

CABINET 11 November 2022
PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Question from:	Peter Gilbert	
Subject:	Sustainable Travel	
Portfolio Holder:	Ian Nellins	Approved

In September 2021 Shropshire Council voted in favour of motion number 7 which, among its resolutions, included the following: 'Proactively reduce the number of short car journeys taken, particularly in our towns at first: Act to discourage cars from our town centres, develop low traffic zones, create safe active travel routes and improve urban public transport.'

A significant driver of unsustainable travel is new residential and business development, particularly where it takes place on the outskirts of towns and/or when their design inherently encourages car use rather than walking, cycling or public transport.

Transport For New Homes has published a very useful guidance tool for assessing the sustainability of new developments from a travel perspective. On 12 May 2022 Council approved motion number 1. Some of its resolutions were to be acted upon after adoption of the Local Plan but others were for immediate action.

Please would Cabinet advise of progress on achievement of the latter, namely resolutions 4), 5) and 6) of the motion, to include number of developments affected to date.

Resolution 4 - to call on the executive to ensure that planning development officers are fully conversant with LTN 1/20 , Transport for New Homes principles alongside other existing policies. –

Relevant Shropshire Council officers were invited to attend training session on LTN1/20 in July 2021

Resolution 5 - that to promote better development for sustainable transport, pending the adoption of the new Local Plan, the Council will promote 'Transport for New Homes' guidance to developers and will ask developers to give their answers to these questions as part of the Planning process:

- What measures have been/will be taken to limit car dependency and to maximise opportunities for the take up of active travel and public transport?
- What measures have been/will be taken to ensure connectivity and access to services and to opportunities for work, rest, play within distances reachable by walking, wheeling or cycling?

All planning applications are assessed in accordance with national guidance, to include Paragraph 113 and 124 of the NPPF embracing the principles contained within 'Transport for New Homes' guidance. Shropshire Council will continue to

promote the principles of national guidance to include 'Transport for New Homes' and seek to promote active travel where possible.

Resolution 6 - that the Council will publicly recognise those developers who have gone above and beyond minimum Government requirements to support sustainable transport.

This will continue to be monitored and developments/developers that exceed minimum requirements, will be promoted and recognised as appropriate.