

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS TO COUNCIL – 7 MARCH 2014****Question from Mr P McKay, Leominster**

Question 1

**Rights of Way Improvement Plan**

Having been informed that our Local Street Gazetteer was being published online I thought I had completed my questions, expecting to see public rights of way, cycleways, rural access roads in their distinctive purple colour, along with all other roads, enabling checks to be made on gaps and omissions in the network as required by Parliament in good time prior to the 2026 cut-off date, but I find that not to be the case. Knowing where to look all this information is already online, but not viewable in a friendly way, nor at same time as our public rights of way. The Rights of Way Improvement Plan identifies our rural access roads as supplementing the byway network, policy 3.3.5 with policy 3.3.6 saying saying that users request that the information be made available, yet whilst officers I speak to advise that they have no reason not to make this information available they do not seem to know just whom ought be asked to address this issue, and indeed why not show us our cycleways as well as our footpaths and bridleways.

*So may I ask if a highway layer showing our cycleways, rural access roads in their distinctive purple colour along with all our other roads could be added to the "Explore Herefordshire Map" web page, so that if tick that box and the tick the right of way box we could see all our registered highways at the same time, and when this could be expected?*

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**Question from Mrs Churchward, Herefordshire**

Question 2

**Annual Monitoring Reports**

Members all surely know there have been concerns about the Annual Monitoring Reports and their timeliness.

I asked a question about this last July, and was assured by Cllr Hamilton, that the hard and software had been upgraded, thus data collection would be more efficient.

It would appear the upgrade has failed as there has been no movement on this issue and the most recent Monitoring Report is STILL dated Year End March 2011 now making it nearly 3 years behind.

*What EXACT date can we expect a fully up-to-date Monitoring Report?*

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**Question from Mrs Morawiecka, Breinton, Herefordshire**

Question 3

**Nutrient Management Plan for the River Wye SAC**

*There was a commitment by Natural England and the Environment Agency to produce a Nutrient Management Plan for the River Wye SAC to be provided by September 2013, latest, to enable the Core Strategy to go forward for public examination. Would the Cabinet Member responsible for the Core Strategy please provide an explanation for the absence of this plan and indicate the level of investment required to accommodate the planned housing growth for Hereford and Leominster without damaging the River Wye SAC?*

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**Question from Mr D Morawiecki, Breinton, Herefordshire**

Question 4

**Loss of Appeals**

*What has been allowed in the 2013/14 and 2014/15 Herefordshire Council budgets for costs arising from the loss of appeals due to Herefordshire Council not having a 5 year housing land supply?*

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**Question from Mrs Wegg-Prosser, Breinton, Herefordshire**

Question 5

**Council's Core Strategy**

*For the Council's Core Strategy to go forward to Public Examination, it is required to have a number of supporting documents, such as a 5-year Housing Land Supply, a Local Transport Plan with at least 5 years to run, a Nutrient Management Plan, an Economic Viability Assessment, and an Infrastructure Delivery Plan. I should be grateful if the Cabinet member responsible for the Core Strategy could state when each of these documents will be ready and made publicly available?*

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**Question from Mrs Protherough, Clehonger, Herefordshire**

Question 6

**Selling of Bath Street Site**

*With an urgent need for sustainable housing developments in the City Centre, why does this Council feel that it can achieve best value for the local taxpayer by selling the Bath Street site to the Hereford & Worcester Fire Authority, rather than as a prime residential development site, which could include sensitive redevelopment of a building of historical significance in the City?*