

MEMBER QUESTIONS

From Councillor Julian Dean

I'm sure cabinet will agree that effective and urgent delivery of the sustainable warmth programme is a top priority for the council as we approach a winter with unprecedented fuel costs. Timely delivery of measures into the homes of those who qualify is dependent on capacity at council level, speedy procurement and contracting, and effective working with partners, both at the Marches Energy Agency and in the associated trades. Following a recent email from a resident who was concerned that delays might mean the loft insulation she is likely to qualify for might not be in place for the winter, what assurances can be given that all teams associated with the delivery of this programme are on track to deliver measures at pace?

From Councillor Kate Halliday

1. The following is an answer to a public question from the ICS board (29th June) on transport to the proposed health and wellbeing hub. The answer indicates that there will be a new bus route financed via section 106 monies. Could you confirm that this is Shropshire Council's understanding?

Transport to and from the proposed Shrewsbury Health and Wellbeing Hub is a key consideration for the Programme Team. They will ensure that a travel and access analysis is part of an integrated impact assessment which we will undertake as soon as we confirm the location for the hub. An integrated impact assessment will look at the impact that the change or relocation of service could have on patients at the practices involved, and with the help and input from patients will seek to identify ways to minimise any negative impacts as much as possible. We cannot undertake a full integrated impact assessment until we have agreed and secured a site for the hub. The programme is working with the Council to ensure that there is a specific bus route that stops next to the new Hub. There are also Section 106 monies from the wider SUE South development to support a new bus route. The modelled cost savings will be developed as part of the business case. Response provided by: Claire Parker, Director of Partnerships Gareth Robinson, ICB Director of Delivery & Transformation

2. A recent poll suggested that almost 1 in 4 households are planning not to use heating at all this winter due to the soaring costs of energy, and many more are planning to cut back on how long their heating will be on. Many councils are planning to use public spaces such as libraries, community centres and museums as 'warm banks' to allow people who may not have a heated home to gather in places that have heating. Is Shropshire Council planning to provide 'warm banks'?

From Councillor Rob Wilson

In the Shropshire Star on the 25th August, Daniel Kawczynski was quoted as saying that "tax payers.. will already have to pay more" for the North West Relief Road. Please could you tell the taxpayers of Shropshire how much more they will have to pay? And what amount does the administration consider too high to burden taxpayers with?