

Dear Clerks,

We are writing to let you know that we are updating the Place Plans across the county. As you may know the Place Plans help inform the infrastructure needs for Shropshire and work alongside the Local Development Plan. The Place Plans are updated on an annual basis to ensure that decisions are based upon the most up-to-date information possible.

The delivery of infrastructure relies upon a number of partners in both the public and private sector. The most up-to-date calculation of the funds needed to deliver the current Development Plan came to nearly £400 million over the life of the plan. Whilst some investment will come from partners through their delivery of statutory duties or business investment, other projects will need additional funding to ensure they are delivered in the right place at the right time.

Place Plans identify the local infrastructure needed to support sustainable development as well as the wider investment required in order to deliver the Development Plan and to meet our communities' visions and aspirations. All communities that we speak to agree that for future development to be sustainable this should be supported with the necessary schools, highways, sewerage, health and leisure facilities, to name but a few.

In 2011, Shropshire Council was one of the early adopters in charging the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) on qualifying new developments. Changes in Government Policy since its introduction mean that we constantly monitor the impact on our local policies. The CIL is intended to help pay for infrastructure to support new development, but it is generally acknowledged the CIL on its own is insufficient to pay for all identified infrastructure needs.

As you would expect, with so much infrastructure to put in place, a level of prioritisation has, and will continue, to be required. All items in the Place Plan are assigned a priority level, this helps with decisions around planning, timing, and funding decisions. It is important that there is co-ordination by all partners to ensure projects are actually delivered as part of the overall strategy.

Between 2013 and the end of 2016 over £1.3 million has been collected and distributed through the Neighbourhood Fund to town and parish councils to manage and allocate to local infrastructure projects in their area. Responsibility for allocating the remaining CIL funds sits with Shropshire Council in its strategic role to deliver infrastructure that communities depend upon or require. This is why the annual review of Place Plans, involving town and parish councils, partners, and local Shropshire Councillors is vital to informing the investment and prioritisation of these funds.

With over 150 town and parish councils across the county all with their unique makeup, we are conscious that there is a varied level of experience and knowledge within these. With this in mind, we are keen to offer whatever support we can to

yourselves in the updating of the Place Plans. Initially if you have any questions, we would suggest that you contact your local Community Enablement Officer who can discuss this with you.

We understand that the easier the process is to complete the better for everyone; it is with this in mind that we have redesigned the format of the Place Plans and forms. If you could let us have your update back by 22nd December 2017 this would be most helpful.

We hope that the updated plans will enable us to keep our communities sustainable long into the future and provide the homes and jobs our county needs.

Please return your completed forms to Nicola Fisher, Senior Community Enablement Officer, Shropshire Council, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6ND or email nicola.fisher@shropshire.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,



Joyce Barrow

Portfolio Holder for Communities



Robert Macey

Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regulatory Services

Encs: -

Place Plan

Place Plan update form

Frequently Asked Questions