



Overview and Scrutiny

Committee

Mon 4 Feb
2019
7.00 pm

Committee Room Two
Town Hall
Redditch

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Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Monday, 4th February, 2019

7.00 pm

Committee Room 2 Town Hall

Agenda

Membership:

Cllrs:

Joe Baker (Chair)
Debbie Chance (Vice-Chair)
Joanne Beecham
Michael Chalk
Andrew Fry

Pattie Hill
Anthony Lovell
Gemma Monaco
Jennifer Wheeler

1. Apologies and named substitutes

2. Declarations of interest and of Party Whip

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

3. Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny meeting held on 3 January 2019 (Pages 1 - 12)

4. Community Lottery - Pre Scrutiny - To Follow

5. Housing / Housing Revenue Improvement Plan Progress Report - Pre-Scrutiny - To Follow

6. Executive Committee Minutes and Scrutiny of the Executive Committee's Work Programme - Selecting Items for Scrutiny (Pages 13 - 32)

7. Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme (Pages 33 - 36)

8. Task Groups, Short Sharp Reviews and Working Groups - Verbal Updates

- a) Budget Scrutiny Working Group
- b) Performance Scrutiny Working Group

9. External Scrutiny Bodies - Update (Pages 37 - 38)

- a) West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Council representative, Councillor Chalk; and
- b) Worcestershire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) – Council representative, Councillor Chalk.

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Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Thursday, 3rd January, 2019

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor Joe Baker (Chair), Councillor Debbie Chance (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Joanne Beecham, Michael Chalk, Andrew Fry, Julian Grubb, Pattie Hill and Anthony Lovell

Officers:

Jayne Pickering, Guy Revans and Paul Spooner

Democratic Services Officers:

Jess Bayley and Amanda Scarce

70. APOLOGIES AND NAMED SUBSTITUTES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Gemma Monaco and Jennifer Wheeler and it was confirmed that Councillors Julian Grubb and Yvonne Smith were attending as their respective substitutes.

71. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND OF PARTY WHIP

There were no declarations of interest nor of any party whip.

72. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6 DECEMBER 2018

Members noted that during the discussions in respect of sexual health services those representing the services had indicated that they would review the opening hours for the service on Saturdays. This needed to be reflected in the minutes.

RESOLVED that

subject to the amendment detailed in the preamble above, the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 6th December 2018 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

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Chair

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73. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2019/20 TO 2022/23 - UPDATE - PRE-SCRUTINY

The Executive Director of Finance and Resources provided Members with an update on the Medium Term Financial Plan 2019/20 – 2022/23. It was confirmed that the Fees and Charges for 2019/20 would be considered by the Budget Scrutiny Working Group at its meeting on 7th January 2019.

The report outlined the issues faced by the Council in achieving a balanced budget and delegated to officers to investigate ways to achieve this. The Executive Director of Finance and Resources drew Members' attention to a table within the report which demonstrated the changes in the financial projects and budget gap for 2019/20 based on the original estimation of a £475k gap as presented in February 2018. Explanations of the reasons for the changes which resulted in the current gap of £496k were also highlighted, with particular reference being made to the additional costs in respect of the implementation of the National pay agreement in relation to increasing the spinal points attached to the current pay model, which had increased the cost by £160k.

The following areas were also discussed in more detail:

- Unavoidable costs in order to maintain current services. This included funding for an automated transactional process which would allow for the process to become more efficient.
- Savings and income – this included £100k from a contract with Cannock achieved by the Lifeline service.
- The need to ensure that all savings were identified and not to be recorded as “unidentified” as had been the case previously.
- Negative Revenue Support Grant – it was noted that, whilst it had not been confirmed, the projections included the removal of the £331K negative grant payment to Central Government.
- Business Rates baseline, the increase in the Section 31 Grant and the impact of this.
- The officer recommendation to increase Council Tax by 2.99% and the proposed increase at County Council level.
- New Homes Bonus Scheme (NHB) – concerns around the future of the scheme and the impact from the loss of the “new” NHB payments.
- Assumptions that had been made for future years including additional costs of borrowing for the capital programme.
- The current and minimal recommended level of balances.
- Capital bids including fleet replacement.

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- Members sought clarification in respect of the £58k additional rental income in respect of savings and additional income. Officers agreed to provide information in respect of the properties this referred to outside of the meeting.
- It was confirmed that the reduction in the Grants budget of £20k had been returned to balances and formed part of the savings.
- The £10k referred to in respect of the new Lottery Scheme was for the licencing fee.
- The additional cost of £28k in respect of Electoral Services and what this referred to – officers agreed to provide the information outside of the meeting.
- Members asked for the capital bid in respect of Terry's Field to be clarified and it was confirmed that this should read Terry's Memorial Field and would be highlighted in the report presented to the Executive Committee.
- Offices confirmed that the Council had a statutory duty to provide a balanced budget by 23rd February 2019.

Members took the opportunity to thank the Executive Director of Finance and Resources and her team for all their hard work in producing a balanced budget.

RESOLVED that

the recommendations within the Medium Term Financial Plan 2019/20 – 2022/23 be noted.

74. DEVELOPMENT PARTNER TO PROGRESS THE POSSIBLE REDEVELOPMENT OF WINYATES AND / OR MATCHBOROUGH DISTRICT CENTRES AND SURROUNDING AREAS - PRE-SCRUTINY - TO FOLLOW

The Chair welcomed the Interim Head of the North Worcestershire Economic Development and Regeneration (NWEDR) and invited him to present the report.

The Interim Head of NWEDR explained that the report outlined the initial proposals for the redevelopment of Winyates and Matchborough district centres. These proposals would be considered by the Executive Committee at a meeting on 8th January which would then move the project on to the next stages, to include the establishment of a partnership board to oversee the work.

The following areas were then highlighted in detail:

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- The bid for Worcestershire One Public Estate (OPE) funding to support the proposed feasibility study.
 - The need to work with Homes England and the Delivery Partner Panel to carry out soft market testing.
 - The fact that both centres suffered from dated layout and design, which impacted on trade and income potential. This in turn led to an impact on the overall environment of the centres.
 - The need for regeneration and improvement and the options available – the importance of getting this right was highlighted, in order to meet the needs of all concerned and to ensure that the Council was not put at a financial risk.
 - The potential high costs of such a project and the work which had been carried out in recent months between NWEDR, the Planning and Regeneration Team and Homes England, together with Worcestershire OPE to explore a partnership approach.
 - The funding streams which might be available and how to access these. This included a bid for £200k which was detailed within the report.
 - The potential to provide additional housing of up to 400 units and to enhance the sports and leisure facilities.
 - The need for the Council to work in partnership with the Arrow Vale RSA Academy and other public sector partners to ensure all related community services were integrated within the planned development.
 - The process and advantages of working with Homes England and its Delivery Partner Panel to ensure that any risks to the Council were mitigated.
 - The fact that all options would remain open to the Council upon completion of the soft market testing and the authority would not be obliged to commit to any of these options at the end of the process.
 - The Interim Head of NWEDR had previous experience of working with a number of members of the Delivery Partner Panel and he advised that they had the expertise in similar projects and would be able to advise on what would be the best options available at the sites.
 - The possibility of having one centre between the two areas and the use of all available land in appropriate ways.
 - The Strategic Partnership framework and the restrictions which came with this option. It was highlighted that these partnerships were intended to support housing directly and did not have mixed use development experience. Should the Council opt for a Strategic Partnership an early commitment would need to be made to work with the partners on that partnership.

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The Interim Head of NWEDR concluded that he would suggestion to the Executive Committee that the Delivery Partner Panel was the most suitable option for the Council to consider at this stage. This would allow for the soft marketing exercise to take place and help shape the Council's own plans, with an option then to go back to the market with more formal proposals at a later date. This created minimal risks for the Council and provided an opportunity to receive expert advice on the best way forward in order to secure the ambitions of the Council to regenerate these areas in the best way possible.

Following the presentation of the report, Members discussed a number of areas in more detail, including:

- Previous plans which had been drawn up in respect of the regeneration of Matchborough and Winyates district centres. It was confirmed that these had been very basic but would help to form a vision of what the Council would like and would provide an indication to potential developers of what was expected.
- Whether residents had been consulted. Officers acknowledged that the report made little reference to consultation stages. However, as this was the very earliest stage of the process it was confirmed that consultation would not take place until completion of the soft market testing. subsequently a steering group would be set up which would include all interested parties and would lead on stakeholder engagement.
- The potential for one district centre rather than two in the location and how this would be addressed in light of the current infrastructure in the area was discussed (reference to the Warwick Highway in particular was made). Officers acknowledged this issue and Members' attention was drawn to the plan provided within the report and the potential wider development area and land available.
- The number of houses that might be available and the breakdown of these. Specific reference was made to affordable housing and the potential loss of 29 Council houses as part of the redevelopment. Officers confirmed that there was the potential for up to 400 houses to be developed in line with the Council's planning strategy and this would include 30 per cent of the properties developed as affordable housing. There was further potential to increase the number of Council owned properties dependent on the final plans.
- The potential for one centre to service both areas and the impact of this on through traffic was considered. Members discussed the thinking behind the Redditch Development

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Corporation's original plans in the 1960s and 1970s, the development of the individual wards and how each area was served by highways infrastructure.

- The importance of consulting with Ward Councillors and local residents. Members expressed concerns that this had not happened for the redevelopment of Church Hill district centre to the detriment of the development, the community and partner organisations. Officers acknowledged that this was an important point to note.
- A number of Members noted that they were not particularly comfortable at this stage to opt for a particular route in respect of taking the development forward. Officers explained that by using the Delivery Partner Panel the Council was not making a commitment to a particular developer or route and therefore was able to make changes once the soft market testing had been completed, thus leaving the Council with all options still available to it.
- Members sought assurances that the mistakes made during the redevelopment of Church Hill district centre would not be repeated and any lessons learned would be taken on board.
- The importance of the provision of social housing, including Council housing, and the need for the authority to not just focus on developing affordable homes. Officers assured Members that there would be more detail around this within the next stage of the project. However, Members were assured that any plans would meet the Council's planning requirements and there was the potential for the number of Council owned houses to increase as part of the redevelopment.
- Members also questioned when local residents would be consulted and officers advised that consideration would be given to a statement being issued following the decision made at the Executive Committee meeting.
- Clarification in respect of the Arrow Vale Trust was requested and it was explained that this was the governing body of the Arrow Vale Academy.
- Reference was made to the photographs used in the bid document within the report and why the choice had been made to include these images. Officers noted that whilst these did not show the centres in the best light, they had been used specifically for the purpose of the bid.

Members discussed the recommendations which would be considered by the Executive Committee and after further discussion the Committee

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RESOLVED that

the recommendations detailed in the report be noted; and

RECOMMENDED that

assurances be given that no Council housing stock or business unit assets would be lost from the redevelopment of the Winyates and Matchborough district centres.

**75. WASTE COLLECTION FROM HOUSES OF MULTIPLE
OCCUPATION - REPORT**

Members were reminded that this was something which had been raised as a matter of concern at the Overview and Scrutiny work Programme Planning event in June when discussing possible areas for scrutiny. The Head of Environmental Services provided Members with details around waste collection services for Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMOs) in light of the recent licensing changes which had come into force on 1st October 2018. The changes meant that landlords had to provide facilities for storing and disposing of household waste, recycling and garden waste. The changes also extended the description of HMOs to include properties which were less than three stories high.

The Head of Environmental Services provided Members with details around the legal implications of the changes and the impact of failure by the licence holder to comply with the scheme. Background information was also provided in respect of HMOs and the important role that they played within the housing sector. The accommodation was typically cheaper than other private rental options and often housed vulnerable tenants. Historically, this type of accommodation also brought with it problems in respect of waste, as the tenants were often transient and did not take responsibility for their waste. There was a lack of ownership and the quality and cleanliness of items presented as generally poor, with waste often uncontained and deposited direct into bins rather than bagged.

The Head of Environmental Services confirmed that his team were working closely with the Private Sector Housing Team to ensure that all future licenses granted for HMOs included a written statement ensuring waste was sufficiently catered for as part of their conditions. The team also carried out inspections before granting any licence with the specifics of those conditions being reiterated. It was confirmed that waste of this nature was being discussed at a national level and there was an argument being put

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forward to justify this type of waste as being classified as commercial.

Following the presentation of the report Members discussed a number of areas in more detail, including:

- Whether the licences were renewed on an annual basis – Officers agreed to confirm this with Members outside of the meeting.
- Agreement that if the Government changed the existing regulations then HMOs would be treated as commercial premises for waste purposes.
- Disposal of garden and bulky waste – it was confirmed that these services were available at the appropriate costs.
- Difficulty in navigating the Council's website – it was agreed that this would be taken up further outside of the meeting.
- Difficulty in being able to establish who was responsible for the waste and how this could potentially be addressed.
- Whether there was the potential for the Committee to further investigate the subject of waste and recycling levels. Following discussion the Committee agreed that this was a subject which had been scrutinised by a Task Group in some detail previously though this had disappointingly not caused an increase in recycling rates. Therefore Members concluded that further investigation of the subject was unlikely to impact on the Council's recycling rates.
- The increased number of HMOs within the Borough and concerns that this would continue into the future and the ongoing problems which it brought.

Members were keen to ensure that the impact of the new legislation was monitored and met the needs of all those concerned, before any further action on this matter was taken.

RESOLVED that

the briefing note in respect of Waste Collection from Houses of Multiple Occupation be noted.

76. TASK GROUPS, SHORT SHARP REVIEWS AND WORKING GROUPS - VERBAL UPDATES

Budget Scrutiny Working Group

Officers advised that the Group would meet on 7th January 2019 when it would consider the Housing Revenue Account and the Fees and Charges report for 2019/20. Due to the timing of this meeting it

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was confirmed that any recommendations would be fed directly through to the Executive Committee meeting on 8th January.

Performance Scrutiny Working Group

Members were advised that the next meeting of this Group would take place on 10th February 2019.

77. EXTERNAL SCRUTINY BODIES - VERBAL UPDATES

West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Councillor M. Chalk

Councillor Chalk advised that at the most recent meeting of WMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee there had been a question and answer session with the Mayor, Mr. A. Street. There had been some thirty questions put to him, many of them around available funding and Councillor Chalk explained that he would be happy to provide further details to any Members who would like more detail.

Worcestershire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) – Councillor M. Chalk

Councillor Chalk informed the Committee that at the previous HOSC meeting one of the areas covered had been plans for coping with winter pressures and he was pleased to report that more beds had been made available at the Alexandra Hospital in Redditch.

78. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES AND SCRUTINY OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S WORK PROGRAMME - SELECTING ITEMS FOR SCRUTINY

Officers advised Members that recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee had been considered at the Executive Committee meeting on 11th December and it was noted that one remained outstanding and that this would be considered at the Executive Committee meeting on 8th January.

An update in respect of the Executive Committee's Work Programme was provided, which included a number of additional items being included following its publication. These were:

- The removal of the item in respect of the restructure of Planning Services – Town Centre Co-ordination.
- Unit 17 Broad Ground Road, Redditch – this had now gone back to March.

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- Flexible homelessness item – this was included twice in the Work Programme but Officers confirmed that it was only one item.
- Private Sector Housing Report Scheme item would be considered at the 5th February Executive Committee meeting.
- A new item in respect of a change in the operator at Arrow Valley Countryside Centre had been added recently.

RESOLVED that

- a) **the minutes of the Executive Committee held on 11th December 2018 be noted; and**
- b) **the Executive Committee's Work Programme be noted.**

79. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

Officers provided a number of updates in respect of the Committee's work programme, this included the following:

- Overview and Scrutiny – Select Committee Findings. Members were advised that the Government's guidance in respect of Overview and Scrutiny, which was due to be issued in December 2018 following a Select Committee review of the process, had not yet been published. It was therefore likely that this item would need to be postponed.
- Housing Improvement Plan – this should have been included within the February meeting as Members' had requested to pre-scrutinise this item, following consideration of the Executive Work Programme.
- Community Lottery item – this should also have been included in the Committee's work programme for pre-scrutiny at its February meeting.

It was noted that there were a significant number of items to be considered at the meeting in February and after discussion it was agreed that an additional meeting would be arranged, prior to 5th February Executive Committee meeting in order to give the Committee sufficient opportunity to consider all the items.

RESOLVED that

- a) **Officers canvass a date for an additional Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting as detailed in the pre-amble above; and**

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- b) the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme be noted.

The Meeting commenced at 6.30 pm
and closed at 7.57 pm

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Executive Committee

Tuesday, 8 January 2019

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor Matthew Dormer (Chair), Councillor David Bush (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Tom Baker-Price, Greg Chance, Brandon Clayton, Bill Hartnett, Mike Rouse and Craig Warhurst

Also Present:

Councillor Joe Baker

Officers:

Kevin Dicks, Sue Hanley, Jayne Pickering, Deb Poole, Judith Willis, Becky Talbot, Clare Flanagan, Chris Forrester, Paul Spooner and Amanda Delahunty

Senior Democratic Services Officer:

Amanda Scarce

68. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor G. Prosser.

69. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

70. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair circulated a written update on the Leader's Announcements.

71. MINUTES

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 11th December be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

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Chair

Executive Committee

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72. HOUSING ALLOCATIONS POLICY UPDATE

The Portfolio Holder for Housing introduced the report and in so doing highlighted a number of areas, including the consultation which had taken place and the responses received, which were detailed within the report. The new policy would ensure that the Council was better able to prioritise its limited supply of social housing, whilst also taking into account changes to legislation. It also included more robust consequences for those tenants who were in breach of their tenancy agreements. The Portfolio Holder for Housing also took the opportunity to thank the management and officers for their support and hard work in delivering this revised policy.

Following presentation of the report Members discussed a number of areas in more detail:

- Disappointment in the limited number of responses received to the consultation and the ratios of responses used to make amendments to the policy.
- Community Contribution for Key Workers and Volunteers – 65% of respondents supported this proposal.
- Priority for Armed Forces, which was part of the legislative requirements and the inclusion of Domestic Abuse victims. Armed forces personnel are catered for through legislation. Victims of domestic abuse are usually dealt with under homelessness legislation which is the highest priority that can be awarded, however during the consultation period new statutory guidance was issued requesting that those who are placed in a refuge or interim accommodation receive preference in the allocations policy and the proposed policy has been amended to reflect this.
- Groups which may be unfairly disadvantaged by proposals – which included single parents, low income families and care workers, (which were not covered by key work definition). It was confirmed that if these had been included it was likely that it would skew the policy and it had been confirmed that it was justifiable to not give them preference.

Officers confirmed that in order to implement the new policy a new system was required and that this would be procured in the coming months. It was acknowledged that significant work needed to be carried out to ensure the policy was implemented as smoothly as possible and that work would commence shortly to begin this process. This included the introduction of a new form for all new applicants. Revised data would also be gathered for those already in the system.

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During consideration of this item an amendment was proposed by Councillor Bill Hartnett, which requested that the policy be monitored to ensure it was fit for purpose and that after 12 months of implementation, or sooner if necessary, it be reviewed and/or amended to enable it to deliver its aims. This amendment was seconded by Councillor Greg Chance.

Councillor Hartnett explained that it was good practice to include within any new policy a review and monitoring process to ensure that the changes were working and meeting the needs of those requiring the service. A number of Members responded by stating that this was normal practice for the Council and they saw no need for a specific recommendation to be made to cover this. Should there be a need for further changes to be made then these would be brought back to the Executive as and when necessary. It was also highlighted that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee could at any time request an update on any Council policy or process, so there were systems in place to ensure that the policy was fit for purpose. It was also argued that with such a major change to the policy and the need for a new system to administer it that it would take more than 12 months to get a true view of how it was working. There was also flexibility within the policy for managers to have flexibility with particular cases should the need arise.

Both Councillors Hartnett and Chance explained that they were not opposed to the policy but believed that such substantial changes required a review and monitoring process to be built in to it in order for those using the service to be able to see that the Council listened to any concerns which were raised and to protect those affected by the changes.

On being put to the vote the proposed amendment was lost.

Following a further brief discussion it was

RESOLVED that

- a) the results of the consultation on the draft housing allocations policy be noted; and
- b) the new housing allocations policy be adopted and implemented by the Council.

73. DEVELOPMENT PARTNER TO PROGRESS THE POSSIBLE REDEVELOPMENT OF WINYATES AND / OR MATCHBOROUGH DISTRICT CENTRES AND SURROUNDING AREAS

The Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, Town Centre and Commercialism introduced the report and took the opportunity to thank officers for their hard work put in to getting to this stage. He

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advised that this was a long overdue project, the dated centres no longer met the requirements of the local residents and it was hoped that the improvements would bring a much improved and better outcome to the whole area.

The Interim Head of North Worcestershire Economic Development and Regeneration (NWEDR) provide Members with a summary of the report, which included the following areas:

- The aim of the soft market testing, with the support of Homes England would be to refine the proposals and scheme that could be delivered.
- The need to attract new investment in the areas to mitigate the costs to the Council.
- The One Public Estate (OPE) bid for £200k to support the costs of the initial process.
- The Homes England Delivery Partner Panel and the experience they had in delivering similar projects.
- The importance in setting out the Council's proposals and being clear about the terms of any proposals moving forward.
- Consultation with residents would take place following completion of this initial stage.

Members raised concerns around the number of new market and affordable homes suggested and what proportion of Council Housing Stock would be included, as currently there was the potential loss of 29 Council Houses. It was highlighted that this was something which had been discussed in detail at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and that a recommendation had been put forward following its pre-scrutiny exercise. The Chair advised that the project was at its earliest stage and that such detail would follow on from this. The Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, Town Centre and Commercialism advised that the Council's ambition was to improve the area and the housing through the project; however it was difficult to be prescriptive at this early stage. It was confirmed that any developer would be expected to support the Council's current planning policy in respect of housing stock.

The Chair drew Members' attention to the additional papers pack 2, which contained the recommendation from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Councillor Hartnett proposed the recommendation and it was seconded by Councillor Chance.

The proposed additional recommendation stated the following:

“assurances be given that no Council housing stock or business unit assets would be lost from the redevelopment of the Winyates and Matchborough district centres.”

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The Chair invited Councillor Joe Baker, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to speak. Councillor Baker thanked the Chair for the opportunity to do so and advised that the Committee had discussed the report in detail and had expressed concerns regarding the re-development, as they had been mindful of mistakes which had been made in previous projects; particular reference being made to Church Hill. It was important that Ward Members were consulted and listened to as they had a wide local knowledge of the centres. Mistakes which had been made with previous projects had been costly and it was therefore also important to protect the Council from any unexpected additional costs at a later date. However, Councillor Baker went on to say that the Committee's major concern had been the loss of Council housing stock and any income from other sources such as retail units in the centres. Whilst the inclusion of affordable housing was welcomed this covered a wide spectrum and it was important to ensure that the current Council housing stock numbers were retained at best, but hopefully improved upon. Anecdotally, a Member commented that there had been involvement in previous projects by the relevant Ward Councillors through a number of meetings.

Whilst the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, Town Centre and Commercialism understood the sentiment behind the recommendation it was felt that it would be difficult at this early stage to support such a restriction. He suggested that he would support an alternative wording, which did not include reference to business unit assets.

Councillor Baker reiterated that the Committee had simply asked for assurances that there would be no loss, whilst accepting that it was difficult to predict what the final project outcome would look like, although it was the housing stock which was the most important area for consideration. Councillor Hartnett also commented that it was important that the Council maintained any income stream available from the business units, particularly in light of the difficult financial times the Council was currently facing.

On being put to the vote the recommendation was lost.

Councillor Hartnett proposed a further addendum to (i) of the recommendations included within the report in agenda pack, that "protects and enhances the number and quality of RBC Housing stock currently provided at both sites and further protects and replaces the income generated by RBC business units existing currently." This was seconded by Councillor Chance.

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The comments that had previously been made to explain why this was not possible were reiterated and after further discussion and with the agreement of Councillor Hartnett, his proposed addendum was withdrawn, and the addition of (b) below was made to the recommendations within the report. It was

RESOLVED that

- a) the proposal for a comprehensive approach to the redevelopment of Matchborough and Winyates District Centres and the creation of up to 400 new market and affordable homes as part of the development be noted;**
- b) assurances be given that there will be no net loss in Council housing stock in the future development of the Matchborough and Winyates District Centres;**
- c) the bid for One Public Estate (OPE) funding to support the Council in the feasibility study and the options appraisal for such a development as detailed in Appendix 1 be noted;**
- d) the Council agrees to work with Homes England and its Delivery Partner Panel to 'soft market test' its proposals with members of the panel at no additional cost to the Council, and with no ongoing obligation; and**
- e) the establishment of a partnership board involving Redditch Council, Homes England, Worcestershire County Council and Arrow Vale Academy to oversee the continuing work on all aspect of the project be noted.**

74. JOINT DISCUSSION - A JOINT PAY SCALE

Members considered a report which provided them with an update in respect of the current position regarding the National Pay Award which introduced changes to the National Pay Spines and the impact of this on the Council.

The Human Resources and Organisational Development Manager explained the background to the report and in so doing highlighted a number of points, including the following:

- As part of the two year pay award agreed nationally new national pay spines needed to be implemented from 1st April 2019.
- In order to close the significant gap this had created new spinal column points in some cases.

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- That although this Council and Bromsgrove District Council (BDC) had the same Job Evaluation Scheme, the pay models differed, which resulted in a level of risk of equal pay claims.
- The introduction of the National Pay Spines gave the opportunity to combine both authorities' pay models and therefore reduce that risk.
- The proposals before Members had been informally discussed with the Trades Unions, but formal consultation would take place once agreement at full Council was achieved.
- Councillor Chance made the point that normally when consultation was undertaken this was on more than one option which was not the case in this instance. Notwithstanding this the Labour Group would support the recommendation as long as the unions were in agreement.
- The main differences between the schemes of each authority were highlighted, with an example of the differing levels of pay.
- A new joint pay scale would go towards meeting some of the issues raised in the Peer Review.

Following presentation of the report Members discussed a number of areas in more detail:

- Implications of the current differing schemes on staff morale.
- The preferred option was to bring this Council's scheme in line with that used by BDC.
- The matter would be considered at BDC Cabinet and Council on 16th and 23rd January respectively.
- The importance of having the Trades Unions' support and holding meaningful consultation with them.
- The importance of staff relations and morale.

Following a further brief discussion it was

RECOMMENDED that

- a) Model 1 be adopted and implemented with effect from 1st April 2019;**
- b) the commencement of formal consultation with the Trade unions with a view to reaching a Collective Agreement to implement a joint pay model across both Councils in lines with the revised National Pay Spine be agreed; and**

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- c) the commencement of a Dismissal and Re-engagement process in the event that a collective agreement is not achieved be agreed.

75. COUNCIL TAX BASE 2019/20

The Executive Director, Finance and Resources explained that this report was the statutory calculation of the Council Tax Base for the equivalent Band D property, which needed to be notification to major precepting bodies. This needed to be agreed and taken forward to full Council.

RECOMMENDED that

- a) The calculation of the Council's Tax Base for the whole and parts of the area for 2019/20, be approved; and
- b) 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 2019/20 be 26,096.0 and for the parts of the area listed below be:

Parish of Feckenham	370.1
Rest of Redditch	<u>25,725.9</u>
Total for Borough	<u>26,096.0</u>

76. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT INITIAL BUDGET 2019/20 TO 2021/22

The Executive Director, Finance and Resources presented the report and in so doing highlighted the following:

- The report covered the budget and rent setting for the HRA account.
- The impact of the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 and the reduction in rents, together with details of the income that would have been generated.
- The average rent decrease and the impact of the 1% rent reduction over four years, together with the reduction in working balances as a result of this.
- Expenditure, including an increase in repairs and maintenance. It was anticipated that this would improve further following management and procurement changes.
- The need to increase the housing stock and funds set aside for this purpose.

Members commented on the work that had already been undertaken in respect of return void properties to stock and a small

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number of new housing stock purchases, which would begin to improve the Council's position.

RECOMMENDED that

- a) the draft 2019/20 Budget for the Housing Revenue Account attached to the report at Appendix A be approved;
- b) the actual average rent decrease for 2019/20 be 1%;
- c) the £5,729k allocated to Major Repairs Reserve in 2019/20 be applied to fund the HRA capital programme; and
- d) £4,619k be allocated to the acquisition of new dwellings funded from earmarked capital receipts (£1,386k) and the HRA capital reserve (£3,233k).

77. FEES AND CHARGES 2019/20

Members' attention was drawn to the additional papers 1 agenda pack which contained revised fees and charges in respect of the crematorium and associated charges, which had been calculated with a higher percentage increase in error. It was noted that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's Budget Working Group had scrutinised the report, in some detail, the previous evening.

The Portfolio Holder for Corporate Management reiterated that the revised figures for the crematorium and associated charges now reflected the Council's view that this was not an area which should be increased any more than was necessary. It was also clarified that this service was able to cover its operating costs. The reduction in income from this would be covered within other areas to ensure that the Council had a balanced budget. It was also highlighted that a more sensible approach had been taken in respect of the Shopmobility services and no increase had been proposed.

The recommendation made by the Budget Scrutiny Working Group in respect of an investigating the potential to introduce special discount fees for frequent use of the Shopmobility service was noted.

RESOLVED that

The fees and charges as included at Appendix 1 to the report be noted.

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RECOMMENDED that

Council approve all fees and charges that are included in Appendix 1 to the report.

**78. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2019/20 TO 2022/23 -
UPDATE REPORT**

The Executive Director, Finance and Resources provided Members with an update on the Medium Term Financial Plan and confirmed that the final report would be received at the February meeting, and go forward to Council for approval. It was a four year plan which contained a number of assumptions for future years. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee had had the opportunity to pre-scrutinise the report at its meeting on 3rd January 2019. It was explained that a new approach had been taken this year in the planning and a table was included within the report which demonstrated the changes in the financial projections and budget gap for 2019/20 based on the original estimation of a £475k gap as presented in February 2018. This also included explanatory notes as to the reasons behind the changes, which resulted in the current gap of £496k. It was confirmed that since the report had been published this gap had further reduced. A number of areas were highlighted, including:

- Efficiency savings and unidentified pressures – these had been stripped out and only those which could be identified included.
- Negative
- Additional pay and inflation – this included additional costs from the National Pay agreement and Joint Pay Scale, which Members had already discussed at this evening's meeting.
- Negative Revenue Support Grant – this figure had originally been built in, however clarification had been received that this would not now be payable.
- Concern around the impact of changes to the New Homes Bonus scheme and the loss of funds in future years.
- Unavoidable costs and a number of small revenue bids. The majority of the capital bids referred to Section 106 funding.

The Portfolio Holder for Corporate Management thanked officers for their hard work and reiterated the need for the Council to look at working in different more innovative ways and was keen to ensure that savings were identified the unidentified savings no longer including within the figures provided. Discussions had been held with Central Government to raise concerns over future funding and lack of certainty moving forward. In the meantime the report set out the basis for delivering a balanced budget.

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A number of areas were discussed by Members, including:

- The inclusion of the assumption that Model I would be the route taken in respect of the Joint Pay Scale model.
- The shortfall in respect of the revised fees and charges for the crematorium and associated charges would need to be met through other means.
- The reduction of £20k with the implementation of the new grants scheme format.

RESOLVED that

the issues and the medium term financial plan gap be noted and that officers continue to review the position to enable a balanced budget to be presented to Executive on 5th February 2019.

79. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Whilst the Chair confirmed that the minutes were provided for information, it was highlighted that a recommendation at page 235 of the agenda had been overlooked at the previous meeting of the Executive. Members were therefore asked to consider this recommendation, which was in respect of the Enterprise System and recommended that there should be an all Member briefing on the subject of the new Finance System before council makes a decision on this subject on 28th January 2019.

The Portfolio Holder for Corporate Management responded that whilst he did not have any objection to such a briefing he felt that as the exact system had now been decided upon as yet, that a briefing on 28th January would be too early at this stage. He explained that as part of the procurement process it had become apparent that the original system that was being considered would become obsolete in the not too distant future and it had therefore been agreed that a further procurement exercise would be carried out with a view to a further, more advanced system being obtained.

RESOLVED that

arrangements for an all Member briefing on the subject of the new Finance System be made at the appropriate time.

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

The Chair confirmed that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee had made a recommendation in respect of the Development Partner to

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progress the possible redevelopment of Winyates and/or Matchborough District Centre and Surrounding Areas, at its latest meeting on 3rd January 2019 and this had been considered by the Executive Committee during the debate this evening.

81. ADVISORY PANELS - UPDATE REPORTS

- a) Constitutional Review Working Group – Chair, Councillor Matthew Dormer

There was no update since the previous meeting of the Executive Committee.

- b) Corporate Parenting Board – Council Representative Councillor Gareth Prosser

As Cllr Prosser had sent his apologies there was no update for this item.

- c) Grants Panel – Chair, Councillor Greg Chance

It was confirmed that this item would be removed from future agendas.

- d) Member Support Steering Group – Chair, Councillor Matthew Dormer

There was no update since the previous meeting of the Executive Committee.

- e) Planning Advisory Panel – Chair, Councillor Matthew Dormer

There was no update since the previous meeting of the Executive Committee.

The Meeting commenced at 7.00 pm
and closed at 8.53 pm

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE LEADER'S WORK PROGRAMME

1 February 2019 to 31 May 2019

(published as at 2nd January 2019)



This Work Programme gives details of items on which key decisions are likely to be taken by the Borough Council's Executive Committee, or full Council, in the coming four months. "Key Decisions" are ones which are likely to:

- (i) result in the Council incurring expenditure, foregoing income or the making of savings in excess of £50,000 or which are otherwise significant having regard to the Council's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
- (ii) be significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in the area comprising two or more wards in the Borough;
- (iii) involve any proposal to cease to provide a Council service (other than a temporary cessation of service of not more than 6 months).

If you wish to make representations on the proposed decision you are encouraged to get in touch with the relevant report author as soon as possible before the proposed date of the decision. Contact details are provided. Alternatively you may write to the Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services, The Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch, B98 8AH or e-mail: democratic@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk

The Executive Committee's meetings are normally held at 7pm on Tuesday evenings at the Town Hall. They are open to the public, except when confidential information is being discussed. If you wish to attend for a particular matter, it is advisable to check with the Democratic Services Team on (01527) 64252, ext: 3268 to make sure it is going ahead as planned. If you have any other queries, Democratic Services Officers will be happy to advise you. The full Council meets in accordance the Council's Calendar of Meetings. Meetings commence at 7.00pm.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Councillor Matthew Dormer, Leader and Portfolio Holder for Planning, Governance and Partnerships
Councillor David Bush, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, Town Centre and Commercialism
Councillor Tom Baker-Price, Portfolio Holder for Corporate Management
Councillor Michael Rouse, Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Tourism
Councillor Brandon Clayton, Portfolio Holder for Environmental Services
Councillor Gareth Prosser, Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Regulatory Services
Councillor Craig Warhurst, Portfolio Holder for Housing
Councillor Greg Chance
Councillor Bill Hartnett

Decision including Whether it is a key Decision	Decision Taker Date of Decision	Details of Exempt information (if any)	Documents submitted to Decision Maker / Background Papers List	Contact for Comments
Council Tax Support Scheme and Wider Support Framework Key: No	Executive 5 Feb 2019 Council 25 Feb 2019		Report of the Head of Customer Access and Financial Support	Amanda Singleton, Head of Customer Access and Financial Support Tel: 01527 64252
Far Moor Lane, Redditch - Land Disposal to Homes England Key: No	Executive 5 Feb 2019 Council 25 Feb 2019	This report may contain some exempt information and might need to be considered by the Councillors in private session.	Report of the Interim Head of North Worcestershire Economic Development Unit	Paul Spooner, Interim Head of Economic Development & Regeneration - North Worcestershire

Decision including Whether it is a key Decision	Decision Taker Date of Decision	Details of Exempt information (if any)	Documents submitted to Decision Maker / Background Papers List	Contact for Comments
Homes England Asset Transfer Key: Yes	Executive 5 Feb 2019	<p>Consideration of this item is the subject to agreement of certain matters with Homes England in January 2019.</p> <p>This report will contain commercially sensitive information and therefore parts of the report may need to be considered in private session.</p>	Report of the Chief Executive	Paul Spooner, Interim Head of Economic Development & Regeneration - North Worcestershire
Housing / Housing Revenue Improvement Plan - Progress Report Key: No	Executive 5 Feb 2019		Report of the Deputy Chief Executive	Sue Hanley, Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director (Leisure, Environmental & Community Services) Tel: 01527 64252 ext 3601

Decision including Whether it is a key Decision	Decision Taker Date of Decision	Details of Exempt information (if any)	Documents submitted to Decision Maker / Background Papers List	Contact for Comments
Independent Remuneration Panel Report and Recommendations for 2019/20 Key: No	Executive 5 Feb 2019 Council 25 Feb 2019		Report of the Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services	Darren Whitney, Electoral Services Manager Tel: 01527 882547
Medium Term Financial Plan 2019/20 to 2022/23 and Council Tax Setting Key: No	Executive 5 Feb 2019 Council 25 Feb 2019		Report of the Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Resources	Jayne Pickering, Executive Director, Finance and Resources Tel: 01527 881207
Pay Policy Statement 2019/20 Key: No	Executive 5 Feb 2019 Council 25 Feb 2019		Report of the Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Resources	Becky Talbot, Human Resources and Development Manager Tel: 01527 64252 ext 3385
Performance Report Key: No	Executive 5 Feb 2019		Report of the Head of Business Transformation	Deb Poole, Head of Business Transformation and Organisational Development Tel: 01527 881256
Redditch Borough Council's Community Lottery Key: No	Executive 5 Feb 2019		Report of the Head of Community Services	Helen Broughton, Redditch Partnership Manager Tel: 01527 64252 ext 3237

Decision including Whether it is a key Decision	Decision Taker Date of Decision	Details of Exempt information (if any)	Documents submitted to Decision Maker / Background Papers List	Contact for Comments
Restructure in Planning Services - Town Centre Co-ordination Key: No	Executive 5 Feb 2019 Council 15 Apr 2019	This report may contain exempt information and therefore elected Members may need to go into private session when discussing this item at Committee meetings.		Ruth Bamford, Head of Planning and Regeneration Tel: 01527 64252
Unit 17, Broad Ground Road, Redditch Key: Yes	Executive 5 Feb 2019	This report may contain exempt information and as such Members may be required to go into confidential session during consideration of the item.	Report of the Chief Executive	Steve Singleton, Economic Development Manager Tel: 01562 732168
Worcestershire Strategic Direction for Tackling Homelessness Key: No	Executive 5 Feb 2019		Report of the Head of Community Services	Derek Allen, Housing Strategy Manager Tel: 01527 881278

Decision including Whether it is a key Decision	Decision Taker Date of Decision	Details of Exempt information (if any)	Documents submitted to Decision Maker / Background Papers List	Contact for Comments
Business Case - Domestic Waste Collection Resources Key: No	Executive 5 Feb 2019 Council 25 Feb 2019		Report of the Head of Environmental Services	Matthew Austin, Environmental Services Manager Tel: 01527 64252
Finance System Key: No	Executive Not before 5th Feb 2019 Council Not before 25th Feb 2019		Report of the Executive Director of Finance and Resources	Chris Forrester, Financial Services Manager Tel: 01527 881673
Flexible Homelessness Support Grant 2019/20 Key: No	Executive 5 Feb 2019			Amanda Delahunty
Finance Monitoring Quarter 3 2018/19 Key: No	Executive 26 Mar 2019		Report of the Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Resources	Chris Forrester, Financial Services Manager Tel: 01527 881673
Homelessness Grant, Flexible Homelessness Support and Homelessness New Burden's Fund Report 2019/20 Key: No	Executive 26 Mar 2019 Council 15 Apr 2019		Report of the Head of Community Services	Derek Allen, Housing Strategy Manager Tel: 01527 881278

Decision including Whether it is a key Decision	Decision Taker Date of Decision	Details of Exempt information (if any)	Documents submitted to Decision Maker / Background Papers List	Contact for Comments
Matchborough and Winyates District Centre Redevelopment Consultations Key: Yes	Executive Not before 26th Mar 2019		Report of the Head of Planning and Regeneration	Ruth Bamford, Head of Planning and Regeneration Tel: 01527 64252
Performance Report Key: No	Executive 26 Mar 2019		Report of the Head of Business Transformation and Organisational Development	Deb Poole, Head of Business Transformation and Organisational Development Tel: 01527 881256
Review of CCTV Provision Key: No	Executive 26 Mar 2019 Council 15 Apr 2019			Judith Willis, Head of Community Services Tel: 01527 64252 ext 3284
Service Delivery Options - HRA Gas Maintenance Key: Yes	Executive Not before 26th Mar 2019	Likely to be considered in exempt session.	Report of the Deputy Chief Executive	Guy Revans, Head of Environmental Services Tel: 01527 64252 ext 3292
Tenancy Conditions for Council Housing Tenants and Tenants' Handbook Key: No	Executive 26 Mar 2019 Council 15 Apr 2019		Report of the Head of Community Services	Jayne Baylis, Housing Services Manager Tel: 01527 64252 ext 3825

Decision including Whether it is a key Decision	Decision Taker Date of Decision	Details of Exempt information (if any)	Documents submitted to Decision Maker / Background Papers List	Contact for Comments
Overview and Scrutiny Committee's Annual Report 2018/19 Key: No	Council 15 Apr 2019		Report of the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Jess Bayley, Senior Democratic Services Officer (Redditch) Tel: 01527 64252 ext 3268
Review of the Policy for Voluntary and Community Sector Concessionary Rents Key: No	Executive Not before 26th Mar 2019 Council Not before 15th Apr 2019		Report of the Head of Community Services	Helen Broughton, Redditch Partnership Manager Tel: 01527 64252 ext 3237
Housing / Housing Revenue Improvement Plan - Progress Report Key: No	Executive 11 Jun 2019		Report of the Deputy Chief Executive	Sue Hanley, Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director (Leisure, Environmental & Community Services) Tel: 01527 64252 ext 3601
New Cemetery Provision Key: No	Executive 10 Sep 2019		Report of the Head of Environmental Services	Michael Birkinshaw

Overview & Scrutiny4th February 2019

Committee

WORK PROGRAMME 2018/19

(Report of the Chief Executive)

Date of Meeting	Subject Matter	Officer(s) Responsible for report
ALL MEETINGS	REGULAR ITEMS	(CHIEF EXECUTIVE)
	Minutes of previous meeting	Chief Executive
	Consideration of the Executive Committee Work Programme	Chief Executive
	Call-ins (if any)	Chief Executive
	Pre-scrutiny (if any)	Chief Executive
	Task Groups / Short, Sharp Review Groups – feedback	Chair of Task Group / Short, Sharp Review
	Working Groups - feedback	Chair of Working Group
	Committee Work Programme	Chief Executive
	REGULAR ITEMS	
	Update on the work of the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel	Chair of the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel
	Tracker Report	Relevant Lead Head(s) of Service
	Updates on the work of the Worcestershire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Redditch Borough Council representative on the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee
	Annual Monitoring Report – Redditch Sustainable Community Strategy	Relevant Lead Head(s) of Service

Overview & Scrutiny

4th February 2019

Committee

MEETING DATE	ITEM TO BE CONSIDERED	RELEVANT LEAD
4 th Feb 2019	Housing / Housing Revenue Improvement Plan Progress Report – Pre-Scrutiny – (Sue Hanley / Guy Revans / Judith Willis)	Relevant Lead Head(s) of Service
4 th Feb 2019	Community Lottery – Pre Scrutiny	Relevant Lead Head(s) of Service
18 th Feb 2019	Acute Hospital Services Review – Proposed Short Sharp Review	Relevant Lead Head(s) of Service
18 th Feb 2019	Medium Term Financial Plan – Proposed Budget – considering scrutiny proposals	Relevant Lead Director
18 th Feb 2019	Suicide Prevention Scoping Document (tbc) – (Councillor D Chance has indicated she will submit a scoping document in respect of this matter shortly which I will circulate amongst relevant officers as soon as I can).	Relevant Lead Head(s) of Service
21 st March 2019	The public bus service in Redditch	Diamond Bus Company
21 st March 2019	Pre-decision Scrutiny - Matchborough and Winyates District Centre Redevelopment Consultation	Relevant Lead Head(s) of Service
21 st March 2019	Private Sector Home Repair Assistance Policy – Pre-Scrutiny (Derek Allen / Judith Willis)	Relevant Lead Head(s) of Service
21 st March 2019	CCTV Service Provision Review – Pre-Scrutiny	Relevant Lead Head(s) of Service

Overview & Scrutiny

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21st March 2019	Pre-decision Scrutiny - Service Delivery Options – HRA Gas Maintenance	Relevant Lead Head(s) of Service
21st March 2019	Tenancy Conditions for Council Housing Tenants and Tenants Handbook	Relevant Lead Head(s) of Service
21st March 2019	Overview and Scrutiny – Select Committee Findings and new Government Guidance	Relevant Lead Head(s) of Service
21st March 2019	Overview and Scrutiny Committee Recommendation Tracker	
OTHER POSSIBLE ITEMS FOR SCRUTINY – DATE NOT FIXED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eastern Gateway • Parking on roads inappropriately • Landscaping • Local Hospital Service Provision – outcome of Health Commission • Mental health services • Health services for young people • Cuts to school budgets and parental choice • Council owned shops and rateable values • The night time economy 	

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This meeting was called to scrutinise the 2019/2020 budget. The numbers are in billions of pounds and cover all aspects WMCA remit. The Mayor is not to have percept and there is no rise in the non-constituent subscription.

There was an increase of £35K for the collective investment fund and the Brownfield Land & Property Development fund. £5M for Construction skills and Automotive Development. A further £25M for Digital cultural Media and sport.

These are some of the amounts that were discussed but there was some concern that spending did not relate to the desired outcomes.

The papers will be available at our next O&S or on the WMCA website

WMCA O&S
Meeting 16-01-2018

There was a problem with this meeting because it was inquorate as it needed at least 13 members and not enough were able to attend, even so the meeting went ahead. Wolverhampton's O&S had resolved to ask their exec to recommend to WMCA that members of the WMCA O&S should be full members of WMCA and have parity with Board members.

The Transport group's report looked at cycling and New Stations and the Air Quality Group was working on bus use.

There is a deficit of electricity in North Warwickshire. *This could/may affect us*
There is cultural development in both the arts and sports and road safety byelaws, plus support for JLRover. *Possible effect on our businesses that are in the supply train.*

The consultation on the amalgamation of Police Fire and the Mayor is close and finally the WMCA has a small group looking at a no deal Britex. *Does RBC have a need for the same*

In private the Wednesbury to Brierley Hill Metro extension was discussed.

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