

# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Wed 10 Sep  
2008  
7.00 pm

Committee Room Two  
Town Hall  
Redditch



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

# Access to Information - Your Rights

The Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 widened the rights of press and public to attend Local Authority meetings and to see certain documents. Recently the Freedom of Information Act 2000, has further broadened these rights, and limited exemptions under the 1985 Act.

Your main rights are set out below:-

- Automatic right to attend all Council and Committee meetings unless the business would disclose confidential or “exempt” information.
- Automatic right to inspect agenda and public reports at least five days before the date of the meeting.
- Automatic right to inspect minutes of the Council and its Committees (or summaries of business undertaken in private) for up to six years following a meeting.
- Automatic right to inspect lists of background papers used in the preparation of public reports.
- Access, upon request, to the background papers on which reports are based for a period of up to four years from the date of the meeting.
- Access to a public register stating the names and addresses and electoral areas of all Councillors with details of the membership of all Committees etc.
- A reasonable number of copies of agenda and reports relating to items to be considered in public must be made available to the public attending meetings of the Council and its Committees etc.
- Access to a list specifying those powers which the Council has delegated to its Officers indicating also the titles of the Officers concerned.
- Access to a summary of the rights of the public to attend meetings of the Council and its Committees etc. and to inspect and copy documents.
- In addition, the public now has a right to be present when the Council determines “Key Decisions” unless the business would disclose confidential or “exempt” information.
- Unless otherwise stated, all items of business before the Executive Committee are Key Decisions.
- (Copies of Agenda Lists are published in advance of the meetings on the Council’s Website:  
**[www.redditchbc.gov.uk](http://www.redditchbc.gov.uk)**

**If you have any queries on this Agenda or any of the decisions taken or wish to exercise any of the above rights of access to information, please contact**

**Jess Bayley and Helen Saunders  
Committee Support Services**

**Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch, B98 8AH  
Tel: Overview and Scrutiny Support Officers Fax: (01527) 65216  
e.mail: [committee@redditchbc.gov.uk](mailto:committee@redditchbc.gov.uk) Minicom: 595528**

آپ انگریزی میں مدد چاہتے ہیں۔ نسلیاتی رسائی [Ethnic Access] سے رابطہ کریں ٹیلیفون: 01905 25121

ইংরেজি ভাষার বিষয়ে সাহায্য চান – এথনিক অ্যাকসেস [Ethnic Access] এর সঙ্গে যোগাযোগ করুন,  
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# OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 10th September,  
2008

7.00 pm

Committee Room 2 Town Hall

## Agenda

### Membership:

Cllrs:	P Mould (Chair)	W Hartnett
	D Smith (Vice-Chair)	W Norton
	K Banks	D Taylor
	M Chalk	D Thomas

<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>(No Specific Ward Relevance)</b>
<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>(No Specific Ward Relevance)</b>
<b>3. Minutes</b> (Pages 1 - 8)	To confirm the minutes of the most recent meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee as a correct record.  (Minutes attached)  <b>(No Specific Ward Relevance)</b>
<b>4. Actions List</b> (Pages 9 - 12)	To note the contents of the Overview and Scrutiny Actions List.  (Report attached)  <b>(No Specific Ward Relevance)</b>
<b>5. Call-in and Pre-Scrutiny</b>	To consider whether any Key Decisions of the Executive Committee's most recent meeting(s) should be subject to call-in and also to consider whether any items on the Forward Plan require pre-scrutiny.  (No separate report).  <b>(No Specific Ward Relevance)</b>

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<b>6. Task &amp; Finish Reviews - Draft Scoping Documents</b>	<p>To consider any scoping documents provided for possible Overview and Scrutiny review.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Council Flat Communal Cleaning</li><li>• Public Transport in Redditch</li></ul> <p>(Reports to follow)</p> <p><b>(No Specific Ward Relevance)</b></p>
<b>7. Task and Finish Groups - Progress Reports</b>	<p>To consider progress to date on the current reviews against the terms set by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.</p> <p>The current reviews in progress are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Role of the Mayor Task and Finish Group – Chair – Councillor M Chalk; and</li><li>2. Third Sector Funding Task and Finish Group – Chair – Councillor D Thomas.</li></ol> <p>(Oral reports)</p> <p><b>(No Specific Ward Relevance)</b></p>
<b>8. Joint Scrutiny Exercise on Flooding</b>	<p>To consider further developments in the joint scrutiny exercise on flooding.</p> <p>(Oral report)</p> <p><b>(No Specific Ward Relevance)</b></p>
<b>9. The Disposal of Council Assets</b>	<p>To receive information about the Council's procedures for the disposal of assets.</p> <p>(Oral report)</p> <p><b>(No Specific Ward Relevance)</b></p>

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<b>10. Referrals</b>	<p>To consider any referrals to the Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee direct, or arising from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Executive Committee or full Council</li><li>• Other sources.</li></ul> <p>(No separate report).</p> <p><b>(No Specific Ward Relevance)</b></p>
<b>11. Work Programme</b> (Pages 13 - 18)	<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>
<b>12. Exclusion of the Press and Public</b>	<p>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:</p> <p>"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".</p> <p><b>(No Specific Ward Relevance)</b></p>