



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

David Fitzsimon – Chief Officer for Economy and Planning
Cllr Nigel Williams – Lead Member for Economy
Wrexham Council
Guildhall
Wrexham
LL11 1AR

19 October 2023

Dear Mr Fitzsimon and Cllr Williams,

I am writing to you both regarding Wrexham Council's consultation on the future of our High Street.

As Wrexham's Member of Parliament, watching our new city develop and evolve is very exciting and whilst I am supportive of improvements to our city centre, I hope that Wrexham Council has done its due diligence and is confident that now is the right time to make these changes given the council's budget constraints.

With regards to the consultation, it is vital that nobody is left behind as our city continues to grow. Accessibility should be at the centre of any future developments to our High Street and the wider borough, and proposals must consider our disabled community, and in particular, those who are deaf, blind and physically impaired. Plans must not create unwanted and unnecessary obstacles for members of our community who could be prevented from reaping the opportunities of everything that Wrexham has to offer.

Since my election and following my own consultation with businesses and residents, I have successfully campaigned for increased pedestrianisation of the High Street. However, I understand concerns from our business community that complete pedestrianisation around the High Street may negatively impact local trade, particularly for the day-time economy, since we have members of our community with physical impairments, with many depending on vehicles to access the High Street.

It is also essential that any changes to our High Street do not cause any unintended obstructions to our emergency services who perform life-saving work on a daily basis. As such, I was pleased to see in the consultation plans that the bollards on Yorke Street will be automatically controlled.

I very much look forward to watching these plans develop and I sincerely hope that the voices and views of the many communities across our constituency are taken into consideration by Wrexham Council.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Atherton
Member of Parliament for Wrexham