

Public questions to Council – 17 July 2015

Question from Mr P McKay, Herefordshire

Question 1

Accuracy of administrative map

Our Administrative Map does not show all our roads, and of particular concern are those that provide connectivity with public paths, lead to public places, and/or are through routes. The Ordnance Survey Integrated Transport Network data does according to the Technical Specification provide a list of public use roads, but the survey as undertaken fails to distinguish between public and private use roads, with OS in process of raising a disclaimer.

Will council a) record these roads with public highway rights under the new Local Street Gazetteer standards, having procedures in place for correction of any errors, as council simply must be aware of many of them, and b) advise Ordnance Survey that raising a disclaimer is unacceptable, requiring a survey as paid for in conformance with the Technical Specification ?

Question from Mrs E Morawiecka, Breinton

Question 2

Housing growth targets

In March 2015 Herefordshire Council published "Update of Herefordshire Local Plan - Core Strategy Examination in Public - Five year housing land supply (2015-2020)". In this document the council stated para 4.3 "*The Herefordshire Core Strategy covers the period 2011-31 and provides for a minimum 16,500 homes. This target exceeds the objectively assessed need identified for between 15,400-16,200 homes over this period by 2% - 7% (300-1,100 homes).*"

The Regional Spatial Strategy is no longer a national requirement and so the council can set its own housing development target on the basis of the Objectively Assessed Need for homes. If Herefordshire Council reduced the housing target in their Core strategy on the basis of the most up to date housing figures, the council would be in a position to demonstrate that it does have a 5 Year Housing Land Supply, as required by the NPPF. This would prevent speculative planning applications across Herefordshire, often on Greenfield sites.

Would the cabinet member please explain why Herefordshire Council continues to defend a housing growth target above that required by national government, when to continue to do so leaves housing development across the county in the hands of large developers?