

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC – ITEM 7

QUESTION FROM PHIL MATTHEWS, CHAIR, WILTSHIRE INVOLVEMENT NETWORK

**TO CLLR JANE SCOTT
LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

Question 1

Referring to the Financial Plan 2012 to 2013, page 14, 3.2 states Wiltshire receives an average of £228.44 in government grant per head of population, £95.97 less than the English rural average of £324.41!

- a) Is this fair bearing in mind that Wiltshire is a rural county and should not be treated differently from other rural Shire Counties?
- b) Could I ask that Wiltshire Council protests in the strongest terms to the Government and seeks the support of the Members of Parliament for Wiltshire to redress this situation, bearing in mind that Wiltshire has a very high ageing population therefore Wiltshire should at least be getting the rural average

Response

Fairness is something that the Chancellor and Secretary of State have said that they want to underpin their aims with a new local government funding system. We are engaged in inputting to that new system and will continue to lobby to ensure that it takes account of our current position.