

CABINET – 3 DECEMBER 2025

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

1. Judy Bradley

Question:

As a new resident to Wem, I wish to put forward a question to the council team. With all new housing currently underway. How will the council be supporting high street retailers?

To avoid Wem becoming a dormitory town to Whitchurch and Shrewsbury. We need investment and encouragement for shops to remain (pastry box the latest casualty) to provide a reason to shop local.

Wem is fast becoming a derelict, ghost town. Communities around the town work hard to encourage public support, however it appears that council and governing bodies are interested in housing developments.

We must protect our high street, lower rents are better than no rent at all.

It appears as a newcomer, that we need more encouragement for retailers to come into Wem. Shrewsbury authorities need to be supporting this historic town.

What ideas or plans do the council have to offer?

2. John Palmer

Question:

The Financial Monitoring Period 7 report lists red-rated savings, brought forwards from 2023/24, still unachieved, and referred to by many now as unachievable. In total these brought forwards unachieved savings are listed in Table 2 as £34.395m. These were discussed by the Leader and the Leader of the Opposition in public on Thursday 27 November at Audit and Governance Committee, as "PwC transformation recommendations". The Leader said the Improvement Board needs to see the PwC documents, "as many of the red-rated savings, all of which had no plans behind them, were put forwards by PwC". The Tories who wrecked Shropshire Council finances were responsible for spending multi-millions on expensive consultants PwC. Will the Cabinet instruct that these PwC documents now all be published for public transparency?