



# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday, 8th October,  
2013  
7.00 pm

Committee Room Two  
Town Hall  
Redditch



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# Access to Information - Your Rights

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- Automatic right to inspect agenda and public reports at least five days before the date of the meeting.
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- 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:  
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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**

**Jess Bayley and Michael Craggs  
Democratic Services Officers**

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# 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 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**

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### **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 Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday, 8th October, 2013

7.00 pm

Committee Room 2 Town Hall

## Agenda

### Membership:

Cllrs: David Bush (Chair) Carole Gandy  
Gay Hopkins (Vice-Chair) Alan Mason  
Andrew Brazier Yvonne Smith  
Simon Chalk Pat Witherspoon  
Andrew Fry

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>1. Apologies and named substitutes</b>   | 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.   |
| <b>2. Declarations of interest and of Party Whip</b>  | To invite Councillors to declare any interest they may have in items on the Agenda and any Party Whip.   |
| <b>3. Minutes</b><br>(Pages 1 - 8)  | To confirm the minutes of the most recent meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee as a correct record.<br><br>(Minutes attached)<br><br><b>(No Specific Ward Relevance)</b>   |
| <b>4. Vacant Redditch Borough Council Properties</b><br>(Pages 9 - 12)<br><br>Exec Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) | To consider an update on vacant Council owned properties and the action being taken to increase use of these assets.<br><br>(Report attached)<br><br><b>(No Direct Ward Relevance)</b>   |
| <b>5. Promoting Sporting Participation - Update Report</b><br>(Pages 13 - 32)<br><br>Head of Leisure and Cultural Services    | To receive an update on the progress that has been made with the implementation of the Promoting Sporting Participation Task Group's first and third recommendations, which were approved in June 2012.<br><br>(Written report)<br><br><b>(No Specific Ward Relevance)</b> |

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|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>6. Transport Assessment and Mitigation Proposals - Presentation</b><br/><br/>(Pages 33 - 54)</p>                         | <p>To consider a presentation on the potential impact of the Local Plan 4 on highways and actions that could be taken to mitigate that impact.</p> <p>(Presentation attached)</p> <p><b>All Wards</b></p>   |
| <p><b>7. Executive Committee Minutes and Scrutiny of the Executive Committee's Work Programme</b><br/><br/>(Pages 55 - 58)</p> | <p>To consider the minutes of the latest meeting(s) of the Executive Committee and also to consider whether any items on the Executive Committee's Work Programme are suitable for scrutiny.</p> <p>(Minutes attached, Executive Work Programme to follow).</p> <p><b>(No Specific Ward Relevance)</b></p>                                |
| <p><b>8. Work Programme</b><br/><br/>(Pages 59 - 62)</p>   | <p>To consider the Committee's current Work Programme, and potential items for addition to the list arising from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Forward Plan / Committee agendas</li><li>• External publications</li><li>• Other sources.</li></ul> <p>(Report attached)</p> <p><b>(No Specific Ward Relevance)</b></p> |
| <p><b>9. Landscaping Task Group - Confirmation of Appointments to the Group</b></p>  | <p>To confirm the appointment of Members to the Landscaping Task Group.</p> <p>(Members are asked to note that Councillor Gay Hopkins was appointed to Chair the Task Group at the previous meeting of the Committee).</p> <p>(Oral report)</p> <p><b>(No Specific Ward Relevance)</b></p>  |

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## **10. Task Groups - Progress Reports**

(Pages 63 - 64)

Councillor Alan Mason,  
Councillor Carole Gandy,  
Councillor Gay Hopkins,  
Councillor Pat Witherspoon

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) Abbey Stadium Task Group – Chair, Councillor Carole Gandy;
- b) Joint WRS Scrutiny Review – lead Member Councillor Alan Mason;
- c) Landscaping Task Group – Chair, Councillor Gay Hopkins; and
- d) Voluntary Sector Task Group – Chair, Councillor Pat Witherspoon.

(Oral reports)

**(Abbey Ward); (No Specific Ward Relevance)**

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## **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)**

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## 12. 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 – 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;
- Para 6 – a notice, order or direction;
- Para 7 – the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime;

and may need to be considered as ‘exempt’.





# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday, 10th September, 2013

## MINUTES

### Present:

Councillor David Bush (Chair), Councillor Gay Hopkins (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Simon Chalk, Andrew Fry, Carole Gandy, Alan Mason, Yvonne Smith and Pat Witherspoon

### Also Present:

Councillor Michael Braley

### Officers:

J Staniland and C Walker

### Committee Services Officer:

M Craggs and A Scarce

### 43. APOLOGIES AND NAMED SUBSTITUTES

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Andrew Brazier. There was no named substitute.

### 44. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND OF PARTY WHIP

There were no declarations of any party whip. Councillor Andrew Fry declared an other disclosable interest in item 4 of the agenda, Land Ownership and Maintenance, in his role as a Worcestershire County Councillor.

### 45. MINUTES

#### RESOLVED that

**The minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 13th August 2013 be approved as a true and correct record and signed by the Chair.**

.....  
Chair

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## 46. LAND OWNERSHIP AND MAINTENANCE REPORT

The Chair reminded Members that this topic had been suggested following a discussion on suitable items for inclusion in the Committee's Work Programme for 2013/14. The Environmental Services Manager introduced the report, which he informed Members outlined the working relationship between the Council and Worcestershire County Council (WCC). It was confirmed that currently the Council manages the maintenance of WCC's assets across the Borough. Both authorities are conscious of the demand placed on limited resources and the need to find better and more effective ways of working. A service level agreement (SLA) was already in place based on this working arrangement, but required updating and formalising.

The working relationship has evolved over a number of years due to the WCC Highways Partnership Team being based at the Town Hall some years ago. This relationship has been built on and regular meetings between both councils have taken place over the last twelve months in order to establish how the councils can assist each other and make decisions at a more strategic service deliver level. The Environmental Services Manager provided details of what would be included within the revised SLA and this would include the Council's adverse weather policy and a Lengthsman Scheme which covered additional services. The SLA would ensure that the role of each authority was clearly set down in one place. Confirmation of WCC's acceptance of the SLA was currently awaited at which point the document would be passed to the Legal Team for comment. It was acknowledged that the Lengthsman Scheme had taken some considerable time to be put in place and the Environmental Services Manager explained that this due to the work within it being very specific and the Council wished to broaden this out further to create further income.

The following points were raised and discussed in detail:

- Land or buildings which were privately owned and in particular the buildings by the Redditch Railway Station. The Executive Director, Planning and Regeneration, Regulatory and Housing Services agreed to provide Members with an update on the current position of these buildings.
- The amount (and locality) of land which was not owned by either the Council or WCC but which the Council maintained and the cost of this to the Council.
- The New WCC Geographical Information System (GIS) which the Council would be able to access in order to have up to date information available immediately.

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- Responsibility for pathways (it was confirmed that a further report on this topic would be received at the November meeting).
- How Members could assist by reporting any issues within their own ward.
- The SLA being made available for the Committee to scrutinise (the Environmental Services Manager confirmed this would be available once accepted by WCC).

Although the report was informative, Members agreed that a further report or presentation would be helpful which provided details of land, its locality and size, which was not owned by either Council but which was maintained by this Council, together with details of the cost incurred by the Council. The Environmental Services Manager informed Members that it was likely this information would be more readily available when the new GIS system was in place.

## **RESOLVED that**

- 1) a report detailing the new Service Level Agreement between Redditch Borough Council and Worcestershire County Council regarding the maintenance of all County Council land assets across the Borough be added onto the Committee's work programme to be considered when available; and**
- 2) the report be noted.**

## **47. TASK GROUP REVIEWS - DRAFT SCOPING DOCUMENTS**

The Committee had received the scoping document containing the draft terms of reference for the Landscaping Review, which was proposed and introduced by Councillor Gay Hopkins.

Councillor Hopkins explained why she had suggested the task group and the work she hoped that it would cover. Discussions had been held with Officers to ensure that the terms of reference took into account the transformation work which continued to be carried out and the work of the Place Team. Councillor Hopkins informed Members that there was a lot of work to get through and she hoped the task group would take the opportunity to see first-hand the good work that was being carried out by members of the Landscaping Team. It was anticipated that the task group would take approximately six months to investigate this topic.

Members discussed the following areas in more detail:

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- The opportunity for Members to see transformation work in progress and be involved in it.
- Conflicting views on the work of the landscaping team and the acceptance of some staff of the changes that they were going through.
- The possible inclusion of pathways within the terms of reference.

There was some concern that it could be difficult for the task group to meet all of the objectives within the set timescale. However, Councillor Hopkins was confident that the work would be completed within the timescale set.

## **RESOLVED that**

- 1) the terms of reference for the proposed Task Group review of Landscaping be approved;**
- 2) Councillor Hopkins be appointed to Chair the Landscaping Task Group; and**
- 3) further nominations to the Landscaping Task Group be confirmed at the following meeting of the Committee.**

## **48. QUARTERLY RECOMMENDATIONS TRACKER**

Officers presented the Committee's new quarterly recommendations tracker. It was explained that Members had previously agreed a new approach to monitoring its approved recommendations. This was to be provided in two sections to cover any approved recommendations that had not been implemented but which were still within timescale; and recommendations which were not completed and outside of the original timescale given for completion. The details of all recommendations already acted upon would be published on the Committee's section of the Council's website. This was an opportunity for Members to discuss the new approach to monitoring its approved recommendations.

Members were broadly supportive of the new format, although it was agreed that it would be useful for Members to receive a list of any recommendations that had been implemented since the previous tracker was received.

Regarding the approved recommendations of the Promoting Sporting Participation Task Review, Members heard that the Chair had spoken to Officers in the Leisure and Culture Team in respect

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of the installation of table tennis tables in Morton Stanley Park and Arrow Valley Park. He had been informed that there had been a delay in the delivery of these tables. Members would receive a full update on this issue at their next meeting.

**RESOLVED that**

- 1) the quarterly recommendation tracker be broken down into three sections as detailed in the preamble above; and**
- 2) the report and quarterly recommendation tracker be noted.**

**49. SCRUTINY TASK GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS MONITORING PROCESS**

The Committee considered a brief report which outlined its process for receiving specific updates on the implementation of approved task review recommendations. In particular, the Council's Constitution stipulated that the Committee should not monitor approved task group's recommendations sooner than twelve months after the report's consideration by the Executive Committee.

Members felt that twelve months was far too long to receive updates on particular reviews and that the Committee needed to be proactive rather than re-active in the monitoring of its recommendations. It was thought that this would accelerate the process for implementing these recommendations in future.

It was also thought that it would be helpful for each task group to set their own timescales in terms of when it expected its recommendations to be acted upon. It was thought that the Committee's new approach to monitoring its recommendations on a quarterly basis would be more appropriate in helping to make Members better informed.

**RECOMMENDED that**

**the reference that "the Overview and Scrutiny Committee will review implementation of recommendations made in any report not sooner than twelve months after consideration of its report by the Executive Committee" be removed from the Council's Constitution.**

**RESOLVED that**

**the report be noted.**

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**50. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES AND SCRUTINY OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S WORK PROGRAMME**

Members considered Executive Committee's Work Programme and the Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on 2nd September 2013 and noted the reference to the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel holding at least one scheduled meeting during the year to scrutinise the work of the local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership.

**RESOLVED that**

**the latest edition of the Executive Committee's Work Programme be noted.**

**51. WORK PROGRAMME**

Members were informed that, at the request of the Chair, Officers had given consideration to changing the date of the Committee's November meeting as this clashed with the Council's Fireworks Event. Members concurred that it would be appropriate to move the meeting date.

**RESOLVED that**

**1) the November meeting of the Committee be moved to Monday 4th November 2013; and**

**2) the Committee's Work Programme be noted.**

**52. CONFIRMATION OF TASK GROUP MEMBERSHIP**

The Committee was advised that Councillors Roger Hill, Andrew Brazier and Joe Baker had been nominated to sit on the Voluntary and Community Sector Task Group.

**RESOLVED that**

**Councillors Roger Hill, Andrew Brazier and Joe Baker be appointed to the Voluntary and Community Sector Task Group.**

**53. TASK GROUPS - PROGRESS REPORTS**

The following updates on current Task Group reviews were provided:

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a) Joint Worcestershire Regulatory Services – Redditch Member, Councillor Alan Mason

Members were informed that the first meeting of the Joint WRS Task Group would take place on Thursday 26th September 2013 and would be attended by Councillor Alan Mason as the Committee's appointed representative.

b) Abbey Stadium – Councillor Gandy

Councillor Carol Gandy informed Members that the Abbey Stadium Task Group had recently held its first meeting which had been attended by the Head of Leisure and Cultural Services and the Abbey Stadium Operations Manager. The Task Group had discussed visiting other sports facilities run privately and also those operated by other local authorities. The Head of Leisure and Cultural Services had also been asked to provide data on the usage of the Abbey Stadium, including "bottle necks" and times when it was available with an opportunity for further promotion. However, it had been brought to the group's attention that currently a business case for the Abbey Stadium's further redevelopment was being put together and the group were concerned that its work may overlap or be duplicated. Councillor Gandy informed the Committee that she would be meeting with the Head of Leisure and Cultural Services in the coming days to clarify the situation and would report back to the Committee in due course.

**RESOLVED that**

**the reports be noted.**

**54. HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Members were advised that there had been a meeting of the Worcestershire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) on 4th September 2013, the main item on the agenda had been the Joint Service Review. Unfortunately, this item had been removed from the agenda prior to the commencement of the meeting, with no indication as to when the information would be made available. All Members of HOSC had expressed their disappointment and concern at the delays which had occurred.

**RESOLVED that**

**the report be noted.**

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The Meeting commenced at 7.00 pm  
and closed at 8.10 pm



## **OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

8<sup>TH</sup> October 2013

### **VACANT COUNCIL PROPERTIES (NON-DWELLING)**

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| Relevant Portfolio Holder  | Councillor John Fisher, Portfolio Holder for Corporate Management |
| Portfolio Holder Consulted | Yes   |
| Relevant Head of Service   | Teresa Kristunas, Head of Finance & Resources                     |
| Wards Affected             | All   |

#### **1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS**

- 1.1 The report advises Members of the current position regarding any Council owned vacant non-dwelling properties in the Borough.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**The Committee is asked to RESOLVE**

**that the report be noted.**

#### **3. KEY ISSUES**

- 3.1. Members of the Committee requested that officers prepare a report on the Council non-dwelling properties, excluding the business centres. A report on the business centres was presented to member in March 2013.
- 3.2. The Council has significant portfolio over 100 non-operational properties the majority of which are let to either commercial or voluntary sector organisations. 2/3<sup>rd</sup> of the properties are retail units based in local centres or in small parades such as Batchley Road. Also included in the portfolio are a small number of properties that have been declared surplus for operational purposes which are being considered for reuse or disposal. The average void rate across the portfolio is 6%.
- 3.3. The progress with properties/land declared surplus and approved for disposal is monitored via the Development Group.
- 3.4. The Council currently has the following vacant properties within its' portfolio of non-operational buildings:

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| <b>Property</b>                      | <b>Void Date and Reason</b>  | <b>Current position</b>  |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Threadneedle House                   |  |  |
| - former HMRC Officer                | 02/05/2011<br>End of lease   | Report to Executive on 12th November re options. No longer required to accommodate officers from Bromsgrove District Council. Other parties are looked at the building with a view to taking up occupation but no parties have pursued the matter any further. |
| - former Barclays Bank               | 22/03/2013<br>Surrender of lease by Barclays   |  |
| 54 South Street (former REDI Centre) | 31/12/2010<br>Decision of Members regarding Centre.  | Several interested parties whilst vacant. To be marketed for disposal following Council approval on 15 <sup>th</sup> October. Report to Executive Committee on 17 <sup>th</sup> September.   |
| Upper Norgrove, Church Road          | 30/11/2010<br>Subject to significant fire damage   | Outline planning permission refused. Awaiting outcome of Planning decisions on adjoining land.   |
| Unit 10, Matchborough Centre         | 22/09/2011<br>Lease ended  | Several viewing but no confirmed interest currently  |
| Unit 2, Woodrow Centre               | 03/06/2013<br>Tenant defaulted   | Under discussion with former tenant  |
| Unit 3, Woodrow Centre               | 03/06/2013<br>Tenant defaulted   |  |
| Anchorage                            | 16/06/2007<br>Lease ended. Links with neighbouring properties. Issues with land ownership. | Under offer.   |

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| <b>Property</b>       | <b>Void Date and Reason</b>  | <b>Current position</b>  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Salop Road            | 31/03/2009<br>Former meeting room used by Community Relations Council/Age Concern. | Sold subject to contract |
| 132 Oakly Road        | 01/08/2012<br>End of lease.<br>Declared surplus.                                   | Sold subject to contract |
| Hewell Road Pool site | 29/01/2012<br>New pool opened at Abbey Stadium                                     | Sale agreed              |

**Financial Implications**

- 3.4 There can be security and other costs associated with vacant properties. The level of cost is dependent upon the nature and location of the building.

**Legal Implications**

- 3.5. There are no legal implications.

**Service / Operational Implications**

- 3.6. No direct service implications. Operationally Property Services are responsible for managing the risk associated with vacant properties.

**Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications**

- 3.7. No direct implications.

**4. RISK MANAGEMENT**

There are a number risks associated with void properties and these are being managed by Property Services.

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### **5. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Files held by Property Services.

### **AUTHORS OF REPORT**

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**PROMOTING SPORTING PARTICIPATION TASK GROUP – UPDATE REPORT**

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| Relevant Portfolio Holder  | Councillor Phil Mould, Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Tourism |
| Portfolio Holder Consulted | No  |
| Relevant Head of Service   | John Godwin, Head of Leisure and Cultural Services              |
| Ward(s) Affected           | No specific ward relevance.                                     |
| Non-Key Decision           |   |

**1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS**

This report provides an update on the action that has been taken and remains to be taken to implement two of the recommendations that were made by the Promoting Sporting Participation Task Group in June 2012.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**The Committee is asked to RESOLVE that  
the report be noted.**

**3. KEY ISSUES**

**Background**

- 3.1 The Promoting Sporting Participation Task Group review took place between July 2011 and May 2012. The review was launched to investigate how sporting provision in the town could be promoted and publicised more effectively to help arrest a decline in adult participation rates for sport in Redditch in recent years. Six Members participated in this review including Councillor Luke Stephens (Chair) and Councillors David Bush, Simon Chalk, Adam Griffin, Mark Shurmer and former Councillor, Robin King.
- 3.2 At the end of the review Members proposed five recommendations. Following consideration of these recommendations by the Executive Committee all of these recommendations were approved on 26th June 2012. At a later date one of these recommendations, focusing on creating new branding for Redditch Sports and Leisure, was rescinded at the agreement of the group leaders of both political parties represented on the Council.
- 3.3 An initial update was provided on the action that had been taken to implement these recommendations as part of the Committee's general scrutiny recommendation tracking report process, which was considered on 8th January 2013. At this time Members were advised that action had been completed in relation to the group's second, fourth and fifth recommendations. However, further

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action remained to be taken to implement the group's first and third recommendations.

- 3.4 Another update report, focusing specifically on the action taken to implement the Promoting Sporting Participation Task Group's recommendations, was received by the Committee on 23rd July 2013. Based on the content of this update Members concluded that a further update, focusing specifically on the action that had been and was due to be taken to implement the group's first and third recommendations should be provided for the Committee's consideration. This report contains that further update.

**Financial Implications**

- 3.5 There are no direct financial implications.

**Legal Implications**

- 3.6 There are no direct legal implications.

**Service / Operational Implications**

- 3.7 The service and operational implications are detailed in the four appendices to the report.

**Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications**

- 3.8 The customer service implications are detailed in the four appendices to this report. There are no direct equality and diversity implications..

**4. RISK MANAGEMENT**

No risks have been identified.

**5. APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 – Extracts from the Promoting Sporting Participation Task Group detailing the group's proposals for the implementation of the two recommendations.

Appendix 2 – Extract from the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee on 26th June 2012 when the Promoting Sporting Participation Task Group's final report was considered.

Appendix 3 – Update on action taken to date and due to be taken to implement the Task Group's first recommendation.

Appendix 4 – Update on action taken to date and due to be taken to implement the Task Group's third recommendation.

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**AUTHOR OF REPORT**

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**Promoting Sporting Participation Task Group – Relevant Extracts from the Group’s Final Report**

**RECOMMENDATION 1: The Group RECOMMEND that: a new independent website be created to promote sport and leisure in Redditch, be maintained and updated on a constant basis, and possess its own domain name to give it its own distinct identity.**

The Group feels that the creation of a new independent website to help communicate information about sport in Redditch is essential if sporting participation rates in the town are to be increased. From the outset of the review, the Group was of the opinion that Redditch residents needed a central online resource where they could easily find out about all of the sporting activities that were taking place in the town irrespective of the provider.

Having researched the arrangements for promoting sport at other local authorities, it became increasingly evident to the Group that it is easier for residents in many other locations to access information about how, where, and when they could play sport due to the operation of a dedicated website to provide information about playing sport in that given area. The Group is aware that these websites are updated on a regular basis to ensure that the information about sporting activities remains up to date and credible for the user. In a number of cases, independent sports clubs in a particular location are given the opportunity to register their details and activities with a website controlled by a local authority, significantly increasing the information about sport that appears on the website and is available for users to access.

The Group feels that the creation of a similar online database facility in Redditch, giving the many sports clubs in the town the option to register their events and activities, can make it far easier for its residents to obtain information about playing sport in the Borough. Furthermore, the Group believes that this facility can be easily maintained by Council Officers if they can be simply required to check the information submitted by the club and approve this where appropriate.

The Group strongly suggests that a new independent website to promote sport in Redditch should possess its own distinct image and identity if it is to operate successfully and believe that a clear emphasis must be placed on promoting sport in Redditch regardless of the provider. Members therefore feel that this prospective new website and be given the freedom to operate independently from the Council’s corporate format.

The Group is aware that bespoke websites have already been created by the Council to promote specific venues in the town, including both the Forge Mill Needle Museum and the Palace Theatre. These operate as subsidiary websites to the Council’s own website with each possessing its own distinct appearance from the Council’s corporate image, despite being hosted by the Council. Referring to these examples, the Group believes that a similar subsidiary website should be created to focus specifically on promoting sport and leisure in Redditch. This could be simple to develop and require relatively little cost to maintain. Members have been informed that it would cost the Council very little to purchase a new domain.

Members of the Group feel that it would be more likely that the prospective website would be accessed by local residents through internet searches if it is given relatively simple domain name, for example Redditch Sports and Leisure. They suggest that not only would this help explain the main purpose of the website in acting as a central point of information for sport and leisure activities in the town, but that it would also increase the possibility of closely matching internet search engine entries. Members are also aware that relevant Officers are increasingly able to manipulate search engines to prioritise Council information towards the very top of search results. The Group therefore believe that the website can quickly become a prominent online resource for obtaining information about how, where and when people can play sport in Redditch.

**RECOMMENDATION 3: The Group RECOMMEND that: the Council look to maximise the benefits of parks and green spaces in Redditch by introducing more informal games areas and additional equipment to help increase sporting participation and physical activity in the local area.**

The Group believes that more can be done to maximise the benefits of Redditch's many parks and green spaces by increasing the number of opportunities for local residents to play sport, or at least become more physically active, in the Borough.

In particular, Members feel that more young people should be given the opportunity to play sport without supervision and at little or no cost. The Group therefore suggests that the creation of more informal games areas, for example the introduction of rounders / softball diamonds, volleyball / badminton courts, and table tennis tables in suitable park facilities, can provide these young people with more opportunities to play sport for fun without the initial need to sign up to a sports club. It is hoped that this will encourage more young people to play sport on a more regular basis by giving them a taste of the many benefits that are associated with being physically active in a social setting. Indeed, the Group believes that the increased provision of informal sport within the town can help encourage many of these young people to eventually play organised sport as part of a club in the longer term.

The Group was informed during its investigations that many young people find it difficult to use sports facilities in Redditch, for example, Astroturf pitches, due to strong local demand. The Group therefore suggests that it is imperative that new infrastructure is created to help utilise the parks and green spaces in the town more widely to give these residents more opportunities to play sport. Furthermore, it is more likely that young people will play sport, or at least be more physically active, if their parents are also involved. The Group therefore suggests that the Council should facilitate more family fun days that would enable sporting activities to take place in a fun and safe environment. Members feel that should more families be given the chance to play games in the park then it is more likely than young people will continue to pursue this opportunity separately.

The Group is also aware that the recent installation of an outside gym situated at Arrow Valley Lake has also been successful in enabling more residents to become more physically active at minimal cost. Members feel that the potential installation of similar facilities in other suitable areas within the town should therefore be explored.

In addition, it is suggested that the Council investigate the possibility of installing giant chess/draughts boards and pieces in appropriate locations to give residents the chance to play chess or draughts outside in a safe and sociable environment. It is thought that should a permanent board be installed, the chess / draughts pieces could be held by the particular venue and be made available for short-term hire.

The Group understands that the Sports Development Unit is already introducing more opportunities for sport in these locations. One such example includes the installation of outdoor table tennis tables in Morton Stanley Park. Members feel any replication of the success of Ping!, which witnessed over 100,000 people across the country playing table tennis in a variety of city centre locations in 2011, including Birmingham, can only be good for the town. The Group feels that more opportunities should also be facilitated for other sports by creating more sporting infrastructure, for example dual use volleyball / badminton courts, to help increase wider participation in sport.

There are financial implications for this recommendation. Estimated costs are described below below:

**Installation of table tennis tables:** A circular shaped table suitable for numerous players with a fixed net providing for separate or games in the round would cost £3799.00 with installation into a block paved hard standing costing £490. Total cost around £4289.

**Installation of badminton / volleyball courts:** The cost of marking the court would be minimal, net posts approximately £735.45 with installation around £145, a suitable net would retail at £139.16. Total cost would therefore be £1019.61. Officers suggest the installation of a semi fixed provision assembling the net posts within the summer months and providing the net on a request basis and/or with informal sport/fun sessions would be most appropriate.

**Installation of softball / rounders diamonds:** It is possible to combine both softball and rounders as the court dimensions and requirements are similar, as with badminton/volleyball the cost of marking the court is minimal, there would be a requirement for hard landscaping providing for a pitching diamond and to ensure a level playing surface. This would cost approximately £1750. Three permanent fixed bases would cost approximately £480 with installation at around £150. Total cost is therefore estimated at £2380.

**Installation of giant chess / draughts boards:** There are a couple of possible options. The first involves installing a portable roll out mat with large plastic pieces. This would cost approximately £300. The second option is to install a permanent board into the ground suitably edged and finished. It is estimated that this would cost around £650. The indicative total cost to include the chess / draughts pieces is approximately £1000.





# APPENDIX 2

## Executive Committee

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26th June 2012

### MINUTES

**Present:**

Councillor Bill Hartnett (Chair), Councillor Greg Chance (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Rebecca Blake, Michael Braley, Carole Gandy, Phil Mould, Mark Shurmer, Luke Stephens and Debbie Taylor

**Also Present:**

Councillors Andrew Brazier, Juliet Brunner, David Bush and Yvonne Smith

**Officers:**

M Craggs, K Dicks, C Flanagan, J Godwin, J Pickering, D Poole and A de Warr

**Committee Services Officer:**

I Westmore

**MINUTE 16**

**PROMOTING SPORTING PARTICIPATION REVIEW**

Councillor Luke Stephens presented the final report of the Promoting Sporting Participation Task and Finish Group, a Group of which he had been the Chair.

The Committee was informed that the forthcoming London Olympics had been the original stimulus for this review but the focus had subsequently shifted as the time constraints were recognised and in the light of Members' growing understanding of the breadth of sporting facilities within the Borough. The recommendations were then outlined and the reasoning behind them explained.

With respect to the proposal for an independent website, it was suggested that a more casual customer experience without Council branding would prove more successful at attracting potential users of the sporting opportunities available. The installation of facilities to allow for informal games within parks and green spaces was designed to allow people to make use of them in a way and at times

.....  
Chair

that suited them. With regard to the fourth recommendation, it was noted that the Council was already making efforts to promote sports and mention was made of a very successful event in recent weeks. The proposed link with NEW College through opportunities for its students was seen as providing benefits to both organisations.

Members were generally very positive about the report and the recommendations that had come forward as a result of the work that had been carried out.

There was some concern that the consultation with local residents had been inadequate, with most of the discussions which informed the recommendations being undertaken with local organisations. Councillor Stephens acknowledged that this had been a shortcoming and referred to the perennial difficulty in garnering responses to consultation from residents.

It was also suggested that, although the proposed web developments might help to attract more interest from younger people, there was also the need to deal with the demand for sporting and leisure opportunities from older people who were generally less likely to use social media or the Web. Furthermore, it was suggested that the challenge in maintaining a further independent website using existing resources was not to be underestimated.

Officers reported that the Leisure and Cultural Services Website was being restructured at present to make it leaner and more user friendly and that Twitter and Facebook were also being investigated as means of promoting the sporting opportunities available. It was also reported that the Local Strategic Partnership was looking at the national Change 4 Life initiative at present. Officers were able to confirm that money had been identified primarily through earmarked reserves that would allow for the installation of the equipment detailed in recommendation 3.

The Committee agreed that there was more work to be carried out in terms of further consultation with local residents and around the location and funding of sports / games equipment but it was

**RESOLVED that**

- 1) a new independent website be created to promote sport and leisure in Redditch, be maintained and updated on a constant basis, and possess its own domain name to give it its own distinct identity;**

# **Executive Committee**

26th June 2012

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- 2) **Officers undertake a review into the possibility of creating new branding for Redditch Sports and Leisure to help compliment the new independent website; and that the Council create a competition for local students to design the new branding;**
- 3) **the Council look to maximise the benefits of parks and green spaces in Redditch by introducing more informal games areas and additional equipment to help increase sporting participation and physical activity in the local area;**
- 4) **the Council gives it full support to the introduction of new events to promote sport and physical recreation, individual sports clubs and increased sporting participation in Redditch; and**
- 5) **the Council work closely with NEW College to enable its students the opportunity to support these new sporting events on a voluntary basis.**

The Meeting commenced at 7.00 pm  
and closed at 9.01 pm

.....  
Chair





**Appendix 3 – Update on Action Tasken to Implement Recommendation 1**

**Recommendation 1: a new independent website be created to promote sport and leisure in Redditch, be maintained and updated on a constant basis, and possess its own domain name to give it its own distinct identity**

**Current Status**

Redditch website has continued to be refined by:

- 1) reducing the amount of pages in the website, by looking at pages and asking if they have value to the customer;
- 2) promoting the visibility of “high value” pages and moving low value pages that we have to publish as a Council but are of little use to people accessing sport and leisure facilities;
- 3) reducing the amount of clicks required to find services;
- 4) increasing the search engine accuracy (both inside the site and also with engines like Google and Bing) by adding accurate and unique Meta tags and descriptions; and
- 5) branding sections to suit the service requirements – which includes the first time we have branded part of the website **without** the Council headers - <http://Wellbeinginpartnership.co.uk> points to a page inside the Council website.

**Statistics of website as a whole 2012:**

Uptime: 99.99% (1 hour 14 minutes downtime during payments upgrade)  
Pages Delivered/Visitors: 684,240 pages to 135,289 people.

**Sports & Leisure Specifics**

Leisure has had monthly meetings to monitor, discuss and develop their pages/content/online strategy. As a result they have

- 1) had more than a dozen people trained to be able to edit content on the website on top of the current authors;
- 2) decreased their pages by about 10%;
- 3) increased customer feedback implementation and communication by using the star rating system for monitoring;
- 4) decreased response time in updating pages and content; and
- 5) increased monitoring of satisfaction and use to help target events and promotions.

**Summary of Leisure Statistics 2012:**

Looking through the leisure sections’ statistics it can be seen that there has been a huge increase in mobile device access (predominantly iPhone and iPad). For the first time people are finding the Council from social media (reading a tweet and following links to the Council’s website).

Leisure has seen a rise in time spent on a page and also a reduction in page “bouncing” which suggests people are seeing the correct page more (and not bouncing straight to another page to try to find the information they actually wanted) and then reading the page.

This all points to a slow but steady improvement, which has been slow due to lack of resources in Sport and Leisure, to pursue faster and more radical changes.

### **Future Plans**

With the current website **C**ontent **M**anagement **S**ystem (CMS) going end of life in early 2015 Officers have started to make a list of requirements for what the Council will chose for a replacement.

Leisure has been to site visits to see some of the choices available and see if their requirements are within the bounds of that system.

So far Officers have found that most modern CMS will perform the functions desired in the multi-platform environment that will be required with mobile device and home computers alike and that the new systems should be able to treat each department as a “mini-site”.

Leisure/Sports would also like to redesign their content to fit the more modern design of “task based” (i.e. “Football” or “Swimming”) as sections and this design can then drive the content move from the old to the new system and also any online systems can be developed to meet changing requirements as part of the transformation process. This should include developing the booking and payment systems to work better for the service in a more modern and stable way.

### **Summary**

All teams involved in the CMS choices will be looking at a platform which best supports their needs and requirements for the next few years and also all teams will be involved in the content move and design of their own sections. This will hopefully lead to an outcome most like the requested independent website which was discussed.

The Web Team will be coordinating and making the plans come to life but trying not to influence the outcome while giving guidance and ideas as to what can be done and how it can be managed.

Issues to overcome in the future:

- 1) the resources required to manage systems/content more quickly;
- 2) using Social media and other promotional tools to interact better and in a more targeted fashion;
- 3) having a robust and integrated system for paying and booking;
- 4) making things easier to find and understand;
- 5) branding events to help public awareness; and
- 6) developing content and content authors.

Final note: the current website redesign and content re-work, along with increased Social media use through the communications team, was an intermediate step to see if Leisure could cope with the amount of work required to manage on a day to day basis. Officers think this has proved that while the work is not outside the capabilities of the leisure teams, it is probably more resource intensive than first anticipated and would need to be designed to take into consideration the amount of time or importance of this type of work.



**APPENDIX 4 – Update on Action Taken and due to be taken to Implement Recommendation Three**

**Recommendation 3: the Council look to maximise the benefits of parks and green spaces in Redditch by introducing more informal games areas and additional equipment to help increase sporting participation and physical activity in the local area**

***Installation of Table Tennis Tables:***

Following the previous update provided to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee there were a number of delays with regard to this scheme due to the suppliers' lead in times for delivery being extended. Unfortunately this led to the tables being installed across a period of two weeks rather than as planned in one day but more significantly all the tables were finally fitted by the week commencing 9th September 2013.

The net effect of these supplier issues is that one table each was fitted at Morton Stanley Park and Arrow Valley Park at the back end of the summer holiday and then the remaining tables were fitted as detailed above. Officers have written to the supplier to express their concerns and await a response.

At present the circular table remains outstanding following a communication issue within Leisure and Cultural Services. Officers have reviewed this situation and will ensure for the Easter Holidays in 2014 that this table is installed and operational.

Should the provision of tables prove to be successful and should suitable funding streams become available Officers will look, with the Portfolio Holder, at the possibility of rolling in more tables at suitable locations.

***Installation of Badminton/Volley Ball Courts:***

The provision of Volley Ball courts has not been progressed at this stage. It was placed on hold until the success of the sports grids was understood as there was an option to include the volley ball layout within the sports grids.

However following discussions with the team it has been agreed that the areas do need to be separated as originally suggested and that we should trial one set of Volley Ball posts at both Arrow Valley and Morton Stanley Parks given their prime locations and high level of usage.

The posts and line markings will be installed within the 2013/14 financial year and be available for use as from April 2014.

***Installation of Softball/Rounders Diamonds:***

Following a review of this concept and the implications with its introduction it was decided that the Rounders/Softball lay outs could be included with the sports grids that were being established and thus avoid additional costs whilst achieving the same objective for the schemes.

Interpretation signage is currently under review for the sports grids and this activity will form part for the indicative sports and games that can be played with the grids.

***Installation of Giant Chess/Draughts' Boards:***

Due to the need to install this element of the scheme in a controlled environment or staffed provision this element of the project has unfortunately had to be shelved as a suitable location and agreement could not be reached.

With the Committee's approval Officers would wish to change the emphasis of this section of the project and introduce up to four (dependent upon final costings) individual chess/draughts tables based on the Central Park concept in New York. At this stage locations have not been reviewed but Officers would suggest that we use large areas with higher footfalls in order to maximise usage.

Should Members be comfortable with this approach, this can be discussed with the Portfolio Holder and implementation could be completed by the end of the financial year.

***Sports Grids/Multi-Use Games Zones:***

These grids were marked out in the early period of the summer holiday as a trial to see what sizes and shapes were the most appealing to people. Unfortunately due to capacity issues Officers did not review these areas as much as could have been wished. However based on the anecdotal evidence provided through internal reviews and conversations and discussions with colleagues Officers have come to the conclusion that these sports grids need to be a minimum of 60m by 40m in order to allow more than one game to be played at any one time (potentially more). The grids need to be marked every 10 metres and have no markings other than the grid lines. Interpretation signage to support and demonstrate what they can be used for is essential as they can appear slightly confusing.

Based on the above learning, and Officers' experience of play pitch markings, these grids will be rolled out in a limited number of areas (based on size requirements) and monitored to see if further roll out would be beneficial. This will include the signage that was discussed with Members at a previous meeting of the Committee as this is key to the project's success.

These works will be undertaken prior to the Easter Holidays 2014 to ensure as much usage as possible within the summer season.

As part of this project, and to accompany and enhance the actions agreed by the Overview and Scrutiny Task Group, officers have also developed additional schemes to ensure the objectives outlined in the original recommendations are delivered, these include:

**a) *Disc Golf:***

Members received a full update on disc golf at the previous meeting when this matter was considered in July 2013. However, based on feedback from users we are implementing some improvement to the course to increase its usability and ensure the concept is better explained to those not familiar with this activity.

Additional works include increased signage, course markings and revising ground maintenance work to support the course within the wider park. These will be undertaken and completed by the end of November 2013.

As part of this work we will also create links from the Council's website to the suppliers' website to allow the down loading of score cards and course information.

**b) *Orienteering:***

The team have progressed this matter and are in the process of finalising two courses based on a family and young children beginners' course and a more detailed and difficult course for more advanced participants.

Once the final course designs are agreed they will be reviewed with the local Orienteering Club and implemented by the final quarter of 2013/14.

These courses will then be supported by an online marketing campaign and suitable onsite signage as well as through the local club and national governing body to increase Redditch's exposure at a regional level.





# Draft Local Plan No. 4 (Redditch Local Plan)



## Transport Assessment and Mitigation Proposals

Worcestershire County Council

# Purpose of Presentation



Update Councillors on work underway to:

- Identify the travel demand generated by the Draft Local Plan No. 4 (Draft RLP) developments
- Assess the cumulative impact on transport network of the Draft RLP developments
- Identify the strategic transport infrastructure and service measures needed to accommodate the growth generated by the Draft RLP

# Background - Methodology



- Draft RLP development assumptions provided by LPA including location, quantum and type
- Establish existing and forecast future (2030) transport network baseline conditions
- Forecast travel demand for 2030 - Background growth / RLP generated growth
- Forecast traffic growth along highway links / key junctions
- Identify mitigation schemes (at strategic level)

# Background - Methodology



- Proposals are work in progress detailed design to follow
- Proposals focus upon draft RLP development assumptions, therefore does not include the additional c3,000 units within the Draft Bromsgrove District Plan post 2022
- Proposals do not include input from the HA (M42 Junctions)
- Proposals seek to support the RLP process, in particular the test of “soundness” e.g.:
  - Technical approach (DfT compliant & HA agreed)
  - Scale of ambition
  - Strategic issues

# Methodology I : Network Impact



- Vehicle/Trip Generation Model: Forecast number of development trips by all modes of transport
- Highway trips assigned to highway links & cumulative impact on highway network performance assessed
- Forecast demand for walk, cycle and passenger transport network identified
- Schemes developed to mitigate adverse impacts on network performance

# Methodology 2 : Scheme Identification



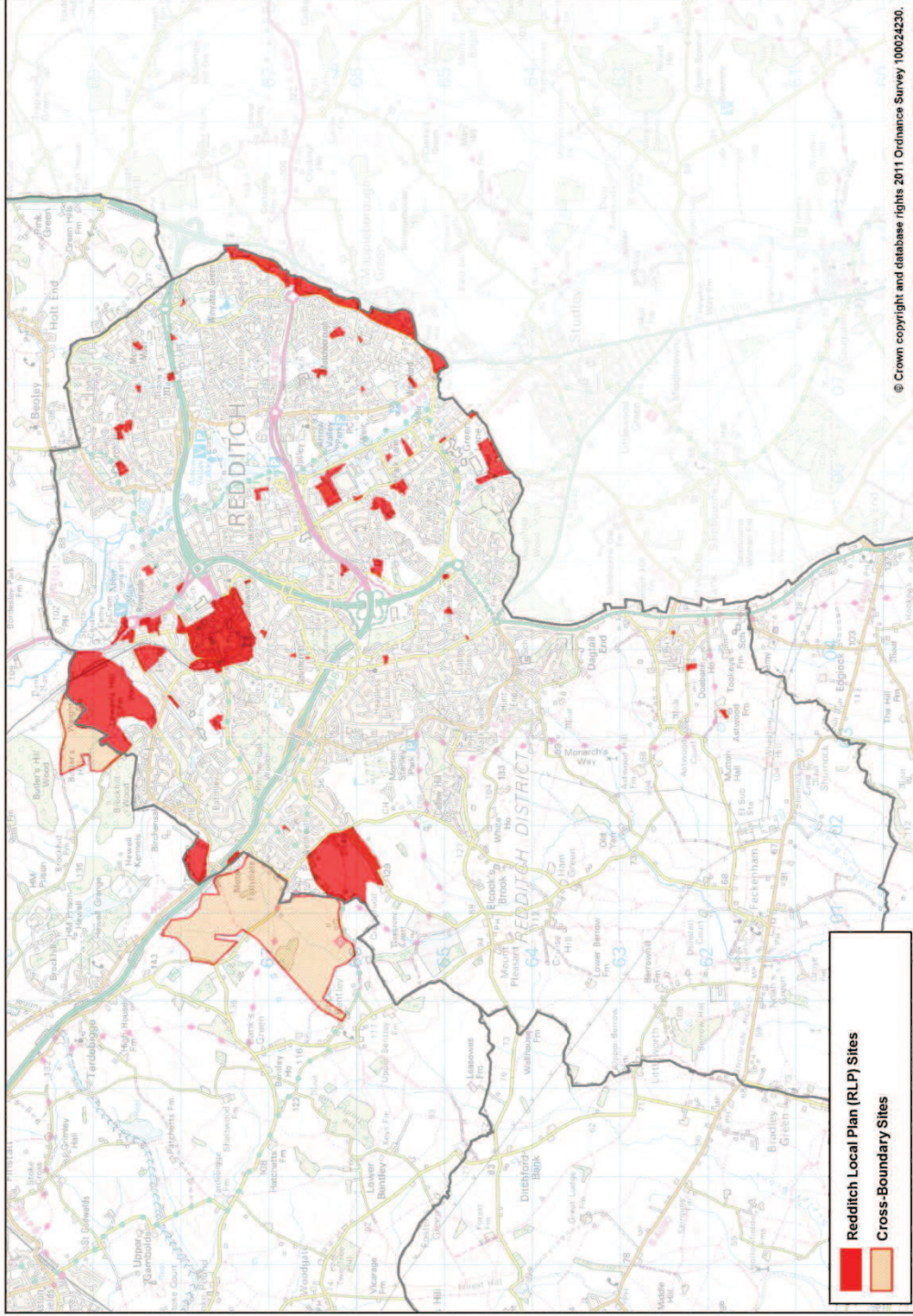
- Identify mitigation schemes through:
  - Assessment of type and scale of problem,(e.g. Congestion, poor accessibility)
  - Review of existing schemes
- Estimate infrastructure capital costs (excluding land, if required) and maintenance costs
- Estimate passenger transport operating costs

# RLP Core Planning Assumptions



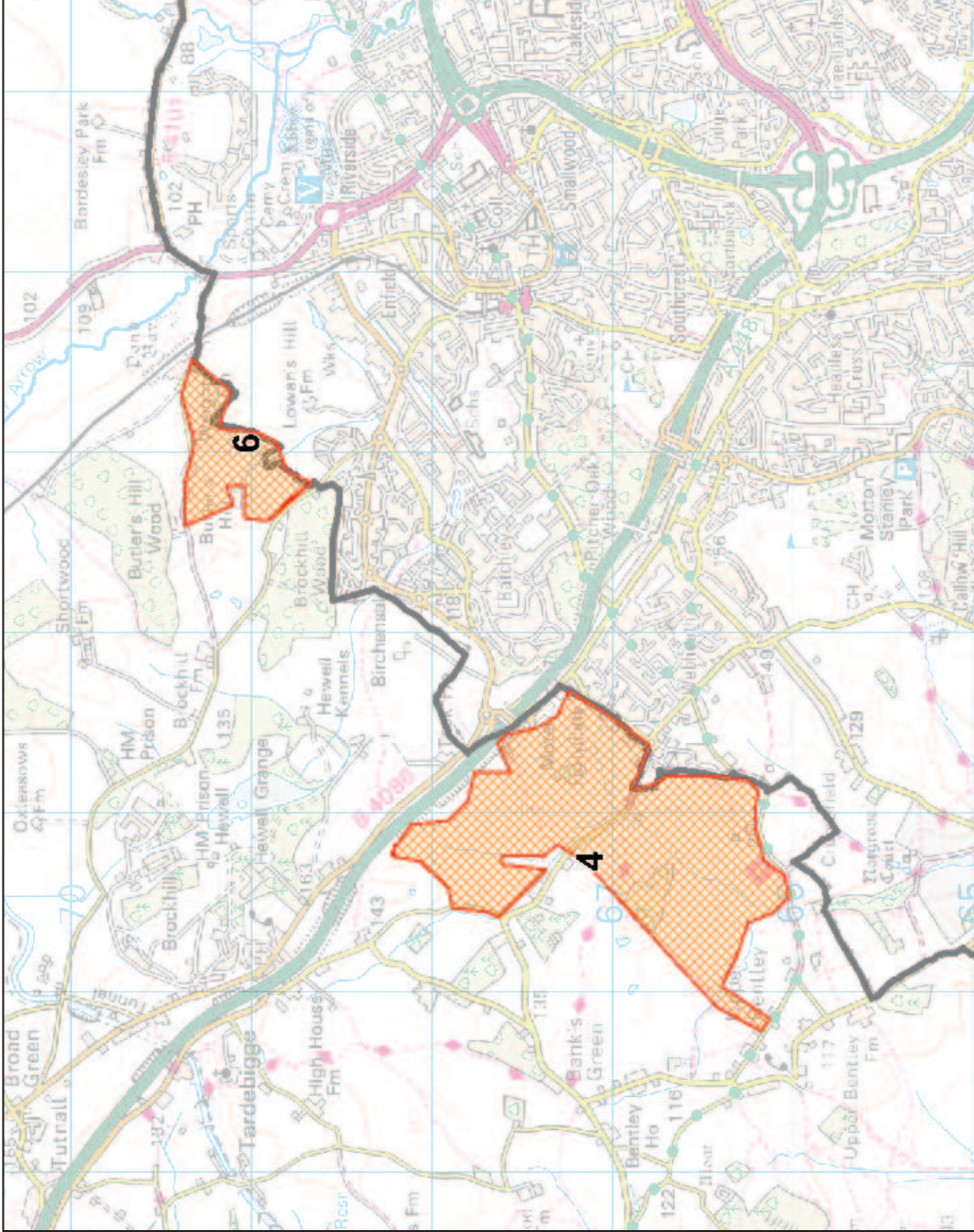
| Local Plans            | Residential (Dwellings) | Employment (Ha) |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Redditch Core Scenario | 2,951                   | 30              |
| Cross Boundary         | 3,400                   | n/a             |

# Final RLP Planning Assumptions





# Cross-Boundary Sites



# Overview of Findings (I):



Without mitigation RLP planned growth:

- The key issue is development access to the Primary Road Network (A Roads) in Redditch Borough
- Some adverse impact at a number of key pinch points across the whole of the Borough network and across all modes of transport

If the network performance is not to deteriorate:

- Mitigation measures needed across all transport modes
- Need to maximise use of sustainable modes, particularly to/from within Redditch urban areas



# The Evidence

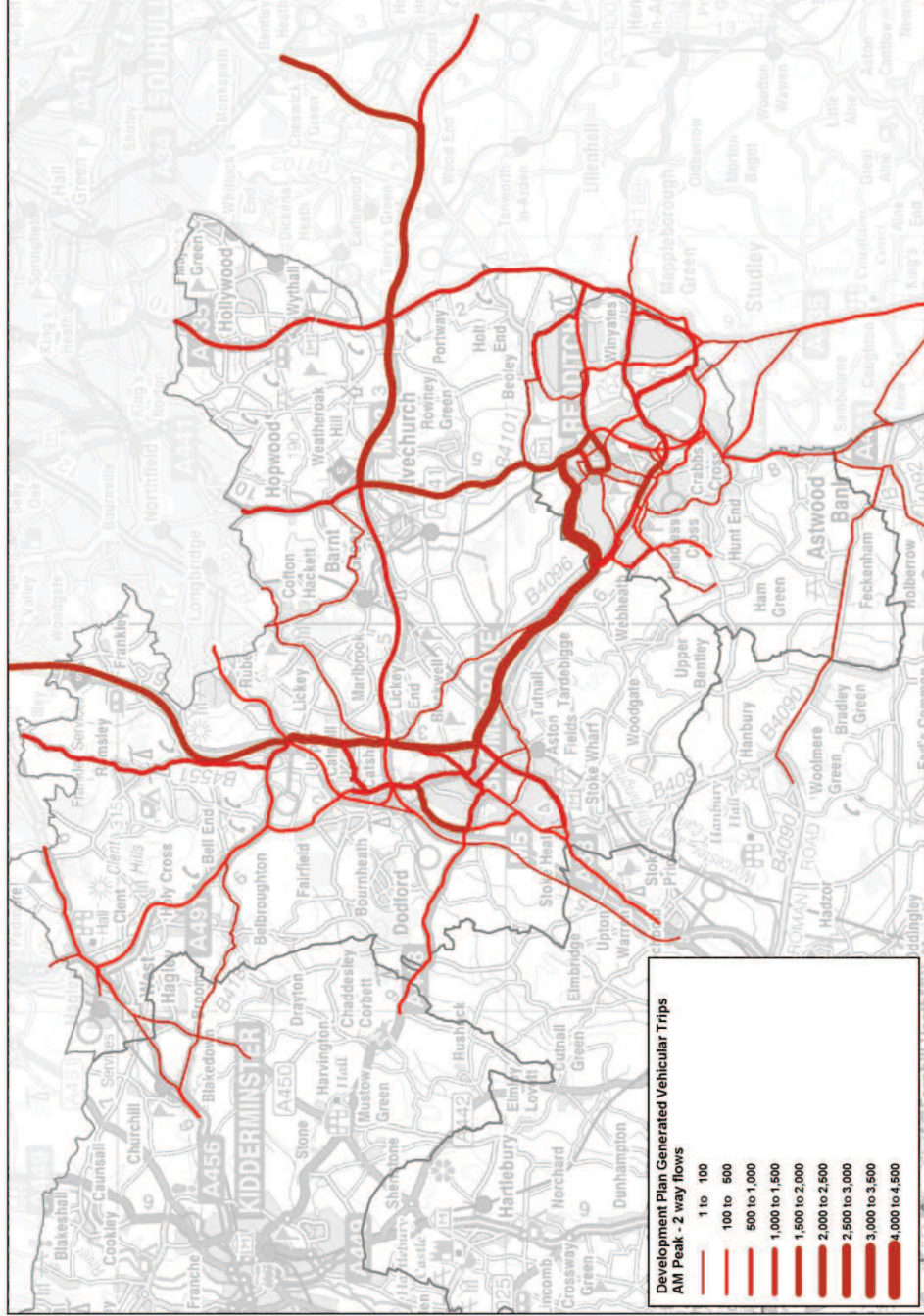
## Forecast Additional Vehicular Trips Generated by Planned Growth

| Link  |   | Additional Vehicular Trips |              |
|---|---|----------------------------|--------------|
|   |   | AM Peak Hour               | PM Peak Hour |
| A441 Alvechurch Highway (Weights Lane-Dagnell End Junction) | N | 899                        | 976          |
| A441 Alvechurch Highway (Weights Lane-Dagnell End Junction) | S | 690                        | 785          |
| A441 Birmingham Rd (Dagnell End Junction-M42 J2)            | N | 908                        | 1013         |
| A441 Birmingham Rd (Dagnell End Junction-M42 J2)            | S | 731                        | 792          |
| A441 Alvechurch Highway (Riverside R'about-Weights Lane)    | N | 912                        | 1001         |
| A441 Alvechurch Highway (Riverside R'about-Weights Lane)    | S | 712                        | 804          |
| A435 Alcester Road (South)                                  | N | 273                        | 869          |
| A435 Alcester Road (South)                                  | S | 631                        | 277          |
| A435 Haydon Way   | N | 104                        | 76           |
| A435 Haydon Way   | S | 90                         | 109          |
| A448 Bromsgrove Highway (Bromsgrove Rd-Windmill Drive)      | E | 1016                       | 572          |
| A448 Bromsgrove Highway (Bromsgrove Rd-Windmill Drive)      | W | 437                        | 1508         |
| B4184 Brockhill Drive                                       | E | 2153                       | 1963         |
| B4184 Brockhill Drive                                       | W | 2114                       | 2056         |
| B4184 Brockhill Drive (East)                                | E | 1856                       | 1444         |
| B4184 Brockhill Drive (East)                                | W | 1297                       | 1595         |



# The Evidence

Forecast Distribution of Planned Growth Demand



# Overview of Findings (2):



## Mitigation scheme costs:

Highways: £20.4m

Walk, Cycle and

Passenger Transport: £0.5m

**TOTAL: £20.9m**

Note; does not include post 2022 BDP Growth or Highways Agency works

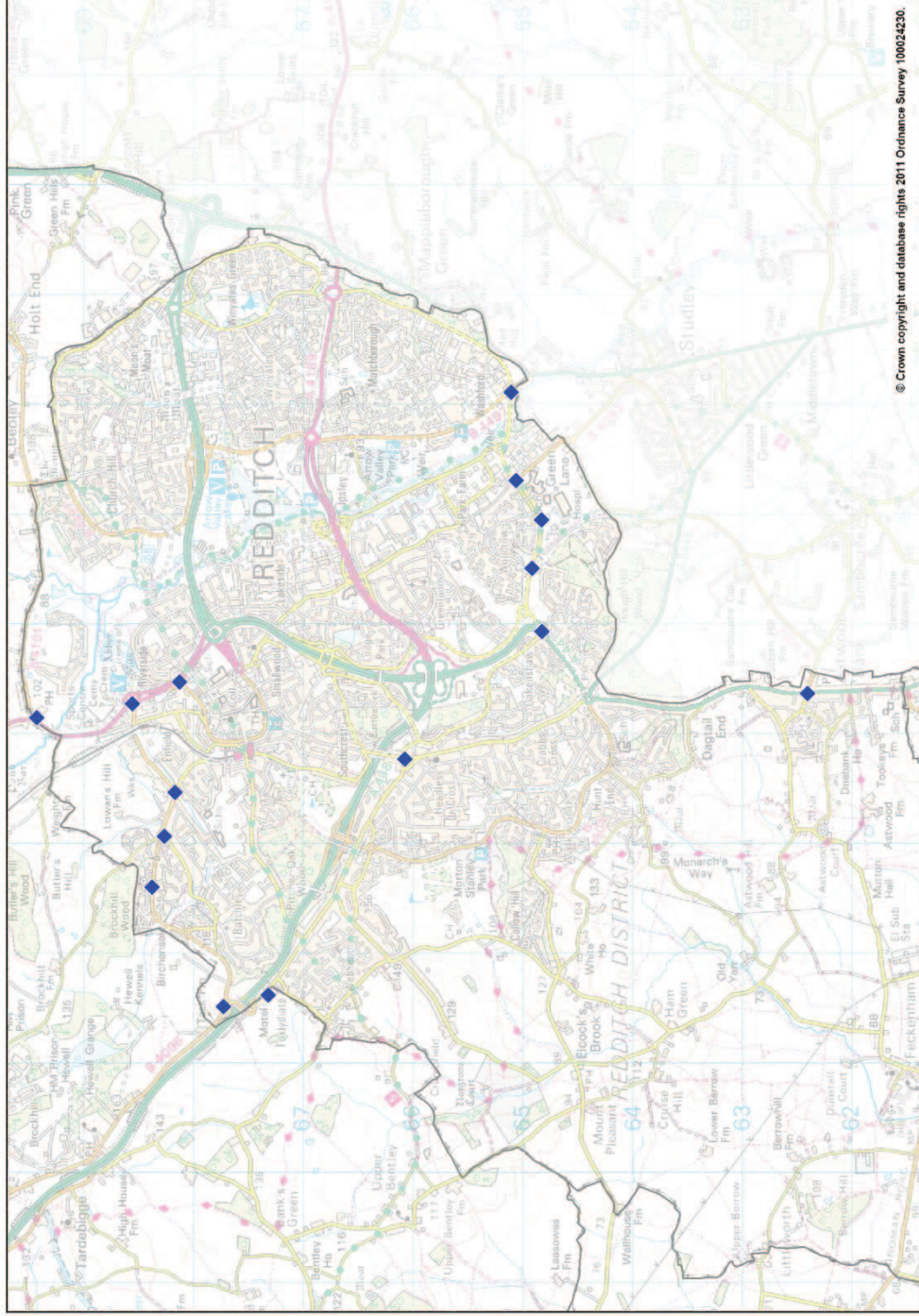
# Overview of Findings (3):



- Highway mitigation schemes include:
  - Major corridor works to improve traffic flows and support pedestrian movements (e.g. Brockhill Drive)
  - Traffic signals enhancement and optimisation (e.g. Dagnell End)
  - Safety schemes (to deal with additional traffic flows)
  - Proposed junction re-configuration (e.g. south-east Redditch) – consistent with recent Warwickshire CC PARAMICS study

# The Schemes

## Highway schemes – Redditch Borough



# The Schemes



## Highway Schemes – Junction Re-configuration

- Capacity enhancements through:
  - Additional approach lanes
  - Extended turning lanes
  - Exit widening
- Consolidate pedestrian crossing points



# The Schemes

## Highway Schemes – Traffic Signal Enhancements



Capacity and system management enhancements through:

- Dynamic signal control system (signals optimisation)
- MOVA
- Selective vehicle detection
- Consolidated/Enhanced pedestrian facilities

# The Schemes

## Highway Schemes – Safety Schemes



- Safety Zones (Schools) – Traffic Management, including TROs
- Controlled approaches to priority junctions

# The Schemes



Passenger transport mitigation schemes include:

- Improved facilities at rail stations
- Improved infrastructure along key corridors (e.g. Route 143 Corridor)
- Improved information (e.g. real time)
- Improved services linking developments with key destinations (incl. Rail Stations)

# The Local Passenger Transport Schemes



- Infrastructure - focus on key corridors (e.g. I43, X3)
- Information provision (including real time) – focus on key trip attractors/generators
- Inter-urban and town services linking developments to key trip attractors/generators, including Redditch railway station

# The Walk & Cycle Schemes



- Additional walk & cycle routes and facilities
- Improved information & signage
- Additional/Consolidated crossings to overcome severance issues
- Cycle facilities at key trip attractors/generators
- Improved/new walk & cycle access to railway station

# Next Steps



- Continue detailed design work
- Assess phasing issues in conjunction with planners
- Assess funding opportunities (including public sector)
- Seek to quantify post 2022 issues
- Work with Highways Agency to understand and mitigate impact upon key junctions
- Prepare next iteration of transport evidence in support of Draft Local Plan No.4 (Draft RLP)



## Executive Committee

17<sup>th</sup> September 2013

### MINUTES

#### Present:

Councillor Bill Hartnett (Chair), Councillor Greg Chance (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Rebecca Blake, Juliet Brunner, Brandon Clayton, John Fisher, Phil Mould and Mark Shurmer

#### Officers:

C Flanagan, S Hanley, L Jones, T Kristunas and S Morgan

#### Committee Services Officer:

I Westmore

#### 47. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Debbie Taylor.

#### 48. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 49. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements from the Leader.

#### 50. MINUTES

##### RESOLVED that

**the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.**

#### 51. CONSOLIDATED REVENUE AND CAPITAL OUTTURN - FINANCIAL YEAR 2012/13

The report detailing the Council's budgetary position at the end of the 2012/13 financial year was received by the Committee.

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Chair

Officers reported that £74K had been used from balances leaving just over £1M remaining. Of the projected savings of £654K a considerable proportion had been made although the money received through the acquisition of the lease of Threadneedle House had contributed to the overall position.

A series of questions on specific points within the outturn report were raised by Members and Officers undertook to provide answers to these following the meeting.

**RESOLVED that**

**the report be noted.**

**52. OPTIONS FOR 54 SOUTH STREET (PREVIOUS REDI CENTRE)**

The Committee considered a report which detailed the options available to the Council for 54 South Street, the former REDI Centre building.

Officers reported that the Council had not received any significant levels of interest in the building to date and there had been no approaches to register the building as an Asset of Community Value. Disposal was considered the most appropriate course of action. The former Youth House was adjacent to the former REDI Centre building but there was considered to be little advantage to be gained from marketing the two properties jointly.

The length of time it had taken for the property to be declared surplus and disposed of was discussed. In part this was put down to the desire to see this and other properties considered as a wider review of the Council's property holdings. However, given that there was a cost associated with the building remaining empty Members were keen that disposal now be pursued. There was a desire to see the building taken on by a community group who might use the property as a community asset. The recent failure to achieve a similar outcome for the former Youth House was a source of disappointment to some Members. The Committee were also very much aware of the context within which this decision was being taken, with a significant strain on public finances.

**RECOMMENDED that**

- 1) the property be marketed for disposal; and**
- 2) the Head of Finance and Resources agree the final details of any sale, following the receipt of any bids/expressions of interest, following consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Management.**



**53. FINANCE MONITORING REPORT 2013/14 - APRIL - JUNE  
(QUARTER 1)**

Officers reported on the financial performance of the authority during the first quarter of the current financial year. The Committee was informed that of the £550K savings required for the year, £107K had been made thus far.

There was considerable discussion as to the implications of holding a number of vacant posts and the processes used by officers to determine whether the vacant posts were considered business critical. Members were reassured that there were measures in place by which such determinations could be made and that Trades Unions were amongst those involved in the dialogue over vacant posts. It was further explained that the authority had for some considerable time had incorporated into each year's budget revenue savings to be achieved through vacancy management.

**RESOLVED that**

- 1) the current financial position on Revenue be noted, as detailed in the report; and**

**RECOMMENDED that**

- 2) £48K of currently available S106 funds be included in the 2013/4 capital programme to fund the improvements to the play area at Glover Street.**

**54. MAKING EXPERIENCES COUNT - QUARTERLY CUSTOMER SERVICES REPORT - QUARTER 1, 2013/14**

The Committee received the latest quarterly Customer Services monitoring report. It was noted that the trends represented with regard to complaints and compliments were broadly in line with what had been experienced the previous year.

Members were content that the numbers of compliments exceeded the numbers of complaints and suggested that diagrams in future reports be rendered in such a manner that they might be more easily understood when printed in black and white.

**RESOLVED that**

**the contents of the report be noted.**

# Executive Committee

17<sup>th</sup> September 2013

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**55. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

The Committee received and considered the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2013.

**RESOLVED that**

**the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2013 be received and noted.**

**56. MINUTES / REFERRALS - OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE, EXECUTIVE PANELS ETC.**

There were no minutes or referrals under this item.

**57. ADVISORY PANELS - UPDATE REPORT**

The latest update on the activity of the Council's Advisory Panels and similar bodies was considered by the Committee.

**RESOLVED that**

**the report be noted.**

**58. ACTION MONITORING**

The latest version of the Committee's Action Monitoring report was received by the Committee.

**RESOLVED that**

**the Action Monitoring report be noted.**

The Meeting commenced at 7.00 pm  
and closed at 7.54 pm

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Chair



# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

No Direct Ward Relevance

8th October 2013

## WORK PROGRAMME

(Report of the Chief Executive)

| Date of Meeting     | Subject Matter   | Officer(s) Responsible for report  |
|---------------------|--|--|
| <b>ALL MEETINGS</b> | <b>REGULAR ITEMS</b>   | <b>(CHIEF EXECUTIVE)</b>   |
|                     | Minutes of previous meeting<br>Consideration of the Forward Plan<br>Consideration of Executive Committee key decisions<br>Call-ins (if any)<br>Pre-scrutiny (if any)<br>Consideration of Overview and Scrutiny Actions List<br>Referrals from Council or Executive Committee, etc. (if any)<br>Task Groups / Short, Sharp Review Groups - feedback<br>Committee Work Programme | Chief Executive<br>Chief Executive<br>Chief Executive<br>Chief Executive<br>Chief Executive<br>Chief Executive<br>Chief Executive<br>Chief Executive |
|                     | <b>REGULAR ITEMS</b><br>Update on the work of the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel.<br>Quarterly Tracker Report   | Chair of the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel<br>Relevant Lead Head(s) of Service   |

# Overview and Scrutiny

Committee

8th October 2013

|                                 |   |  |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
|                                 | <p><b>REGULAR ITEMS</b></p> <p>Updates on the work of the Worcestershire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee</p> <p>Bi-Annual Recommendation Tracker Reports – Scrutiny Committee</p> <p>Bi-Annual Monitoring Report – Redditch Sustainable Community Strategy</p> | <p>Redditch Borough Council representative on the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee</p> <p>Relevant Lead Head(s) of Service</p> <p>Relevant Lead Head(s) of Service</p> |
| <b>OTHER ITEMS - DATE FIXED</b> |   |  |
| <b>8th October 2013</b>         | Promoting Sporting Participation - Monitoring Update Report   | Relevant Lead Head of Service  |
| <b>8th October 2013</b>         | Transport Assessment and Mitigation Proposals   | Relevant Lead Head of Service  |
| <b>8th October 2013</b>         | Vacant Redditch Borough Council Properties – Update Report  | Relevant Lead Head of Service  |
| <b>4th November 2013</b>        | Footpaths and Pavements Maintenance - Presentation  | Relevant Lead Head of Service  |
| <b>4th November 2013</b>        | Living Wage – Update Report   | Relevant Lead Head of Service  |
| <b>4th November 2013</b>        | Positive Activities – Update Report   | Relevant Lead Head of Service  |

# Overview and Scrutiny

Committee

8th October 2013

|   |  |                                  |
|---|--|----------------------------------|
| <b>3rd December 2013</b>                    | Quarterly Monitoring Report – Recommendations                  | Relevant Lead<br>Head of Service |
| <b>9th January 2014</b>                     | Budget Scrutiny Meeting  | Relevant Lead<br>Head of Service |
| <b>4th March 2014</b>                       | Dial a Ride - Monitoring Update Report                         | Relevant Lead<br>Head of Service |
| <b>4th March 2014</b>                       | Abbey Stadium Task Group – Final Report                        | Councillor Gandy                 |
| <b>1st April 2014</b>                       | Landscaping Task Group – Final Report                          | Councillor Hopkins               |
| <b>20th May 2014</b>                        | Voluntary Sector Task Group – Final Report                     | Councillor Witherspoon           |
| <b>OTHER ITEMS<br/>– DATE NOT<br/>FIXED</b> |  |                                  |
|   | Healthwatch Worcestershire – Update Report                     |                                  |
|   | Joint Worcestershire Regulatory Services Review – final report | Councillor Mason                 |
|   | Land Maintenance Service Level Agreement - Update Report       | Relevant Lead<br>Head of Service |
|   | Proposed Housing Review – Submission of Scoping Document       | Councillor Brazier               |

# **Overview & Scrutiny**

Committee

**4th November 2009**

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**Worcestershire Regulatory Services (WRS) Joint Scrutiny Task Group: Update**

The first meeting of the Task Group took place at Bromsgrove Council House on Thursday 26th September 2013.

At the start of the meeting Councillor Rod Laight (Bromsgrove District Council) was elected Chairman of the Task Group and Councillor Peter Tomlinson (Wychavon District Council) was elected Vice Chairman.

The Task Group also considered and endorsed the terms of reference for the review. In particular, Members agreed that it would be important to consider the original business case for WRS, statutory requirements for regulatory services, comparative performance data for services before and after the introduction of the shared arrangements, customer satisfaction with the regulatory services, and governance arrangements. Members agreed that the review should be completed by April 2014.

The dates for four further meetings of the Task Group have been identified. During these meetings Members are hoping to have an opportunity to consider relevant documentation and to interview a number of expert witnesses.

