

additional papers 2

Council

Mon 3 Sep
2012
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
Ivor Westmore
Committee Support Services**

**Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch, B98 8AH
Tel: (01527) 64252 Fax: (01527) 65216
e.mail: ivor.westmore@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk**



Council

Monday, 3rd September, 2012

7.00 pm

Council Chamber Town Hall

10. Pooling of Business Rates

To consider the report of the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) setting out options for pooling Business Rates.

(Further details on the options attached.).

Agenda no. 10 - Redditch Borough Council – 3rd September 2012**POOLING OPTIONS****Greater Birmingham & Solihull / Worcestershire**

- Tariff Authority (we receive more rates than entitled to)
- 20% of Business Rates paid to County
- Levy of each £1 of growth = 85p
- Starting position “No Loss” from being in pool
- Only retained levy paid into pool
- Maintain Sovereignty of Borough
- Rely on pooled funds to fund “safety net”

Worcestershire

- All Districts Expressed an Interest in joining
- 1% Growth = £1.8m
- Growth estimations over next 5 years = 0.5% - 1% over RPI
- Economic Development opportunities
 - Worcester Tech Park
 - Malvern Science Park
 - Hoobrook (Wyre Forest Enterprise Zone)
- Proposals (for consideration) :
 - 50% into risk reserve (safety net)
 - 25% to County
 - 25% to Districts (share on growth to be agreed)

Greater Birmingham & Solihull

- All Districts Expressed an Interest in joining
- 1% Growth = £7.7m
- Growth estimations over next 5 years = 0.5% - 8% over RPI
- Economic Development opportunities
 - Enterprise Zone (supporting other developments)
 - Birmingham Airport Improvements
 - City Deal Funding
- Proposals (for consideration) :
 - 25% into risk reserve (safety net)
 - 75% into Reserve to be utilised (with approval) for Economic Development or Core Funding support

Agenda no. 10 Redditch Borough Council – 3rd September 2012

EXAMPLE OF SHARE OF £100K INCREASE IN BUSINESS RATE GROWTH FOR EACH DISTRICT COUNCIL WITHIN THE POOLED AREA

District	National Share	Local Share	District Share			County Share
			Gross	Levy	Net	
Bromsgrove	50	50	40	(33)	7	10
Malvern	50	50	40	(27)	13	10
Redditch	50	50	40	(34)	6	10
Worcester City	50	50	40	(33)	7	10
Wychavon	50	50	40	(32)	8	10
Wyre Forest	50	50	40	(29)	11	10
Total	300	300	240	(188)	52	60
Pool	300	300	300			

Worcestershire Draft Proposal Potential Share of Retained Levy - £300k

50% - Risk Reserve £150k

25% - Districts £75k (£12k per Council)

25% - County £75k

Greater Bham & Solihull Draft Proposal Potential Share of Retained Levy - £300k

25% - Risk Reserve £75k

75% - Pooled Reserve for Economic Development / Core Funding Bids

Agenda no. 10 - Redditch Borough Council

TIMELINE

10th September – Decision on pool – Worcestershire / Greater Birmingham & Solihull

19th October – Governance arrangements to be agreed with participating Councils

Dec/ Jan – Local Government Finance Settlement announced. Opportunity for Councils to withdraw from pooling arrangement if impact of financial settlement no longer beneficial.

