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**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?**

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| --- |
| Market Drayton Town Council |

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

**Councillor**



Clerk



Another paid officer (e.g. treasurer)



Other (please specify)



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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name | Sue Thomas |
| Email | townclerk@marketdrayton.gov.uk |
| Telephone | 01630 653364 |

**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 you 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.**

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| Trying to deal with Shropshire Council is sketchy at best, we constantly have to chase officers for responses regarding local issues.  Need to have correct contact details for the officers responsible for areas of work in the locality.  Lack of clarity on CIL spend, how much CIL Local is available and the process for applying for funding. |

**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)**

**X Communication and engagement with town and parish councils**

**x Responding to highways and traffic/road safety issues**

**x 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)



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

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| * Be more proactive and understand the needs and necessities of the Towns, Parishes and their residents * Communicate what’s happening and give reasons for the decisions that you have made. * Remove the Shrewsbury centric culture and consider the other Towns in Shropshire more. As an example us here in Market Drayton (being the 3rd largest Town in Shropshire) get almost totally bypassed, we simply feel very 'un-loved'! There simply needs more action, more thought, more consideration and ultimately more money for Towns & Parishes in Shropshire. * Improve communications regarding service provision locally ie. details of grass cutting schedules, street scene maintenance, road sweepers etc |

**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?**

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| There is nothing that we could do better without sufficient funding to carry out the services. |

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

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| * Street scene * Minor Highways, including grass cutting on the town entrances * Customer Services |

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

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| Should consider providing Towns and Parishes with administrative legal support ie. HR, Personnel and Health and Safety etc. |

**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?**

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| For Towns and Parishes to even consider this there must be a clear and defined  outline from Shropshire Council of how this would work. Particularly the financial  impact on the Town & Parishes, the legality and the implications  Where services are used by surrounding parishes, Shropshire Council need to facilitate discussions with rural parish councils and town councils regarding running and funding of such services.  The burden needs to be shared and agreed between the Town and parish councils. |

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

**X Lack of capacity/ resources within your town or parish council**

**xThe need for clarity concerning specific opportunities to work in partnership**

**xThe need for specialist support and guidance from Shropshire Council**



**xImportance of forward planning to consider precepts and raising funds**



xOther (please specify)

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**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](https://next.shropshire.gov.uk/privacy/)

**Please return by email to:** [TellUs@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:TellUs@shropshire.gov.uk)

**Post to:**

Tell Us, Feedback and Insight Team

Shropshire Council

PO Box 4826

Shrewsbury

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