

# **Executive**

## Committee

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2014 7.00 pm

Committee Room 2 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 lvor Westmore

Democratic Services

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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 Democratic Services Officer who gives advice on the proper conduct of the meeting and ensures that the debate and the properly decisions are 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.



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#### Committee

**Committee Room 2 Town Hall** 

## **Agenda**

#### Membership:

Cllrs: Bill Hartnett (Chair)

Greg Chance (Vice-Chair)
Rebecca Blake
Juliet Brunner

**Brandon Clayton** 

John Fisher Phil Mould Mark Shurmer Debbie Taylor

1. Apologies

To receive the apologies of any Member who is unable to attend this meeting.

2. Declarations of Interest

To invite Councillors to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests or Other Disclosable Interests they may have in items on the agenda, and to confirm the nature of those interests.

3. Leader's Announcements

- To give notice of any items for future meetings or for the Executive Committee Work Programme, including any scheduled for this meeting, but now carried forward or deleted; and
- 2 any other relevant announcements.

(Oral report)

4. Minutes

(Pages 1 - 8)

Chief Executive

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2014.

(Minutes attached)

**5.** Joint Property Vehicle

(Pages 9 - 28)

A de Warr, Head of Customer Access and Financial Support To consider proposals for a Joint Property Initiative ["JPI"] within the public sector in Worcestershire to be delivered by a Joint Property Vehicle ["JPV"].

(Report attached)

**6.** Grants Programme 2014/15

(Pages 29 - 52)

J Willis, Acting Head of Community Services

**All Wards** 

To consider the recommendations of the Grants Assessment Panel in awarding grants to voluntary sector organisations for 2014 – 2015.

(Report attached)

All Wards

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7.	Treasury Management Strategy, Prudential Indicators and Minimum Revenue Provision Policy (Pages 53 - 70) Exec Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)	To consider the Treasury Management Strategy, Prudential Indicators and the Minimum Revenue Provision and approve the Capital Bids.  (Report attached)  (No Specific Ward Relevance)		
		To consider the Council's Pay Policy for 2014/15.		
8.	Pay Policy 2014/15	To consider the Council's Fay Folicy for 2014/13.		
	(Pages 71 - 80)	(Report attached)		
	Exec Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)	(No Direct Ward Relevance)		
9.	Finance Monitoring Report 2013/14 - April -	To consider a report detailing the Council's financial position for the period April to December 2013 (Quarter 3 – 2013/14).		
	December (Quarter 3)	(Report attached)		
	(Pages 81 - 102)	(No Specific Ward Relevance)		
	A de Warr, Head of Customer Access and Financial Support			
10.	Quarterly Monitoring of Write-offs - Third Quarter 2013/14	To consider the action taken by officers with respect to the write off of debts during the first nine months of 2013/14 and to note the profile and/or level of outstanding debt.		
	(Pages 103 - 110)	(Report attached)		
	A de Warr, Head of Customer Access and Financial Support	(No Specific Ward Relevance)		
11.				
	Customer Services - 3rd Quarter Monitoring Report	To consider details of customer feedback data for the third quarter of 2013/14, along with transactional data relating to the Customer Service Centre.		
	<b>Quarter Monitoring</b>	quarter of 2013/14, along with transactional data relating to		
	Quarter Monitoring Report	quarter of 2013/14, along with transactional data relating to the Customer Service Centre.		
12.	Quarter Monitoring Report (Pages 111 - 124) A de Warr, Head of Customer Access and Financial Support	quarter of 2013/14, along with transactional data relating to the Customer Service Centre.  (Report attached)		
	Quarter Monitoring Report  (Pages 111 - 124)  A de Warr, Head of Customer Access and Financial Support  Overview and Scrutiny	quarter of 2013/14, along with transactional data relating to the Customer Service Centre.  (Report attached)  All Wards  To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and		

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13.	Minutes / Referrals - Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Executive Panels etc. Chief Executive	To receive and consider any outstanding minutes or referrals from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Executive Panels etc. since the last meeting of the Executive Committee, other than as detailed in the items above.
14.	Advisory Panels - update report (Pages 133 - 136) Chief Executive	To consider, for monitoring / management purposes, an update on the work of the Executive Committee's Advisory Panels and similar bodies, which report via the Executive Committee.  (Report attached)
15.	Action Monitoring (Pages 137 - 138) Chief Executive	To consider an update on the actions arising from previous meetings of the Committee.  (Report attached)
16.	Exclusion of the Public	Should it be necessary, in the opinion of the Chief Executive, to consider excluding the public from the meeting in relation to any items of business on the grounds that exempt information is likely to be divulged, it may be necessary to move the following resolution:  "that, under S.100 I of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, 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, as amended."  These paragraphs are as follows:  Subject to the "public interest" test, information relating to:  Para 1 – any individual;  Para 2 – the identity of any individual;  Para 3 – financial or business affairs;  Para 4 – labour relations matters;  Para 5 – legal professional privilege;

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	<ul> <li>Para 6 – <u>a notice, order or direction;</u></li> <li>Para 7 – the <u>prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime;</u></li> <li>may need to be considered as 'exempt'.</li> </ul>
17. Confidential Minutes / Referrals (if any)	To consider confidential matters not dealt with earlier in the evening and not separately listed below (if any).