

CABINET – 3 DECEMBER 2025

MEMBER QUESTIONS

1. Cllr Ed Potter

I Attended my final meeting as the LA Governor for the Westcliff Federation last week before it joins a multi academy trust although SEND will remain the responsibility of Shropshire Council after transition. At the meeting all four schools raised concerns around the delay to EHCPs for children at these schools. This was placing significant pressure on the teaching staff as well as causing disruption to other children's education not to mention the increased financial pressures for schools already stretched to capacity. Could the portfolio Holder update me as to what is being done to clear the back log and speed up the processing of EHCPs and ensure that all children in Shropshire are receiving the support they need and deserve?

2. Cllr Julian Dean

In September a member of the public asked for an update on the many road safety and active travel schemes that had failed to make progress in Shrewsbury. The response accepted that not enough had been delivered. Subsequent to that I have repeatedly asked for a meeting with senior officers and portfolio holders at which members in the affected areas could get full and frank explanations regarding the progress or otherwise of these schemes. To date I have had no response or offer of a meeting.

In line with the administration's commitment to transparency can I have an assurance that members will have the chance to collectively quiz staff and portfolio holders regarding the schemes concerned so that we can inform our residents who continue to expect promised measures to come to fruition, and who are frustrated at the lack of candour and the failure to even see temporary schemes, such as that at New Street and the weekend pedestrianisation in the town centre through to permanency.

3. Cllr Colin Taylor

Tourism in Shropshire supports over 10,500 jobs in the county and contributes a fraction of under one billion pounds a year to our economy.

Therefore it is vital that everything possible is done to assist this sector of commerce and encourage growth providing more jobs and wealth across the county.

In my ward, Bridgnorth South and Alveley, the main visitor / tourism attractions are the Severn Valley Country Park, the Severn Valley Railway and the National Trust Dudmaston estate

The Sustrans route NCR 45, runs through the SVCP and runs parallel to the SVR, I believe that the SVR covers the insurance for this section as it is leased from the SVR. Since it was established has become a major part of the visitor experience for the area. It does in fact continue to run all the way up through Shropshire.

Given Sustrans' withdrawal of maintenance support for the sections of National Cycle Network Route 45 through Severn Valley Country Park, what steps will Shropshire Council take to ensure the route remains open and safe for public use, and how will we secure long-term funding and community involvement to maintain this strategic active travel corridor?

It is vital to the local areas economy and jobs creation and sustainability as well as to the many hundreds of people who use it regularly to maintain their health and fitness.