

additional papers 1

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Tue 26 Jul
2011
7.00 pm

Council Chamber
Town Hall
Redditch



www.redditchbc.gov.uk

Access to Information - Your Rights

The Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 widened the rights of press and public to attend Local Authority meetings and to see certain documents. Recently the Freedom of Information Act 2000, has further broadened these rights, and limited exemptions under the 1985 Act.

Your main rights are set out below:-

- Automatic right to attend all Council and Committee meetings unless the business would disclose confidential or “exempt” information.
- Automatic right to inspect agenda and public reports at least five days before the date of the meeting.
- Automatic right to inspect minutes of the Council and its Committees (or summaries of business undertaken in private) for up to six years following a meeting.
- Automatic right to inspect lists of background papers used in the preparation of public reports.
- Access, upon request, to the background papers on which reports are based for a period of up to four years from the date of the meeting.
- Access to a public register stating the names and addresses and electoral areas of all Councillors with details of the membership of all Committees etc.
- A reasonable number of copies of agenda and reports relating to items to be considered in public must be made available to the public attending meetings of the Council and its Committees etc.
- Access to a list specifying those powers which the Council has delegated to its Officers indicating also the titles of the Officers concerned.
- Access to a summary of the rights of the public to attend meetings of the Council and its Committees etc. and to inspect and copy documents.
- In addition, the public now has a right to be present when the Council determines “Key Decisions” unless the business would disclose confidential or “exempt” information.
- Unless otherwise stated, all items of business before the Executive Committee are Key Decisions.
- (Copies of Agenda Lists are published in advance of the meetings on the Council’s Website:
www.redditchbc.gov.uk

If you have any queries on this Agenda or any of the decisions taken or wish to exercise any of the above rights of access to information, please contact

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Welcome to today's meeting.

Guidance for the Public

Agenda Papers

The **Agenda List** at the front of the Agenda summarises the issues to be discussed and is followed by the Officers' full supporting **Reports**.

Chair

The Chair is responsible for the proper conduct of the meeting. Generally to one side of the Chair is the Committee Support Officer who gives advice on the proper conduct of the meeting and ensures that the debate and the decisions are properly recorded. On the Chair's other side are the relevant Council Officers. The Councillors ("Members") of the Committee occupy the remaining seats around the table.

Running Order

Items will normally be taken in the order printed but, in particular circumstances, the Chair may agree to vary the order.

Refreshments : tea, coffee and water are normally available at meetings - please serve yourself.

Decisions

Decisions at the meeting will be taken by the **Councillors** who are the democratically elected representatives. They are advised by **Officers** who are paid professionals and do not have a vote.

Members of the Public

Members of the public may, by prior arrangement, speak at meetings of the Council or its Committees. Specific procedures exist for Appeals Hearings or for meetings involving Licence or Planning Applications. For further information on this point, please speak to the Committee Support Officer.

Special Arrangements

If you have any particular needs, please contact the Committee Support Officer.

Infra-red devices for the hearing impaired are available on request at the meeting. Other facilities may require prior arrangement.

Further Information

If you require any further information, please contact the Committee Support Officer (see foot of page opposite).

Fire/ Emergency instructions

If the alarm is sounded, please leave the building by the nearest available exit – these are clearly indicated within all the Committee Rooms.

If you discover a fire, inform a member of staff or operate the nearest alarm call point (wall mounted red rectangular box). In the event of the fire alarm sounding, leave the building immediately following the fire exit signs. Officers have been appointed with responsibility to ensure that all visitors are escorted from the building.

Do Not stop to collect personal belongings.

Do Not use lifts.

Do Not re-enter the building until told to do so.

The emergency Assembly Area is on Walter Stranz Square.

Declaration of Interests: Guidance for Councillors

DO I HAVE A "PERSONAL INTEREST" ?

- Where the item relates or is likely to affect your **registered interests** (what you have declared on the formal Register of Interests)

OR

- Where a decision in relation to the item might reasonably be regarded as affecting **your own** well-being or financial position, or that of your **family**, or your **close associates** more than most other people affected by the issue,

you have a personal interest.

WHAT MUST I DO? **Declare the existence, and nature, of your interest and stay**

- The declaration must relate to specific business being decided - a general scattergun approach is not needed
- **Exception** - where interest arises only because of your membership of another **public body**, there is no need to declare unless you **speak** on the matter.
- You **can vote** on the matter.

IS IT A "PREJUDICIAL INTEREST" ?

In general only if:-

- It is a personal interest **and**
- The item affects your **financial position** (or conveys other benefits), or the position of your **family, close associates** or bodies through which you have a **registered interest** (or relates to the exercise of **regulatory functions** in relation to these groups)

and

- A member of public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably believe the interest was likely to **prejudice** your judgement of the public interest.

WHAT MUST I DO? **Declare and Withdraw**

BUT you may make representations to the meeting before withdrawing, **if** the public have similar rights (such as the right to speak at Planning Committee).



Overview and Scrutiny

Tuesday, 26th July, 2011

7.00 pm

Committee Room 2 Town Hall

Committee

Agenda

Membership:

Cllrs: Phil Mould (Chair) Gay Hopkins
 Mark Shurmer Luke Stephens
 (Vice-Chair) Brenda Quinney
 Peter Anderson Simon Chalk
 Andrew Brazier Alan Mason
 Andrew Fry
 Bill Hartnett

9. Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel - Update Report

(Pages 1 - 2)

Councillor Bill Hartnett

To receive an update report from the Chair of the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel on the latest meeting of the panel, which took place on Tuesday 19th July.

(Report attached).

(No Specific Ward Relevance);

11. Waste Collection Rates

(Pages 3 - 4)

S Horrobin, Waste Management Manager

To consider a report containing further information on waste collection rates in Redditch as requested by the Committee.

(Report attached)

(No Specific Ward Relevance);

Redditch Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel: Chair's report of Panel meeting held on Tuesday 19th July 2011.

This was the Panel's first meeting of the municipal year. Inspector Ian Joseph of West Mercia Police had been invited to present an overview on performance and statistics for community safety in Redditch over the past 12 months.

Also in attendance were Cllr Sheila Blagg, Chair of the West Mercia Police Authority, and Mr Michael Collins as an independent member. The Panel was grateful that the local press was again in attendance.

During discussion on the previous meeting's minutes, Cllr Blagg commented that she had been informed that the Panel was supportive of funding allocations to Community Safety Partnerships being based on need rather than size of population. Cllr Blagg advised the Panel that in future it was likely that the Police Commissioner (if and when appointed) would distribute funding more widely across the West Mercia Force area. It was likely that funding would be reduced.

Cllr Blagg also informed the Panel that the SARC (Sexual Assault Referral Centre) that was being set up in Worcester City to serve the West Mercia area was expected to be operational by April 2012.

Inspector Joseph gave his presentation which was split into several sections: crime overview; anti-social behaviour (ASB); partnership working; police operations and strategies; drugs; and concerns for the future.

Inspector Joseph provided the following details against 7 key crime types in Redditch:

Category	2010 April - Mid July	2011 April – Mid July	Net figure
Assault (all)	506	486	down by 20 incidents
Sexual Offences	32	50	up by 18 incidents
Robbery	13	20	up by 7 incidents
Burglary (Dwelling)	55	79	up by 24 incidents
Burglary (Other)	86	86	no change
Theft from shop	638	669	up by 31 incidents
Criminal Damage	320	379	up by 59 incidents.
Anti-Social Behaviour (Divisional figures for Redditch, Bromsgrove and Kidderminster)	6092	4588	down by 1504 incidents

Partnership working and the community safety partnership / tasking groups

The Panel heard that strong partnership working was taking place locally, despite concerns about job security in some of the agencies.

Tasking was reported to still be working well. It now met every six weeks rather than each month as before.

Some of the projects that had recently been undertaken across the Partnership included:

- Operation StaySafe which involved taking young people found to be intoxicated or at risk of harm to a place of safety before contacting parents or guardians.
- A bin fire project was established in response to a spate of bin fires that had taken place in a residential area of Church Hill. The design and introduction of bin nodes had resulted in the reduction of these fires.
- Operation Straight Line focused on educating young people on the dangers of excessive drinking. It was reported that the Operation had so far been effective.
- The fire service had worked with the Police and other agencies to arrange neighbourhood action days in areas of Redditch that were particularly affected by crime and anti-social behaviour in recent years. This involved listening to residents concerns and offering advice on fire safety and crime reduction. The local media had picked up on the success of these events.

The Panel heard that two pro-active police operations, Operation Wizard and Operation Magenta had led to an increased number of drug detections in the town. However, it was not felt that Redditch had a particular problem with drugs and the Panel welcomed the positive approach of the police.

Other issues

When asked if PACT attendances had declined in recent times and whether the meetings were still effective, Inspector Joseph commented that numbers had reduced but different strategies were now being adopted to raise attendance. This including taking PACT meetings to the local community, for example local supermarkets.

The Community Safety Partnership was working to ensure that longer-term planning took account of likely funding and staffing changes caused by decreased funding of public sector agencies.

The Panel thanked Inspector Ian Joseph for his report and hoped to invite him back again at the beginning of next year for a similar session.

Update on Community Safety Partnership

In the confidential section of the meeting the Panel discussed two sets of Community Safety Partnership Minutes. It was suggested that it would be beneficial if the agency which is represented is indicated against the persons name in the list of attendees and apologies. The Panel was informed that some agencies attended more regularly than others.

Councillor W. HARTNETT
Chair, Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel.
20th July 2011

Discussion Paper to Overview & Scrutiny Committee, 26th July 2011

Local Performance Indicator – Waste

1.0 Background

- 1.1 In April 2011 the Committee discussed NI192, regarding the percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting and had some concerns about performance in relation to that indicator. It was suggested that it would be more useful in the quarterly reports to measure “the savings we are making in landfill charges” as this is an important focus on this area as a measure to demonstrate how the Council is performing in relation to reducing the amount of waste disposed of through landfill.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to RESOLVE that:
the report be noted.

3.0 Key Issues

- 3.1 All household waste which is collected by the Council in Redditch is passed to Worcestershire County Council (WCC), the Waste Disposal Authority, who bear all the costs of disposal. Therefore any information in relation to the costs of disposing of waste and the amount of waste landfilled has to be provided by WCC.
- 3.2 Having discussed the Committee’s request with colleagues from Worcestershire County Council, it has been confirmed that there are difficulties in providing the cost of landfilling waste arising from Redditch for the reasons outlined below:
- a) All of the ‘grey bin’ waste from Redditch is mixed with that of Bromsgrove at the Redditch transfer station and only an estimation could be made of the proportion of this that is Redditch waste.
 - b) There is a cost to **all** waste treatments – both landfill, energy recovery and recycling and the costs can be very similar.
 - c) A proportion of the waste from Redditch does not go to landfill but is processed at an energy from waste facility.
- 3.3 These issues were discussed by the Committee on 5th July and Members raised a number of questions as detailed below. Further discussions have been held with WCC colleagues and answers have been provided as shown.

Question 1 : Does kg per head refer to the adult population only?

Answer: No, the definition states "...per head of population" with no distinction between adult/child.

Question 2: What proportion of all Redditch waste (not just grey bin waste) is mixed with waste from Bromsgrove?

Answer: All of the grey bin waste from Redditch is mixed with Bromsgrove's grey bin waste at the Transfer Station in Redditch. Green bin recyclables from Redditch are mixed with green bin recyclables from Bromsgrove, Herefordshire, Worcester City, Wychavon and Wyre Forest, but only when they are delivered to EnviroSort for sorting.

Question 3: What proportion of the waste from Redditch does not go to landfill? (If we do not maintain accurate figures are we able to provide an estimate?)

Answer: The table below shows the total tonnes of household waste collected for the last 2 years and also estimated % splits to the different disposal options of landfill and energy from waste (EfW).

This shows that the proportion of waste from Redditch which did not go to landfill last year was **61.4%**.

	2009/10 Tonnes	2010/11 Tonnes	2009/10 Est. %	2010/11 Est. %
Total Household Waste collected (from NI192):	28,137	28,171		
Residual Household Waste (NI191):	19,950	20,170		
Recycled/Reused/Composted (NI192):	8,187	8,001		
Residual HHW to LF (calculated):	4,003	10,884	14.2%	38.6%
Residual HHW to EfW	15,947	9,286	56.7%	33.0%
Recycled/reused	8,184	7,914	29.1%	28.1%
Composted	3	87	0.0%	0.3%
			100.0%	100.0%

3.4 It is important to note that the % of waste which is taken to the Coventry Energy from Waste facility is significantly lower in 2010/11 to the previous year due to the availability of spare capacity at the plant; this is not a guaranteed disposal route.

3.5 Severn Waste Services are currently seeking planning permission to construct a Worcestershire based EfW facility in Hartlebury. The public inquiry to determine whether planning permission should be granted, so that this facility, EnviRecover can be built will take place at County Hall, Worcester, commencing on Tuesday, November 22nd. A dedicated website has been set up where lots of information is available at www.envirecover.co.uk

3.6 As waste prevention is a key part of our waste strategy, a useful indicator is one of the previous best value performance indicators – BV 84 - which measures the **total** amount of waste collected (kg per head). Historical figures are given below:

2006/07	406 kg per head
2007/08	374
2008/09	362
2009/10	353
2010/11	

4.0 Conclusions

4.1 Figures can be provided on the different disposal routes that household waste takes, as shown in the table above.

4.2 It is recommended that the Committee considers monitoring the total kg of household waste collected as outlined in 2.5 as a key way of assessing whether our strategy is effective and overall waste disposal costs are reducing.