

CABINET – 15 APRIL 2026

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

1. Andrew Sceats

The Council founded its wholly owned building development company Cornovii Development Ltd (CDL) and tasked its Housing Supervisory Board (HSB) members to oversee its aims including providing revenue for the Council.

So far, with an investment in excess of £75 million (loans, start up and running costs and free 5 sites' value), revenue has only been £0.440 million through rental income. HSB members were constantly reassured that the plan's agreed target of 582 homes was being met, until at its meeting of 19 March 2026 CDL announced the total was to be reduced by almost 10% to 532 homes due to a woolly explanation of 'reflecting updated viability & scheme changes'.

Less than a week later there was unscheduled HSB meeting before its next scheduled meeting on 4 June. During this meeting on 25 March a new business plan was discussed but there is nothing for the public to see what the discussions and plan were. There are now two planned CDL sites at SUE Shrewsbury and Oswestry totalling 606 homes, with the Oswestry site being possibly financed by a £1 million grant from the WMHA (what will it gain if the grant is made?).

Therefore was CDL transparent about its current financial position when it gained Council support (and free sites) for the two new schemes and a possible grant from WMHA and can CDL be trusted to provide the number of homes it has promised as it has fallen short on its existing plan's numbers.