire Council Corporate plan 2026/27-2030/31 (Pages 105 - 150)

Report of the Interim Chief Executive is attached

Contact: Tanya Miles. Tel. 01743 252817

15 Domestic Abuse Partnership Strategy (Pages 151 - 192)

Report of the Service Director – Strategy and Change is attached

Contact: Paul Clarke Tel. 01743 252421

16 Adoption of the Jo Cox Civility Pledge (Pages 193 - 196)

Report of the Service Director – Legal and Governance is attached

Contact Tim Collard Tel 01743 252756

17 Adoption of Much Wenlock Neighbourhood Plan Review (Pages 197 - 468)

Report of the Service Director – Place Shaping is attached

Contact: Kassandra Polyzoides Tel. 01743 254797

18 Motions

The following motions have been received in accordance with Procedure Rule 16:

a Motion received from Councillor Brendan Mallon and supported by the Reform Group

Please note: due to a procedural error at the last meeting Cllr Mallon was denied his right of reply prior to the vote being taken following a closure motion. Therefore, there will be no debate on this motion but Cllr Mallon will be given his right to reply prior to a vote being taken

Globally, the transition to 'Net Zero' energy systems is in a state of rapid collapse. No large economy is persisting with this and only a handful of lesser economies are still fully committed. The US is unequivocally out. Russia, India, most of Asia and South America were never really in (despite the Paris Agreement) and China simply lies.

China's wind and solar 'farms' are merely a shop front for the planet's primary manufacturer of that equipment. Meanwhile, they rapidly expand Coal and Nuclear use. China alone is 32% of global emissions (Our World in Data), more than the combined developed world. Chinese per capita emissions surpassed the UK in 2022 and are now already double the UK's, with no slowdown in the increase. China plus just the USA and India make up fully half of global emissions.

The latest domino to fall is Germany. Previous dependence on Russian gas and their abandonment of Nuclear makes Germany now heavily dependent on coal and lignite (14% - AG Enrgiebilanzen) and LNG and thus the EU's largest emitter at 22% of the total (EDGAR 2024 report). Unaffordable energy has resulted in large scale off-shoring of German heavy industry. Thus, Chancellor Merz's announcement to reverse their energy policies, maintaining Net Zero in name only.

What remains is a handful of smaller European economies plus Australia still pursuing Net Zero to a similar extent as the UK, with a combined output circa 7% of global emissions (Net Zero Tracker and EDGAR 2024). Canada nominally has Net Zero policies but, unlike the UK, continues with extensive hydrocarbon production. Clearly, 7% of Net Zero is little more than a rounding error. Thus, any further spending on Net Zero is an obvious waste of money.

A number of Councils around the country, including Labour-led Islington, have heavily curtailed or suspended Net Zero spending. In the context of our Financial Emergency, in order to reduce both capital and revenue spend, we move that the Council immediately suspend all Net Zero related spending, pending a review of value-for-money beyond clearly ineffectual reductions in CO2 emissions.

b **Motion received from Councillor Carl Rowley and supported by Councillors Elizabeth Barker, Brian Evans, Harry Hancock-Davies and George Hollyhead**
Motion: Removal of Canal Towpaths from the Safe Walking Routes Policy

This Council notes that:

1. Shropshire Council's approach to assessing walked routes to school allows a wide range of routes to be treated as "available", including public footpaths and other non-highway routes, where risk is judged primarily on traffic and highway considerations.
2. Canal towpaths are routinely subject to risks wholly distinct from adopted footways, including:
 - Unfenced watercourses and unprotected edges;
 - Seasonal flooding, surface degradation, ice and low-light conditions;
 - Conflicts between pedestrians, cyclists and other users;
 - Limited access for emergency services.
3. The current assessment framework assumes accompaniment by a responsible adult, an assumption which does not reflect the reality of many working families or older primary-age children walking independently.

4. These assumptions are not consistently supported by objective evidence, real-world behaviour, or safeguarding standards, and do not reflect the lived experience of many families, particularly working parents and older age children walking independently.
5. Treating canal towpaths as “safe walked routes” has the effect of removing entitlement to home-to-school transport, transferring risk and responsibility from the local authority to families.

This Council believes that:

1. Assumption must never replace evidence where child safety is concerned. A route that is “theoretically walkable” is not necessarily practically or safely walkable for children on a daily basis.
2. Policies which depend on presumed adult supervision or ideal conditions place inappropriate responsibility and risk onto families rather than the local authority.
3. Recreational access infrastructure should not be reclassified by assumption as safe school transport infrastructure without clear, objective and child-specific safety criteria.
4. A lawful policy is not automatically a reasonable or proportionate one when measured against safeguarding principles.

This Council resolves to:

1. Remove canal towpaths from classification as “safe walking routes” for the purposes of school transport eligibility within Shropshire Council policy.
2. Amend the walked route assessment framework so that assumptions of accompaniment, surface condition, seasonal usability and comparability with footways may not be relied upon in determining route safety.
3. Ensure that no child or family is denied statutory home-to-school transport on the basis of a route whose safety is assumed rather than objectively evidenced.
4. Instruct officers to report back to Cabinet/Council with revised policy wording.

19 Future Meeting Dates

To agree that the meetings of the Council in 2026 – 2027 will be held on the following Thursdays, commencing at 10.00 am.

16 July 2026
24 September 2026
10 December 2026
25 February 2027
25 March 2027
13 May 2027