

Scrutiny Proposal Form

(This form should be completed by sponsoring Member(s), Officers and / or members of the public when proposing an item for Scrutiny).

Note: The matters detailed below have not yet received any detailed consideration. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee reserves the right to reject suggestions for scrutiny that fall outside the Borough Council's remit.

Proposer's name and designation	Councillor Pat Witherspoon	Date of referral	22/07/14
Proposed topic title	Proposals for change by Tudor Grange Academy		
Link to national, regional and local priorities and targets	<p>Council Strategic Purposes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help me to be financially independent (including skills and education) 		
Background to the issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tudor Grange Academy in Redditch is part of a Trust which provides education at various sites across the country. In Redditch the Trust currently runs Tudor Grange high school for children aged between 13 and 18. • Earlier in the year the school governors ran a consultation about changing the age range of the school to 11 – 18 years from September 2015. This would mean a reduced admission number for the school for years 7-11 and in the sixth form. Details are available on the school's website: http://www.redditch.tgacademy.org.uk/parents/change-of-age-range-consultation/ • The proposals were subject to consultation between 19th May – 20th June 2014 and a meeting was held at the Academy to explain the proposals. • A considerable number of members of the public contacted Borough Councillors expressing their concerns at the proposals and the timescales involved. • Education in Redditch is currently arranged as 3-tier – primary; middle and high schools. Members of the public were concerned that, if implemented, the proposals to change one school in the Borough would have an adverse impact on the other schools, as two systems would be running side by side. They were also concerned at the proposed timescale and the impact this would have on admission arrangements for all schools across the Borough. • These proposed changes undertaken in isolation of a wider review of the education system in Redditch might contribute to a significant reduction in educational attainment and significant challenges to the other schools in the area and thus children in the Borough, which will eventually have an 		

	<p>extremely detrimental impact on our economy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whilst this is not a matter for which the Borough Council is directly responsible we take our role as community leaders very seriously; there may be an opportunity to engage with the Borough Council, the County Council and the Redditch Partnership, school governors and parents on a wider review of the education system that operates within the Borough in order to ensure it is the best solution for the people of the Town.
<p>Key Objectives Please keep to SMART objectives (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Timely)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To understand the proposals by Tudor Grange Academy to extend the age range of pupils; 2) To assess the potential impact on schooling arrangements in the Borough if the proposals were to be implemented; 3) Through investigation of this proposal and the basis on which Academy schools operate, to support Ward Councillors and residents in understanding how they can best contribute most effectively to the debate and decision on this issue.
<p>How long do you think is needed to complete this exercise? (Where possible please estimate the number of weeks, months and meetings required)</p>	<p><i>Initial presentation to an O&S Committee meeting? With consultation documents from the school as background?</i></p>

Please return this form to: Jess Bayley or Amanda Scarce, Democratic Services Officers, Redditch Borough Council, Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch, B98 8AH
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