## Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Monday, 2nd April, 2012 7.00 pm

Committee Room Two 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 <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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### 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, <u>by prior arrangement</u>, 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 <u>and</u>
- 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).



$\phi^{(i)}$ (	avenue	<b>Overview and</b> <b>Scrutiny</b> Committee		Monday, 2nd April, 2012 7.00 pm Committee Room 2 Town Hall	
Agenda		Membership: 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.	1. Apologies and named substitutes		Councillor (or co-opted	or absence and details of any e substitute) nominated to attend this member of this Committee.	
2.	Declarations of interest and of Party Whip		To invite Councillors to items on the Agenda a	o declare any interest they may have in and any Party Whip.	
3.	<b>Minutes</b> (Pages 1 -	10)		s of the most recent meeting of the Committee as a correct record.	
4.	Portfolio Holder Annual Report - Portfolio for Community Leadership and Partnership - Councillor Carole Gandy (Pages 11 - 14) Councillor Carole Gandy, Leader of the Council		To receive the annual report from the Portfolio Holder for Community Leadership and Partnership. (Report attached) (No Specific Ward Relevance);		
5.		ember (Quarter Monitoring I1/12		v of the budget, including the ved savings as at the end of Quarter 3	

Head of Finance and	(No Specific Ward Relevance);
Resources	

(Report attached)

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6.	Corporate Performance Report (Quarter 3) Period Ending 31st December 2011	To consider the quarterly performance report, showing indicators that have improved, declined or remained static when compared to the same period in the previous financial year.
	(Pages 49 - 64)	(Report attached).
	R Dunne, Policy Manager	(No Specific Ward Relevance);
7.	Increasing Recycling Rates Review - Final Report	To consider the final report of the Increasing Recycling Rates Review and to determine whether to forward the group's recommendations for the consideration of the Executive Committee.
	Councillor Gay Hopkins, Deputy Mayor 2011/12	(Report attached).
		(No Specific Ward Relevance);
8.	Draft Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2011/12	To consider the draft contents of the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2011/12 and to determine whether to make any amendments to the content.
	(Pages 65 - 118)	(Report attached)
	Councillor Phil Mould	(No Specific Ward Relevance);
9.	West Midlands Regional Scrutiny Network - Update Report (Pages 119 - 120)	To receive an update on the outcome of the latest West Midlands Regional Scrutiny Network meeting and the implications, if any, for Overview and Scrutiny at Redditch Borough Council. (Report attached)
	Councillor Phil Mould	
		(No Specific Ward Relevance);
10.	Actions List (Pages 121 - 122)	To note the contents of the Overview and Scrutiny Actions List.
		(Report attached)
		(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 123 - 148)	(Minutes attached and Forward Plan to follow).
		(No Specific Ward Relevance);

## Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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12.	Task & Finish Reviews - Draft Scoping Documents	To consider any scoping documents provided for possible Overview and Scrutiny review.
		(No reports attached)
		(No Specific Ward Relevance);
13.	Task and Finish Groups - Progress Reports	To consider progress to date on the current reviews against the terms set by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
	Councillor Gay Hopkins, Councillor Simon Chalk, Councillor Alan Mason, Councillor Luke Stephens	The current reviews in progress are:
		<ul> <li>a) Access for Disabled People – Chair, Councillor Alan Mason;</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>b) Increasing Recycling Rates – Chair, Councillor Gay Hopkins;</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>c) Promoting Sporting Participation – Chair, Councillor Luke Stephens; and</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>d) Youth Services Provision – Chair, Councillor Simon Chalk.</li> </ul>
		(Oral reports)
_		(No Specific Ward Relevance);
14.	Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee	To receive a verbal update on the recent work of the Worcestershire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
	Councillor Brenda Quinney	(Verbal report)
		(No Specific Ward Relevance);
15.	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).
		(No Specific Ward Relevance);

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16.	Work Programme (Pages 149 - 152)	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) (No Specific Ward Relevance);
17.	Exclusion of the Press and Public	<ul> <li>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:</li> <li>"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".</li> <li>These paragraphs are as follows:</li> <li>Subject to the "public interest" test, information relating to:</li> <li>Para 1 – <u>any individual;</u></li> <li>Para 2 – the <u>identity of any individual;</u></li> <li>Para 3 – <u>financial or business affairs;</u></li> <li>Para 4 – <u>labour relations matters;</u></li> <li>Para 6 – <u>a notice, order or direction;</u></li> <li>Para 7 – the <u>prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime;</u> and may need to be considered as 'exempt'.</li> </ul>