

**SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE****9 September 2026****Officer:** Stuart Farmer – Operations Manager**STEPPING UP TEAM UPDATE****Purpose**

To update the Council the work and implementation of the Stepping Up Team.

Ward Visits

The following ward walks are due to be rescheduled in the future to complete the cycle ward walks

- Sundorne + Old Heath
- Underdale

Programme of Works

The Operations Manager maintains the master spreadsheet of works with these being added to from public enquiries, councillor requests as well as officer reports.

In addition to this a new form that is to be used on the ward walks is now in operation, this will be shared with the ward member and will allow them to see progress and will assist with land ownership identification issues when they arise.

Criteria of Works

The team has a spreadsheet with all tasks that have been identified either by the staff themselves, by Councillors, by the public and of late forwarded by Shropshire Council because their team haven't the resources to do them. Each task is reviewed to determine whether.

- it is the responsibility of others and if it is, they are informed
- we have the capacity and resources to undertake the work
- whether there are any timeframes that need to be considered for the work to be done (for example, working out of nesting periods, knowing when other traffic management functions are being undertaken at the same time, any embargos and whether there are clusters of work in one area). Upon that staff allocate jobs to the Stepping up Team.

Officers are currently speaking to colleagues at Shropshire Council regarding issuing letters to residents with privately owned hedges that over footpaths, this letter is currently in draft and will be issued following agreement with Shropshire Council.

Work Completed of late

The teams have continued to work across Shrewsbury on several different projects, the photographs below are a snapshot of some of the works completed of late and include.

The team have been working on some bigger projects in wards over recent months including Gains Park and Sutton Farm.

Gains Park has seen footpath improvements and widening as well as the reopening of walkways throughout the estate, this has included path edging and detritus removal.

Areas of Sutton Farm have also seen some work of late including areas of heavy weed growth and hedge growth.

Mount Pleasant Road ally way to Mottershead has been tidied and made accessible, however the hedge remains the responsibility of the Grange primary school,

Meole Brace Underpass – The silt that has accumulated under the Meole Under pass has been removed and the site cleared

The team have also been assisting with the main hedge cutting and where required they have been finishing off areas the flail either can not reach or wont cut, this will continue throughout the hedge cutting season.

Below is a selection of photographs of before and after from the team, these are taken by the teams on site and are shared by the communications team on social media.

Gains Park Walkway



Gains Park Way



Mount Pleasant Road Alley Way





Bank Farm Road



Gains Park Way



**Litter Picking**

if Councillors are arranging litter picks the team will be able to assist with the delivery of equipment and collection of the bags. This can be arranged by contacting the Operations Managers, giving advance notice.

Weed Removal

The team have also been spending considerable time of late removing weed remnants from roadside gutters and paths following the successful application of weed killer over the summer months.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the contents of the report are noted.