

Shropshire Council  
Legal and Democratic Services  
Shirehall  
Abbey Foregate  
Shrewsbury  
SY2 6ND

Date: Wednesday, 19 February 2025

**Committee: Council**

**Date: Thursday, 27 February 2025**

**Time: 10.00 am**

**Venue: The Council Chamber, The Guildhall, Frankwell Quay, Shrewsbury, SY3 8HQ**

You are requested to attend the above meeting. The Agenda is attached

**Members of the Council** – a briefing note will be circulated by e-mail prior to the meeting with important housekeeping details and arrangements for the meeting.

**Members of the Public** – If you wish to attend the meeting, please e-mail [democracy@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@shropshire.gov.uk) to check whether a seat will be available for you.

Please click [here](#) to view the livestream of the meeting on the date and time stated on the agenda

The recording of the event will also be made available shortly after the meeting on the Shropshire Council Youtube Channel [Here](#)

Tim Collard  
Assistant Director - Legal and Governance

Vince Hunt (Chairman)  
Brian Williams (Vice Chairman)  
Lezley Picton (Leader)  
Ian Nellins (Deputy Leader)  
Roy Aldcroft  
Jeff Anderson  
Caroline Bagnall  
Nicholas Bardsley  
Joyce Barrow  
Bernie Bentick  
Thomas Biggins  
Ed Bird  
Andy Boddington  
Peter Broomhall  
Julia Buckley  
Garry Burchett  
Gwilym Butler  
Dean Carroll  
Steve Charmley  
Ted Clarke

Rachel Connolly  
Gerald Dakin  
Rosemary Dartnall  
Steve Davenport  
Mary Davies  
Julian Dean  
Geoff Elner  
David Evans  
Julia Evans  
Roger Evans  
Paul Gill  
Rob Gittins  
Nat Green  
Kate Halliday  
Simon Harris  
Nigel Hartin  
Nick Hignett  
Ruth Houghton  
Richard Huffer  
Tracey Huffer

Kirstie Hurst-Knight  
Mark Jones  
Simon Jones  
Duncan Kerr  
Heather Kidd  
Christian Lea  
Hilary Luff  
Nigel Lumby  
Robert Macey  
David Minnery  
Dan Morris  
Pamela Moseley  
Alan Mosley  
Cecilia Motley  
Peggy Mullock  
Kevin Pardy  
Vivienne Parry  
Tony Parsons  
John Price  
Ed Potter

Chris Schofield  
Andrew Sherrington  
Colin Taylor  
Dan Thomas  
Robert Tindall

Edward Towers  
Kevin Turley  
David Vasmer  
Alex Wagner  
Claire Wild

Mark Williams  
Rob Wilson  
Paul Wynn

Your Committee Officer is:

**Tim Ward** Committee Officer

Tel: 01743 257713

Email: [tim.ward@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:tim.ward@shropshire.gov.uk)

# AGENDA

## **1 Apologies for Absence**

## **2 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

Members are reminded that they must declare their disclosable pecuniary interests and other registrable or non-registrable interests in any matter being considered at the meeting as set out in Appendix B of the Members' Code of Conduct and consider if they should leave the room prior to the item being considered. Further advice can be sought from the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting.

## **3 Minutes (Pages 1 - 12)**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting held on 12 December 2024

## **4 Announcements**

To receive such communications as the Chairman, Leader and Head of Paid Service may desire to lay before the Council.

## **5 Public Questions**

To receive any questions from the public, notice of which has been given in accordance with Procedure Rule 14. Deadline for notification is 12.00 noon on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025

### **PETITION**

A petition, bearing over 1000 signatures has been received from Huw Rees, requesting a debate under the Council's Petition Scheme. The petition requests that the Council:

Uphold the Listed Buildings Act 1990 to restore the New Market Buildings, a grade II listed building in Bridgnorth that has fallen into a dangerous state of disrepair. If the owner does not make repairs within a reasonable timeframe, we call for a Compulsory Purchase Order to bring the building back into public ownership.

## **6 Questions from Members**

To receive any questions from Members, notice of which has been given in accordance with Procedure Rule 15.2. Deadline for notification is 12.00 noon on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025

## **7 Financial Strategy 2025/26 - 2029/30 (Pages 13 - 296)**

Report of the Executive Director, Resources is attached

Contact: James Walton. Tel. 01743 258915

**8 Fees & Charges 2025/26** (Pages 297 - 370)

Report of the Executive Director, Resources is attached

Contact: James Walton. Tel. 01743 258915

**9 Treasury Strategy 2025/26** (Pages 371 - 420)

Report of the Executive Director, Resources is attached

Contact: James Walton. Tel. 01743 258915

**10 Shropshire Council Strategic Operating Model** (Pages 421 - 436)

Report of the Chief Executive is attached

Contact: Andy Begley, 01743 258675

**11 Waste Prevention Strategy** (Pages 437 - 550)

Report of the Assistant Director – Homes and Communities is attached

Contact Jane Trethewey Tel: 01743 254917

**12 HRA 30 Year Business Plan** (Pages 551 - 628)

Report of the Assistant Director – Homes and Communities is attached

Contact Jane Trethewey Tel: 01743 254917

**13 Proposal to replace the Children's Improvement Board with a Children's Partnership Ambitions Board** (Pages 629 - 652)

Report of the Executive Director of People is attached

Contact Tanya Miles Tel: 01743 255811

**14 Children's Participation and Impact Strategy** (Pages 653 - 686)

Report of the Executive Director of People is attached

Contact Tanya Miles Tel: 01743 255811

**15 Annual Report of Portfolio Holder Finance Corporate Resources and Communities** (Pages 687 - 706)

Report of the Portfolio Holder Finance Corporate Resources and Communities is attached.

**16 Annual Report of the People Overview and Scrutiny Committee** (Pages 707 - 714)

Report of the People Overview and Scrutiny Committee is attached

**17 Annual Report of the Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and Public Health**  
(Pages 715 - 744)

Report of the Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and Public Health is attached

**18 Appointment to Committees** (Pages 745 - 748)

**19 Motions**

The following motions have been received in accordance with Procedure Rule 16:

**a Motion received from Councillor David Vasmer and supported by the Liberal Democrat Group**  
**North West Relief Road Inquiry**

1. The original cost of the North West Relief Road was £71m in 2019 and, on this basis, the Government pledged funding of £54m with a clear warning that any cost increases would be the responsibility of Shropshire Council. That meant the total cost to Shropshire Council at that time was estimated at £17m.
2. In 2021 on the basis of the Outline Business Case the cost of the NWRR was estimated at £81m meaning that the cost to Shropshire Council had now risen to £27m
3. Before Christmas Shropshire's External Auditor confirmed that the cost of the NWRR had now gone up to £178m and Shropshire Council's contribution to £124m
4. The Environment Agency were never happy about the route of the road since a major roundabout junction was placed directly over ground from which much of Shrewsbury's water is drawn and have therefore been very reluctant to support the application because the spillage of any toxic substance would make the ground water unusable while piling work could also damage the town's water supply.
5. The NWRR will be a major contributor to the release of carbon which was underestimated when the road was first planned. Recently Shropshire Council has been forced to admit that the contribution has more than doubled from 26,711 tonnes of carbon to 55,904. Originally it had been estimated that the scheme's impact could be mitigated by 2030 but now Shropshire has asked the Northern Planning Committee to revise a condition so that it has until 2050 to offset the road's emissions.
6. A substantial amount of money has already been spent on a road that does not have planning permission or an approved Full Business Case. In the current budget there is provision for £44.8m to be spent on the NWRR
7. That Shropshire Council has commissioned utility diversion work before the NWRR has secured a decision planning notice or a commitment from the Government for extra funding.

This Council Notes

1. Shropshire Council has failed to hit numerous deadlines so that a road that was

originally planned for completion in 2020 has not been started

2. Recently Shropshire Council's External Auditor was highly critical of Shropshire Council for failing to make plans in the event of the Road being cancelled and for failing to oversee the planning and preparations for the Road properly.

This Council will appoint a North West Relief Road Inquiry to consider

1. poor management of the project
2. the decision-making process
3. the External Auditors Report and the performance of the Councils own audit service
4. whether there was sufficient scrutiny and challenge within the Council
5. whether there was effective separation of powers between the Council as a developer and as a planning authority
6. whether alternative options were considered, both with regard to traffic mitigations for the town – especially given the additional travel demands likely to result in the South East of Shrewsbury from planned development in the Draft Local Plan, and with regard to the possibility of Government funding not being forthcoming.
7. Whether a review of the road was undertaken once the Council had agreed to reach carbon net zero by 2030

**b Motion received from Councillor Bernie Bentick and supported by the Liberal Democrat Group**

**This Council Notes:**

- 1) The decision of the NHS Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin Integrated Care Board (STW ICB) to announce the GP Out of Hours Contract preferred provider status to Medvivo in preference to the existing operator, ShropDoc, for a 5 year period commencing in the financial year 2025/26.
- 2) The extension of the standstill period after announcement of the preferred provider due to challenge of the procurement decision.
- 3) That Medvivo is a profit generating enterprise that is a subsidiary or partner of the multinational HealthHero organisation which markets Telemedicine
- 4) That ShropDoc is a not for profit organisation with almost 30 years experience and has an outstanding CQC rating.
- 5) That ShropDoc is a well known and respected local service, using local GPs who already have long established relationships with other local services and personnel such as Secondary Care Professionals, Care Providers, palliative care and Virtual Wards services. Shropdoc deals with over 57,000 patient calls per year, 17,000 seen in its Primary Care Centres and over 9,000 receive home visits – some in remote locations. Currently only a small proportion of calls, about 5%, are referred into Shropshire's Urgent Care services.
- 6) That a local petition called "Save Our Shropdoc" gained over 12,000 signatures in 10 days, by the 17th February 2025.
- 7) That as Medvivo/HealthHero advertise that they are Telemedicine organisations,

from available information it is unclear how they will provide the same numbers of telephone call resolutions without referral into Secondary Care, Primary Care Centre face-to-face consultations and home visits, at a lower cost than the current contract, while also making a profit.

**This Council Resolves to ask the STW ICB:**

- 1) If the contract has not been issued, to halt the current procurement process until further scrutiny has been carried out on the timings of the previous contracts, to whom they were awarded, to confirm the precise amount of any reduction in the value of the proposed contract and how this will affect the existing service provision.
- 2) Whether the contract has been awarded or not, to fully engage with Shropshire's residents and health watchdogs before drawing up any revised contracts for GP and related Out of Hours Services and any new services.
- 3) To report every 3 months to the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee on how the Out of Hours contract is performing, including the number of referrals into Secondary Care, face-to-face Primary Care Centre consultations, home visits and telecare consultations, plus the volume and type of any complaints and adverse outcomes.
- 4) To provide detailed information of how the contract handover period will be managed and the governance systems in place to assure quality of service, avoid delays and avoid patient harm due to the new provider's unfamiliarity with providing an Out Of Hours service in Shropshire, its health systems and its geography.

**c Motion received from Councillor Rosemary Dartnall and supported by the Labour Group**

Local Government Pay.

**A FULLY FUNDED, PROPER PAY RISE FOR COUNCIL AND SCHOOL WORKERS**

This council notes:

Local government has endured central government funding cuts of more than 50% since 2010. Between 2010 and 2020, councils lost 60p out of every £1 they have received from central government. Research by UNISON has shown that councils across England, Wales and Scotland are facing a collective funding shortfall of more than £4bn by the financial year 2024/25 and a cumulative funding gap of £8bn by 2025/26. The last Government's 'levelling up' pots of money did little to help

Council and school workers kept our communities safe through the pandemic, often putting themselves at considerable risk as they worked to protect public health, provide quality housing, ensure our children continue to be educated, and look after older and vulnerable people.

Since 2010, the local government workforce has endured years of pay restraint with the majority of pay points losing at least 25 per cent of their value since 2009/10. Staff have endured the worst cost of living crisis in a generation.

At the same time, workers have experienced ever-increasing workloads and persistent job

insecurity. Across the UK, 900,000 jobs have been lost in local government since June 2010 – a reduction of more than 30 per cent. Local government has arguably been hit by more severe job losses than any other part of the public sector. There has been a disproportionate impact on women, with women making up more than three-quarters of the local government workforce.

Recent research shows that if the Government were to fully fund the unions' 2025 pay claim, around half of the money would be recouped thanks to increased tax revenue, reduced expenditure on benefits and tax credits, and increased consumer spending in the local economy.

This council believes:

1. Local government workers keep our communities clean and safe, look after those in need and keep our towns and cities running.
2. Without the professionalism and dedication of our staff, the council services our residents rely on would not be deliverable.
3. Local government workers deserve a proper real-terms pay increase. The Government needs to take responsibility and fully fund this increase; it should not put the burden on local authorities whose funding has been cut to the bone and who were not offered adequate support through the Covid-19 pandemic.

This council resolves to:

- A. Subject to paragraphs B and C below, support the pay claim submitted by UNISON, GMB and Unite on behalf of council and school workers for an increase of £3,000 on all pay points.
- B. Call on the Local Government Association to make urgent representations to central government to fund the NJC pay claim.
- C. Write to the Chancellor and Secretary of State to call for a pay increase for local government workers to be funded with new money from central government.
- D. Meet with local NJC union representatives to convey support for the pay claim and consider practical ways in which the council can support the campaign.
- E. Encourage all local government workers to join a union

## **20 Report of the Shropshire and Wrekin Fire and Rescue Authority (Pages 749 - 756)**

To receive the reports of the Shropshire and Wrekin Fire and Rescue Authority arising from its meetings held on 5 December 2024 and 11 February 2025

## **21 Exclusion of Press and Public**

To resolve 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 Rules, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items



**22 Exempt Minutes (Pages 757 - 758)**

To approve as a correct record the exempt minutes of the previous meeting held on 12 December 2024

**23 Warm Homes Funding Bid (Pages 759 - 768)**

Exempt report of the Assistant Director – Homes and Communities is attached

Contact Jane Trethewey Tel: 01743 254917