



Committee and Date

Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee

13th November 2025

ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 15 September 2025

In The Shrewsbury Room, The Guildhall, Frankwell Quay, Shrewsbury, SY3 8HQ

2.00 p.m. - 2.50 p.m.

Responsible Officer: Sarah Townsend Committee Officer

Email: sarah.townsend@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01743 257721

Present:

Councillors Ed Potter (Chairman), Sam Walmsley (Vice-Chair), Craig Emery, Gary Groves, Alan Holford, David Minnery, Chris Naylor, Wendy Owen, Sharon Ritchie-Simmons and Dawn Husemann (Substitute) (substitute for Brendan Mallon)

Others present at the meeting:

Councillor Roger Evans – Portfolio Holder for Finance

Councillor Carl Rowley – Task and Finish Group Member

Councillor David Vasmer – Portfolio Holder for Highways & Environment

Councillor Rob Wilson – Portfolio Holder for Transport & Economic Growth

James Walton – Executive Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer)

Steve Holdaway – Interim Bridges and Structures Engineer

Claire Braddock – Overview and Scrutiny Officer

13 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Donna Edmunds and Brendan Mallon.

Councillor Dawn Husemann was in attendance as a substitute for Councillor Brendan Mallon.

14 Disclosable Interests

There were no interests declared.

15 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 10th July 2025 be approved as a correct record.

16 Public Question Time

A public question had been received from Mr John Palmer regarding “Waste contract oversight – Veolia contract” on the committee’s draft High Level Work Programme and whether consultants PwC or Shropshire Council had negotiated any savings on this with Veolia yet. Mr Palmer was in attendance to ask his question and the response to the question was provided by the Chairman. A full copy of the question and response provided is available from the web page for the meeting.

17 Member Question Time

None had been received.

18 Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme

The committee reviewed its draft work programme and it was noted that it was a live, working document. The Chairman explained that there was a need for the committee to be as flexible as possible to work with Cabinet and the Administration to do any required pre-decision scrutiny work in order to help inform them of any decisions that they might need to make, particularly in light of the Council’s declared financial emergency.

Members were informed that at the last meeting of the Transformation and Improvement Overview and Scrutiny Committee, delegated authority had been given to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Officers to set up Task and Finish Groups as and when the need arose without needing to wait for consideration at the committee’s next meeting. It was proposed and seconded that this same approach also be adopted by the Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

RESOLVED:

That authority be delegated to the Chairman in conjunction with the Vice-Chairman and Officers to set up Task and Finish Groups as and when the need arises, without having to wait for the next formal committee meeting.

19 Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED:

That, in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and Paragraph 10.4 (3) of the Council’s Access to Information Procedure Rules, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items.

20 Highways Contract Review

The committee considered the exempt report of the Highways Contract Review Task and Finish Group.

RESOLVED:

That the recommendations as detailed in the exempt report of the Highways Contract Review Task and Finish Group be approved.

21 Date/Time of Next Meeting of the Committee

It was noted that the next meeting of the Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee was scheduled to be held on Thursday, 13th November 2025 commencing at 2.00 p.m.

Signed (Chairman)

Date: