

Dear Officers

Much Wenlock Town Council submits the following response to consultation on the Regulation 19 pre-submission draft of the Shropshire Local Plan:

*In section SP14 'Strategic Corridors', at paragraph 3.142a, the first corridor is described as **'Eastern Belt M54/A5, A41/A464 and A4169/A458/A454'**. It is difficult to connect these roads into anything resembling a corridor and it appears that the Council has simply included all the A-class roads that lie within the County Boundary (i.e. avoiding Telford and Wrekin). Clarification of exactly where this 'corridor' is located and how it connects together is lacking in SP14 and this should be addressed; a plan would be useful.*

*The Council's inclusion of the **A4169** and **A458** points to Much Wenlock as being part of the 'Eastern Belt Strategic Corridor'. It should be clear that this section of those two roads is unsuitable to accommodate the potential development pressures that will come with being identified as within a 'Strategic Corridor'. The junction of the two roads in Much Wenlock (Gaskell Corner) is already under significant pressure from HGVs, buses, agricultural vehicles, commuters and pedestrians; and has proven itself incapable of being upgraded (by the designers of the Ironbridge Power Station proposal). Nor is a junction improvement included in any Infrastructure Plan; therefore, Much Wenlock will be impacted by an unnecessary increase in traffic at the junction, which will lead to an increase in the already severe problem of vehicles rat-running through the town.*

Please ensure these comments are taken into consideration.

Regards

Trudi Barrett
Town Clerk