



# Executive Committee

Tue 3 Feb  
2015  
7.00 pm

Committee Room 2  
Town Hall  
Redditch

**REDDITCH** BOROUGH COUNCIL

*making  
a  
difference*

[www.redditchbc.gov.uk](http://www.redditchbc.gov.uk)

**If you have any queries on this Agenda, please contact  
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Democratic Services Officer**

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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 Democratic Services 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 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.**





# Executive

## Committee

Tuesday, 3rd February, 2015

7.00 pm

Committee Room 2 Town Hall

### Agenda

#### Membership:

Cllrs:                      Bill Hartnett (Chair)                      Phil Mould  
                                  Greg Chance (Vice-                      Mark Shurmer  
                                  Chair)    Yvonne Smith  
                                  Juliet Brunner                              Debbie Taylor  
                                  Brandon Clayton  
                                  John Fisher

<p><b>1. Apologies</b></p>	<p>To receive the apologies of any Member who is unable to attend this meeting.</p>
<p><b>2. Declarations of Interest</b></p>	<p>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.</p>
<p><b>3. Leader's Announcements</b></p>	<p>1. 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</p> <p>2. any other relevant announcements.</p> <p>(Oral report)</p>
<p><b>4. Minutes</b>          (Pages 1 - 10)          Kevin Dicks, Chief Executive</p>	<p>To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2015.</p> <p>(Minutes attached)</p>
<p><b>5. Medium Term Financial Plan 2015-16 - 17-18</b>          (Pages 11 - 22)          Jayne Pickering, Executive Director, Finance and Resources</p>	<p>To consider the revenue budget position for 2015-16 – 2017-18 and recommend to Council on 23<sup>rd</sup> February.</p> <p><b>(No Direct Ward Relevance)</b></p>

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<p><b>6. Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b> (Pages 23 - 30)</p>	<p>To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2015.</p>
<p><b>7. Minutes/Referrals - Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Executive Panels, etc</b></p>	<p>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 those detailed in the items above.</p>
<p><b>8. Advisory Panels - Update Report</b> (Pages 31 - 32)</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>(Report attached)</p>
<p><b>9. Action Monitoring</b> (Pages 33 - 34)</p>	<p>To consider an update on the actions arising from previous meetings of the Committee.</p>

## 10. 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;
- Para 6 – a notice, order or direction;
- Para 7 – the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime;

may need to be considered as ‘exempt’.

## 11. Confidential Minutes / Referrals (if any)

To consider confidential matters not dealt with earlier in the evening and not separately listed below (if any).







## Executive

### Committee

Tuesday, 20th January 2015

## MINUTES

#### Present:

Councillor Bill Hartnett (Chair), Councillor Greg Chance (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Juliet Brunner, Brandon Clayton, John Fisher, Phil Mould, Mark Shurmer, Yvonne Smith and Debbie Taylor

#### Officers:

Ruth Bamford, Kevin Dicks, Clare Flanagan, Sam Morgan and Judith Willis

#### Committee Services Officer:

Debbie Parker-Jones

#### 81. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

#### 82. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 83. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

##### Additional Papers

Members were advised that two sets of Additional Papers had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

Additional Papers 1 contained a minute from the 13th January 2015 Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the Medium Term Financial Plan 2015/16 to 2017/18 – Pre-Scrutiny. As such, this would be considered with the Medium Term Financial Plan which appeared at agenda item 12 of the main agenda pack.

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Chair

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Additional Papers 2 detailed a revised paragraph 3.11 (grant applications scoring) to the Voluntary & Community Sector Grant Programme 2015/16 – Funding Recommendations report, as three applications had been omitted from the list of organisations recommended for grants in error.

### Work Programme

Owing to the timings of the upcoming Audit, Governance & Standards Committee meetings, the Treasury Management Strategy, Prudential Indicators and Minimum Reserve Provision Policy 2015/16 report would need to be considered by the Executive Committee on 10th March 2015.

The Leader explained that Officers were unable to prepare the report for this until they had the required budget information, but that there was also a statutory duty for this to be approved by April.

### Action Monitoring

The Leader reminded Members that Officers had emailed them the previous day with the outstanding Finance Monitoring Report 2014/15 Quarter 1 information which had been requested by the Executive at the September 2014 meeting. Agenda Item 15 of the main agenda pack referred.

## **84. MINUTES**

### **RESOLVED that**

**the minutes of the meeting for the Executive Committee held on 16th December 2014 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.**

## **85. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

The Committee received the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 24th November 2014.

It was noted that there were no recommendations to consider as the recommendation at Minute No. 55 1) relating to the Tudor Grange Academy review had been dealt with by the Executive at its last meeting.

### **RESOLVED that**

**the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 24th November 2014 be received and noted.**

**86. DESIGNATION OF A NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AREA - FECKENHAM**

Further to Minute 44 of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 28th October 2014, the Committee considered a report setting out the results of consultation on the designation of Feckenham as a Neighbourhood Plan Area under decentralisation measures introduced through the Localism Act 2011.

It was noted that two responses had been received to the public consultation, neither of which had raised any objection in relation to the proposed boundary. The responses had included useful information which would be taken into consideration and inform the Neighbourhood Plan as it progressed, and which would also be forwarded to the Feckenham Neighbourhood Plan Working Party.

**RESOLVED that**

**having considered the Feckenham Neighbourhood Plan Area Application and the outcome of the consultation period, the Feckenham Neighbourhood Plan Area as identified at Appendix 1 of the report, be formally designated as it provides a 'sound' basis for developing a neighbourhood plan in accordance with the regulations.**

**87. REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL'S VOLUNTARY & COMMUNITY SECTOR GRANT PROGRAMME 2015/16 - FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members considered the recommendations from the Grants Assessment Panel in awarding grants to voluntary sector organisations for 2015/16.

Officers highlighted the revised paragraph 3.11 to the report, which had been circulated to Members prior to the meeting under Additional Papers Pack 2. Three applications, namely Two Pennies Serving Redditch, Redditch Play Council and Work and Skills Club, had been omitted from the list of organisations recommended for funding detailed in the main report in error. However the recommended funding amount of £182,060 quoted in the report remained correct as this included the proposed grants for the additional organisations.

Whilst some concerns were expressed in relation to the £39,940 grant funding underspend it was noted that the same application process as in previous years had been followed, and the same level of publicity given to this. In response to a Member query, Officers confirmed that whilst a member of staff who was normally involved in the grants process had been absent from work this had not

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impacted on the process. The grants process timetable had been brought forward by a month or so at the voluntary and community sector's request. Officers had spoken with some organisations who normally applied for grant funding from the Council but from whom applications had not been received on this occasion. The organisations in question advised that they had opted to seek funding from elsewhere.

Members welcomed the valuable work of the town's voluntary sector and were pleased that all of the organisations recommended for funding by the Grants Assessment Panel could be funded in their entirety. As the full grants process had been followed it was not deemed necessary for the grants programme to be re-run in February 2015 to seek bids for the themes which were currently underspent. The underspend of £39,940 would therefore be identified as a saving for the current year only and put into balances.

## RESOLVED that

- 1) the following grants be awarded:

Name of Project	Organisation	Amount awarded
<b>Help me to be Financially Independent - £75k</b>		
<b>Redditch CAB Vulnerable People Experiencing Debt &amp; Related Problems with Resolutions Through Working Together</b>	<b>CAB</b>	<b>£75,000</b>
<b>Help me to be Financially Independent - £50k</b>		
<b>Carers Telephone Support Service</b>	<b>Carers Careline</b>	<b>£3,095</b>
<b>Achieving Wellbeing</b>	<b>IDC Sewing Café</b>	<b>£10,000</b>
<b>Where Next Association</b>	<b>Where Next Association</b>	<b>£10,000</b>
<b>Young Mums "Get Creative" Group</b>	<b>IDC Sewing Café</b>	<b>£5,120</b>
<b>Help me to be Financially Independent - £20k</b>		
<b>Two Pennies Serving Redditch</b>	<b>Two Pennies Money Advice</b>	<b>£20,000</b>
<b>Help me to Live My Life Independently - £35k</b>		
<b>Redditch Play</b>	<b>Redditch Play</b>	<b>£35,000</b>

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Council	Council	
<b>Help me to Live My Life Independently - £18k</b>		
<b>Work and Skills Club</b>	<b>What's Your Point?</b>	<b>£2,250</b>
<b>Food Friends and Family Project</b>	<b>Yum Tub Club</b>	<b>£3,000</b>
<b>Adult Mentoring Project</b>	<b>Mentor Link</b>	<b>£3,000</b>
<b>Where Next Hub</b>	<b>Where Next Association</b>	<b>£3,000</b>
<b>Well being Jigsaw Project</b>	<b>Mental Health Action Group / Yum Tum Club</b>	<b>£3,000</b>
<b>Provide Me With Good Things to Do, See and Visit - £9K</b>		
<b>Arts, crafts and cookery for families</b>	<b>What's Your Point?</b>	<b>£2,785</b>
<b>Inspire ADHD Positive Activities Club</b>	<b>Inspire</b>	<b>£3,000</b>
<b>Keep My Place Safe and Looking Good - £15k</b>		
<b>The Ditch Youth Project</b>	<b>The Ditch Youth Project</b>	<b>£3,000</b>

and

- 2) the underspend of £39,940 be identified as a saving and be put into balances.

## 88. LAND AT EASEMORE ROAD - DISPOSAL

The Committee considered a report which sought Member approval to amend a previous decision of the Executive Committee in relation to the disposal of land at Easemore Road.

Officers explained the background to the previously agreed terms of the disposal of the land, as detailed in the report.

Members agreed that in view of the problems which had previously been encountered in relation to the sale of the land it was prudent for the land to be disposed of at market value. A Member queried the potential current value of the land compared to what they understood to have been the historical valuation for this, which Officers agreed to look into outside of the meeting and to report back to Members separately for information.

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Officers explained that there was a statutory obligation for the Council to obtain the best possible value for the land, and that the figure in question met this requirement. If this were not the case then a separate report would be required to Members seeking approval to sell at less than best value, which did not apply in this case. Officers would, in any event, always seek to negotiate the highest possible receipts from the sale of land. The land at Easemore Road was now under direct sale and was therefore subject to a totally different scheme to that which had previously applied.

**RESOLVED that**

**the land at Easemore Road, Redditch be disposed of at market value.**

**89. INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2015/16**

The Committee considered the report and recommendations from the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) for the level of Members allowances for 2015/16.

Whilst the IRP had not proposed an increase in the level of allowances compared to the previous year, the Council continued to pay less than the Panel recommended in both basic and special responsibility allowances. Members felt that in the current times of austerity it would not be morally right for these allowances to be increased and that these should therefore continue at the same level set for 2014/15.

**RECOMMENDED that**

- 1) the Council has regard to the report and recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel for 2015/16;**
- 2) the Council does not accept the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel, set out in appendix 1 to its report, for the following allowances:**

**Basic****Leader****Deputy Leader****Portfolio holders****Executive members without portfolio****Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee****Members of Overview and Scrutiny Committee****Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Task groups**

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Chair of Planning Committee  
 Chair of Licensing Committee  
 Chair of Audit, Governance and Standards Committee  
 Political Group Leaders  
 Local Government Association and West Midlands  
 Employers;

- 3) the Council accepts the Panel's recommendations for travel, subsistence and dependent carers' allowances;
- 4) for 2015/16, the Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances in the Council's Allowances scheme continue at the level set for 2014/15, as set out in the final column of appendix 1 to the Independent Remuneration Panel's report; and
- 5) the Panel's recommendation relating to the Parish Council be noted.

## 90. COUNCIL TAX BASE

A report enabling Members to set the Council Tax Base for 2015/16 was considered.

### RESOLVED that

- 1) the calculation of the Council's Tax Base for the whole and part of the area for 2015/16 be approved; and
- 2) in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulations 1992, the figures calculated by the Redditch Borough Council as its tax base for the whole area for the year 2015/16 be 24,846.71 and for the parts of the area listed below be:

Parish of Feckenham	363.06
Rest of Redditch	<u>24,483.64</u>
	<u>24,846.71</u>

## 91. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT INITIAL ESTIMATES 2015/16

Members received a report which presented the Initial Estimates for the Housing Revenue Account and proposed dwelling rents for 2015/16.

Officers explained the financial implications of the report and it was noted that rents were based on a 48-week year, with tenants receiving 4 rent-free weeks each year.

**RECOMMENDED that**

- 1) the draft 2015/2016 Estimates for the Housing Revenue Account attached to the report at Appendix A be approved;**
- 2) the actual average rent increase for 2015/2016 be 2.2% (1.2% CPI plus 1% as per government guidelines); and**
- 3) £3m be transferred to a reserve as a Revenue Contribution to Capital to fund the future Capital Programme and repay borrowing.**

**92. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2015/16 TO 2017/18**

Members received a report which set out the current financial position for the revenue budget 2015/16 to 2017/18. Members also considered with the report the minute and recommendation of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's meeting on 13th January 2015, which had been circulated as Additional Papers 2, in relation to the pre-scrutiny of the Medium Term Financial Plan.

Officers explained the background to the report and the report appendices which outlined the unavoidable pressures (including income shortfalls) and proposed strategic purpose savings, and responded to Member questions in this regard.

In relation to the current financial position, Officers stated that the table detailed at paragraph 3.21 of the report, which showed an overall shortfall for 2015/16 of £205k, was correct at the time of the report going to print. However the position with this was changing daily and by the first week of February a balanced budget would be presented to Members.

Significantly, a plot of Council land had that week been sold, the revenue from which would be utilised to fund any equal pay claims under Job Evaluation. The provisional settlement received by the Council for 2015/16 was £3,580. This confirmed a £647k reduction in the grant allocation for 2014/15 and there had been a 52% cut in local government funding since 2010/11.

Heads of Service were continuing to identify all possible savings which would not affect front-line services and details of specific service review outcomes would follow. The final business rates figures were also currently being worked on. The Chair thanked Officers for the great deal of hard work which had gone into the budget process so far.



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Members supported the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's recommendation that Officers approach the Kingfisher Shopping Centre in respect of contributing further funding for the Shopmobility scheme. The Chair commented that he was unsure as to whether Officers would be making direct contact in this regard, or whether this would be done via the Town Centre Partnership, but that he was happy for Officers to proceed with this via whichever mechanism they deemed most appropriate.

**RESOLVED that**

- 1) **the current position for 2015/16 to 2027/18 be noted and Officers be requested to review the savings that can be delivered to achieve a balanced budget; and**
- 2) **the recommendation from the 13th January 2015 Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting that Officers approach the Kingfisher Shopping Centre in respect of contributing further funding for the Shopmobility scheme be supported.**

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

The Committee received the minute and recommendation of the 13th January 2015 Overview and Scrutiny Committee in relation to the Committee's pre-scrutiny of the Medium Term Financial Plan 2015/16 to 2017/18. This was considered under the previous agenda item – Medium Term Financial Plan (Minute No. 92 refers).

**RESOLVED that**

- 1) **the minute and recommendation of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 13th January 2015 be received and noted; and**
- 2) **Officers approach the Kingfisher Shopping Centre in respect of contributing further funding for the Shopmobility scheme.**

**94. ADVISORY PANELS - UPDATE REPORT**

It was noted that the Planning Advisory Panel due to take place that evening had been cancelled due to lack of business and that the Housing Advisory Panel was due to meet in February.

**RESOLVED that**

**the report be noted.**

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**95. ACTION MONITORING**

As mentioned under Leader's Announcements, the Chair reminded Members that Officers had emailed them the previous day with the outstanding information requested by the Committee at the September 2014 meeting arising from the Quarter 1 Finance Monitoring Report 2014/15.

**RESOLVED that**

**the position be noted.**

The Meeting commenced at 7.00 pm  
and closed at 8.10 pm

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Chair

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**MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2015/16 – 2017/18**

Relevant Portfolio Holder	John Fisher
Portfolio Holder Consulted	Yes
Relevant Head of Service	Jayne Pickering ( Exec Director)
Wards Affected	<b>All</b>
Ward Councillor Consulted	None specific

**1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS**

- 1.1 To enable Members to consider the current financial position for the revenue budget 2015/16 – 2017/18.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS****2.1 Executive is asked recommend to Full Council:**

- 1) Approve the bids of £91k for 2015/16 as detailed within the report in relation to Essential Living Fund , Small Business Support and the spend to save funds for energy management.

- 2) Approve the unavoidable pressures as detailed in Appendix 1 of;

2015/16 £238k

2016/17 £230k

2017/18 £241k

- 3) Approve the savings as detailed at Appendix 2 of ;

2015/16 £1.005m

2016/17 £1.476m

2017/18 £1.516m

- 4) Approve the increase in Council Tax of 1.9% for 2014/15

**3. KEY ISSUES****Financial Implications**

- 3.1 As Members are aware the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) provides the framework within which the revenue and capital spending decisions can be made. As part of the budget process for 2014/15 a one year budget was agreed by Members. This was to enable officers and Members to review the costs associated with the delivery of services across the Borough to make informed proposals on future years spending plans. The Medium Term Plan included within

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this report is for a 3 year period and provides sustainable financial funding to the Strategic Purposes and ensure residents receive quality services to meet their needs in the future. The Purposes that drive the financial considerations are :

- Help me find somewhere to live in my locality
- Provide good things for me to see, do and visit
- Help me live my life independently
- Help me run a successful business
- Help me be financially independent
- Keep my place safe and looking good

**Formula Grant / Localised Business Rates**

- 3.2 The provisional settlement that was received recently by the Council for 2015/16 was as indicated previously at £3.580m. However this confirms the £652k reduction in the grant allocated for 2014/15. The grant includes a number of allocations that were previously received as separate funding streams and therefore the cut is across all funding received by Central Government.
- 3.3 Forecasting Government funding beyond 2015/16 is challenging, the key issue will be the outcome of the next Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR), due for publication after the General Election in May 2015. Recent Government and opposition announcements indicate that the austerity measures are set to continue into future years, in line with the Government's objective of achieving a budget surplus. Further estimated reductions on Formula Grant are therefore factored into the MTFP, in line with previous estimates. Reductions have been included at 5% of the Revenue Support Grant (£1.567m) element of the main settlement.
- 3.4 The budget for 2015/16 – 2017/18 includes a Council Tax increase of 1.9% p.a. It is worth noting that the Government has continued to provide a Council Tax Freeze Grant of up to 1% as part of the settlement for 2015/16. It is proposed that the Council does not take up this grant due to the impact it has on the future Council Tax income rises.
- 3.5 The new localised regime on Business Rates (BR) took effect in April 2013. Redditch is part of the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Business Rates Pool, set up as a mechanism to retain more BR growth funding within the area, and to manage risk on BR losses on a shared basis.
- 3.6 In the first year of this new regime, all members of the pool benefited financially from being in the pool. The net financial growth across all the Pool Partners was £750k. This would have been returned to

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Central Government had the Pool not existed. From this £750k Redditch received £203k for 2013/14 as the Council saw decline in its Business Rates Baseline Income and had to make a number of payments as a result of nationally agreed appeals by businesses. We therefore reached a “safety net” level whereby a payment was made to mitigate the effect of the decline in income. This was a one off payment for 2013/14 as part of the Pooling Agreement. Of the remaining £547k, funding of £307k was set aside for LEP projects and £240k returned to the 3 Councils that generated growth in their Business Rates position.

- 3.7 Despite the “safety net” being reached in 2013/14 officers are confident that the effect of prior year appeals will not impact in future years and therefore a £200k growth income has been included in the financial plan for the 3 year period.

**New Homes Bonus**

- 3.8 The Council will receive £803k in 2015/16. This has been increased based on assumptions of planning growth over the next 3 years.
- 3.9 As Members are aware all income received from New Homes Bonus grant is currently used within the General Funds of the Council and is utilised to offset the pressures facing the Council over the medium term. At present there are no proposed changes to the funding mechanism for New Homes Bonus by Central Government but it is a funding stream that could be revised in the future and therefore impact on the budget position moving forward.

**Council Tax**

- 3.10 To ensure that necessary levels of funding are available given the large reductions in government grant highlighted above, the Council Tax increases will have to be sufficient to ensure that funding is available for the services that create value to the customer have appropriate levels of financial resource.
- 3.11 The government have offered a grant equivalent to a 1% rise in Council Tax for 2015/16 for councils who freeze their Council Tax in the next financial year. Acceptance of this freeze grant will cost the Council £101k pa once the grant ceases (assuming Council Tax would otherwise rise by 1.9% in 2015/16). It is proposed that the freeze grant is not accepted due to the impact on future years funding.

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**Transformation**

- 3.12 The significant reductions in funding are not anticipated to improve for a number of years and therefore officers have looked at alternative ways to deliver savings whilst improving services to the community. As previously reported the services provided by the Council are undergoing transformational change using a different approach to assessing the value provided by the service. This work will focus on the purpose of services to the community and will aim to realise savings and protect those services that create value to our customers.
- 3.13 Members will be aware of the recent review to the provision of some services across a locality /place and the significant savings that have been identified whilst improving and enhancing the services to the community. In addition the work across customer services and departments continues to develop to ensure that an expert is on hand to support our residents. There are a number of savings that are estimated to be delivered as a result of transformation over the next 3 years.
- 3.14 Officers are focused on reducing costs of services that do not provide front line services to support the Strategic Purposes and will continue to drive out waste and redesign provision to reduce costs.

**Financial Projections**

- 3.15 Officers have also identified a number of budget pressures that have been deemed “unavoidable”. Unavoidable includes the ongoing effects of pressures identified during 2014/15 together with any issues that have been raised as fundamental to maintaining service provision as part of the budget process. In addition income shortfalls that cannot be managed by improved marketing or price increases have been addressed during the budget planning. These pressures are detailed in Appendix 1.
- 3.16 In addition to the unavoidable pressures 2 revenue bids have been identified to continue to support the community across the Borough. These are :
- Essential Living Fund - **£30k** to provide support to the most vulnerable residents, through the provision of:
    - Short term help to pay energy costs;
    - Emergency food, clothing or other essentials; and
    - basic furniture and/or electrical goods where a critical need has been identified.
  - Small Business Support - **£20k** to provide levels of funding for businesses to set up in the Borough

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- Energy Management - **£41k** to provide funding for the Council to work with the County Council to review our energy efficiency / carbon footprint and to work to ensure the Council reduces its energy cost in the future. The £41k is for one year only and will realise savings of £60k per annum by 2017/18.
- 3.17 Officers have spent time reviewing the way that our services are delivered and have proposed savings that can be realised as a result of the financial principles that the Council agreed in relation to the budget:
- Reducing the cost of enabling services
  - Reducing the cost of waste in the services
  - Redesigning the service to meet customer need whilst reducing cost
- 3.18 Officers have reviewed service delivery across the Council and considered how to reduce waste and support front line services. The savings proposed have been assessed in a robust way to ensure that they are sustainable and that resulting costs meet the Strategic Purposes of the Council. The schedule at Appendix 2 details the savings proposed.

**Financial Position**

- 3.19 The current summary position at 3.20 includes the financial impact of the above in addition to the following assumptions:
- 2.2% pay award in relation to the National Agreement in place
  - General inflationary increases in relation to contract arrangements
  - An estimation of the reduction for 2016/17 (5%) & 2017/18 (5%) in Central Government Grant
  - 3% increase in fees and charges ( where appropriate)
  - An estimation of the New Homes Bonus income
  - Additional growth income estimated in relation to the Business Rates receivable by the Council
  - Use of reserves of £875k. In previous years there have been drawdowns from reserves to fund the revenue budget. The majority of the use of reserves for 2015/16 (£755k) will be replaced by Capital receipts already received and therefore not impact on the level of reserves available for future funding requirements. In addition a review has been undertaken of all reserves and any no longer required are to be released to support the revenue budget.
  - No use of balances across the 3 year plan

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3.20 The revised position is shown below.

	<b>2015/16 £'000</b>	<b>2016/17 £'000</b>	<b>2017/18 £'000</b>
Base cost of General Fund Services	<b>11,783</b>	<b>11,107</b>	<b>10,822</b>
Additional re pay award / pension / incremental progression		235	153
Pressures – unavoidable & income shortfalls	238	-8	11
Savings Proposed	-1,005	-471	-40
Bids	91	-41	
<b>Net Service Expenditure</b>	<b>11,107</b>	<b>10,822</b>	<b>10,946</b>
Borrowing to fund capital programme	1,057	1,057	1,057
Investment Income	-484	-484	-484
Recharge to capital programme	-598	-598	-598
Vacancy Management	-190	-190	-190
<b>Net operating expenditure</b>	<b>10,892</b>	<b>10,607</b>	<b>10,731</b>
New Homes Bonus	-803	-1,011	-1,015
Parish Precept	8	8	8
Business Rate Retention	-2,003	-2,003	-2,003



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Net Business Rate Growth	-200	-200	-200
Surplus from Collection Fund	-55	0	0
Government Grant	-1,567	-1,499	-1,424
Assumed Council Tax	-5,397	-5,504	-5712
Use of Reserves	-875	-	-
<b>Overall Shortfall</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>385</b>

- 3.21 As shown in the table above there remain shortfalls over the 3 year. Officers are committed to realise these future years savings through transformation and redesigning systems and services within the Council to support the Strategic Purposes. Therefore we will continue to work with staff to enable services to be delivered at a reduced cost whilst meeting the demands of the community.

**General Fund Balances**

- 3.22 The level of the general fund balance is currently £1.1m. The current level of balances is sufficient but it is recommended that these should not drop below £750k. The current projections do include any use of balances over the 3 year financial plan.
- 3.23 The estimated level of government funding over the MTFP will reduce more rapidly than the increase in Council Tax revenues. Consequently, there will be a continuing focus on transforming service delivery to reduce waste and to ensure that the funding available is aligned to the services that create value to the community of Redditch.

**Capital Programme**

- 3.24 The Capital Programme is a 3 year rolling programme and officers have calculated the associated borrowing costs of the programme as part of the MTFP. Officers will ensure that costs are managed to mitigate the impact of borrowing on the revenue fund.

**Legal Implications**

- 3.25 None as a direct result of this budget update. The Council has a statutory responsibility to set a balanced budget for the following financial year when it set the Council Tax by March 1<sup>st</sup>.

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**Service / Operational Implications**

- 3.26 The MTFP will enable services to be maintained and, where achievable, improvements to the community.

**Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications**

- 3.27 The impact on the customer has been reduced due to the savings being realised by reduction of waste in the services and ensuring that all service that create value to the customer are resourced.

**4. RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 4.1 To mitigate the risks associated with the financial pressures facing the Authority regular monitoring reports are presented to both officers and Members to enable proactive action being undertaken to address any areas of concern.

**5. APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 – Unavoidable Pressures (including income shortfalls)

Appendix 2 – Savings Proposed

**AUTHOR OF REPORT**

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STATEMENT SHOWS IMPACT  
OF NEW PRESSURES EACH  
FINANCIAL YEAR

<b>UNAVOIDABLE PRESSURES</b>	<b>2015/16 £'000</b>	<b>2016/17 £'000</b>	<b>2017/18 £'000</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>ENABLING</b>				
Customer Access & Financial Support	73	-8	-	<i>Increased cost of building/reduction in income/ impact of concessionary rent scheme</i>
Parish Council & Neighbourhood Referendum	3	-	-	<i>Additional cost to be incurred in respect of Parish Election &amp; Neighbourhood Referendum</i>
Provision of Funding to ensure the Council can support the implementation of the Living Wage to staff	70	-	-	<i>To implement the Living Wage to staff for 2015/16</i>
Postage - additional postage costs	4	-	-	<i>Additional postage costs incurred to meet demand for information being sent across the Borough</i>
Land Charges	-	-	11	<i>Changes to Land Charges scheme will impact on income received</i>
<b>PROVIDE GOOD THINGS FOR ME TO SEE, DO AND VISIT</b>				
Increased building costs/loss of income - Leisure Services	24	-	-	<i>Increases in building costs together for Leisure facilities</i>
<b>HELP ME RUN A SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS</b>				
Car Parking Income - reduced income from enforcement	36	-	-	<i>There is a projected shortfall in income relating to enforcement as drivers are now parking in a more compliant way</i>
<b>HELP ME LIVE MY LIFE INDEPENDENTLY</b>				
Loss of Supporting People income/transitional from HRA	28	-	-	<i>Reduction in Supporting People income from WCC</i>
<b>TOTAL PER SUMMARY ABOVE</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>-8</b>	<b>11</b>	



**STATEMENT SHOWS IMPACT  
OF NEW SAVINGS EACH  
FINANCIAL YEAR**

<b>STRATEGIC PURPOSE SAVINGS</b>	<b>2015/16 £'000</b>	<b>2016/17 £'000</b>	<b>2017/18 £'000</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>ENABLING</b>				
Customer Access & Financial Support - Service Review Fraud / Customer Services / General savings	-143	28	-	<i>Savings delivered from structure reviews / reduced building costs/ locality working / fraud staffing changes due to Single Fraud initiative/</i>
Enabling Services; Legal & Democratic, Finance, Corporate Management , HR	-293	-138	-	<i>Savings delivered from structure reviews and general efficiencies within the services</i>
WRS Savings	-	-50	-	<i>Savings from further efficiencies in WRS</i>
JPV	-	-	-15	<i>Savings realised from the Joint Property Vehicle project</i>
Contract Savings / efficiencies	-50	-20	-	<i>Savings to be achieved from reviewing and renegotiating contracts</i>
Asset review	-30	-60	-	<i>Savings from reviewing assets across the organisation and to manage energy costs more efficiently</i>
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>-516</b>	<b>-240</b>	<b>-15</b>	
<b>KEEP MY PLACE SAFE AND LOOKING GOOD</b>				
Parking Services	-30	-	-	<i>Reduction in costs associated with civil parking enforcement</i>
Place Review - Environmental/Community Services savings	-164	-26	-	<i>Reduction in costs following the review of services delivered across the locality</i>
Staffing Reviews across the Strategic Purpose	-	-25	-25	<i>Savings estimated as a result of a review across the Strategic Purpose within a locality</i>
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>-194</b>	<b>-51</b>	<b>-25</b>	
<b>HELP ME LIVE MY LIFE INDEPENDENTLY</b>				
Shopmobility / Dial a Ride	-20	-30	-	<i>Savings estimated as a result of a review into the efficiency and operation of Dial A Ride and Shopmobility Services</i>
Staffing Review across the Strategic Purpose	-20	-	-	<i>Savings estimated as a result of a review into the resource supporting the strategic purpose</i>
Building Control	-60	-	-	<i>To revise the charging mechanism for Building Control Shared Service to allocate costs based on activity</i>
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-30</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>PROVIDE GOOD THINGS FOR ME TO SEE, DO AND VISIT</b>				
Leisure Services	-150	-150	0	<i>Potential savings that could be delivered from a review of how Leisure Services are delivered</i>

Community Centres	-45	0	0	<i>Review of the operation and management of the community centres has delivered savings</i>
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>-195</b>	<b>-150</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>TOTAL TO INCLUDE NEW SAVINGS PROPOSED</b>	<b>-1,005</b>	<b>-471</b>	<b>-40</b>	



# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday, 13th January, 2015

## MINUTES

### Present:

Councillor Jane Potter (Chair), Councillor Gay Hopkins (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Joe Baker, Michael Braley, Andrew Fry, Carole Gandy, Alan Mason, David Thain and Pat Witherspoon

### Officers:

Jayne Pickering and Sam Morgan

### Democratic Services Officers:

J Bayley and A Scarce

### 61. APOLOGIES AND NAMED SUBSTITUTES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors David Bush and Paul Swansborough with Councillors David Thain and Michael Braley attending as substitutes respectively.

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

Councillor Jane Potter declared an other discloseable interest in respect of Minute No. 67 Proposals for Change by Tudor Grange Academy Short, Sharp Review – Response to the Group's Recommendations. She left the room and took no part in the discussions in respect of this item.

### 63. MINUTES

#### RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2014, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

#### RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2014, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

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Chair

# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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## 64. 10TH NOVEMBER 2014 MEETING - ACTIONS

The report had been prepared following the meeting on 10th November when a large amount of additional information had been requested by Members. Members had received a number of updates on separate items by email, but it was felt that it would be more useful to collate all the information into an action list and to present to Committee.

Officers acknowledged that the budget scrutiny process had not been as successful as anticipated and that a review would be carried out of the how the information was provided together with comparative data as requested for the previous three years. Whilst going through the report the data around the Shopmobility scheme was highlighted along with the detailed information in respect of the IT licences.

There had been a late response which was tabled at the meeting, which Officers brought to the attention of Members, in respect of the number of enquiries received from the Housing Options Team and the effectiveness of the work it carried out. It was highlighted that as part of the front line service the Council was recording demand (what the customer asked for) and the demand in context (understanding the wider context of the customer's enquiry) and trialling different ways of working.

Members who were not present at the meeting on 10th November questioned the need for and value of some of the information that had been requested, particularly as there was no further action that the Committee could take on these matters. The format of a number of the responses was also questioned and concerns were raised about inconsistency in terms of the presentation of data. Members suggested that in future where financial information was provided this would be better presented in a table format.

From the information received Members considered in detail the update provided in respect of the use of the Shopmobility facility and questioned whether this service should be investigated further. In particular it was questioned whether provision of the service after 3.00 pm should be reviewed as from the information it was clear that the majority of usage was in the mornings. Officers confirmed that this was the sort of area of detail which would be produced in order to see how further savings could be made.



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## 65. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2015/16 TO 2017/18 - PRE-SCRUTINY

Officers presented the Medium Term Financial Plan 2015/16 to 2017/18 and highlighted the following areas:

- A balanced budget would be presented at the February meeting of the Committee.
- The government settlement was slightly less than anticipated.
- A Council Tax increase of 1.9% per annum had been included and any new build properties had also been factored in for Council Tax purposes.
- The new localised regime on Business Rates, which took effect from April 2013, and the pooling arrangements.
- The transformation work being carried out and the savings made from the different ways the Council was working.

Following presentation of the report Members raised the following points:

- The use of reserves and monies expected to be received in respect of the sale of Threadneedle House. (Officers agreed to provide Members with an update on the sale of the property outside of the meeting.)
- The Shopmobility scheme and the contribution received from the Kingfisher Shopping Centre, which it was noted had been reduced over recent years, and the increased footfall within the Centre which had recently been reported.
- The costs of IER and any contribution received from central Government.

Officers confirmed that the report received at the February meeting would contain more detail in respect of both unavoidable pressures and savings to be made, together with a sustainable three year plan. It was confirmed that the predicted savings included within that plan would be carefully monitored and details provided to Members in order that Heads of Services could be held to account if necessary.

The Chair commented that she was disappointed with the number of formatting and typographic errors within the report. This was acknowledged by Officers and would be taken up with the relevant teams after the meeting.

The Chair commented that it was very difficult for the Committee to carry out constructive pre-scrutiny work when the reports were not received until the day prior to the meeting and questioned whether

# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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there was anyway that this could be changed. Whilst accepting the difficulty this caused, Officers informed Members that it was a Constitutional issue. Officers highlighted that the budget report due to be considered at the Committee's February meeting would allow more time for Members to consider the budget and any comments would be reported directly into the Council meeting when the final decision on the Council's budget would be made. Officers also acknowledged that the budget scrutiny process had not run as smoothly as expected and this would be reviewed and a lesson learned exercise carried out in order for improvements to be made in future years. It was suggested that a report should be brought to the Committee in September so that Members could have a more structured and detailed input into the budget setting process in future years.

## **RECOMMENDED that**

**Officers approach the Kingfisher Shopping Centre in respect of contributing further funding for the Shopmobility scheme; and**

## **RESOLVED that**

**the Medium Turn Financial plan 2015/16 to 2017/18 be noted.**

## **66. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT RENT AND CAPITAL 2015 - 16 - PRE-SCRUTINY**

Officers introduced the report and in doing so highlighted to Members that it included the draft estimates for the Housing Revenue Account and the proposed dwelling rents for 2015/16. Members were reminded of the changes to the system from March 2012 when the housing revenue account subsidy was replaced with a devolved system of Council housing finance called self-financing, which resulted in the Council borrowing £98.9m from the PWLB. The report also recommended a rent increase of 2.2% and examples of how this would affect residents were discussed.

The Committee considered the Right to Buy Scheme in detail and officers confirmed that they would provide Members with further details. Members also discussed the effect of rent being paid over a 48 week period on the cash flow and it was noted that this would also refer to those who paid Council Tax over 10 rather than 12 months.

## **RESOLVED that**

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**the recommendations within the Housing Revenue Account Initial Estimate 2015/16 Report be noted.**

**67. PROPOSALS FOR CHANGE BY TUDOR GRANGE ACADEMY SHORT, SHARP REVIEW - RESPONSE TO THE GROUP'S RECOMMENDATIONS**

Officers explained that the report provided the Committee with the opportunity to consider the responses received from both the Executive Committee and Worcestershire County Council (WCC). The Executive Committee had, at its meeting on 16th December, endorsed all the recommendations proposed by the Proposals for Change by Tudor Grange Academy Short, Sharp Review Group and approved recommendation 1. It was understood that the letter referred to was in the process of being drafted.

WCC had in principle agreed to the group's second recommendation, subject to a few amendments. Unfortunately, WCC had rejected recommendation 3 and an explanation had been provided within the report.

Councillor Pat Witherspoon, as Chair of the Short, Sharp Review, explained she was delighted to hear of WCC's approval of this recommendation and that dialogue between the County and the Borough would be taking place in Spring 2015 to look at the change in school selection. Councillor Witherspoon had been disappointed at the rejection of recommendation 3 as this was an area where all involved in the process, including parents had found the language used difficult to follow and it was not unreasonable for the review to have asked for these to be written in plain English.

**RESOLVED that**

**the proposals for Change by Tudor Grange Academy Short, Sharp Review – Response to the Group's Recommendations Report be noted.**

(Prior to the consideration of the Proposals for Change by Tudor Grange Academy Short, Sharp Review – response to the Group's Recommendations Councillor Potter declared an other discloseable interest in the subject as a school governor at Tudor Grange Academy. She left the room during consideration of this item and did not take part in the discussions.)

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## 68. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATION TRACKER - QUARTERLY UPDATE REPORT

Officers explained that, as requested the last meeting of the Committee when the Tracker had been presented, the Chair had considered and amended the document prior to publication. The recommendations were recorded in chronological order and included an estimated completion date where available. The updates in respect of the Market Task Group Report had not been included as the Committee had received a full update on these at its last meeting.

Members discussed the following in more detail:

- Access for Disabled People Recommendation 2. Members were concerned that earlier in the meeting they had been asking the Kingfisher Centre to provide more money for the Shopmobility scheme yet under this recommendation they had agreed to provide the canopy which would require funding. Officers agreed to discuss this with the relevant Head of Service.
- Voluntary and Community Sector Recommendation 1c The new grant application form templates were noted. However Members continued to be concerned about the length and detail requested in respect of the smaller, £500 grants and how this could potentially be off putting for small groups. Officers agreed to discuss this with the relevant Head of Service, as there was also an implication as to the amount of resources needed to process these forms.
- Voluntary and Community Sector Recommendation 8 – Staff Volunteering Award. The Chair of the review group, Councillor Witherspoon, whilst accepting that there were difficulties around this, was keen for the work of volunteers to be promoted throughout the Council through a communications campaign.
- Voluntary and Community Sector Recommendation 9 – the “Redditch Hour” on Twitter. Officers were asked to follow up the initial contact made with BARN in the hope that a response would be received.

### RESOLVED that

- 1) **Landscaping Recommendation 6 be removed from the Tracker with no further action being taken; and**
- 2) **the report be noted.**

# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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

Members considered the Executive Committee's Minutes from 16th December the latest edition of the Work Programme. Officers confirmed that there were no further updates.

The Chair once again, with support from the Committee, raised the issue of receiving reports at such short notice when carrying out pre-scrutiny work and the restrictions this placed on the potential for scrutiny to make a constructive contribution to the decision making process. Members therefore requested that this matter be brought to the attention of the Constitutional Review Working Group.

**RESOLVED that**

**the minutes of the Executive Committee held on 16th December and the latest edition of the Executive Committee's Work Programme be noted.**

**70. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME**

Members considered the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme. Officers highlighted that the Market Consultation Report, which had been referred to at the previous meeting, had been due to be considered at the shared services Client Management Group in January. Subject to the outcome of this meeting the report would then be then considered by the Executive Committee, though had not yet been added to Executive Committee Work Programme. Once a date had been set for the consideration of the Executive Committee Officers would add the report to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme.

The Chair suggested to Members, who were in agreement, that due to there being no business for the meeting scheduled for 7th April, this be cancelled.

**RESOLVED that**

- 1) the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting arranged for 7th April 2015 be cancelled; and**
- 2) the Committee's Work Programme be noted.**

# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday, 13th January, 2015

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## 71. TASK GROUPS - PROGRESS REPORTS

### Provision of Support Networks for the LGBT Community- Chair, Councillor Joe Baker

Councillor Baker informed Members that whilst the group had only held two meetings they had gathered a lot of information and had been concerned at the apparent lack of support provided within the Borough to the LGBT community. The Group had set questions for future witnesses including representatives of West Mercia Police and the Community Safety team who had been carrying out work on both hate crime and within schools. Members also hoped to consult with Stonewall an organisation which had carried out a lot of research around LGBT awareness within schools. It appeared that Birmingham City Council were forward thinking within the Council and the community and the group were planning on visiting a number of venues.

### Tackling Obesity Task Group – Chair, Councillor Jane Potter

Councillor Potter informed Members that since the last Committee meeting the group had looked at the findings from the Worcestershire Viewpoint survey for residents 65% of which had said they were worried about obesity and its effects. The group had also met with Officers to discuss the use of social media. The next meeting would include interviews with representatives from Public Health at WCC. The group then had a meeting planned where they would interview the Leader and Chief Executive of the Council before considering recommendations and the content of its final report.

Councillor Potter highlighted that the group had been disappointed with the response received from the Redditch and Bromsgrove Clinical Commissioning Group, who after protracted discussions, had been unable to attend. It was hoped, however that they would provide written responses to a number of questions.

## 72. HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Councillor Pat Witherspoon, the Council's representative on the Worcestershire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) informed Members that the next meeting of HOSC would take place on 21st January 2015.

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**3<sup>rd</sup> February 2015**ADVISORY PANELS, WORKING GROUPS, ETC - UPDATE REPORT**

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor John Fisher, Portfolio Holder for Corporate Management
Relevant Head of Service	Claire Felton, Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services
Non-Key Decision	

**1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS**

To provide, 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.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Committee is asked to **RESOLVE** that

**subject to Members' comments, the report be noted.**

**3. UPDATES****A. ADVISORY PANELS**

	<b><u>Meeting :</u></b>	<b><u>Lead Members / Officers :</u></b> (Executive Members shown <u>underlined</u> )	<b><u>Position :</u></b> (Oral updates to be provided at the meeting by Lead Members or Officers, if no written update is available.)
1.	Economic Advisory Panel	Chair: <u>Cllr Greg Chance</u> / Vice-Chair: <u>Cllr John Fisher</u> Georgina Harris	Disbanded. Members now part of the Economic theme group under the Local Strategic Partnership
2.	Planning Advisory Panel	Chair: <u>Cllr Greg Chance</u> / Vice-Chair: <u>Cllr Rebecca Blake</u> Ruth Bamford	Next meeting planned for 10th March 2015.

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**3<sup>rd</sup> February 2015

3.	Housing Advisory Panel	Chair: <u>Cllr Mark Shurmer</u> / Vice-Chair: <u>Cllr Greg Chance</u>  Liz Tompkin	Next meeting – 11th February 2015.
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**B. OTHER MEETINGS**

4.	Constitutional Review Working Party	Chair: <u>Cllr Bill Hartnett</u> / Vice-Chair: <u>Cllr Greg Chance</u>  Sheena Jones	Last meeting – 27 <sup>th</sup> January 2015
5.	Member Support Steering Group	Chair: <u>Cllr John Fisher</u> / Vice-Chair: <u>Cllr Phil Mould</u>  Sheena Jones	Next meeting due to be held during early February
6.	Grants Assessment Panel	Chair: Cllr David Bush / Vice-Chair: <u>Cllr Greg Chance</u>  Donna Hancox	Last meeting – 17 <sup>th</sup> November  Recommendations approved at Executive Committee

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REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

3rd February 2015

**ACTION MONITORING**

<b>Portfolio Holder(s) / Responsible Officer</b>	<b>Action requested</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>20<sup>th</sup> January 2015</b>		
<b>Councillor J Fisher</b>	<b>Land at Easemore Road – Disposal</b> Members queried the potential current value of the land compared to what they understood the historical valuation was. Officers undertook to research this and report back to members outside the meeting.	
<b><u>Note:</u></b>	<i>No further debate should be held on the above matters or substantive decisions taken, without further report OR unless urgency requirements are met.</i>	Report period: 23/01/15 to present

