

PUBLIC QUESTIONS
COUNCIL 14 DECEMBER 2023

Question from Michael Hinds

The declaration of interests for the current Leader of the Council and the current Chair of Transformation and Improvement Overview and Scrutiny Committee state that they are partners. The remit for the Transformation and Improvement Overview and Scrutiny Committee includes scrutiny of the leader's portfolio of responsibilities. How do the Leader of the Council and the Chair Transformation and Improvement Overview and Scrutiny Committee ensure that there is no conflict of interest between their public roles and their declared partnership?

Question from Ruth Cranley

Further to my question to the Council on 21st September regarding the ongoing traffic and safety issues on London Road in Shrewsbury, Councillor Dan Morris replied: "Following the site meeting, council officers will work with the police on implementing safety measures. Any recommendations will be added into the programme of work for the county and work undertaken when funding is available." That site meeting took place over two months ago and the Highways Officer and the Police and Crime Commissioner agreed that there were serious issues needing to be addressed and made a number of recommendations, including some pledges of funding from the PCC, so could Councillor Morris please advise what action has been taken or measures added to the programme of work as promised and what is the timescale for implementing them? This does not include the Shirehall overflow car park he mentioned previously, which is both impractical and unaffordable for most residents. There have been further near-misses on London Road since my previous question, highlighting the urgency of the situation.

Question from Chris Naylor

The Leader of the Council, Cllr Lezley Picton, recently admitted that consultants appointed to help the Council make savings had only saved £5m but cost £3m. When the consultants were appointed in February this year Cllr Picton said she hoped "they're going to help us save more than £51m." Given the amount of officer time that must have been taken up by providing information for and working with the consultants, hasn't their contribution been a waste of time and money that could have been better spent to support Shropshire residents?