

**Agenda item no. 5 - Questions from members of the public**

Question Number	Questioner	Question	Question to
PQ 1	Mr Symonds, Ross-on-Wye	A Police traffic survey of the A40 30mph zone in Hildersley showed the 85%ile speed was 39.1mph. With this evidence Herefordshire Council planning officers amended the s106 conditions for the current David Wilson development to include a contribution for a light controlled crossing on the A40 in Hildersley. This money was paid to the Council some months ago so please could you tell me when this important road safety improvement will be implemented?	Cabinet member transport and infrastructure
<p><b>Response:</b></p> <p>S106 Highways &amp; Transport has a total budget of £373,635.5 with which to deliver these improvements. The budget has now been committed and the scope of works passed onto Principal Designers, AECOM, in September to begin outline draft proposals for a signalised crossing and TRO to move the 30mph limit further east of the David Wilson development, with the potential of a 40mph 'buffer zone' preceding this. The movement is intended to now capture the development within the 30mph limit.</p> <p>Ward Member Cllr O'Driscoll has been briefed prior to these works being commissioned and is in support. Detailed design is expected to be completed this financial year, TRO completion and anticipated delivery around the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 24/25.</p>			
PQ 2	Mr Milln, Hereford	<p>At Council on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2019, in answer to my question about reducing road injuries by extending 20 mph limits where people live, Cllr Price confirmed that the Council was committed to deliver further 20 mph schemes as part of the Hereford Transport Package which had been consulted in 2018.</p> <p>On 6th March 2020 Full Council passed a Motion requesting the Executive to investigate area-wide 20 mph speed limits across Herefordshire's towns and major villages.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the Prime Minister's recent pronouncements Cllr Price was kind enough to offer continued support at the 20 mph public meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2023.</p> <p>Given that local authorities responsible for more than 20 million people in the UK have now implemented these, what progress has Herefordshire made in the 43 months since the Motion was passed?</p>	Cabinet member transport and infrastructure

**Response:**

The council has been progressing a policy to manage and introduce 20mph speed limits where possible. Work to gather the evidence to support and set the Herefordshire Policy is being undertaken this financial year. The review and recommendations will enable the council to make an informed decision as to how to progress in Herefordshire.

PQ 3	Mrs McGeown, Weobley	<p>It is intended to carry out Flu Vaccination Clinics for High School students in Herefordshire. This program has not previously been applied to this group.</p> <p>An information letter will be provided by each school to the parents to enable them to give fully informed consent for their children to receive the Flu vaccination. This should observe the ethical duties as per the “Montgomery Ruling” to inform parents of all “material risks” (which includes risks considered rare) of the vaccine before seeking their consent:  <a href="https://www.supremecourt.uk/cases/docs/uksc-2013-0136-judgment.pdf">https://www.supremecourt.uk/cases/docs/uksc-2013-0136-judgment.pdf</a></p> <p>A template letter, sourced from a commercial company, targeting younger children resident in metropolitan areas is inappropriate.</p> <p>Please detail contents of the letter that will ensure Herefordshire parents give their fully informed consent and also Identify the Key Potential Benefits and Harms to this group of children living in the healthy Herefordshire environment?</p>	Cabinet member adults, health and wellbeing
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**Response:**

NHS England are responsible for the annual flu vaccination programme and commission Vaccination UK to provide the nasal flu programme across numerous counties and boroughs in England, including the Black Country, Hertfordshire, Herefordshire & Worcestershire, Peterborough and 9 Boroughs of North East London. The 2023/24 annual flu vaccination programme includes both pupils attending primary school and those attending high school (also called secondary school) in line with national guidance.

As part of the vaccination programme in schools, Vaccine UK send out a cover letter to parents informing them that the flu vaccine will be offered in their child’s school, should they wish to take it up. This provides brief information about the flu vaccination spray, potential side effects, and directs parents to a consent form online. The same letter is used for the parents of primary and high school pupils. This letter is not the main information source for informed consent, but does signpost parents to publically available sources of information. The cover letter points parents to visit a publicly available online [e-consent form](#) that has more detailed information to better inform consent. This includes a [Frequently Asked Question](#) section, a link to a 12-side [“information for parents and carers”](#) leaflet produced by the UK Health Security Agency, and further links to [www.nhs.uk/child-flu](http://www.nhs.uk/child-flu).

PQ 4	Mr Lister, Ledbury	Why is the council proposing to remove £2 million funding allocated to the above project when there is a clearly identified need for the sort of hubs, identified within the project documentation, within the county's market towns, most of which will be delivered by volunteer led organisations,	Cabinet member
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		<p>such as Ledbury Food Bank, thus adding considerable value to the money invested in the projects?</p> <p>If the funding is removed to what extent will the market towns benefit from the reallocation of the £2 million?</p>	<p>adults, health and wellbeing</p>
<p><b>Response:</b></p> <p>Thank you for your question. When this capital money was allocated by the previous administration to create Super Hubs, expressions of interest (EOIs) were invited from all local organisations, not just Talk Community Hubs, to deliver a broader range of integrated and co-located services close to local communities, such as health, counselling, midwifery, health visiting, mental health services and physiotherapy and possibly confidential meetings/clinics. In all cases, I recognise the significant amount of work that people have put into developing the expressions of interest for the benefit of local communities.</p> <p>We want to be absolutely sure that any funding will bring a real benefit to communities and that is why we are undertaking a wider, strategic review of the Talk Community approach. The recommendation to take the funding out of the coming year's Capital Programme does not mean that we are dismissing the idea of Super Hubs and I can assure members and those organisations who made their submissions that once we have a better understanding of what is being delivered, how many people it is reaching, where the gaps are etc. we will look again at the Super Hub proposal.</p> <p>This review of the capital programme means that the previously allocated funding will be made available to support the capital projects proposed as additions to the capital programme. These include projects such as Resurfacing Herefordshire Highways and Employment Land and Incubation Space. This funding will benefit the whole county including the market towns.</p>			
<p>PQ 5</p>	<p>Mr McGeown, Weobley</p>	<p>In January 2021, Cllr David Hitchiner, as Leader of Herefordshire Council, made a pledge, interpreted as not personal but representing Herefordshire people, to UK100 CITIES NETWORK LIMITED.</p> <p><a href="https://www.uk100.org/blog/2021/01/road-cop26-january-update-local-net-zero-pledges-hit-50">https://www.uk100.org/blog/2021/01/road-cop26-january-update-local-net-zero-pledges-hit-50</a></p> <p>A £1.3Milion+ annual turnover, Private Company:</p> <p><a href="https://find-and-update.company-information.service.gov.uk/company/10515243">https://find-and-update.company-information.service.gov.uk/company/10515243</a></p> <p>Even after a number of Freedom of Information Requests, the benefits to Herefordshire Folk of meeting membership criteria of UK100 are unclear.</p> <p>But</p> <p>“members in the network do not need to renew their membership”</p>	<p>Leader</p>

		<p>but</p> <p>“members can withdraw their membership at any time”</p> <p>Such as elected changes in political control.</p> <p><a href="https://www.uk100.org/membership#question16">https://www.uk100.org/membership#question16</a></p> <p>So will Clr Jonathan Lester release Herefordshire from Clr David Hitchiner’s pledge and withdraw membership?</p> <p>Or will he reaffirm the pledge, imposing on Herefordshire Folk the continuing meeting of criteria to UK100 Ltd?</p> <p>“membership can be terminated by UK100 if a local authority no longer meets the membership criteria”.</p>	
<p><b>Response:</b></p> <p>The Council remains committed to our ambitious targets to achieve both organisational and countywide carbon neutrality by 2030.</p> <p>UK100 is a cross-party membership organisation that supports the most ambitious councils to go further and faster on their Net Zero and Clean Air targets.</p> <p>Our participation in this network does not commit the Council to anything beyond our own commitments and remains a useful tool for networking and sharing best practice.</p> <p>As such the Council is not looking to withdraw from this network.</p>			
PQ 6	Mrs l’Anson, Ledbury	<p>In 2019 Ledbury was designated a Super Hub. Several officer led meetings ensued and suitable venues were considered e.g. St. Katherine’s Hall. This decision was replaced by information that towns could now apply to become Super Hubs. No further information was forthcoming</p> <p>The recent 'expressions of interest 'submitted to Herefordshire Council from LEAF and from the Ledbury Food Bank were not just ideas jotted down on the back of an envelope but long and detailed submissions deserving serious consideration which included rectifying Ledbury's lack of youth facilities.</p> <p>My question:-</p> <p>Will this Administration reconsider their decision to remove funding for Super Hubs so that</p>	Cabinet member adults, health and wellbeing

		Ledbury LEAF and Ledbury Food Bank can continue their brilliant work, and also confirm that the money pulled is not going to be swallowed up by road building?	
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**Response:**

Thank you for your question. 43 expressions of interest (EOIs) were submitted for the funding which was to support the delivery of a broader range of integrated and co-located services close to local communities, such as health, counselling, midwifery, health visiting, mental health services and physiotherapy and possibly confidential meetings/clinics.

In all cases, I recognise and appreciate the significant amount of work that people have put into developing the EOIs to benefit their local communities and this has been further complicated by frequent amendments to the Super Hub proposal.

You will appreciate that many of these EOIs would not have gone to the next stage as insufficient money was available to support every bid. In addition, some of the bids were within a stone's throw of each other or did not support a programme to deliver a broader range of services than currently delivered.

However, we want to be absolutely sure that any funding will bring a real benefit to communities and that is why we are undertaking a wider, strategic review of the Talk Community approach. The recommendation to take the funding out of the coming year's Capital Programme does not mean that we are dismissing the idea of Super Hubs and I can assure members and those organisations who made their submissions that once we have a better understanding of what is being delivered, how many people it is reaching, where the gaps are etc. we will look again at the Super Hub proposal.