Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday, 17th July, 2012



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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 Democratic Services 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.





Overview and

Tuesday, 17th July, 2012 7.00 pm 11-11

w.redditchbc.gov.uk	Scrutiny	7.00 pm Committee Room 2 Town Hall
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Agenda	Membership: Cllrs:	Juliet BrunnerAndrew Fry(Chair)Pattie HillSimon Chalk (Vice-Gay HopkinsChair)Pat WitherspoonAndrew BrazierDavid BushJohn Fisher
1. Apologies 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. Declaration and of Part	ns of interest sy Whip	To invite Councillors to declare any interest they may have in items on the Agenda and any Party Whip.
3. Minutes (Pages 1 - 1	16)	To confirm the minutes of the meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on Tuesday 19th June 2012 and Monday 25th June 2012 as correct records.
		(Minutes attached)
		(No Specific Ward Relevance);
of Housing	ation Update	To receive a presentation on the impact of the Council's transformation process on refurbishment of the Council's housing stock, particularly in relation to houses located in Woodrow which was scrutinised by the External Refurbishment of Housing Stock Short, Sharp Review Group in 2010.
		(Presentation to follow).

(Greenlands Ward);

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5.	Co-Location of the One Stop Shop at Woodrow Library - Pre-decision Scrutiny A de Warr, Head of Customer Services	 To consider a proposal to move the One Stop Shop into Woodrow Library together with associated costs and benefits. (Report and presentation to follow) [The report may contain exempt information as defined in S.100 of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, as they may contain information relating to The financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information; and Any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations in connection with labour relation matters arising between the authority and employees of the authority. In view of this it is anticipated that discussion of these matters will take place after the exclusion of the public.] (Greenlands Ward);
6.	Corporate Performance Report - Quarter 4, period ending 31st March 2012 (Pages 17 - 28) D Poole, Head of Business Transformation	To consider the quarterly performance report, showing indicators which have improved, declined or remained static when compared to the same period in the previous financial year. (Report attached). (No Specific Ward Relevance);
7.	Actions List (Pages 29 - 32)	To note the contents of the Overview and Scrutiny Actions List. (Report attached) (No Specific Ward Relevance);
8.	Executive Committee Minutes and Scrutiny of the Forward Plan (Pages 33 - 42)	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. (Minutes attached Forward Plan to follow). (No Specific Ward Relevance);

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9.	Task & Finish Reviews - Draft Scoping Documents Councillor Gay Hopkins	 To consider any scoping documents provided for possible Overview and Scrutiny review. The following Scoping Documents have been submitted for consideration: Arts Centre Review – Councillor Proposing the item, Councillor Gay Hopkins.
		(Draft scoping document circulated separately) (No Specific Ward Relevance);
10. 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 Andrew Fry, Councillor Andrew Brazier	 The current reviews in progress are: a) Access for Disabled People – Chair, Councillor Andy Fry; b) Redditch Market – Chair, Councillor Andrew Brazier. (Oral reports)
		(No Specific Ward Relevance);
11.	Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee Councillor Pat Witherspoon	To receive a verbal update on the recent work of the Worcestershire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee. (Verbal report) (No Specific Ward Relevance);
12.	Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel - Chair's Update Councillor Andrew Brazier	To receive a report from the Chair of the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel on any further developments in the work of the Panel that may have occurred since the previous meeting of the Committee.
		(Report to follow).
		(No Specific Ward Relevance);

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13.	West Midlands Regional Scrutiny Network - Feedback Report (Pages 43 - 48) Councillor Pat Witherspoon	To receive feedback from the recent West Midlands Regional Scrutiny Network Meeting, that took place in Stok-on-Trent on Friday 22nd June 2012, and to note the implications, if any, for Overview and Scrutiny in Redditch. (Verbal report). (No Specific Ward Relevance);	
14.	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).	
15. Work Programme (Pages 49 - 56)		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);	

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Committee

16.	Exclusion of the Press and Public	Dire exc exe nec "Tha 197 follo likel rele	buld it be necessary, in the opinion of the Borough ector, during the course of the meeting to consider luding the public from the meeting on the grounds that mpt information is likely to be divulged, it may be bessary to move the following resolution: at, under S.100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 2, the public be excluded from the meeting for the owing matter(s) on the grounds that it/they involve(s) the by disclosure of exempt information as defined in the vant paragraphs (to be specified) of Part 1 of Schedule (A) of the said Act".	
		These paragraphs are as follows:		
			pject to the "public interest" test, information relating to: Para 1 – <u>any individual:</u>	
		•	Para 2 – the identity of any individual;	
		•	Para 3 – <u>financial or business affairs;</u>	
		•	Para 4 – <u>labour relations matters;</u>	
		•	Para 5 – <u>legal professional privilege;</u>	
		•	Para 6 – <u>a notice, order or direction;</u>	
		•	Para 7 – the prevention, investigation or	
			prosecution of crime;	
			and may need to be considered as 'exempt'.	