Overview and Scrutiny

Committee

Tuesday, 29th November, 2011 6.00 pm

Committee Room Two Town Hall Redditch



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 <u>Executive Committee</u> 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

Jess Bayley and Michael Craggs

Overview and Scrutiny Support Officers

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Minicom: 595528

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)

<u>and</u>

 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, 29th November, 2011
7.00 pm
Committee Room 2 Town Hall

Committee

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Membership:

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Cllrs:	Phil Mould	(Chair)

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

1. Apologies and named substitutes

To receive apologies for absence and details of any Councillor (or co-optee substitute) nominated to attend this meeting in place of a member of this Committee.

2. Declarations of interest and of Party Whip

To invite Councillors to declare any interest they may have in items on the Agenda and any Party Whip.

3. Minutes

(Pages 1 - 14)

To confirm the minutes of the most recent meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee as a correct record.

(Minutes attached)

4. Actions List

(Pages 15 - 16)

To note the contents of the Overview and Scrutiny Actions List.

(Report attached)

5. Petition - Town Centre Parking

(Pages 17 - 18)

To receive and consider a petition concerning parking in Redditch Town Centre.

(Petition prayer attached and verbal report to follow).

(Abbey Ward);

6. Petition - Sexual Health Information Services for Young People

(Pages 19 - 20)

To receive and consider a petition concerning sexual health information services for young people.

(Petition prayer attached and verbal report to follow).

Committee

Tuesday, 29th November, 2011

7.	Portfolio Holder Annual Report - Community Safety and Regulatory Services (Pages 21 - 24) Councillor Juliet Brunner	To receive an annual report from the Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Regulatory Services, Councillor Juliet Brunner. (Questions attached verbal report to follow). (No Specific Ward Relevance);
8.	Housing Trailblazers - Presentation	To receive a presentation on the subject of the Housing Trailblazers scheme.
	E Hopkins, Housing Options Manager	(Report to follow)
	Options Manager	(No Specific Ward Relevance);
9.	Medium Term Financial Plan 2012/13 - 2014/15	To consider a presentation on projected bids and savings for the forthcoming financial year and thereafter.
J Pickering - Exec Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)		(Verbal Report)
	Resources)	(No Specific Ward Relevance);
10.	Regional Scrutiny Network Meeting Councillor Phil Mould	To receive a verbal update on the outcome of the Regional Scrutiny Network meeting that took place at Birmingham University on Thursday 17th November 2011.
	Councillor I Till Would	(Verbal report).
		(No Specific Ward Relevance);
11.	Executive Committee Minutes and Scrutiny of the Forward Plan	To consider the minutes of the latest meeting(s) of the Executive Committee and also to consider whether any items on the Forward Plan are suitable for scrutiny.
	(Pages 25 - 46)	(Minutes to follow).
		To consider the content of a written newforce and a series
12.	Portfolio Holder Annual Report - Leisure and Written Performance	To consider the content of a written performance report outlining the content of services within the remit of the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Tourism.
	Report	(Report attached).
	(Pages 47 - 60)	
	J Godwin, Head of Leisure	(No Specific Ward Relevance);

13.	Task & Finish Reviews -
	Draft Scoping
	Documents

Councillor Brenda Quinney

To consider any scoping documents provided for possible Overview and Scrutiny review.

Redditch Market – Proposed by Councillor Quinney.

(Draft scoping document circulated separately)

(Abbey Ward);

14. Task and Finish Groups - Progress Reports

Councillor Alan Mason, Councillor Simon Chalk, Councillor Gay Hopkins, Deputy Mayor 2011/12, Councillor Luke Stephens To consider progress to date on the current reviews against the terms set by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The current reviews in progress are:

- a) Access for Disabled People Chair, Councillor Alan Mason;
- b) Improving Recycling Chair, Councillor Gay Hopkins;
- c) Promoting Sporting Participation Chair, Councillor Luke Stephens; and
- d) Youth Services Provision Chair, Councillor Simon Chalk.

(Oral reports)

(No Specific Ward Relevance);

15. Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Brenda Quinney

To receive a verbal update on the recent work of the Worcestershire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

(Verbal report)

16. Referrals

To consider any referrals to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee direct, or arising from:

- The Executive Committee or full Council
- Other sources.

(No separate report).

17. Work Programme

(Pages 61 - 66)

To consider the Committee's current Work Programme, and potential items for addition to the list arising from:

- The Forward Plan / Committee agendas
- External publications
- Other sources.

(Report attached)

18. Exclusion of the Press and Public

Should it be necessary, in the opinion of the Borough Director, during the course of the meeting to consider excluding the public from the meeting on the grounds that exempt information is likely to be divulged, it may be necessary to move the following resolution:

"That, under S.100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following matter(s) on the grounds that it/they involve(s) the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the relevant paragraphs (to be specified) of Part 1 of Schedule 12 (A) of the said Act".

These paragraphs are as follows:

Subject to the "public interest" test, information relating to:

- Para 1 <u>any individual;</u>
- Para 2 the identity of any individual;
- Para 3 financial or business affairs;
- Para 4 <u>labour relations matters</u>;
- Para 5 <u>legal professional privilege</u>;
- Para 6 a notice, order or direction;
- Para 7 the <u>prevention, investigation or</u>
 <u>prosecution of crime;</u>
 and may need to be considered as 'exempt'.