



Neuadd y Sir / County Hall, Llandrindod, Powys, LD1 5LG

QUESTIONS AT ANY TIME TO CABINET PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

Response by the Cabinet Member:

Thank you for your questions, which I have repeated for ease of reference:

1. Has this issue been formally raised with the Council by local County Councillors?
If so, what measures were advised or taken to acknowledge and address the severity of this issue?

Yes, several of Brecon's County Councillors have raised this issue and actions have been taken as outlined within question 4.

2. Can the Council confirm whether there have been any formal incidents reported or concerns raised by members of the public regarding the safety of the pavements in Brecon during wet weather in the past?

There have been a total of 15 incidents at 6 different locations within Brecon reported to Powys County Council.

3. At the time of the installation of the current paving slabs, what advice was sought and given regarding their suitability for public pedestrian use, especially in terms of slip resistance during wet weather?

The choice of materials were made in conjunction with the then National Parks and Brecon Town Council to enhance their grant aided project to upgrade town properties and shop fronts. These slabs were also used in other parts of the county in Presteigne and Llanfyllin in other refurbishments so has been considered popular and appropriate for other Town Centre schemes.

4. Most importantly, what plans or measures does the Council intend to implement to mitigate the slipperiness of the pavements and ensure the safety of the public going forward?

Powys County Council with agreement of the National Parks have reduced the pollarding on the trees in the Watton which produce sap at certain times of the year which increases the risk of slipping from 5 years to 3 years to help control this. We have also increased the treatment of the pavements with a substance which controls the algae and moss forming on the pavements. We have increased the sweeping / scrubbing of the pavements with a new pedestrian sweeper which was funded by a levelling up scheme from central government. Finally, we are now also entering into a new external partnership with Brecon Town Council to see if we can increase the sweeping element even further with the use of their Brecon Caretaker.