



Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Thu 21 Oct
2021
6.30 pm

Council Chamber
Redditch Town Hall

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL

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**If you have any queries on this Agenda please contact
Jo Gresham**

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GUIDANCE ON FACE-TO-FACE MEETINGS

Due to the current Covid-19 pandemic Redditch Borough Council will be applying social distancing arrangements for holding face-to-face meetings.

Please note that this is a public meeting and is open to the public to attend

If you have any questions regarding the agenda or attached papers, please do not hesitate to contact the officer named above.

GUIDANCE FOR ELECTED MEMBERS ATTENDING MEETINGS IN PERSON

In advance of the Committee meeting, Members are strongly encouraged to consider taking a lateral flow test, which can be obtained from the NHS website. Should the test be positive for Covid-19 then the Member must not attend the Committee meeting, should provide their apologies to the Democratic Services team and should self-isolate in accordance with national rules.

Members and officers are strongly encouraged to wear face masks during the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting, unless exempt. Face masks should only be removed temporarily if the Councillor or officer is speaking or if s/he requires a sip of water and should be reapplied as soon as possible. As Councillors may remove their masks from time to time during the meeting, seating will be placed two metres apart, in line with social distancing measures to protect meeting participants.

Hand sanitiser will be provided for Members to use throughout the meeting.

The meeting venue will be fully ventilated and Members and officers may need to consider wearing appropriate clothing in order to remain comfortable during proceedings.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

The usual process for public speaking at Committee meetings will continue to be followed subject to some adjustments which allow written statements to be read out on behalf of residents and the virtual participation of residents at meetings of Council and Planning Committee. Members of the public are encouraged to log in virtually, either to speak or observe meetings wherever possible.

Members of the public will be able to access the meeting if they wish to do so. However, due to social distancing requirements to ensure the safety of participants during the Covid-19 pandemic, there will be limited capacity and members of the public will be allowed access on a first come, first served basis. Members of the public in attendance are strongly encouraged to wear face masks, to use the hand sanitiser that will be provided and will be required to sit in a socially distance manner at the meetings. It should be noted that members of the public who choose to attend in person do so at their own risk.

In line with Government guidelines, any member of the public who has received a positive result in a Covid-19 test on the day of a meeting must not attend in person and must self-isolate in accordance with the national rules.

Notes:

Although this is a public meeting, there are circumstances when Council might have to move into closed session to consider exempt or confidential information. For agenda items that are exempt, the public are excluded.



Overview and Scrutiny

Thursday, 21st October, 2021

6.30 pm

Committee Room 2 Town Hall

Agenda

Membership:

Cllrs:

Debbie Chance
(Chair)
Jennifer Wheeler
(Vice-Chair)
Salman Akbar
Karen Ashley
Joanne Beecham

Michael Chalk
Alex Fogg
Julian Grubb
Lucy Harrison

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 (Pages 1 - 10)

4. Public Speaking

To invite members of the public who have registered in advance of the meeting to speak to the Committee.

5. Church Green Conservation Area

Report to follow.

6. Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel Update (Pages 11 - 20)

7. Task Groups, Short Sharp Reviews and Working Groups - Update Reports

a) Budget Scrutiny Working Group – Chair, Councillor Jennifer Wheeler

b) Performance Scrutiny Working Group – Chair, Councillor Jennifer Wheeler

c) Short, Sharp Review of Parking on Unicorn Hill – Chair, Councillor Joanne Beecham

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8. External Scrutiny Bodies - Update Reports (Pages 21 - 24)

- 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.

9. Scrutiny of the Executive Committee's Work Programme - Selecting Items for Scrutiny (Pages 25 - 32)

10. Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme (Pages 33 - 34)

11. Exclusion of the Press and Public

Should it be necessary, in the opinion of the Chief Executive, during the course of the meeting to consider excluding the public from the meeting on the grounds that exempt information is likely to be divulged, it may be necessary to move the following resolution:

“That, under S.100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following matter(s) on the grounds that it/they involve(s) the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the relevant paragraphs (to be specified) of Part 1 of Schedule 12 (A) of the said Act”. These paragraphs are as follows:

Subject to the “public interest” test, information relating to:

- Para 3 – financial or business affairs; and
- Para 4 - any consultations or negotiations.

12. Executive Committee Minutes (Pages 35 - 48)

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Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Thursday, 2nd September,
2021

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor Debbie Chance (Chair), and Councillors Andrew Fry (in attendance as substitute for Councillor Jenny Wheeler), Salman Akbar, Joanne Beecham, Michael Chalk, Julian Grubb and Lucy Harrison

Also Present:

Councillor Matthew Dormer – Portfolio Holder for Planning, Economic Development, Commercialism and Partnerships
Councillor Nyear Nazir – Portfolio Holder for Community Services and Regulatory Services
Councillor Craig Warhurst – Portfolio Holder for Housing and Procurement

Officers:

Kevin Dicks, Claire Felton and Judith Willis

Democratic Services Officers:

Jo Gresham and Joe Galkowski

14. APOLOGIES AND NAMED SUBSTITUTES

Apologies were received from Councillors J. Wheeler and A. Fogg with Councillor A. Fry in attendance as substitute for Councillor J. Wheeler.

15. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND OF PARTY WHIP

There were no declarations of interest nor of any Party Whip.

Chair

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16. PUBLIC SPEAKING

There were no public speakers registered on this occasion.

17. DEMENTIA TASK GROUP REPORT

Councillor Chalk presented the Dementia Task Group Final Report to the committee. He thanked the members of the Task Group for taking part and individuals from external bodies who had provided witness testimonies to help inform the working group. Likewise, Councillor Chalk explained the background of the Task Group and its importance given the predicted number of individuals likely to be diagnosed with Dementia over the coming years, some of those being in Redditch Borough.

Councillor Chalk summarised the recommendations from the report. The first recommendation related to the promotion of Dementia Services in Redditch Borough by holding an event in conjunction with the Older People's Forum and Age UK. The second recommendation related to the updating of the Older People's Forum booklet which was available on the Council website. The last recommendation was that Councillors should be provided with Dementia Training so they could better understand the changing needs of the residents of the Borough. He recognised there would be some minor financial implications in terms of Officer time but believed they were achievable.

Members noted the report identified that there was no Public Health Practitioner operating in Redditch after the previous one had left the post. Members wondered why a replacement Public Health Practitioner had not been included in the recommendations of the Task Group. The Chief Executive responded by saying that previously Public Health had operated a model where there was a public health practitioner for each district but had modified this to a thematic based approach. He commented further that it was unlikely that the Worcestershire County Council Public Health Team would revert to the previous practice of place based Public Health Practitioners. The Chief Executive added that he and the Redditch Partnership Manager were working closely with partners as part of the local Integrated Care System through the Redditch Collaborative, so was happy to obtain up to date data and information for the Committee regarding Dementia Services.

Councillor Nazir was in attendance for the item, as the Portfolio Holder for Community Services and Regulatory Services. She thanked the members for bringing the report forward and recognised that there was not much provision of Dementia support, but there were some such as the Dementia Café at Astwood Bank. Councillor Nazir highlighted that there was also a hesitancy from GPs to diagnose individuals with Dementia.

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It was suggested that an additional recommendation should be added which required the Chief Executive to return to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee with new data and information in relation to Dementia Services. The recommendation was made by Councillor Chalk and seconded by Councillor Fry.

On being put to a vote, the proposal was agreed.

RECOMMENDED that:

- 1) officers work with local agencies including the Older People's Forum, Age UK to hold a Dementia Awareness Event in the Town Hall and promote the event on the Council's website.**
- 2) officers undertake a refresh of the Older People Services Booklet which is currently available on the Redditch Borough Council website and include a specific section regarding Dementia Services available in the Borough.**
- 3) Dementia Training be provided to all Elected Members in order for them to better understand the changing needs of the residents in the Borough.**
- 4) As part of the work in respect of Integrated Care System, the Chief Executive of Redditch Borough Council to work alongside partner agencies to provide Members with further information on Dementia services in the Borough and potential services for the future.**

18. PARKING AND ENFORCEMENT UPDATE

The Committee received a verbal update on Parking Enforcement in Redditch from Kevin Hiron, Environmental Services Manager.

During the update Members' attention was drawn to the recommendations that were agreed by Executive Committee for the Overview and Scrutiny Parking Enforcement Task Group final report from March 2020.

There was detailed discussion in respect of recommendation 1 regarding Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) being put in place in order for enforcement to take place on zigzag lines outside of schools. The Committee were informed that this recommendation had not yet been actioned, and that the process of the implementation of TROs was a protracted one. In addition to this,

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the Covid-19 pandemic had inevitably caused further delays. The Chair suggested that this was something that perhaps County Councillors who were present at the meeting could raise with Worcestershire County Council. Councillor Dormer agreed to address this further at a county level to see if any progress could be made.

Some Members noted that the process could possibly be so lengthy as Worcestershire County Council (WCC) were responsible for looking at TROs across the whole of Worcestershire and not just in Redditch. It was suggested that potentially Redditch could be offered as a trial area for TROs on zigzag lines due to its tight urban setting, which could possibly result in the process being carried out more quickly.

Members discussed the use of Walking Buses to help combat parking outside of schools. The Environmental Services Manager commented that this worked well with the third recommendation from the Overview and Scrutiny Parking Enforcement Task Group final report from March 2020 which recommended that Officers from Redditch Borough Council work with WCC, local schools and West Mercia Police to develop a strategy to tackle problem parking near schools. In addition to this, the Environmental Services Manager highlighted that the Road Safety Education Team ~~wh~~ offered class talks within schools.

The Chief Executive recommended that some monitoring be undertaken within the next 6 months by Officers around schools in addition to the possibility of looking into School Streets, an initiative where a temporary restriction on motorised traffic at school drop-off and pick-up times was implemented on the road outside a school. It was agreed that the Parking Enforcement Task Group be re-established to reconsider the outstanding recommendations and the possibility of the implementation of School Streets in the Borough. The Chief Executive also agreed that the earlier suggestion of offering Redditch as a trial area was a positive one and could potentially provide good outcomes for the Borough.

Councillor Beecham stated that she would be happy to volunteer as Chair of the Parking Enforcement Task Group should it be re-established and Members were happy with this suggestion. The Democratic Services Officer agreed to investigate the process for

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revisiting the Parking Enforcement Task Group and to contact relevant Members.

The Committee agreed that an update on Parking Enforcement be included on the Work Programme in sixth months' time. However, it was noted that there may be little progress in respect of TROs in sixth months' time, but it would provide a good opportunity for the Committee to receive further information from the Parking Enforcement Task Group and School Streets.

RESOLVED that

the Parking and Enforcement Update be noted, and any actions progressed subject to the preamble above.

19. PRE-SCRUTINY - HOMES ENGLAND ASSET TRANSFER (TO FOLLOW)

The Head of Legal, Democratic and Property Services presented the report for the Executive Committee on Homes England Asset Transfer to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for pre-scrutiny.

It was highlighted to Members that this was a straightforward report and provided clarification on the circumstances of these transfers and historical context of previous transfers to the Council.

Some Members queried what the transfer would mean for the current tenants of the Matchborough West Meeting Rooms. It was acknowledged that currently the meeting rooms did have tenants and that the change of ownership would not affect them at present. However, it was reported that it was not known what might happen going forward.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

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

Members were provided with an updated copy of the Executive Committee's Work Programme, for the period of the 1st October 2021 through to the 31st January 2022. No additional items were selected for pre-scrutiny during consideration of this item.

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RESOLVED that

- 1) **The minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on Tuesday, 13th July 2021 be noted.**
- 2) **The content of the Executive Committee's Work Programme for the period 1st September through to 31st December 2021 be noted.**

21. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

During consideration of this item there was further discussion regarding inviting the West Mercia Road Safety Team to a future meeting of the Committee in order to provide more information to Members on Road Safety and Speeding in the Borough. This was agreed by the Committee and the Democratic Services Officer undertook to contact the West Mercia Road Safety Team to see if they would be available to attend.

RESOLVED that

the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme be noted.

22. TASK GROUP REVIEWS - DRAFT SCOPING DOCUMENTS

Members were informed that a topic proposal had been received from Councillor L. Harrison regarding Speeding and Road Safety in the Borough. It was highlighted that this topic had been identified as a possible area of investigation during the Overview and Scrutiny Committee training that had taken place in June 2021.

The Chair reminded the Committee to bring forward proposals for Task Groups for the Committee to consider. It was requested that the Democratic Services Officer emailed Members to remind them that a Topic Proposal could be received at any time for consideration by the Committee.

RESOLVED that

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the Task Group Reviews - Draft Scoping Documents item be noted.

23. TASK GROUPS, SHORT SHARP REVIEWS AND WORKING GROUPS - UPDATE REPORTS

a) Budget Scrutiny Working Group – Chair, Councillor Jennifer Wheeler

The Chair reported that the Budget Scrutiny Working Group was due to meet on the 6th September 2021 and that an update would be provided at the next meeting of the Committee.

b) Performance Scrutiny Working Group – Chair, Councillor Jennifer Wheeler

The Chair reported that the Performance Scrutiny Working Group was due to meet on the 14th September 2021 and that an update would be provided at the next meeting of the Committee.

c) Dementia Task Group – Chair, Councillor Michael Chalk

The Chair acknowledged that the report had been considered and agreed by the Committee earlier in the meeting, therefore an update was not required.

d) Parking on Unicorn Hill, Short, Sharp Review – Chair, Councillor Joanne Beecham

Councillor Beecham informed Members that there had not been another meeting of the Parking on Unicorn Hill Short, Sharp Review since the last Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting, however, the next meeting was scheduled for 21st September 2021.

RESOLVED that

The Task Groups, Short Sharp Reviews and Working Groups Update Reports be noted.

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24. EXTERNAL SCRUTINY BODIES - UPDATE REPORTS

There were no updates reports for the Committee.

25. MINUTES

RESOLVED that

The minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on the 27th July 2021 be approved as a true and correct record and signed by the Chair.

26. PRE-SCRUTINY - ST DAVID'S HOUSE EXTRA CARE SCHEME BUSINESS CASE

The Head of Community and Housing Services presented the report for the Executive Committee on St. David's House Extra Care Scheme Future Delivery Model to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for pre-scrutiny. The purpose of the report was to consider the options for the services provided by Redditch Borough Council at St. David's House and the Queens Cottages, including domiciliary care, core care and kitchen provisions. The recommended option was to put the services out for procurement to a specialist care provider.

Councillor Warhurst was in attendance for this item, as the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Procurement, and was invited to speak on the item. Councillor Warhurst recognised that this was a difficult decision to make however it was a huge cost to the Council for a non-statutory duty and therefore necessary to do due to the Council's financial situation. Councillor Warhurst concluded by saying that the Council would be keeping the property as landlord, so therefore could ensure the provision of care provided at St. David's House and the Queens Cottages were at the level the Council expected for its residents.

Members asked if the Trades Unions had been consulted and what the outcome of the discussion was. It was reported that a meeting with union representatives was due to take place the day after the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, so discussions had not taken place.

The Committee wanted further assurances that there was confidence in the business case. Members were informed that some soft market testing had been undertaken within the care sector in conjunction with Worcestershire County Council. This was because any potential service provider had to be on the Worcestershire County Council approved care provider list. Members were advised that if there were no successful

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tenders for providing the aforementioned services at St. David's House and the Queens Cottages, then the Head of Community and Housing Services would be willing to return to members to update them.

Members expressed concerns about how this business case would affect the number of staff and quality of services provided to the residents in St. David's House.

The committee noted many of the points that had been raised throughout the discussion and that it was a difficult decision to make. However, it was acknowledged that the service provided at St. David's House by Redditch Borough Council was not a statutory function, that any provider of care needed to be a Worcestershire County Council approved care provider and that they would be monitored by the Care Quality Commission as the ultimate body for inspecting care service quality. Likewise, Members believed if this action wasn't taken, the Council could be in a worse financial position.

Councillor Chalk recommended that the Committee recommend to Executive that the support the recommendations contained in the Executive report. This was seconded by Councillor Beecham. On being put to a vote, the proposal was agreed. Some members voted against the recommendation.

RECOMMENDED that

Executive Committee resolve that the delivery of the Personal Domiciliary Care, Core Services and Kitchen services at St David's House Extra Care Scheme be procured in accordance with the Business Case attached to the report.

The Meeting commenced at 6.30 pm
and closed at 8.06 pm

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Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel

Wednesday, 22nd
September, 2021

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor Jennifer Wheeler (Chair), and Councillors Imran Altaf, Joanne Beecham, Lucy Harrison and Ann Isherwood

Also Present:

Councillor Nyear Nazir (Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Regulatory Services)

Officers:

Bev Houghton and Judith Willis

Senior Democratic Services Officer:

Jess Bayley-Hill

1. APOLOGIES AND NAMED SUBSTITUTES

There were no apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND OF PARTY WHIP

There were no declarations of interest nor of any Party Whip.

3. TO CONFIRM THE ACCURACY OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 30TH SEPTEMBER 2020

Reference was made to the Nominated Neighbour Packs, copies of which had been provided to Members of the Panel in the 2020/21 municipal year. It was agreed that copies of the pack should be made available to Members who had been newly appointed to the Panel in 2021/22.

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting of the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel held on Wednesday 30th September 2020 be approved as a true and correct record and signed by the Chair.

Chair

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4. NORTH WORCESTERSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP - UPDATE ON WORK IN REDDITCH

The Community Safety Manager delivered a very detailed presentation updating Members on the work of the North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership in Redditch Borough. During the delivery of this presentation, the following matters were highlighted for Members' consideration:

- The Community Safety Partnerships for the three districts in North Worcestershire merged in 2013 to create the North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership.
- The North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership had a relationship with the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), who was held to account by the West Mercia Police and Crime Panel. Redditch Borough Council's representative on the West Mercia Police and Crime Panel was the Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Enabling Services.
- The Partnership had a Community Safety Plan for the period 2021 to 2024. This plan, including the priorities within the plan, would be refreshed on an annual basis, taking into account the needs of the community and local data.
- The West Mercia PCC was in the process of consulting on the contents of the draft Safer West Mercia Plan 2021 to 2025. As part of this process, the PCC was keen to receive feedback from a range of different stakeholders including the public.
- When updating the content of the Community Safety Plan 2021 to 2024, the North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership would need to take into account the proposals detailed in the Safer West Mercia Plan 2021 to 2025.
- The PCC provided a significant amount of grant funding to the North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership to spend on specific projects.
- In addition, funding had been provided by the PCC since 2017/18 to all the community safety partnerships in the West Mercia region for CCTV. In 2020/21 this grant was spent on digital upgrades to existing systems. Work was in the process of being undertaken in north Worcestershire to determine how this funding should be spent locally.
- Delivery of projects in the Borough was co-ordinated at a local level by the Safer Redditch group, a sub-group of the North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership. This group was chaired by the local Chief Inspector and supported by the Community Safety team.

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- During the Covid-19 pandemic, a lot of community support and engagement work had been delivered by the Safer Redditch group online, including in respect of specific projects.
- Reducing reoffending and reducing the harm caused by drugs and alcohol were cross cutting priorities that underpinned the other themes of the Community Safety Plan. Reducing reoffending was also a statutory responsibility.
- The PCC was keen to ensure that all Community Safety Partnerships in the region contributed to Integrated Offender Management projects and, for this reason, some of the funding to the partnerships was top sliced for this purpose. The contributions per district for the Integrated Management System was calculated on the basis of local need and demographics.
- A number of youth projects had been prioritised for funding in 2020/21 due to concerns about the particular impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on young people.
- Youth projects included:
 - The Respect Programme, whereby young people were referred by schools for one-to-one support. In total, 186 referrals had been made under this scheme between September 2020 and July 2021.
 - The Empowering Young People programme, which was a group activity for young people who had been identified as likely to benefit from training in areas such as life skills, healthy relationships and County lines drug dealing.
 - Youth work outreach and detached youth work with young people considered to be at risk of offending due to being marginalised during the Covid-19 pandemic. Over 2,000 young people had been referred for support under this programme during 2020/21. The Up Foundation CIC, a youth work charity, provided this service on behalf of the partnership.
 - The Virtual Decisions Knife Crime Project, which provided participants with an opportunity to work on a scenario using a virtual reality headset. Follow up workshops took place to provide participants with a chance to reflect on what they had learned. Since the end of the third national lockdown, a Redditch school had started to participate in the scheme and three further places remained available to other schools in the Borough.
 - The Young Citizens Challenge, which provided pupils in Year 6 with an opportunity to visit the fire station and to participate in relevant activities. This project had been co-ordinated online in 2020/21.
- Funding had been received from the Home Office from the Safer Streets Fund for a project in Woodrow, Redditch, for

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work on environmental and home security initiatives. This was one of only 50 projects across the country to successfully bid for funding under the scheme. Woodrow Centre and a couple of residential roads close to the centre had been selected for this project based on the lower super output data for the area.

- The Nominated Neighbour Scheme continued to be available to residents and evidence suggested that those who signed up to the scheme were not subsequently subjected to cold callers. Over 120 residents had signed up to the scheme by the date of the meeting.
- The Community Safety team undertook home security assessments on people's properties, designed to provide advice on action that could be taken to improve the security of properties.
- There were two members of staff in the Community Safety Team who had received training from the College of Policing on crime prevention and they used this knowledge when commenting on the security of proposed properties in planning applications.
- Support continued to be provided to victims of domestic abuse, including through the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) scheme for high-risk cases. The Community Safety Team also worked with the Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Group, tackling the behaviour of perpetrators of domestic abuse.
- The national Hate Crime Awareness Week was due to take place on 9th to 16th October 2021. In 2020, the Hate Crime Awareness Week had been accompanied by a social media campaign urging residents to report hate crime incidents.
- The White Ribbon Campaign would be taking place on 25th November to 1st December 2021 and would be focusing on the impact of domestic abuse on young people as well as healthy relationships.
- The Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Focus Group, comprising a range of partner organisations, met on a quarterly basis to discuss ASB. The focus of this group was on raising awareness of best practice in terms of tackling ASB and supporting the professional officers tasked with undertaking this work.

Following the presentation of the report, Members discussed a number of points in detail:

- The reason why Woodrow had been selected as the location for the Safer Streets project in Redditch and the support that had been received by this community in recent years. Officers explained that the process of identifying a location for the

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Safer Streets project was data led, based on criteria set by the Home Office. Analysis of super output area data for safer street crime types by the Home Office and police had revealed that Woodrow was the area of highest need in Redditch. Further work had been undertaken at a local level to identify the specific streets that should be included in the project.

- The extent to which there were issues with crime and ASB in Woodrow. The Panel was advised that there was a strong community in Woodrow but unfortunately there were some neighbourhoods where significant problems existed.
- The potential for other parts of the Borough to receive Safer Streets funding in future. Members were advised that there would be further opportunities to apply for funding in the future and the criteria was likely to change, depending on the focus of the specific Safer Streets project.
- The basis for the data required in relation to the Safer Streets project and the methods used to gather this data. Officers explained that the data was based on certain crime types reported to the Police.
- The potential for the data that had informed the decision to select Woodrow for the Safer Streets project to be shared with Members. Officers agreed to provide this data for Members' consideration but asked Members to note that this data focused on Woodrow only and comparative data would not be available for other areas.
- The ASB data for different wards in Redditch and the reasons why this did not highlight a particular issue with ASB in Woodrow. The Panel was informed that the ASB data was different to the crime types data that had informed considerations in respect of the Safer Streets project. Members were also asked to note that the ASB data was provided at the ward level and Woodrow formed part of the Greenlands ward.
- The potential for the crime types data underpinning the Safer Streets project to be shared with Members. Officers agreed to provide this information to Members after the meeting.
- The time that had lapsed between gathering data that had informed the identification of Woodrow as the focus for the Safer Streets project and the delivery of that project. Officers confirmed that this data had been gathered two years' previously and there could have been changes in local conditions in that time.
- The West Mercia PCC's consultation in respect of the West Mercia Plan 2021 to 2025, the closing date for which was 1st November 2021, and the ways in which the public could participate in this consultation process. Members were informed that residents could participate online in the

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consultation process, though paper copies had also been circulated via Parish Councils and local Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) groups.

During consideration of this item, the Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Regulatory Services acknowledged the understandable desire of Members to ensure that projects were delivered in their wards which tackled community safety issues. The reasons for the selection of Woodrow for the Safer Streets project had been questioned at the start of the project but the data available demonstrated that it was the most appropriate location in which this project could be delivered.

RESOLVED that

the report be noted.

5. ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR - UPDATE ON THE WORK OF THE PARTNERSHIP

The Community Safety Manager also delivered a very detailed presentation in respect of the work of the North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership to tackle ASB. This report had been requested as a regular update to the Panel at the meeting of the Panel that took place in September 2020. Members were asked to note that the data provided in the report and presentation covered the period April 2018 to July 2021.

During the delivery of this presentation, the following points were highlighted for Members' consideration:

- There were different types of preventative action that could be taken to deter ASB.
- In Housing, this included the use of Introductory Tenancies, whereby new tenants could be expelled from their properties if they caused ASB.
- There were also specific verbal and written warnings that could be issued again residents involved in ASB. This included Community Protection Warnings (CPWs), which could be elevated to Community Protection Notices (CPNs) if residents did not change their behaviour in response to the warning that had been issued.
- Failure to comply with the terms of a CPN was a criminal offence.
- The Council had issued 23 CPWs between September 2020 and August 2021 and 11 CPNs. Some CPNs had been issued in planning enforcement cases.

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- Residents could request a Community Trigger, in cases where residents were concerned that limited action had been taken and they therefore wanted a review of their case and the way it had been handled. Since September 2020, three Community Triggers, which were managed by the Community Safety team, had been recorded for Redditch, which all related to disruptive neighbour nuisance issues.
- There was an option available for the Council to refer people for mediation and restorative justice.
- Funding had been received for projects designed to tackle youth ASB in the community. In addition, funding had been received for projects related to Covid-19 recovery.
- Representatives of the Community Safety Team attended multi agency meetings to discuss rough sleeping. Members were asked to note that many of the rough sleepers who had been housed during the national lockdowns had remained in their accommodation following the end of the lockdown. Some were being supported through the Housing First scheme.
- The data indicated that there had been an increase in reports of ASB in the period April 2020 to March 2021 compared to the previous 12-month period. This increase had occurred during the Covid-19 pandemic across all parts of the Borough.
- The largest increases in reports of ASB in this period had been in the Batchley and Brockhill and Astwood Bank and Feckenham wards.
- The increase in ASB included a rise in ASB nuisance calls, which appeared to have been influenced by the associated increase in the number of people working from home during the lockdown period who had been exposed to ASB that they might otherwise not have observed during working hours.
- In addition to nuisance ASB, there had been reports of personal ASB cases, involving behaviour targeted at specific individuals.

Members subsequently discussed the report in detail and in so doing raised the following matters:

- The number of CPNs that had been issued which had resulted in the Council taking court action. Officers confirmed that the Council had not taken court action in relation to any of the CPNs, though two people who had been issued with CPNs were appealing through the courts.
- The extent to which CPWs and CPNs could be regarded as a real deterrent to ASB if court action was not taken.
- The position of Council tenants and the extent to which they could be assured of a secure tenancy with the local authority regardless of their behaviour. Officers explained that if a

Crime and Disorder

Scrutiny

Panel

Wednesday, 22nd September, 2021

tenant lost their tenancy as a result of their behaviour they were regarded as being intentionally homeless and the Council did not necessarily have a duty to rehome them under these circumstances.

- The number of Community Triggers that had been launched in Redditch and the reasons why this number was so low relative to the number of ASB cases that had been reported.
- The potential for mediation to be used to address ASB and the types of ASB cases where this might be useful. Officers explained that mediation might be useful in cases of neighbour disputes where no other action had been identified that could resolve the matter.
- The people who would undertake mediation in these circumstances. The Panel was informed that initially mediation would be provided through an external agency, though in the long-term it was envisaged that Officers in the Housing Department would be trained to provide this service.
- The circumstances in which restorative justice might be used. Officers clarified that a Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) might work with residents on restorative justice in cases such as young people causing graffiti in local communities.
- The organisations involved in the North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership and the extent to which VCS groups had opportunities to get involved with the partnership's work. Members were informed that there were a number of VCS groups involved with the Safer Redditch group, including Victim Support and several mental health charities.
- The £83,000 funding for youth ASB projects received by the partnership in 2020/21 and the extent to which this funding would be available in future years. The Panel was informed that this funding had been secured for a further two years and was likely to be a similar figure.
- The impact of Acceptable Behaviour Contracts on the behaviour of residents. Members were informed that these contracts were voluntary and both parties needed to sign up to the contract. Breaches of these contracts could be used as evidence in court that the Council was doing everything reasonably possible to address inappropriate behaviour and only taking court action as a last resort.

RESOLVED that

the report be noted.

Crime and Disorder
Scrutiny
Panel

Wednesday, 22nd September, 2021

The Meeting commenced at 6.30 pm
and closed at 7.45 pm

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West Midlands Combined Authority
21st July 2021

My apologies for the lateness of this report.

The Chair started the round robin to enable members to introduce themselves as this was the first face to face meeting with the new Chair. There were engineers, policemen, teachers and a range of other attendees.

It was hoped that the Transport Scrutiny Committee could co-opt Cllr Clements in the future.

At the August meeting it was anticipated that there would be a presentation to show the overall spending of the Board and where the money was going.

It was expected that we would have a view of the governance and an improvement in the quality of reports at the September meeting. It was felt that much of the work had already been done by O&S, including a response to the problem of allowances for members of the transport committee.

There is to be an on-line workshop on the 14th October and 15th December.

Questions were asked as to the power of the Mayor to influence the remediation of brown field sites. No answer was given, and about air quality this was passed to the Transport group.

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West Midlands Combined Authority**06/09/2021**

The Chair welcomed everyone and thanked the representative of the young people's group for her contribution as she was leaving the Committee.

The Chair announced the champions for Housing, Finance and the Environment explaining that the hope was that they would monitor the minutes and report back any major issues.

There was also notification that two senior officers had resigned and that there were interim officers in place.

We were introduced to the draft Corporate Plan that, once accepted, would last for 3/4 years. It would be the 'Golden thread' for everyone. There are six aims and several objectives for each. Economic Growth, Opportunity for everyone, Connecting communities, Zero carbon emissions, more devolution and develop the organisation. There is a power point presentation that covers the thinking that will be presented to the Board in October. There was a discussion that centred around the idea that this should apply to all including the non-constituent authorities.

The Grant Register was discussed, and the Chair requested that a column be included indicating which local authority the money had gone to. There was some concern that some authorities may be receiving more than others.

A small group was set up to monitor the response for the board on Air Quality.

The governance arrangements for the WMCA are being examined to see if it is possible to make improvements in the future. A presentation was given to demonstrate what is being investigated and how complex the problem is.

The slides for both the Corporate Plan and the governance are available if members would like to see them.

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE LEADER'S WORK PROGRAMME

1 November 2021 to 28 February 2022

(published as at 1st October 2021)



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 6.30pm 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, Economic Development, Commercialism and Partnerships
Councillor Gemma Monaco, Deputy Leader without portfolio
Councillor Brandon Clayton, Portfolio Holder for Environmental Services
Councillor Anthony Lovell, Portfolio Holder for Climate Change
Councillor Nyear Nazir, Community Services and Regulatory Services
Councillor Mike Rouse, Portfolio Holder for Leisure
Councillor David Thain, Portfolio Holder for Finance and Enabling
Councillor Craig Warhurst, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Procurement
Councillor Peter Fleming

Decision including Whether it is a key Decision	Decision Taker Date of Decision	Details of Exempt information (if any) and any additional information for noting	Documents submitted to Decision Maker / Background Papers List	Contact for Comments
Financial Outturn 2020/21 Report Key: No	Executive 16 Nov 2021 Council 31 Jan 2022		Report of the Executive Director, Finance and Resources	James Howse, Executive Director Finance, Chris Forrester, Head of Financial and Customer Services Tel: 01527 881205, Tel: 01527 881673
Presentation - 2022/23 Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan - Update Key: No	Executive 16 Nov 2021		Report of the Executive Director, Finance and Resources	James Howse, Executive Director Finance, Chris Forrester, Head of Financial and Customer Services Tel: 01527 881205, Tel: 01527 881673
Ash Die Back Action Plan Key: No	Executive 7 Dec 2021		Report of the Head of Environmental and Housing Property Services	Carl Walker, Environmental Services Manager Tel: 01527 64252 ext 3421
Fees and Charges 2022/23 Key: No	Executive 7 Dec 2021 Council 31 Jan 2022		Report of the Head of Finance and Customer Services	Chris Forrester, Head of Financial and Customer Services Tel: 01527 881673

Decision including Whether it is a key Decision	Decision Taker Date of Decision	Details of Exempt information (if any) and any additional information for noting	Documents submitted to Decision Maker / Background Papers List	Contact for Comments
Finance Monitoring Report 2021/22 Key: No	Executive 7 Dec 2021 Council 31 Jan 2022		Report of the Executive Director, Finance and Resources	James Howse, Executive Director Finance, Chris Forrester, Head of Financial and Customer Services Tel: 01527 881205, Tel: 01527 881673
Management and Development of a Cafe at Morton Stanley Park Key: Yes	Executive 7 Dec 2021 Council 31 Jan 2022		Report of the Head of Planning, Regeneration and Leisure Services	Ishrat Karimi-Fini, Parks and Events Service Manager Tel: 01527 881204
Matchborough and Winyates Regeneration Proposals Key: Yes	Executive Not before 7th Dec 2021		Report of the Head of Planning, Regeneration and Leisure Services	Ostap Paparega, Head of North Worcestershire Economic Development and Regeneration Tel: 01562 732192
Mobile Homes Act 2013 - Introduction of Licensing Fees Key: No	Executive 7 Dec 2021 Council 31 Jan 2022		Report of the Head of Community and Housing Services	Steve Shammon, Private Sector Housing Team Leader Tel: 01527 64252 ext 3630

Decision including Whether it is a key Decision	Decision Taker Date of Decision	Details of Exempt information (if any) and any additional information for noting	Documents submitted to Decision Maker / Background Papers List	Contact for Comments
New Cemetery Provision Key: No	Executive Not before 7th Dec 2021 Council Not before 31st Jan 2022		Report of the Head of Environmental and Housing Property Services	Michael Birkinshaw, Bereavement Services Manager Tel: 01527 62174
2022/23 Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan - Update Key: No	Executive 7 Dec 2021		Report of the Executive Director, Finance and Resources	Chris Forrester, Head of Financial and Customer Services, James Howse, Executive Director Finance Tel: 01527 881673, Tel: 01527 881205
Stores Report and Service Review Key: No	Executive 7 Dec 2021 Council 31 Jan 2022	This report may contain exempt information which would need to be discussed in private session.	Report of the Head of Environmental and Housing Property Services	Kevin Hirons, Environmental Services Manager Tel: 01527 881705
Council Tax Base 2022/23 Key: No	Executive 11 Jan 2022 Council 31 Jan 2022		Report of the Head of Finance and Customer Services	Chris Forrester, Head of Financial and Customer Services Tel: 01527 881673

Decision including Whether it is a key Decision	Decision Taker Date of Decision	Details of Exempt information (if any) and any additional information for noting	Documents submitted to Decision Maker / Background Papers List	Contact for Comments
Flexible Homelessness Support Grant and Homelessness Reduction Grant 2022/23 Key: No	Executive 11 Jan 2022		Report of the Head of Community and Housing Services	Judith Willis, Head of Community and Housing Services Tel: 01527 64252 ext 3284
Growth Options for the Garden Waste Service Key: No	Executive 11 Jan 2022		Report of the Head of Environmental and Housing Property Services	Matthew Austin, Environmental Services Manager Tel: 01527 64252
Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Initial Estimate 2022/23 Key: No	Executive 11 Jan 2022 Council 31 Jan 2022		Report of the Head of Finance and Customer Services	Chris Forrester, Head of Financial and Customer Services Tel: 01527 881673
Independent Remuneration Panel 2022/23 Key: No	Executive 11 Jan 2022 Council 31 Jan 2022		Report of the Head of Legal, Democratic and Property Services	Darren Whitney, Electoral Services Manager Tel: 01527 882547

Decision including Whether it is a key Decision	Decision Taker Date of Decision	Details of Exempt information (if any) and any additional information for noting	Documents submitted to Decision Maker / Background Papers List	Contact for Comments
2022/23 Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan - Update Key: No	Executive 11 Jan 2022		Report of the Executive Director, Finance and Resources	Chris Forrester, Head of Financial and Customer Services, James Howse, Executive Director Finance Tel: 01527 881673, Tel: 01527 881205
Appointment of External Auditors Key: No	Executive 8 Feb 2022 Council 21 Feb 2022		Report of the Executive Director of Finance and Resources	James Howse, Executive Director Finance Tel: 01527 881205
Asset Management Strategy and investment programme for council housing stock Key: No	Executive 8 Feb 2022 Council 11 Apr 2022		Report of the Head of Environmental and Housing Property Services	Simon Parry, Housing Property Services Manager Tel: 01527 64252
Council Tax Resolutions 2022/23 Key: No	Executive 8 Feb 2022 Council 21 Feb 2022		Report of the Head of Finance and Customer Services	Chris Forrester, Head of Financial and Customer Services Tel: 01527 881673

Decision including Whether it is a key Decision	Decision Taker Date of Decision	Details of Exempt information (if any) and any additional information for noting	Documents submitted to Decision Maker / Background Papers List	Contact for Comments
Decarbonisation of the Council Fleet Key: No	Executive 8 Feb 2022 Council 11 Apr 2022		Report of the Head of Environmental and Housing Property Services	Kevin Hirons, Environmental Services Manager Tel: 01527 881705
Future Plans for Auxerre House Key: No	Executive Not before 8th Feb 2022 Council Not before 11th Apr 2022	This report may contain exempt information which would need to be discussed by the Executive Committee in private session.	Report of the Head of Environmental and Housing Property Services	Simon Parry, Housing Property Services Manager Tel: 01527 64252
Housing Policies Key: No	Executive 8 Feb 2022 Council 11 Apr 2022		Report of the Head of Community and Housing Services	Judith Willis, Head of Community and Housing Services Tel: 01527 64252 ext 3284
2022/23 Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan (including Capital Programme) Key: No	Executive 8 Feb 2022 Council 21 Feb 2022		Report of the Executive Director, Finance and Resources	James Howse, Executive Director Finance, Chris Forrester, Head of Financial and Customer Services Tel: 01527 881205, Tel: 01527 881673

Decision including Whether it is a key Decision	Decision Taker Date of Decision	Details of Exempt information (if any) and any additional information for noting	Documents submitted to Decision Maker / Background Papers List	Contact for Comments
Pay Policy Statement 2022/23 Key: No	Executive 8 Feb 2022 Council 21 Feb 2022		Report of the Human Resources and Development Manager	Becky Talbot, Human Resources and Development Manager Tel: 01527 64252 ext 3385
Redditch Town Investment Plan Business Cases Key: Yes	Executive Not before 8th Feb 2022 Council Not before 21st Feb 2022		Report of the Head of Planning, Regeneration and Leisure Services	Ostap Paparega, Head of North Worcestershire Economic Development and Regeneration Tel: 01562 732192
Sustainable Warmth Funding Key: No	Executive 8 Feb 2022 Council 21 Feb 2022		Report of the Head of Community and Housing Services	Judith Willis, Head of Community and Housing Services Tel: 01527 64252 ext 3284
Financial Monitoring Report Quarter 3 2021/22 Key: No	Executive 22 Mar 2022 Council 11 Apr 2022		Report of the Executive Director of Finance and Resources	Kate Goldey, Financial Services Manager Tel: 01527 881208
Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2021/22 Key: No	Council 11 Apr 2022		Report of the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Joanne Gresham, Democratic Services Officer Tel: 01527 64252 Ext: 3031

Overview & Scrutiny

Committee

September 2021

WORK PROGRAMME 2020/21

(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 Consideration of the Executive Committee Work Programme Call-ins (if any) Pre-scrutiny (if any) Task Groups / Short, Sharp Review Groups – feedback Working Groups - feedback Committee Work Programme	Chief Executive Chief Executive Chief Executive Chief Executive Chair of Task Group / Short, Sharp Review Chair of Working Group Chief Executive
	REGULAR ITEMS Update on the work of the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel Tracker Report Updates on the work of the Worcestershire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee Annual Monitoring Report – Redditch Sustainable Community Strategy	Chair of the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel Relevant Lead Head(s) of Service Redditch Borough Council representative on the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee Relevant Lead Head(s) of Service

Overview & Scrutiny

Committee

September 2021

MEETING DATE	ITEM TO BE CONSIDERED	RELEVANT LEAD
October 2021	Church Green Conservation Area	Mike Dunphy, Strategic Planning and Conservation Manager
December 2021	Redditch Town Deal Investment Plan – 6 monthly update	Relevant Lead Head(s) of Service
December 2021	Matchborough and Winyates Regeneration Proposals – pre-scrutiny	Ostap Paparega, Head of North Worcestershire Economic Development
December 2021	West Mercia Safer Roads Team Presentation	Democratic Services
December 2021	New Cemetery Provision	Michael Birkinshaw, Bereavement services Manager
January 2022	Recommendation Tracker	
February 2022	Redditch Town Centre Regeneration Business Cases	Ostap Paparega, Head of North Worcestershire Economic Development
February 2022	Pre-Decision-Scrutiny - Asset Management Strategy and investment programme for council housing stock	Simon Parry, Housing Property Services Manager
February 2022	Pre-Decision-Scrutiny - Future Plans for Auxerre House	Simon Parry, Housing Property Services Manager



Executive Committee

Tuesday, 7 September 2021

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor Matthew Dormer (Chair), Councillor Gemma Monaco (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Brandon Clayton, Peter Fleming, Anthony Lovell, Nyear Nazir, Mike Rouse, David Thain and Craig Warhurst

Also Present:

Councillor Michael Chalk (Chair, Dementia Task Group)

Officers:

Claire Felton, Sue Hanley, James Howse, Steve Shammon and Judith Willis

Senior Democratic Services Officer:

Jess Bayley-Hill

14. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

15. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

16. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Leader advised that during the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on Thursday 2nd September 2021, Members had endorsed the recommendations in the Dementia Task Group's report and added an additional recommendation. This additional recommendation had been listed in an extract from the minutes of that meeting which had been provided for the consideration of the Executive Committee in a supplementary pack.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee had also agreed recommendations on the subject of St David's House, which corresponded with the recommendations in the report for this item. An extract from the minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in respect of this item had also therefore been included

.....
Chair

in a supplementary pack for the consideration of the Executive Committee.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee had also pre-scrutinised the Homes England Asset Transfer report. However, no recommendations had been made by the Committee on this subject.

17. MINUTES

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on Tuesday 13th July 2021 be approved as a true and correct record and signed by the Chair.

18. DEMENTIA TASK GROUP - FINAL REPORT

Councillor Michael Chalk, in his capacity as Chair of the Dementia Task Group, attended the meeting to present the group's final report.

The Committee was informed that the Task Group's investigation had taken 12 months to complete. During the review Members had gathered evidence from a range of expert witnesses. The review had taken slightly longer than originally anticipated due to delays caused by the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown.

There were various forms of dementia and it was estimated that, by the date of the meeting, up to 1.6 million people had a form of dementia in the UK and people in a range of age groups could develop dementia. The group had concluded that it was important to raise awareness of dementia, including both the symptoms and the impact that the illness could have on both patients and their families.

The group had proposed three recommendations. The first proposed that a Dementia Awareness Event should take place at the Town Hall. This type of event had taken place in previous years, prior to the pandemic, and provided a useful opportunity to share information about both dementia and the support services that were available locally to patients and families.

The second recommendation called for the Older People's Services Booklet to be updated. Members were advised that there was a booklet already, though the content needed to be refreshed. This proposal would have implications, in terms of the officer time that would be required to work on updating the booklet.

Executive Committee

Tuesday, 7 September 2021

The third recommendation suggested that there should be a Member training session focusing on dementia awareness. This would enable Members to identify the symptoms of dementia and potentially enable Members to work effectively with residents and families impacted by dementia, as part of their ward work activities.

The fourth recommendation had been added at the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 2nd September. This recommendation called for the Council's Chief Executive, as part of work on the Integrated Care System, to work alongside partner agencies to provide Members with information about dementia services in the Borough. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee had concluded that this was a particularly important addition as it would help to ensure that Members were kept apprised of changing circumstances.

The Executive Committee subsequently discussed the proposals in detail. The Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Regulatory Services, in her capacity as the lead Portfolio Holder for health, commented that producing an insightful report such as this during a pandemic was commendable. Members were advised that the recommendations appeared to be achievable and would help to raise awareness of a condition that could have devastating impacts on both patients and their families. The reality of caring for a person with dementia was that it could be challenging, and carers could experience grief, loneliness, isolation, embarrassment and discrimination and these were all implications that needed to be taken into account. The Council would always try to address such issues and to provide communities with the information and support they required. The Dementia Awareness Event would be key to achieving this. The report had also helpfully noted that there were many people who had not yet received a diagnosis, though were already exhibiting symptoms and this could make it difficult for those individuals to receive the support they required.

Reference was made to the proposed Member training and it was suggested that this would also potentially be beneficial for Parish Councillors. For this reason, Members agreed that the third recommendation from the group should be amended slightly to enable Parish Councillors to be invited to participate in the dementia training that would in future be provided to elected Members. The Committee also suggested that it would be important to ensure that information about the early signs and symptoms of dementia was included in this training, as it would help Members to work with residents at an early stage of the illness, including those who might not yet have received a diagnosis. There was general consensus that ideally all Members should aim to achieve the status of Dementia Friends, and it was possible that the training would assist with this process.

The Committee also discussed the involvement of the Council's Armed Forces Champion, Councillor Julian Grubb, in the review. Members were advised that during the investigation, the Task Group had discovered that there were higher rates of early onset dementia amongst armed forces veterans compared to the general population. The interview with Councillor Grubb had provided a useful opportunity to explore the matter further. It was suggested that it would be helpful for further information about the Armed Forces Champion to be provided for the public's consideration on the Council's website.

During consideration of this item, questions were raised about whether the booklet referred to in recommendation 2 would be available as a physical object or would be electronic. The Committee was advised that this would need to be clarified by officers outside the meeting. However, it was envisaged that a paper copy could be made available, though there would be financial implications attached.

Councillor Chalk concluded his remarks by thanking the other Members who had served on the review, the officers who had provided support to the exercise and the expert witnesses from a range of organisations who had submitted evidence for Members' consideration.

RESOLVED that

- 1) officers work with local agencies including the Older People's Forum, Age UK to hold a Dementia Awareness Event in the Town Hall and promote the event on the Council's website;**
- 2) officers undertake a refresh of the Older People Services Booklet which is currently available on the Redditch Borough Council website and include a specific section regarding Dementia Services available in the Borough.;**
- 3) Dementia Training be provided to all Elected Members and Parish Councillors in order for them to better understand the changing needs of the residents in the Borough; and**
- 4) as part of the work in respect of Integrated Care System, the Chief Executive of Redditch Borough Council to work alongside partner agencies to provide Members with further information on Dementia services in the Borough and potential services for the future.**

19. ELECTRICAL SAFETY STANDARDS IN THE PRIVATE RENTED SECTOR (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2020

The Private Sector Housing Manager presented a report on the subject of the Electrical Safety Standards in the Private Rented Sector (England) Regulations 2020.

These regulations had been in force for new tenancies in the private rented sector for some time. However, the regulations also now applied to existing tenancies. The regulations ensured that landlords for properties in the private rented sector had to make sure that electrical safety checks were carried out for each property, as they were for gas safety inspections. Assessments needed to be completed every five years. Landlords were obliged to inform local authorities of any issues that were identified during the checks and were required to address these problems within 28 days.

The report proposed penalties that would be imposed on landlords for non-compliance, in terms of undertaking remedial works to address any issues that were identified. Should landlords fail to act, the Council could take the action on the landlord's behalf and recharge for the works. The penalties represented an additional fee that landlords would be obliged to pay for non-compliance. In considering the level at which to set the penalty fee, the Council had taken into account the approach that was being adopted at other local authorities in Worcestershire. The proposed penalty fees were:

- £1,000 for a first offence
- £3,000 for any subsequent offences.

Following the presentation of the report, the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Procurement explained that Officers had worked hard to ensure that the proposed penalties were set at an appropriate level. Nationally, there was evidence to suggest that if penalties were too punitive landlords would prefer to take their case to court, which could result in considerable costs for all parties. The proposed penalties were considered to be a sufficient deterrent without being likely to encourage many landlords to resort to the legal process. Members were asked to note that there were many good landlords in the Borough. It was likely that good landlords would welcome the requirements set out in the legislation, as it would help to address the actions of rogue landlords and would encourage fair competition.

During consideration of this item, Members expressed concerns that there might be tenants living in the private rented sector who were not aware of their rights. Officers were therefore urged to

publish communications on the Council's website which helped to clarify tenants' rights.

RECOMMENDED that

the proposed financial penalty charges for non-compliance are adopted and the respective enforcement powers of the Electrical Safety Standards in the Private Rented Sector (England) Regulations 2020 are delegated to the Head of Community and Housing Services.

20. HOMES ENGLAND ASSET TRANSFER

The Head of Legal, Democratic and Property Services presented a report detailing arrangements for the transfer of assets from Homes England to Redditch Borough Council. Members were advised that this was a housekeeping matter and the Council would manage the assets that were received moving forward.

RESOLVED that

Approval is given to the transfer of the following assets from Homes England to the Council.

- 1) Land at Auxerre Avenue;
- 2) The Anchorage;
- 3) Land adjacent to Crossgates Depot, Crossgates Road, Park Farm; and
- 4) Matchborough West Meeting Rooms

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

The Chair confirmed that there were no referrals from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or other Committees on this occasion.

22. ADVISORY PANELS - UPDATE REPORTS

The following updates were provided with respect to the Executive Advisory Panels and other bodies:

- a) Climate Change Cross Party Working Group – Chair, Councillor Anthony Lovell

Councillor Lovell confirmed that a meeting of the Climate Change Cross Party Working Group had recently taken place. During this meeting on-street electric charging points had been discussed. Members were advised that Councillor Lovell had subsequently raised this issue with Worcestershire

Executive Committee

Tuesday, 7 September 2021

County Council's Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Highways and Transport.

The group had also discussed action that could be taken to improve the carbon efficiency of Council houses. There were various options available which had been adopted in other parts of the country.

b) Constitutional Review Working Group – Chair, Councillor Matthew Dormer

Councillor Dormer explained that a meeting of the Constitutional Review Working Group was scheduled to take place on 14th October 2021.

c) Corporate Parenting Board – Council Representative, Councillor Nyear Nazir

Councillor Nazir advised that a meeting of the Board that had been scheduled to take place in May had been cancelled. A meeting of the Board had taken place though on 8th July 2021. During this meeting, the Annual Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) Report had been considered, which focused on the performance of the Independent Reviewing Service for Children's Social Services. Reference had also been made at this meeting to the Worcestershire Children's First Sufficiency Strategy 2021, which related to a process for ensuring that there were adequate placements for children and to avoiding placing children unnecessarily into care.

Due to the interruption caused by the Covid-19 pandemic and the associated lockdown, the Board did not have a Work Programme. Therefore, there were plans to discuss the appropriate content for the work programme at the following meeting of the Board.

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

The Committee was informed that a meeting of the Member Support Steering Group was scheduled to take place on 5th October 2021.

e) Planning Advisory Panel – Chair, Councillor Matthew Dormer

Councillor Dormer explained that there were no meetings of the Planning Advisory Panel scheduled to take place.

23. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on Thursday 8th July 2021 be noted.

24. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Under S100 A (4) 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 matters on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3 and 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12 of the said act, as amended.

Minute Item No. 25 – St David’s House Extra Care Scheme – Business Case

25. ST DAVID'S HOUSE EXTRA CARE SCHEME - BUSINESS CASE

The Head of Community and Housing Services presented a report outlining the proposals detailed in a business case for the future delivery of the St David’s House Extra Care Scheme.

The Committee was informed that the Extra Care Scheme enabled residents to live independently whilst receiving support. St David’s House and the Queen’s Cottages were located in Batchley and consisted of 54 units. Many of the tenants living in this accommodation had previously been Council tenants.

Redditch Borough Council had a contract with Worcestershire County Council to provide a range of services at St David’s House and the Queen’s Cottages, including domiciliary care, personal care packages and kitchen services for tenants and their visitors. The Extra Care Scheme at St David’s House was not a statutory service. Many stockholding Councils had chosen to outsource provision of such services to specialist care providers.

In previous years, Redditch Borough Council had received £200,000 from Worcestershire County Council in Supporting People Funding, which had helped to cover many of the costs of delivering the service. Unfortunately, this funding had been withdrawn some years ago and the Council subsequently received a much-reduced sum of £58,000 from the County Council, meaning that the service was heavily subsidised by Redditch Borough Council.

The report proposed that the Extra Care Scheme should be procured in future for St David's House and the Queen's Cottages. Any procured provider would be robustly monitored and would need to be on Worcestershire County Council's preferred provider list. In order for service providers to be included on this list, they needed to demonstrate that they met particular conditions in service delivery.

Following the presentation of the report, the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Procurement commented that Members were being asked to make a difficult decision. However, unfortunately the Council had been subsidising the Extra Care Service delivered at St David's House and the Queen's Cottages for a number of years and the financial position was not considered to be sustainable. There were a number of specialist care providers operating in the region that could provide excellent care to tenants and monitoring would help to ensure that service quality did not suffer. The Council would retain ownership of St David's House and the Queen's Cottages and consequently the authority could continue to ensure that an Extra Care Service remained available at the site. Should the Council have chosen to sell the site, there would have been a risk that the new owners might have sold the land for development and a valuable service could have been lost in the Borough.

During consideration of this item, reference was made to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's debate in respect of this item. The Executive Committee was informed that some Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee had raised concerns that they were uncomfortable with the proposal that had been made. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee had also suggested that the proposal needed to be discussed with representatives of the Trades Unions and that action needed to be taken to ensure that staff were protected through the TUPE transfer process.

Following the presentation of the report, the Committee discussed the proposals in some detail. Members noted that communications had already been issued on the subject of the proposals and this would help to keep the public informed about the situation. Questions had been raised by some members of the public with elected Members prior to the meeting concerning the implications for these proposals of the Government's recent announcement of an increase in National Insurance (NI) contributions to help cover the costs of adult social care. Members commented that further information on the Government's proposals was needed moving forward.

Executive Committee

Tuesday, 7 September 2021

RESOLVED that

the delivery of the Personal Domiciliary Care, Core Services and Kitchen services at St David's House Extra Care Scheme be procured in accordance with the Business Case attached to the report.

(During the consideration of this item, Members discussed matters that necessitated the disclosure of exempt information. It was therefore agreed to move to exclude the press and public prior to any debate on the grounds that information would be revealed which related to the financial and business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) and which related to consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matters arising between the authority or Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.)

The Meeting commenced at 6.30 pm
and closed at 7.29 pm

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3, 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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