

YOUR OPINIONS MATTER - COMMUNITY SURVEY REPORT

In September and October our community team and I spent some time **speaking to residents about the issues that matter most to you**. This was done with a full Covid-19 risk assessment and it was pleasing to be so welcomed by residents.

60 second survey

LOOKING FOR YOUR VIEWS

You told us that the things that mattered most to you were protection of green spaces and also local health services.

These are both areas that I have been campaigning hard on in

our area over the last five years, so it was pleasing to know our team is in tune with residents.

Green spaces - I will continue to campaign against inappropriate development such as in the valley below Kingsland, and keep up our regular successful litter picks that attract such high numbers. Keeping areas like Burrs Field and the riverside all the way to Doctor's Field open and safe for all is also a high priority.

Local health services - this remains a high priority for me - the threat to the county's emergency and planned health services has not yet gone away. I will also continue to fight for housing development that contributes to local services of all kinds to keep up with a growing population on this side of town.

Both from this community survey and through other contact from residents I've been made aware of some issues in parts of the ward with drug dealing and littering of drug paraphernalia. I am in touch with the local police and it's essential that all incidents are reported to their 101 non-emergency number. Please also let me know by email at porthillgreens@gmail.com.

A GREEN ECONOMIC RECOVERY?

In our community survey you also told us that you were concerned about ensuring that local small businesses are supported at this difficult time. Jobs and businesses have suffered greatly during the pandemic and, looking ahead, we need local companies to be able to 'build back better'.

I recently delivered a special newsletter to many local businesses. This had links to support for dealing with COVID-19 and for helping businesses look ahead to a

'green recovery'. Let me know if you'd like a copy even if your business is located outside the immediate area.

There is also help available for households, including the Green Homes Grant and free energy advice. See my Facebook page, or get in touch and I'll send full details.



READY FOR WINTER?

Pavements across town were neglected during the last bad winter. My work on this with staff in both councils means that the message for businesses is now much clearer: they are encouraged to clear pavements when they can do so safely. I'm pleased that this winter Shrewsbury Town Council staff are better placed to support pavement clearing in snow or ice.



A VISION FOR OUR TOWN'S STREETS

Shropshire Council rejected my proposal for trial 'low traffic neighbourhoods' but I will keep campaigning for safer streets.

As a member of Shrewsbury Town Council's 'recovery' group I was pleased to see that surveys have shown very high support for the reduced traffic in the town centre (residents, visitors and businesses have all shown majority support). Shropshire Council is now looking at making permanent changes to reduce through-traffic and pedestrianise much of the centre for large periods of the week.

Councils have been told by the government to look for ways to reduce through-traffic in residential areas too. In the autumn I asked Shropshire Council to take a lead on this with some trial 'low traffic neighbourhoods'. This was rejected at the time, but I am hopeful that the idea is gaining support. I have welcomed ideas for such a scheme in our area and can guarantee residents that you will get a chance to have your say before any scheme is implemented.



NEW ST ONE-WAY SYSTEM UPDATE

Consultation on next steps for the New Street one-way system open until 18th December

Support for the scheme remains high, but people rightly want the neighbouring streets properly looked after. I have made sure Council staff know this, and the survey asks for your views on this. You can have your say now, by searching "Shropshire Council New Street Contraflow November 2020". The survey will also be delivered to households in the immediate area.

Depending on your views, a one-way scheme could become permanent next year. There is more information on my thoughts on the possible future for the scheme on the webpage as above, but as I say on there, 'the decisions are not mine to make, so please have your say.



I've also asked for an update on the potential new pedestrian crossing for Copthorne Road. A study on this, promised as a condition of the Barracks development, should be published soon.

NOT GIVING UP ON BETTER ROAD SAFETY FOR THE MOUNT

Julian is continuing to campaign for a 'Vehicle Activated Sign' and a 20mph limit in this area.



High vehicle speeds remain a concern for residents on and users of The Mount. I recently wrote to all residents on The Mount to update them on requests for a 'Vehicle Activated Sign' showing motorists when they are exceeding the speed limit (which was initially turned down but I'll be requesting again).

I have also urged all residents to report any incidents including near misses (you can ring the police on 101; you don't need vehicle details) and have provided '20's Plenty' wheelie bin stickers to those who wanted them. Please let me know if you would also like one.



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