

## CABINET – 10 JUNE 2026

### RESPONSES TO PUBLIC QUESTIONS

1. Jason Dorricott

What assessment has been made by Shropshire Council of the impact ending this funding will have on isolated stroke survivors and carers across Shropshire, and what alternative support will be available to people becoming increasingly isolated or reaching crisis point

Response from Councillor Ruth Houghton

The Council recognises the concerns raised regarding continuity of support and wider system impacts. While the Council is not in a position to continue this grant funding, it has shared service information, impact assessments, and relevant decision-making documentation with system partners and has asked those partners to consider any consequential impacts within their respective responsibilities.

2. Caroline John – on behalf of Shrewsbury Town Centre Residents Association

Public Register of Premises Licences Shropshire Council's website states: "We maintain a register of all licences, and, as required by the relevant legislation, details of licences are available. To request any copies, please get in touch."

Experience shows that this facility fails to deliver the statutory requirement. The question, in three parts, is as follows:

1. On what date did Shropshire Council most recently make available to any person a Register, as required by S8 of, and specified in Schedule 3 to, the Licensing Act 2003?
2. When, and by whom (whether Committee, Officer (identifying post but not person), or Member), and under what delegated power in the Council's Constitution, was the decision made that such Register would cease to be made available? Will Cabinet please provide a copy of the Council's formal Record of that Decision?
3. On what date will Shropshire Council make available a fully-compliant Register, whether electronic or hard copy? In formulating its response, Shropshire Council is asked to take full account of: Licensing Act 2003 • Section 8 – Requirement to keep a register. • Schedule 3 – Matters to be entered in a licensing register. • Explanatory Note, and in particular paras 16, 45, 33 and 305. Shropshire Council Constitution • Part 2, Article 12, para 12.6 – • Part 5, Codes & Protocols – Part 5 Code of Corporate Governance • Part 8, Delegations to Officers – B4 - Legality

Response from Councillor Roger Evans

Thank you for your question.

Shropshire Council is aware of the appropriate legislation which specifies making available the information that you refer to in your question. This has and is made available to anyone who requests it from our Licensing Team. The most recent request was fulfilled on 13 May 2026.

Answers with appropriate information is supplied to any person who requests it, as I think you have received when submitting questions on this subject.

Shropshire Council has committed to become an open and transparent organisation and I am pleased to inform you that work is underway to make available a full online public register, allowing members of the public to access this information directly from the Council's website. The expectation is that this will be completed by late summer.

This will then negate the need for members of the public to contact the Licensing Team directly for this information in the future.

Please also note that my understanding is that the appropriate Shropshire Council Scrutiny Committee is intending to look at Licensing as part of this year's programme of work.

### 3. Mike Streetly

It is now 7 years since the UK Government and Shropshire Council passed declarations of a Climate Emergency and, whilst there has been some progress since then, it is clear that as a society we are not on track to respond to the rapidly unfolding catastrophe being caused by uncontrolled emissions of CO<sub>2</sub>. Last November, ten of the UK's leading experts briefed an invited audience of over 1,200 politicians and leaders from business, culture, faith, sport and the media in Westminster Hall. The briefing set out the implications for the UK of climate and nature breakdown for health, food systems, national security and the economy. Those talks have been synthesised into a 45 minute film that alerts the public to the dangers our society is facing on multiple fronts and the urgent need to redouble our efforts to address it. Will Shropshire Council please provide an opportunity for all staff and councillors to view the film and discuss its implications for their work?

#### Response from Councillor Sarah Marston

Shropshire Council is supportive of this request and will provide opportunities for both staff and elected members to view the People's Emergency Briefing and reflect on its implications for their work.

The Council recognises the importance of ensuring that staff and members have access to high-quality, evidence-based information on the climate and nature crisis, and the implications this has for local government responsibilities and decision-making.

For this reason, the Council has organised a number of screening sessions at the Guildhall, following the July and August full Council meetings plus 3 further opportunities, for staff and councillors to reflect on the content together.

The People's Emergency Briefing is a professionally produced film drawing on established scientific and institutional evidence, including national climate risk assessments and public health and economic analysis. It is intended to support understanding and informed, constructive discussion.

Local authorities have a central role in responding to climate and nature risks — including through housing, transport, planning, infrastructure, public health and emergency planning — as well as strengthening resilience to challenges such as flooding, heatwaves and wider system pressures. In this context, the Council is proposing to provide opportunities for staff and councillors to view the briefing and reflect on its relevance to their roles. The proposed sessions will:

- Be accessible, inclusive and appropriately facilitated
- Provide space for structured discussion focused on implications for Council services, risk management and long-term resilience

These sessions are intended to:

- Support a shared evidence base across officers and members
- Inform ongoing service planning and corporate priorities
- Maintain awareness while ensuring the Council's approach remains proportionate and evidence-led

Participation will be voluntary and will complement existing training and development activity.

In summary, the Council will be providing proportionate and accessible opportunities for staff and councillors to view the briefing and discuss its relevance to their roles, supporting informed decision-making and awareness of climate and nature risks.

#### 4. John Palmer

Re: agenda item 18 - Shropshire housing authority enforcement and civil penalties policies The Renters' Rights Act 2025 is a welcomed policy introduced by this progressive Government, that aims to boldly redress the balance in tenants' favour and ensure justice. Legislation that the Tories would never introduce, because of self-interest and their landlord chums; nor the far right, who are diametrically opposed to fairness, and have zero chance of being in government anyway. An exciting report, and well-drawn-up policies, from Shropshire Council. How many landlords have been successfully formally prosecuted by Shropshire Council since 2022? Is the answer 1? (re The Oakery near Ludlow in September 2023 - a shocking news story that I recall publishing).

#### Response from Councillor James Owen

Thank you for your question and for your interest in the Council's housing enforcement work and the proposed enforcement and civil penalty policies. Since 2022, Shropshire Council has successfully prosecuted one landlord in relation to multiple housing standards offences under the Housing Act 2004. Prosecution is one enforcement tool, but it is often the final stage of enforcement action, with many cases being resolved earlier through compliance with enforcement notices served by the Council.

#### 5. Marianne Aitken

- Will the Cabinet now reverse the current proposal to close this highly valued service?
- Will the Cabinet consider an alternative location to provide an important service to both current and future community of Ludlow?
- We would like to understand how the recommendation made in the 'Day Centre Consultation April 2026 Report' are being – to reiterate the report there were -

- Retain and prioritise specialist provision where needs cannot be met elsewhere
  - Recognise and embed the preventive value of day services in decision-making
  - Continue to embed equality, rurality and accessibility considerations into future work
  - Protect dignity, personal care and sensory support as core service elements
  - Consider the feedback concerning lack of promotion, referrals and transport
  - Take a differentiated approach to independence, employment and volunteering
  - Ensure meaningful co-production and transition planning
- What percentage of the council deficit will this fix?
  - Has the consideration of the movement of cost from day centre to full time care been a consideration of this proposal?
  - We continue to request answers to our questions position on 6<sup>th</sup> May which we have yet to have any response – attached again for reference

#### Response from Councillor Ruth Houghton

Thank you for your questions. Cabinet will consider the report and recommendations before making any decision, and it would not be appropriate to pre-empt that decision in advance.

The Council has considered the consultation feedback carefully, including the importance of specialist provision, prevention, dignity, accessibility, transport, co-production and transition planning. These matters are reflected in the proposal and will continue to be addressed through individual assessment, review and support planning to ensure eligible needs are met lawfully and appropriately.

In relation to an alternative location in Ludlow, the recommendation before Cabinet is the proposal set out in the published report. If Cabinet agrees any change, implementation would need to consider how people's needs can best be met in future, including the location and form of provision. The key issue for the Council is not a particular building, but whether needs continue to be met properly.

This proposal will not by itself resolve the Council's overall financial challenge; it is one part of a wider programme to support financial sustainability. The potential for costs to transfer elsewhere in the system, including into higher-cost care, is a relevant consideration, which is why any transition must be carefully managed through assessment and support planning.

In relation to the outstanding questions submitted on 6 May, a reply was sent on the 04 June in line with the 20-working day specified timeframe.

## 6. Care Johnson

The School Streets pilot scheme was introduced in 2024 under the previous administration at several schools across the county, including Woodside School in Oswestry. While the scheme proved popular in some locations, such as Gobowen, it was largely ineffective at Woodside.

Although the scheme has since been suspended, residents have not been formally advised. Signs and cameras remain in place, creating the impression that restrictions are still in force, despite clear opposition from the school. In contrast, in Gobowen, where there is support, the scheme has not yet been reinstated.

In addition, either during implementation or following the resurfacing of Gittin Street prior to May 2025, many parking restriction lines were removed and have not been replaced. This has led to dangerous and inconsiderate parking, with no practical means of enforcement.

As a result, road safety conditions now appear worse than before the scheme was introduced, representing a significant failure by previous decision-makers.

Could the Portfolio Holder confirm:

1. When the Woodside scheme will be formally deemed unsuccessful, with signage removed and residents informed;
2. When the scheme will be reinstated in areas that support it;
3. When parking markings and enforcement will be fully restored outside Woodside?

### Response from Councillor Rob Wilson

I share the frustration of Cllr Johnson, the community of Woodside School, and local residents. I met with the Headteacher of the school last Autumn to hear about the issues, and I thank her specifically for being more than patient as officers have worked to resolve them. I am now able to confirm that the Woodside School Street scheme will be part of a decommissioning process during this financial year, and I will be pushing for this to occur as soon as possible.

The general School Streets programme is currently under review and each site has had an extensive assessment on suitability and future status as a School Street. Whilst this process is on-going, The Strategic Transport team will be providing detail to all schools and Elected Members on the status of each School Street and will then have proactive discussions with the school on whether the School Street can remain or what replacement measures are required for each of the sites under a decommissioning process. This will be aligned with the Maintenance Team to ensure carriageways are repaired where required alongside the works.

School Streets have the ability to positively transform the environment around a school, as we have seen at Coleham in Shrewsbury, but it must be done with the support of schools and local members.

### Questions raised as part of Agenda Item 20 – Hills Ford Rally

1. Question from Peter Phillips

Will Cabinet defer permission for closures in the Linley Section to enable discussions of possible revision of this section?

Main concerns are presented by the Shropshire Hills National Landscape response.

Linley section is picked out for special mentions. Concerns relate to landscape, wildlife recovery, tourism and Farming. The route loops within an area of woodland and pasture barely a mile across. The impact of such a large number of vehicles--it is a speed trial--on this small and fragile area--will be huge. Some stretches are unfenced lanes. Major interruption into local farming activity and tourism.

Local concerns are strongly supported by the Parish Council and Local Member, which Council (and Motorsport UK) regard as important. It is not a matter of temporary inconvenience but of possible significant damage--e.g, to The Bog Centre and LongMynd Shuttle Bus operations, the extra time/costs impinging on landowners making changes to accommodate the event .... on the withdrawal of the typical visitors usually experienced in September. Possible impact on natural life and environment must be taken into account.

The Linley Section is a self-contained loop. Its revision / replacement would not threaten the Event as a whole.

The Council and Hills Ford have stated the importance of Public Opinion; and will also be sensitive to the unique importance of the National Landscape which, Council has a DUTY to pro-actively conserve and enhance. I hope Cabinet will take the opportunity of demonstrating this by re-visiting this Section with Hills Ford; and of responding to residents' concerns.

Response from Councillor David Vasmer

Thank you for your question. Obviously I cannot pre-empt the decision of Cabinet later on this agenda but I am able to make some general comments on the concerns you identify, including those raised by the Shropshire Hills National Landscape Team, local residents, parish councils and elected members, because these have been considered as part of the officer assessment and are summarised within the Cabinet report and supporting appendices.

Officers recognise that concerns have been raised regarding potential impacts on tranquillity, farming operations, tourism, local access, visitor attractions, the Long Mynd Shuttle Bus, and the wider National Landscape. These matters have formed part of discussions with the organiser and continue to be considered through the wider event planning process.

The proposed route has already been subject to review and amendment during its development, approved by Motorsport UK as suitable for a road rally event, and a number of mitigation measures have been identified or remain under discussion. You have asked for a deferral and I am sure that this will be considered by Cabinet when we reach that point in the agenda.

2. Question from Councillor David Taylor – Vice Chair of Church Pulverbatch Parish Council

In February Pulverbatch PC forwarded to Shropshire Highways its unanimous objection to the Hills Ford Stages Rally Road Closure in Church Pulverbatch. Dozens of objecting resident's emails were subsequently sent to Shropshire Highways.

Three fear loss of business to their holiday lets, one farmer, on the route, raised serious safety concerns to workers and animals, and the pub at Picklescott will seek compensation for loss of revenue due to access restrictions.

Other resident's objections include;

- The route is on the Shropshire Way which is crossed by 7 regularly used footpaths & bridleways.
- Verges and road surfaces will be damaged and wildlife put at risk
- Cyclists, hikers, horse riders and dog walkers will be inconvenienced.
- It contradicts Shropshire Council's Destination Management Plan which states our stunning landscapes are ideal for outdoor relaxation, such as walking & relaxation
- It undermines the tireless work undertaken by local volunteers as part of Shropshire Council's Nature Recovery Strategy, improving flora and wildlife along our verges.
- The event totally contradicts Shropshire Council's declaration to commit to a Climate Emergency.

This Rally was proposed in Herefordshire a year ago but an FOI shows unanswered questions by officers which resulted in the Rally being cancelled.

- Have those questions from Herefordshire officers been reviewed and answered for our proposed road closures?
- Shropshire Council's new Devolution policies encourage parishes to take more responsibility for local services; therefore, will Shropshire Council not ignore the residents of our parish and not approve this road closure.

#### Response from Councillor David Vasmer

I do acknowledge the strength of feeling expressed by a number of residents, businesses and parish councils, particularly in relation to the proposed Dorrington/Pulverbatch stage. All representations received by the Council, including those submitted by parish councils, residents, businesses and elected members, have been reviewed and considered as part of the assessment process and have informed both ongoing discussions with the organiser and the reports prepared which form part of the Cabinet discussion.

It may assist to clarify that Shropshire Council does not formally "approve" events in their entirety. The role of the Highway Authority is instead to consider the specific statutory and operational matters falling within its remit, including whether it is appropriate to make the Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders (TTROs) and associated traffic management arrangements required to facilitate the event on the public highway. Please refer to my report for more detail on the following considerations:

- the consultation undertaken by the organiser and Motorsport UK;
- representations and objections received;
- route suitability and operational considerations;
- resident, business and agricultural access arrangements;
- environmental and community impacts;
- safety and emergency planning arrangements; and
- proposed mitigation measures.

Motorsport UK has issued a permit for the proposed event following completion of the required consultation and assessment processes. I have also reviewed information provided regarding governance and insurance arrangements associated with the organiser and the event. Public liability insurance arrangements are provided through the Motorsport UK framework and the event organisers have advised that cover includes indemnity up to £100m.

I am aware that a previous proposal involving this organizer did not progress within Herefordshire. My understanding is that the circumstances in Herefordshire involved unresolved operational and mitigation matters, and the organizer ultimately withdrew the event because the timeline became too compressed to successfully implement all the necessary arrangements. However, each proposed event must be considered strictly on its own merits, having regard to the specific routes, consultations, operational arrangements, mitigation measures, and representations unique to our local authority area.

Regarding the stages, it is estimated that the road closures during competitive stage operations will last approximately two-and-a-half hours in the morning and a further two-and-a-half hours in the afternoon. Organizers propose to facilitate managed vehicle access between competitive stage runs when it is required and operationally safe to do so.

Properties not situated directly on the closed route will maintain continuous highway access; however, localized spectator and event traffic may cause occasional congestion, which marshals and stewards will be deployed to help manage. I fully recognize these temporary restrictions will cause inconvenience and disruption for some residents, local businesses, and agricultural operators; these operational details remain a key focus of ongoing mitigation discussions with the organizers and those properties.

At the present time, I have not identified any fundamental technical or operational issue that cannot be resolved through mitigation, appropriate planning and management. However, this has reached Cabinet because the wider community, environmental and reputational considerations remain material matters for determination and which are outside the scope of my role.