




Telford & Wrekin
Co-operative Council

**Protect, care and invest
to create a better borough**

Shaun Davies MP


Sent via email to: -


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Date: 15/04/2026

Our ref: TWC85243

Your ref: SD11064

Dear Shaun

Thank you for your email dated 30 March to David Sidaway, relating to concerns from your constituent Rosie Beswick from LSIP in respect of apprenticeship opportunities in wet trades. I have been asked to look into the issues you raised and respond on David's behalf

Apprenticeships, including in construction and the wet trades, are an important priority for Telford & Wrekin Council. We recognise the challenges highlighted, particularly the short-term nature of construction contracts, the high use of self-employed subcontractors, and the difficulty of securing local apprenticeship opportunities on large, tiered developments.

While the Council cannot require private businesses to employ apprentices or dictate how many they take on, we do actively encourage this through our procurement processes. On larger Council-led projects, tender assessments include a social value element, which often covers commitments such as working with local colleges, training opportunities and apprenticeships for the duration of the project. Many of these schemes run for over 12 months, and sometimes longer.

The relocation of Telford College to The Quad at Station Quarter provides further opportunities for closer working on construction skills and apprenticeships, and officers are engaging with the College on this.

As you are aware Section 106 agreements are tightly governed by law and must meet strict statutory tests. They are used to secure the delivery of infrastructure, either by the developer carrying out the works directly or through a financial contribution paid to the Council. The legal agreement cannot be used to require developers or contractors to employ specific individuals, act as apprenticeship brokers, or control detailed employment practices. Where contributions are paid to the Council, any associated works must be delivered through the Council's own compliant tendering arrangements.

We acknowledge that there is more to do and will continue to use social value, partnership working and engagement with education providers and the construction sector to maximise opportunities for local apprentices within the legal and practical limits that apply.



I trust that this answers your enquiry / the concerns from your constituent, but if I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JD', written in a cursive style.

James Dunn
Director - Prosperity & Investment