

# additional papers 1



## Council

Mon 23 Feb  
2015  
7.10 pm or at the  
conclusion of the  
Executive Committee  
meeting, if later

Council Chamber  
Town Hall  
Redditch

**REDDITCH** BOROUGH COUNCIL

*making  
a  
difference*

[www.redditchbc.gov.uk](http://www.redditchbc.gov.uk)

# Access to Information - Your Rights

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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](http://www.redditchbc.gov.uk)**

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**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**

**Democratic Services**

**Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch, B98 8AH  
Tel: (01527) 64252 (Extn. 3269)  
e.mail: (meeting contact)[@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk](mailto:(meeting contact)@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk)**

# Welcome to today's meeting.

## Guidance for the Public

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### **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 Democratic Services 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 Democratic Services Officer.

### **Special Arrangements**

If you have any particular needs, please contact the Democratic Services 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 Democratic Services 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**.





# Council

23<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY 2015

7.10 PM

Council Chamber Town Hall

## AGENDA

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### Membership

Cllrs: Pat Witherspoon (Mayor)  
Pattie Hill (Deputy Mayor)  
Joe Baker  
Roger Bennett  
Rebecca Blake  
Michael Braley  
Andrew Brazier  
Natalie Brookes  
Juliet Brunner  
David Bush  
Greg Chance  
Brandon Clayton  
John Fisher  
Andrew Fry  
Carole Gandy  
Bill Hartnett  
Gay Hopkins  
Wanda King  
Alan Mason  
Phil Mould  
Jane Potter  
Mark Shurmer  
Rachael Smith  
Yvonne Smith  
Paul Swansborough  
Debbie Taylor  
David Thain  
John Witherspoon  
Nina Wood-Ford

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### 8. Urgent Business - general (if any)

To consider any additional items exceptionally agreed by the Mayor as Urgent Business in accordance with the powers vested in her by virtue of Section 100(B)(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972.

(This power should be exercised only in cases where there are genuinely special circumstances which require consideration of an item which has not previously been published on the Order of Business for the meeting.)

To consider an Urgent Notice of Motion in regard to recent events at Worcestershire Acute Trust Hospitals (WAHT).

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**Redditch Borough Council****23<sup>rd</sup> February 2015****Notices of Motion****1. Proposed by Councillor G Chance, seconded by Councillor J Brunner**

“The Council is becoming increasingly concerned at recent events at Worcestershire Acute Hospitals Trust (WAHT) including:

- the mass resignation of all the consultants in the A and E department at the Alexandra Hospital in Redditch
- the Trust declaring ‘a level four’ – one down from a major incident,
- an expected £28 million deficit in January; and
- reports of bullying

Council endorses the action taken by the Leader of the Council in writing to the NHS Trust Development Authority (TDA) in requesting they carry out an independent investigation into these recent developments as described above at the Alex.

In view of the importance of the Alexandra Hospital to the communities represented by Redditch Borough Council and surrounding areas also given the above concerns it is agreed that an urgent meeting is held with the Secretary of State for Health to discuss the following two requests:

1. The option for University Hospitals Birmingham Foundation Trust or other Trust being allowed to collaborate to deliver services from the Alex be investigated.
2. The alleged problems with staff at the Alex and Worcester Royal Hospitals be independently investigated. “

