

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	Cllr. Tom Baker-Price Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Date of referral	04/07/17
Proposed topic title	Civil protection and emergency capability short sharp review.		
Link to national, regional and local priorities and targets	<p>The civil contingencies act 2004 (The act) requires this council as a category 1 responder to assess, plan and advise the public in the event of emergencies. The act defines an emergency in section 1 of the act which includes a diverse range of events such as the disruption to food supplies, the substantial loss of life and homelessness.</p> <p>Although these types of emergencies are highly unlikely to occur if they do happen the response of Redditch Borough Council (RBC) is vital to the protection of life and the public at large. RBC has a moral and legal duty to have credible well thought out plans and capability to protect the population with partners in an event of an emergency.</p>		
Background to the issue	<p>Grenfell tower fire in London has focused national attention on how local authorities plan and protect the public during emergencies. Kensington and Chelsea Borough council became responsible for providing emergency relief for hundreds of families. The authorities' difficulty in responding to this crisis has led to social unrest, continued difficulty for the victims and has led to further human security risks.</p> <p>This council must be mindful it may have a legal duty to provide significant additional services resourced from existing budgets and staff without notice.</p> <p>The protection of the public from harm during an emergency could be the most important task this council ever undertakes in terms of direct impact upon residents. Scrutiny of the plans RBC has to protect the public and its capability to deliver is in the public interest to ensure the council is prepared.</p>		
Key Objectives Please keep to SMART objectives (Specific,	1) To review how RBC has made assessments under the act of relevant emergencies and the procedures designed to keep the assessment of relevant risks under review.		

Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Timely)	<p>2) To scrutinise the plan(s) RBC has made in discharging its duty under the act ensuring they are credible, relevant and effective during a crisis.</p> <p>3) To ensure RBC is prepared and able to provide emergency advice in line with the act.</p> <p>4) Invite partner category 1 responders to comment on the plan to ensure best practice, prevent duplication and ensure residents receive an integrated response.</p> <p>5) To seek best practice from the experiences of other local authorities nationally by reviewing relevant cases.</p>
How long do you think is needed to complete this exercise? (Where possible please estimate the number of weeks, months and meetings required)	It is suggested that this review should be completed within a maximum of three months.

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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