

Hello Val,

Please accept my apologies for the last minute reply..

I fully endorse the answers passed to you by Alan Mosley, Leader of the Labour Group. Very briefly, some points I would emphasise are set out below.

1) I think climate change will have a considerable impact on Shropshire. As your letter hints, there will be rising costs for transport, because of diminishing oil supplies.

This will have a huge impact on Shropshire where many people are reliant on cars and buses to access shops, services, jobs and schools.

The council needs to urgently incorporate sustainability and awareness of the impact of climate change at the core of all its policies.

I think climate change is likely to bring an increased flood risk to the county and that this and the issues I have already mentioned should be at the forefront of planning and thinking about future housing

developments. (LDF and Core Strategy)

The council needs to set out policies, in relation to new housing developments, which require sustainability and energy efficiency and to continue to improve energy efficiency in existing

homes and businesses. The Council should also look to improve its own energy consumption and use of resources - as a priority.

The council should take forward proposals under the Sustainable Communities Act as soon as possible.

2) If elected, yes I would support inclusion of climate change as one of the Council's top ten priorities.

3) I think the council needs to work with young people in all of the schools to educate them about environmental issues and to explain the essential need to live more sustainably.

The council also needs to work in partnership with voluntary groups and businesses - especially the supermarkets - to heighten awareness and to negotiate assistance in reducing packaging and use of carrier bags etc.

The shared responsibility for all of these issues needs to be explained to everyone and we all need to think about ways of living more sustainable lives.

The council does also need to work harder to ensure that recycling is easy. Kerbside plastic collection should be here now, not next year!

4) There must be better affordable housing provision in rural settlements (through exception sites) where there is work for people, to encourage villages to flourish.

The council needs to use its resources to support and encourage businesses and live/work units in rural settings.

I agree that the Incinerator is likely to discourage recycling and to undermine efforts to educate and change behaviour, as the burning of waste runs counter to recycling.

It is also worrying that waste from other areas may be brought in to continue to fuel the incinerator - this too undermines any concept of sustainability.

Although I have not studied the data in detail, it appears that there will be huge fear about the possible health risks arising from burning waste. I think fears of this nature are very understandable.

I hope this gives an adequate reply to the questions posed. Time constraints at the moment prevent me from going into more detail.

Best wishes,

Liz