



Call for Information: Town and Parish Councils

June 2025

The survey will be open for 2 months from mid-June 2025. An online version is available, but you can also use this Word version if more convenient. Email and postal return options are provided at the end of this document. The aim of the survey is to gather your views on:

- How the partnership between Shropshire Council and town and parish councils should work, and how we have an equal say in making our communities and services the best they can be.
- Your experiences engaging with Shropshire Council (e.g. highways, planning, developer levies, communications).
- Your thoughts on how we can improve and which services you believe could be better delivered locally either by Town and Parish Councils, using local providers, or in partnership with Shropshire Council.

Which town or parish council is your response on behalf of?

Shrewsbury Town Council

What position do you hold regarding the town or parish council?

- ☐ Councillor
- ☒ Clerk
- ☐ Another paid officer (e.g. treasurer)
- ☐ Other (please specify)

If you would like us to contact you for further conversations please provide a lead contact below:

Name	Helen Ball
Email	Helen.ball@shrewsburytowncouncil.gov.uk
Telephone	01743257650

Would your town or parish council be interested in working with us as part of early discussions and a pilot? (If yes please ensure contact details are included above).

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

☐ Don't know

1. Experiences of Shropshire Council

Overall, how would you describe your experience of working with Shropshire Council in the last 12 months?

- ☐ Very good
☒ Good
☐ Neither good nor poor
☐ Poor
☐ Very poor

How would you rate your experience (over the last 12 months) in relation to the following?

	Very good	Good	Neither good nor poor	Poor	Very poor	Don't know or not applicable
Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and Section 106 funding for local projects			x			
Communication with officers and members of Shropshire Council			x			
Working to solve local highway issues				x		
Dealing with finance and legal issues				x		

Please add any comments to explain below, particularly if you have selected poor or very poor.

Generally, we have good officer relations but we are frustrated by the lack of speed by which matters can be resolved. Additionally the capacity of officers is stretched.

2. Working together in the future

In which priority areas, linked to the work of town and parish councils, can Shropshire Council do better? (please select your top 3 priorities)

- ☐ Communication and engagement with town and parish councils
- ☒ Responding to highways and traffic/road safety issues
- ☒ Street scene and environmental maintenance
- ☐ Planning
- ☐ Community safety
- ☐ Housing
- ☐ Community green spaces and recreation (allotments, cemeteries, play areas, playing fields)
- ☐ Community buildings
- ☐ Libraries
- ☐ Rights of way
- ☐ Climate change and environment
- ☐ Youth support
- ☒ Other (please specify)

Legal processes

Considering the perspective of your residents and your council, how can Shropshire Council work better for you?

- Provide some resolution to the ongoing discussions about the way forward for our horticultural service arrangements.
- Let us take on more services around Streetscene matters
- Have a more streamlined legal and estates process
- Be more open about CIL/S106 arrangements in planning

3. Services and Partnerships

Which services, roles and responsibilities, if any, do you feel could be better delivered by Town and Parish Councils rather than Shropshire Council?

- Youth
- Environmental Maintenance & Streetscene Services
- Cultural & Recreational Services
- Public Space Management
- Rights of Way work in the town
- Golf course
- Regulatory matters including A-Boards and DOG PSPO

Which current services, roles and responsibilities at either Parish or County level do you feel could be better delivered in partnership between both Councils?

- Highways/Movement Strategy – engagement with Big Town Plan
- Local Plan
- CIL/S106
- Local Transport Plan
- Corporate Landlord for Heritage Assets

Which current services, roles and responsibilities at Parish level could Shropshire Council assist in the delivery of?

- Social Care
- Revenues & Benefits
- Education

Some town and parish councils have previously expressed some interest in discussing options for taking on services. What would make it easier for parishes to consider this?

- Moving away from a more specification driven approach to an outcome drive approach
- Building the core capacity of the Town Council
- Clarity on the services to be taken on
- Single point of contact
- More streamlined legal function
- Honest conversations

We recognise the concerns you have raised about working together previously. Which of the following currently apply?

- ☒ Lack of capacity/ resources within your town or parish council
- ☒ The need for clarity concerning specific opportunities to work in partnership
- ☒ The need for specialist support and guidance from Shropshire Council
- ☒ Importance of forward planning to consider precepts and raising funds
- ☒ Other (please specify)

Longer term planning

Thank you for completing this survey

How we will use the information you have provided

We will not share your data with any external third parties. Your information will be held securely, only shared internally where necessary. We comply with data protection laws concerning the protection of personal information, including the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). For more information on how information is held by Shropshire Council and your rights to gain access to the information we hold on you please see our corporate privacy policy at www.shropshire.gov.uk/privacy

Please return by email to: TellUs@shropshire.gov.uk

Post to:

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