

**SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL
CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE – 15 JULY 2021**

Officer: Helen Ball – Town Clerk

MINI-HOLLAND

Purpose of Report

To update the Committees on progress of submitting a Mini-Holland Expression of Interest following the recent motion at Council

MINI-HOLLAND

Mini-Holland projects were developed as a pilot in 3 London Boroughs. It is a project designed to encourage more people to take part in active travel and reduce the number of short car journeys.

Recently Government invited Local Authorities to submit Expressions of Interest in become one of a further 12 initiatives across the country.

Councillor Rob Wilson submitted a motion to the Town Council to lobby Shropshire Council to develop an Expression of Interest; Bids are only invited from Principal Councils.

Since the successful motion the Town Clerk has been working with both colleagues at Shropshire Council and the Business Improvement District, together with external transport consultants who have been used on Big Town Plan projects to look at the potential of an Expression of Interest.

Having read the Frequently Asked Questions for the Expression of Interest there is a need to put some detail in a bid which will require external assistance and a financial resource. It is hoped that this can be funded through the financial commitments that the Town Council, Shropshire Council and the BID make to the Big Town Plan and a request for funding will go to the Board next week. If there is no commitment for funding, members of the Committee are asked to consider the allocation of funds from the Climate Emergency Fund.

As this is a very short timescale for turnaround (Bids need to be in by 9th August), authority will need to be delegated to the Town Clerk to proceed alongside engagement with the Town Council's Active Travel Working Group

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the report be noted
2. That the Committee supports the development of an Expression of Interest
3. That the Committee agrees to back-up funding from the Climate Emergency Budget
4. That the Town Clerk have delegated authority to proceed in conjunction with the Chairman of the Climate Emergency Committee and members of the Active Travel Working Group