

CABINET – 19 NOVEMBER 2025

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Public Questions

1. Jane Gallagher

Naturally the very difficult financial position that the new Lib Dem Administration has inherited means the Shropshire Council Cabinet will be considering the future of all its assets. It is therefore understood that the future of the iconic internationally-acclaimed Shirehall buildings are under consideration.

While we can imagine that opportunities for financial partnership with the Council may be on offer to retain and adapt the Shire Hall, Save our Shirehall campaigners ask whether, having declared a climate emergency in 2019 and set out a strategy and action plan in December 2020, how would any proposal to demolish the Shirehall and redevelop the site fulfil the Council's published Climate Strategy and Action Plan which state its intentions to become net zero by 2030, including a specific action to sequester carbon? What environmental assessments have been undertaken to demonstrate that any such demolition would not contribute to an increase in the Council's carbon emissions.

2. Keith Trubshaw

Sports Village Development

1. Did the council and the development team explore the options offered by new technology that would enable full engagement of all stakeholders by creating a digital twin of the project? One whereby problems could be identified and solved or eliminated before a spade goes into the ground, substantially reducing or potentially eliminating the possibility of cost overruns, which plague public projects of this kind.
2. Will it be a matter of public record that when costs overrun, the council declined to explore ways in which those overruns could have been avoided.

3. John Palmer

In the Financial Monitoring Report Quarter 2 2025/26, published online only on Friday 14 November ahead of this meeting, the updated Table 2 (between paragraphs 4.4 and 4.5 of the report), and paragraph 4.5 itself, outline the budgetary implications of the for-now paused Shrewsbury North West Relief Road project's spend to date of £38.895m. Both the Central and Adverse forecast scenarios have enormous budgetary implications, and the request for Exceptional Financial Support from the Government potentially needs to embrace either forecast scenario. After 16 years of Tory quagmire, secret machinations, ideological environmental desolation, and performative traitorism, Shropshire residents are left with this mess. So, will Cabinet today update everyone on why there is silence in recent months about resolving the Shrewsbury North West Relief Road spend issue with the Government?: