



# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Thu 17 Mar  
2022  
6.30 pm

Council Chamber  
Redditch Town Hall

**REDDITCH** BOROUGH COUNCIL

*making  
a  
difference*

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

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

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## **GUIDANCE ON FACE-TO-FACE MEETINGS**

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**At the current time, seating at the meeting will be placed in such a way as to achieve as much space as possible for social distancing to help protect meeting participants.**

**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 take a lateral flow test on the day of the meeting, which can be obtained from the NHS website. Should the Member test positive for Covid-19 on the day of the meeting or up to 5 full days before the meeting then the Member is expected not to attend the Committee meeting and should provide their apologies to the Democratic Services team.

Whilst the Council acknowledges that it is no longer a legal requirement to wear face masks, we would really appreciate if the Members who attend a meeting in person would consider wearing a face covering throughout the meeting unless they are exempt or speaking.

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.

## **PUBLIC ATTENDANCE AT COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Members of the public will be able to access the meeting if they wish to do so. However, due to social distancing arrangements to ensure the safety of participants there may be limited capacity and members of the public will be allowed access on a first come, first served basis. Whilst the Council acknowledges that it is no longer a legal requirement to wear face masks, we would really appreciate if members of the public who attend a meeting in person would consider wearing a face covering throughout the meeting unless they are exempt or speaking. It should be noted that members of the public who choose to attend in person do so at their own risk.

Members of the public are strongly encouraged not to attend a Committee meeting if they test positive for Covid on the day of a meeting or up to 5 full days before a meeting. Should the member of the public test positive for Covid-19 on the day of the meeting or up to 5 full days before the meeting then they are expected not to attend the meeting.

### **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, 17th March, 2022

6.30 pm

Council Chamber Town Hall

## Agenda

### Membership:

Cllrs:	Debbie Chance (Chair)	Brandon Clayton Alex Fogg
	Jennifer Wheeler (Vice-Chair)	Julian Grubb Lucy Harrison
	Salman Akbar	
	Karen Ashley	
	Michael Chalk	

**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.** Declaration of Land Surplus to Requirement at Lodge Road/Union Street, Smallwood and Available for Disposal (to follow)

This report will follow in an Additional Papers pack once the report has been published for consideration of the Executive Committee.

**6.** Parking Enforcement - Verbal Update

**7.** Draft Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2021/22 (Pages 11 - 32)

# Overview and Scrutiny

Thursday, 17th March, 2022

## **8.** Executive Committee Minutes and Scrutiny of the Executive Committee's Work Programme - Selecting Items for Scrutiny (Pages 33 - 50)

The minutes from the Executive Committee meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2022 has been attach to this agenda for Members' consideration. In addition to this the current edition of the Executive Committee's Work Programme, published on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022, has also been attached to this agenda for Members' consideration.

## **9.** Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme (Pages 51 - 52)

## **10.** Task Groups, Short Sharp Reviews and Working Groups - Verbal Update Reports

- a) Budget Scrutiny Working Group – Chair, Councillor Jenny Wheeler
- b) Performance Scrutiny Working Group – Chair, Councillor Jenny Wheeler

## **11.** External Scrutiny Bodies - Update Reports

- 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

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Thursday, 3rd February,  
2022

## MINUTES

### Present:

Councillor Debbie Chance (Chair), Councillor Jennifer Wheeler (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Salman Akbar, Karen Ashley, Michael Chalk, Brandon Clayton, Julian Grubb, Lucy Harrison, Luke Court and Anthony Lovell

### Also Present:

Councillor Anthony Lovell – Portfolio Holder for Climate Change (via Microsoft Teams)

### Officers:

Matthew Bough and Sue Hanley

### Democratic Services Officers:

Jo Gresham

## 64. APOLOGIES AND NAMED SUBSTITUTES

Apologies for absence were received by Councillor Alex Fogg with Councillor Luke Court in attendance as named substitute.

## 65. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND OF PARTY WHIP

There were no Declarations of Interest nor of any Party Whip.

## 66. MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings held on 2nd December 2021, 13th December 2021 and 6th January 2022 were submitted for Member's consideration.

Chair

# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Thursday, 3rd February, 2022

## RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 2nd December 2021, 13th December 2021 and 6th January 2022 be approved as a true and correct record and signed by the Chair.

### 67. PUBLIC SPEAKING

There were no public speakers registered on this occasion.

### 68. SUSTAINABLE WARMTH FUNDING - PRE-SCRUTINY

The Chair welcomed the Strategic Housing Manager, who was in attendance on Microsoft Teams, to the meeting. During the presentation of the Sustainable Warmth Funding report the following was highlighted for Members' attention:

- There were two components of the Sustainable Warmth funding. These were the Home Upgrade Grant (HUG1) and Local Authority Delivery (LAD3) phase 3. These components would run in parallel to the current LAD funding that was already in place to improve properties with the worst energy rating. The new allocation of funding would be utilised to improve those properties Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating of E, F or G. It was noted that EPC D properties could also be included. The HUG1 funding would be specifically used for those properties who were not on the mains gas supply. The total amount of funding was noted as follows:

	Capital	Administrative Allocation (Admin and Ancillary)
Home Upgrade Grant (HUG) Phase 1	£65,000 (£6,500)	£6,500 (£650)
Local Authority Delivery (LAD) Phase 3	£260,000 (£26,000)	£26,000 (£2600)



# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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Thursday, 3rd February, 2022

Members were informed that the Administrative Allocation would be used to bring in additional resource to help with the project management and delivery of the programme.

- The criteria for recipients of the funding was outlined as part of the scheme. It was reported that households must be either privately owned or rented with an income of less than £30k per household. Other factors also formed part of the criteria, these included means tested benefits and food or fuel vouchers. In addition to this those who lived in Social Housing with poor energy efficiency ratings would also be eligible. It was noted that the Social Housing stock that could receive HUG1 funding was capped at 10% of the total number of homes and that LAD3 funding was capped at 10% of the total number of homes.
- The period of the grant was until March 2023 and all works must be delivered to Publicly Available Specification (PAS) 2035 using Trustmark accredited contractors.

During a detailed discussion Members queried how the funding would be publicised so that eligible households could apply. The Strategic Housing Manager reported that Act On Energy had been commissioned by the Midland Energy Hub (MEH) and would be the customer journey provider and would use their channels to promote the scheme. Alongside this, the Council would use their social media channels and other communication methods to further promote the scheme. It was also noted that officers had access to those properties with poor EPCs and would be able to utilise this information to identify eligible properties.

Members queried the allocation of £65k HUG1 funding. In the report it was stated that each eligible household could receive up to £15k per property which meant that, potentially, only 4 households could receive funding. Officers confirmed that this was due to the HUG1 funding is specifically for households that were not on the mains gas supply and noted that there was a smaller amount of these kinds of properties within the Borough.

Members were keen to understand what steps were to be taken to ensure that the funding would be allocated correctly, and the project managed efficiently. Officers reassured the Committee

# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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Thursday, 3rd February, 2022

that Trustmark accredited suppliers would be used to deliver the works, monthly reporting would be provided to MEH and that inspections would be carried out in order to ensure that the works had been carried out correctly.

It was clarified that the allocation of funding would be on a first come first basis and would be done quickly as the time frames for the allocation needed to be completed by the end of the financial year 2021-2022. Further funding was expected to be received in the future and this would mean that those households that did not receive funding during this allocation could still potentially receive funding in the future.

Councillor Anthony Lovell who was in attendance on Microsoft Teams as Portfolio Holder for Climate Change was invited to address the Committee. In doing so, Councillor Lovell stated that he thought that this was an excellent initiative for Redditch particularly in light of the current fuel poverty concerns.

At the end of the debate the Committee

## **RECOMMENDED that**

- 1) The Capital and Revenue Budgets (Housing and General Fund) are increased to receive Redditch Borough Council's Sustainable Warmth scheme allocation of £357,500.**
- 2) Delegated authority is granted to the Head of Community & Housing Services and Head of Environmental and Housing Property Services in consultation with Portfolio Holders for Housing and Climate Change to administer the funding received in line with the grant conditions.**

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

The Committee was presented with Executive Committee minutes from the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and the latest version of the Executive Work Programme, as published on 1<sup>st</sup> February

# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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Thursday, 3rd February, 2022

2022. During consideration of this item, it was highlighted that two new items appeared on the Executive Work programme. These were as follows:

- Declaration of Land Surplus to Requirement at Lodge Road/Union Street, Smallwood and Available for Disposal
- Homelessness Prevention Grant 2023/24

Members requested that these items be added to the Committee's Work Programme for pre-scrutiny. During the discussion of the Declaration of Land Surplus to Requirement at Lodge Road/Union Street, Smallwood and Available for Disposal, Members felt that this could be part of a wider discussion regarding the Council assets and requested that an item be placed on the Committee's Work Programme. Officers present undertook to work with the relevant officers in order to bring this item forward for consideration by the Committee at a future meeting.

The Democratic Services Officer present undertook to update the Committee's Work Programme accordingly.

**RESOLVED that**

**The Executive Committee Minutes and Work Programme be noted.**

## **70. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME**

Members considered the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme as part of the previous item.

**RESOLVED that**

**The Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme be noted.**

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

Councillor Salman Akbar presented the Topic Proposal document in respect of Road Safety and Speeding. In doing so it was reported to Members that 1460 people had been killed on roads in the UK in

# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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Thursday, 3rd February, 2022

2020 and 22,069 people had been left with life changing injuries during the same period as a result of collisions on Britain's roads.

It was reported that as elected Members a large proportion of the queries and requests from residents was concerning speeding on roads within the Borough. Therefore, were the task group approved Members would be able to investigate an issue that communities really cared about.

Members were in agreement that this was a very important area to investigate, and it was hoped that the task group could make some recommendations to implement important changes in Redditch in respect of speeding and road safety.

## **RESOLVED that**

**The Road Safety and Speeding Task Group be established.**

## **72. TASK GROUPS, SHORT SHARP REVIEWS AND WORKING GROUPS - UPDATE REPORTS**

### **a) Budget Scrutiny Working Group – Chair, Councillor Jenny Wheeler**

Councillor Wheeler updated the Committee in respect of the Budget Scrutiny Working Group and in doing so informed Members that the last meeting was held on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022. At this meeting the following items were considered:

- Fees and Charges
- Housing Rent Account Rent Setting
- Council Tax Base 2022/2023
- Financial Outturn 2020/2021

The next meeting of the Budget Scrutiny working Group was due to take place on the February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

### **b) Performance Scrutiny Working Group – Chair, Councillor Jenny Wheeler**

# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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Thursday, 3rd February, 2022

the last meeting of the Performance Scrutiny Working Group took place on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2022 when Members considered a report regarding the Energy Advice Service and received a detailed presentation from Judith Chadwick from North Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership and Worcestershire County Council in respect of Skills Development.

**RESOLVED that**

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

## **73. EXTERNAL SCRUTINY BODIES - UPDATE REPORTS**

Councillor Chalk updated the Committee in respect of the External Scrutiny Bodies and in doing so informed Members that at the last meeting of the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) there had been an update on Air Quality in the areas covered by the WMCA. It was questioned whether detailed data was available regarding Air Quality in the Borough was available. It was reported by the Deputy Chief Executive that this data would be collected by Worcestershire Regulatory Services who monitored the air Quality levels within Redditch.

Members were advised that the minutes of the meeting were available online if Members were interested in further details of the items discussed at the External Scrutiny Bodies meetings.

**RESOLVED that**

**The External Scrutiny Bodies Update Reports be noted.**

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# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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Thursday, 3rd February, 2022

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**RESOLVED that**

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

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Members were advised that the minutes of the meeting were available online if Members were interested in further details of the items discussed at the External Scrutiny Bodies meetings.

**RESOLVED that**

**The External Scrutiny Bodies Update Reports be noted.**

The Meeting commenced at 6.30 pm  
and closed at 7.14 pm



**Redditch Borough Council**  
**Overview and Scrutiny Committee**  
**Annual Report 2021 – 2022**



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## CHAIR'S FOREWORD

As Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny committee I would like to extend my thanks to the members of the Committee for their time, effort, and involvement over the last year. None of this would have been possible without the dedication and hard work of the Scrutiny Officers who have supported me and the Committees throughout this time.

I would also like to extend my special thanks to Cllr Michael Chalk for reporting back from Worcestershire County Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee and West Midlands Combined Authority. I would also like to thank him and the members of Dementia Task Group.

In addition to this I would like to thank Councillor Jennifer Wheeler and members of the Budget Scrutiny and Performance Scrutiny Working Groups. Councillor Jennifer Wheeler has also been very supportive whilst serving as Vice-Chair to the main Committee and substituting for me on two occasions.

It has been an honour and a privilege to serve as Chair of this Committee over the last year as democracy and accountability need to be cornerstone of the work of this Council through the scrutiny process.



**Councillor Debbie Chance**  
**Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

## INTRODUCTION

This report outlines the work undertaken by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee of Redditch Borough Council during 2021 – 2022.

## THE ROLE OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

The role of overview and scrutiny is an important one in the Council's governance structure, in providing challenge and driving improvement. It is often referred to as the "critical friend" of the Council and can review any issues of concern or real interest to local residents.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee has a number of roles within the Council. These include:

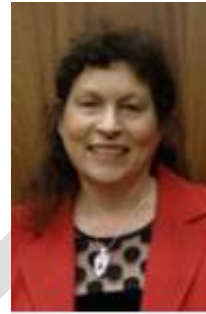
- Holding the Executive Committee to account by thoroughly scrutinising their decisions to ensure that the Council continues to provide the best services possible for Redditch residents. As part of this role, the Committee has the power to 'call-in' decisions made by the Executive Committee and to request that the Executive Committee review the original decisions, taking into account the issues raised by the Committee.
- Acting as a 'critical friend' to the Executive Committee by reviewing Council policies and strategies, making recommendations where appropriate.
- Performance and financial monitoring, to ensure the Council's services are sustainable and to the highest possible standard.
- Commissioning reviews of services/topics that impact on the Council or on the lives of Redditch residents.
- Pre-scrutiny of items prior to a decision being made by the Executive Committee.
- Setting up Task Groups to focus on specific subjects and recommend ways to improve existing practices within the Council and community as a whole. A flow chart on how to consider potential scrutiny reviews can be found at Appendix A and the Council's scoping form at Appendix B.

## MEMBERSHIP

The Committee appoints individual Members to oversee the work of Overview and Scrutiny. Membership of the Committee for 2020/21 is as follows:



Cllr Debbie Chance (Chair)



Cllr Jennifer Wheeler (Vice-Chair)



Cllr Salman Akbar



Cllr Karen Ashley



Cllr Joanne Beecham  
May 2021 – December  
2021



Cllr Michael Chalk



Cllr Brandon Clayton  
December 2021-May  
2022



Cllr Alex Fogg



Cllr Lucy Harrison



Cllr Julian Grubb

**ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES DURING 2021-22**

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee held a scrutiny training and work programme planning session at the start of the municipal year. This session was held online and provided an opportunity for both existing and new Members of the Committee to understand the importance of the scrutiny process at the Council and the function of the Committee. During the training session, areas of interest were identified by Members for potential Overview items that could be considered during municipal year 2021/2022. These Overview items are subjects for discussion at a single meeting of the Committee and are of particular interest to residents within the Borough. In addition to this the following were identified by Members:

- Items for pre-scrutiny, identified from the Executive Committee's Work Programme.
- Subjects considered suitable for further scrutiny through a Task Group investigation.

*Covid-19 And Remote Meetings*

During the municipal year 2021-2022 the Covid-19 pandemic continued to have a significant impact on Council operations. In May 2021 the Government removed the temporary legislation that allowed local authorities to hold public meetings virtually. This meant that Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings were once again held in person after May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Meetings are live streamed if there is significant local interest in the items being considered at Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings. Meetings of scrutiny Task Groups and Working Groups continue to be held remotely, since these meetings are private and are not live streamed.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee monitors the impact of all of its recommendations that have been endorsed by the Executive Committee. A tracking report is presented to the Committee during the year stating progress made to date.

During consideration of the Executive Committee's Work Programme, Members agreed to pre-scrutinise the following items:

- Redditch Town Deal Investment
- Church Green Conservation Area
- New Cemetery Provision
- Homes England Asset Transfer
- Redditch Town Centre Redevelopment – Town Investment Plan

In addition to pre-scrutiny of Executive Committee Work Programme items the following items were included in the Committee's Work Programme and were considered at meetings throughout the municipal year:

- Landscaping
- West Mercia Road Safety Team Presentation
- Redditch Community Lottery
- Redditch Partnership Annual Report
- Parking Enforcement Task Group Updates

Further information about the issues discussed by the Committee during the year and Members' findings are detailed below.

## 8<sup>th</sup> July 2021

### Overview and Scrutiny Training and Work Programme Planning Event Report

At the start of each municipal year training is provided to Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and substitutes. This year's training took place on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021 and a further session took place on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 for those who could not attend on the previous date.

At the session Members were provided with an **overview** of the importance of scrutiny and its link to the Council's Strategic Purposes. In addition, there was a presentation highlighting the various elements of scrutiny. This presentation provided an opportunity for Members to consider what areas they would like to see included in the Committee's work programme over the next municipal year and how best way to scrutinise these areas.

As a result of the training session the following items were identified as potential overview items for the coming municipal year:

- Landscaping
- Parking
- Speeding
- Litter and cleanliness
- Recreational activities for teenagers in the Borough
- Anti-social behaviour
- Housing Quality/ Houses of Multiple Occupancy and Void properties
- Drug/ Alcohol abuse and addiction issues
- Allocation of resources across the Borough

The first of these overview items was considered at the first meeting of the Committee (see below).

### Landscaping

This was the first item from the Overview and Scrutiny training event to be considered by Members. The Head of Service for Environmental and Housing Property Services and the Environmental Services Manager were in attendance for the Landscaping overview item and informed Members that there were three Place Teams who were responsible for grass-cutting and litter-picking across the Borough. It was a useful overview item for Members as there was particular interest in the schedule of works, the Place Team Coordinators, the areas they covered and the



best way to for Members and residents to report an Environmental Services query or issue.

### Community Lottery Update

The Community Lottery update is a regular 6-monthly update presented by the former Redditch Partnership Manager. During these regular updates Members are provided with an overview of the Community Lottery, how it is facilitated and by whom, the regularity of lottery draws, and the prizes awarded.

In addition to this, up-to-date data is provided to the Committee in order for them to understand how many tickets are purchased and the funding received by local organisations.

During the update provided on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2021 it was noted that the Covid-19 pandemic had impacted on the number of tickets sold and the funding generated for local organisations, but it was hoped that once restrictions were lifted this would increase once again.

## **2nd September 2021**

### Dementia Task Group Report

The Dementia Task Group Final Report was presented to the Committee. The Task Group had met online regularly over the previous year and had met with various organisations and officers that had provided information on Dementia and the services available to residents within the Borough. It was felt that this was a timely and important report given the predicted number of individuals likely to be diagnosed with Dementia over the coming years in the Borough.

Included in the final report were three recommendations which dealt with the future promotion of Dementia Services and training of Members. During the consideration of the report, it was agreed by Members that a further recommendation be made. This was as follows:

*'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.'*

All of the recommendations were agreed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and were considered by the Executive Committee at their meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021. All of the recommendations were agreed.

These recommendations continue to be monitored by the Committee as part of the regular Recommendation Tracker updates that take place at Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings.

### Parking and Enforcement Update

Members requested an update on Parking Enforcement in Redditch at this meeting as they were interested in understanding the status of the recommendations that had been agreed as a result of the Parking Enforcement Task Group.

Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) were discussed in detail as the Parking Enforcement Task Group had made a recommendation, which had been agreed by the Executive Committee to implement TROs where enforcement could take place on zigzag lines outside of schools. This recommendation has not been actioned, in part due to the Covid-19 pandemic and in part due to the protracted process in relation to the implementation of TROs.

It was suggested that Redditch could potentially be offered as a trial area for TROs on zigzag lines due to its tight urban setting, which may result in the process being carried out more quickly. Members agreed that this would be a sensible approach and could provide good outcomes for the Borough in the future.

Further discussions were had at this meeting regarding the establishment of Walking Buses in the Borough. This idea links to the third recommendation from the Parking Enforcement Task Group Members that Officers from Redditch Borough Council work with Worcestershire County Council, local schools, and West Mercia Police to develop a strategy to tackle problem parking near 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 and Councillor Beecham volunteered as Chair of the Parking Enforcement Task Group should it be re-established\*. The Democratic Services Officer agreed to investigate the process for revisiting the Parking Enforcement Task Group and to contact relevant Members.

An item on Parking Enforcement appears on the Committee on the Work Programme in sixth months' time. (noting that there may be little progress in respect of TROs) Further details of this update appears in this report.

*\*Councillor Beecham was appointed to the Executive Committee in December therefore is no longer part of Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Task Group investigations. The Parking Enforcement Task Group has not been re-established at the time of writing however a topic proposal in respect of Speeding and Road Safety was considered at the Committee meeting in February 2022 (details of the consideration of the item can be found within this report).*

### Homes England Asset Transfer - Pre-Scrutiny

Members had requested that this item be presented for pre-scrutiny prior to its consideration by the Executive Committee. The report provided clarification on the circumstances of Homes England Asset transfers and historical context of previous transfers to the Council.

## **21<sup>st</sup> October 2021**

### Church Green Conservation Area

The Principal Conservation Officer presented Members with the Church Green Conservation area report at the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021. During the presentation detailed information was provided regarding the Conservation Area Appraisal that had been prepared in order to provide a strategy to protect and enhance its character and support the wider regeneration of the town centre. Alongside the Conservation Area Appraisal, a Conservation Management Plan was produced that identified strategies to protect and enhance the Conservation Area.

Some of the issues that had been identified as areas within the Town Centre that required improvement were as follows:

- Poor state of the public realm
- Poor state of shop fronts
- Parking around the church
- Parking on the corner of Evesham Walk/ Unicorn Hill
- Vacant Units

Officers reported that a consultation was carried out in February and March 2021. The responses received to the consultation detailed concerns that had already been raised and identified and officers had dealt with them.

Members were in agreement that this was an important project and would greatly improve the look of the area.

At this meeting the Overview and Scrutiny Committee endorsed the recommendations that were due to be considered by the Executive Committee at their meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2021 and at the full Council meeting due to be held on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2021. At both of these meetings the recommendations were agreed and therefore adopted.

## **2nd December 2021**

### Presentation from the West Mercia Road Safety Team

As part of the Overview and Scrutiny training event held earlier in the municipal year it was agreed that an item regarding Road Safety and Speeding would be presented to the Committee for consideration.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022 the Chair welcomed members of the West Mercia Police Road Safety Team who provided information on the work they carried out including data, education campaigns and enforcement.

This was a detailed presentation and Members were pleased that the numbers of road collisions had decreased over the past year and that there was a number of initiatives in place regarding road safety in the Borough.

#### Redditch Town Deal Investment Plan - 6 Monthly Update

A pre-scrutiny item had been considered by the Committee in January 2021 when it was agreed by Members that a regular update in respect of the Redditch Town Deal Investment Plan would be included in the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's Work Plan in the future, in order for Members to be provided with an update on the projects and progress. This was the first of such updates.

During the Redditch Town Deal Investment Plan update, Members were further informed that the following projects had been reprioritised as part of a piece of work that had been undertaken earlier in the municipal year. These projects had been approved and allocated Towns Deal funding:

- Redevelopment of Redditch Library Project
- Town Centre Public Realm Project
- Innovation Centre

During the detailed update Officers informed the Committee that there would be an improved Communications plan for the next stages of the projects. In addition to this the costing and contingencies were discussed along with the establishment of an ambassador for each project going forward which would increase the visibility of the projects.

### **13<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

#### New Cemetery Provision

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2021 was an extra meeting in order to pre-scrutinise the New Cemetery Provision report prior to its consideration by the Executive Committee at their meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021. Several members of the public had registered to speak at this meeting to express their views on the future of New Cemetery Provision within the Borough. It is important to note that the planning application, previously considered by the

Planning Committee, was not under scrutiny at this meeting as planning was a separate process to Overview and Scrutiny.

The Bereavement Services Manager delivered a presentation in respect of the New Cemetery Provision and included information of the current burial provision within the Borough. Alongside this, previous investigations on potential new cemetery locations around Redditch were presented in detail.

The layout and design of the new cemeteries in comparison to more formal cemeteries were also presented for Members' attention and the potential for innovation in these areas was discussed.

Although it is the case that the Council does not have a statutory duty to provide burial provision in the Borough. Members were all in agreement that, if this provision was not provided in the future, it would adversely impact on the residents within Redditch.

There were three options for future burial provision within the Borough were included in the report. These were as follows:

- Reuse of Plymouth Road Cemetery
- Land off Ipsley Church Lane
- Bordesley Abbey Extension

During a particularly detailed debate Members raised a number of questions regarding the officer's report including the phases of development at the land off Ipsley Church Lane, the investigations and costs already incurred at each of the three options presented and any conflicts with the Council Plan.

At the end of the robust debate a vote was taken on the recommendations included within the report. The recommendations were endorsed by the Committee and agreed by the Executive Committee at their meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

## **6<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

### Redditch Partnership Update

The Chief Executive delivered the annual update in respect of the Redditch Partnership at the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022. The update included consideration of the Redditch Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) which was produced by the Redditch Partnership and updated every three years. A mini refresh of the strategy was undertaken in 2015 and the four priorities of the SCS were reviewed each year by the Partnership. The current Priorities of the SCS were noted as follows:

- Health Inequalities

- Education attainment, school readiness and raising aspirations of young people.
- The economy of Redditch with a focus on providing a larger and more diverse job offer.
- Lead on transformational change of services for citizens in Redditch.

It was noted that the work of the Redditch Partnership had been particularly important, and its benefits well received during the pandemic as it facilitated the coordination of communities in Redditch.

During detailed discussion Members were interested in the following:

- The skills available in the local area and whether the delivery of skills met the needs of local businesses.
- The inclusion of young people in the plans that specifically affected them and their future.
- Engagement with schools across the Borough
- How to make Redditch a more attractive place to teach.

#### Recommendation Tracker

The Recommendation Tracker was presented for Members' consideration. It was explained that this was a regular update that allowed members to see where the recommendations made by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Task Groups and Working Groups could be tracked and followed up if necessary.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> February 2022**

#### Sustainable Warmth Funding - pre-scrutiny

The Strategic Housing Manager presented the Sustainable Warmth Funding report to the Committee and explained that this was a new allocation of funding that would be utilised to improve those properties Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating of E, F or G. The criteria for recipients of the funding were outlined within the report this included the annual income of each eligible household and the rental status. The period of the grant was until March 2023 and Members were keen to understand how the scheme would be publicised, how the funding would be allocated correctly and that the projects would be managed efficiently. Members were informed that there was reporting milestones to manage the projects and that Trustmark accredited suppliers would be used to deliver the works.

At the end of the debate the Committee endorsed the recommendations that were due to be considered at the Executive Committee meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022 and at the Full Council meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2022.

### Topic Proposal – Road Safety and Speeding

As outlined earlier in this report Members had raised their concerns regarding Road Safety and Speeding within the Borough at the Overview and Scrutiny training session held at the beginning of the municipal year. Members reported that a large proportion of the queries and requests from residents was concerned with speeding on roads within the Borough. The Topic Proposal presented by Councillor Salman Akbar reflected these issues.

Members were in agreement that this was a very important area to investigate, and it was hoped that the task group could make some recommendations to implement important changes in Redditch in respect of speeding and road safety. It was therefore agreed that the Road Safety and Speeding Task Group be established.

DRAFT

**17<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

To be completed after the meeting.

DRAFT



**Crime And Disorder Scrutiny Panel – 22nd September 2021**

Local authorities are required to have a Committee designated with responsibility to review the work of the local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership and this Committee must meet at least once a year to discuss the work of the partnership. In Redditch this role is undertaken by the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel, which is a permanent sub-committee of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Panel holds the North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership to account for its work in Redditch.

At the meeting of the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel that took place on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2021 Members received an update on the work of the Partnership in the Borough in the preceding 12 months, this included an update on the action that was being taken to tackle Anti-Social Behaviour including Introductory Tenancies, Community Protection Warnings, Community Triggers and Restorative Justice.

There was also a discussion regarding local initiatives, particularly with young people including the Empowering Young People Project, Young Citizens Challenge, The Respect Programme, and the Virtual Decisions Knife Crime Project.

The Community Safety Partnership Manager presents the update, and the information is always well received by Members. Particularly this year when Members of the main Committee requested that they be provided with a written, less formal update outside of the panel meetings to keep them informed of what was going on in the Borough from a partnership perspective.

## **TASK GROUPS AND SHORT SHARP REVIEWS**

Task Groups are established by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to conduct an in-depth review of any service, policy or issue that affects the Borough. The work carried out by Task Groups in 2021-2022 is summarised below.

Recommendation Tracker.

### Dementia Task Group

The final report for the Dementia Task Group was considered at the Overview and Scrutiny meeting details of which can be found earlier in this report.

### Parking On Unicorn Hill – Short, Sharp Review

Although the Parking on Unicorn Hill Short, Sharp Review meetings took place at the start of the municipal year 2021-22, the review was put on hold due to the licensing work that was currently underway in respect of the location of Taxi Ranks in the Borough. It was decided that since the Licensing Committee were undertaking work in this area, that the Short, Sharp Review would be paused until such time as this work had been completed.

## **WORKING GROUPS**

The Council has two permanent scrutiny working groups, the Budget Scrutiny Working Group, and the Performance Scrutiny Working Group.

### **Budget Scrutiny Working Group – Chair, Councillor Jennifer Wheeler**

The Budget Scrutiny Working Group held a number of remote meetings in 2021-2022 recognising the importance of regular scrutiny of the Council's Budget.

During the year the Budget Scrutiny Working Group considered the following matters:

- Towns Fund
- Medium Term Financial Plan
- Fees and Charges
- Budget Framework
- Budget Outturn
- Covid-19 Grants Update
- Brexit and the impact on the Borough

### **Performance Scrutiny Working Group – Chair, Councillor Jennifer Wheeler**

The Performance Scrutiny Working Group met several times throughout the municipal year 2021-2022 and with more regularity than the during the previous year.

- Carbon Reduction
- The new Corporate Dashboard
- Energy Advice Services
- Skills in the Redditch
- Housing

It is hoped that the regularity of meetings would continue into the next municipal year providing Members with a more in-depth knowledge of performance across the Council.

## EXTERNAL SCRUTINY BODIES

### West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Council representative, Councillor Michael Chalk

The Committee received regular updates from Councillor Chalk, the Council's representative on the West Midlands Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

During the year Councillor Chalk frequently provided written updates about the work of the Committee and highlighted the following points:

- The Draft Corporate Plan
- Governance Arrangements for WMCA
- Air Quality
- Question and Answer session with the Mayor – Andy Street

### Worcestershire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) – Council Representative, Councillor Michael Chalk.

The Committee received regular updates from Councillor Chalk about the work of the Worcestershire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC). Some of the issues highlighted during the year included:

- Cancer Care within Worcestershire
- Ambulance Service provision within the County

The written updates from Councillor Chalk provide useful information of scrutiny work being undertaken by other authorities across the local area and the Committee are grateful of the time taken by Councillor Chalk in providing these updates.

## CONCLUSION

The return to in-person meetings at the beginning of this municipal year has meant that once again Members can consider reports in the Council Chamber. A significant amount of pre-scrutiny work has been carried out by the Committee throughout the year. However, despite the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee have carried out some constructive scrutiny throughout and in particular have considered Overview items that really matter to the residents of Redditch.

All of the recommendations made by the Committee during the municipal year have been accepted by the Executive Committee, either in totality or in an amended form.

DRAFT

**The Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee express his thanks to all Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, recognising in particular the valuable contribution made by Members through Task Group investigations and on the Budget and Performance Scrutiny Working Groups.**

For any background information on the work of Overview and Scrutiny Committee in Redditch, please visit <https://www.redditchbc.gov.uk/council/the-council.aspx>

Democratic Services, Redditch Borough Council, Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch, B98 8AH  
Tel: 01527 64252 Ext 3031 email: [joanne.gresham@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk](mailto:joanne.gresham@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk)

## Appendix A

**Scrutiny Proposal Form**

(This form should be completed by sponsoring Member(s), Officers and / or members of the public when proposing an item for Scrutiny).

**Note:** The matters detailed below have not yet received any detailed consideration. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee reserves the right to reject suggestions for scrutiny that fall outside the Borough Council's remit.

Proposer's name and designation		Date of referral	
Proposed topic title			
Link to local priorities including the strategic purposes			
Background to the issue			
<p>Key Objectives</p> <p>Please keep to SMART objectives (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Timely)</p>			
<p>How long do you think is needed to complete this exercise? (Where possible please estimate the number of weeks, months and meetings required)</p>			

Please return this form to: Jo Gresham, Democratic Services Officer, Redditch Borough Council, Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch, B98 8AH

Email: [joanne.gresham@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk](mailto:joanne.gresham@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk)



## Executive Committee

Monday, 21st February,  
2022

### MINUTES

#### Present:

Councillor Matthew Dormer (Chair), and Councillors Joanne Beecham, Aled Evans, Peter Fleming, Anthony Lovell, Nyear Nazir, Mike Rouse and Craig Warhurst

#### Also Present:

Councillors Michael Chalk, Debbie Chance, Luke Court, Andrew Fry, Julian Grubb, Emma Marshall, David Thain and Jennifer Wheeler

#### Officers:

Peter Carpenter, Kevin Dicks, Claire Felton, James Howse and Deb Poole

#### Principal Democratic Services Officer:

Jess Bayley-Hill

#### 77. APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received on behalf of Councillor Gemma Monaco.

#### 78. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 79. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Leader explained that there were two agenda packs for consideration at the meeting; the main agenda pack and a supplementary pack. The supplementary pack contained the report in respect of the Council Tax Resolutions. As the supplementary pack had been published close to the date of the meeting, the Leader had agreed that paper copies of the pack should be tabled at the meeting, although the report had been available for Members and the public to access electronically for a number of days.

#### 80. MINUTES

Chair

**RESOLVED that**

**the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022 be approved as a true and correct record and signed by the Chair.**

**81. PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2022/23**

The Head of Business Transformation, Organisational Development and Digital Strategy presented the Pay Policy Statement 2022/23 for Members' consideration. The Executive Committee was advised that there was a requirement for the Council to publish the Pay Policy Statement every year. This document needed to detail the remuneration provided to both the lowest paid and the highest paid members of staff and outline the differences between the two. Information was also provided in the report about how the Council calculated the salaries that were paid to staff and the consistent approach that the authority applied to this process.

**RECOMMENDED that**

**the Pay Policy Statement 2022/23 be approved.**

**82. 2022/23 BUDGET AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2022/23 TO 2024/25 (INCLUDING CAPITAL PROGRAMME)**

The Executive Director of Resources presented the 2022/23 Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2022/23 to 2024/25. The report detailed the proposals for the budget in the 2022/23 financial year together with the Council's plans for the full three-year period of the MTFP. The content of the report had been changed when compared to previous years, to help provide clarity regarding the figures provided and the factors influencing the content of the budget. The report had been scrutinised by the Budget Scrutiny Working Group, although no recommendations had been made.

The 2022/23 budget was robust and balanced. However, Members were asked to note that a balanced position had only been achieved by using funding from balances. This approach could not be applied in subsequent years and balances were expected to fall below minimum levels considered acceptable by the Section 151 Officer from 2023/24 onwards unless action was taken.

The budget was being set in a challenging financial context for local government. There was also unprecedented uncertainty in terms of future funding arrangements for local Councils.



# Executive Committee

Monday, 21st February, 2022

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There were a number of factors that had influenced the content of the budget and MTFP. This included:

- Inflation, which was anticipated to remain at a higher level than in recent years.
- Pay inflation, which was anticipated at 2 per cent per annum for the full three-year period of the MTFP.
- Budget bids, which placed pressures on the budget.
- Proposed savings.
- Additional income opportunities.
- A release of funding from earmarked reserves.
- An increase in Council Tax for the Council, at £5 per annum.
- A contribution from the Government of £100,000 in the Lower Tier Settlement.

## **RECOMMENDED that Council approve**

### **1) the overall net general fund revenue budgets of:**

<b>2022/23:</b>	<b>£10.520m</b>
<b>2023/24:</b>	<b>£10.289m</b>
<b>2024/25:</b>	<b>£10.428m</b>

### **2) the unavoidable costs:**

<b>2022/23:</b>	<b>£0.427m</b>
<b>2023/24:</b>	<b>£0.140m</b>
<b>2024/25:</b>	<b>£0.134m</b>

### **3) the Revenue Bids:**

<b>2022/23:</b>	<b>£0.191m</b>
<b>2023/24:</b>	<b>£0.150m</b>
<b>2024/25:</b>	<b>£0.128m</b>

### **4) the Identified Savings:**

<b>2022/23:</b>	<b>£0.305m</b>
<b>2023/24:</b>	<b>£0.327m</b>
<b>2024/25:</b>	<b>£0.327m</b>

### **5) an increase of the Council Tax per Band D equivalent of £5 for 2022/23;**

### **6) the transfer from General Fund Balances of £0.282m for 2022/23;**

### **7) the planned reallocation of £0.238m from Earmarked reserves to General Fund Balances;**

# Executive Committee

Monday, 21st February, 2022

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## 8) the General Fund capital programme of:

2022/23:	£4.257m
2023/24:	£2.407m
2024/25:	£1.930m

## 9) the Housing Revenue Account Budget of:

2022/23:	£25.390m
2023/24:	£25.074m
2024/25:	£25.545m

## 10) the Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme of:

2022/23:	£14.180m
2023/24:	£12.580m
2024/25:	£12.580m

## 11) the 2020/21 Capital Outturn be noted; and

## 12) the Chief Financial Officer's (CFO) Opinion on Estimates and Reserve Levels be noted.

**83. COUNCIL TAX RESOLUTIONS 2022/23 (TO FOLLOW)**

The Executive Director of Resources presented the Council Tax Resolutions 2022/23 for the Executive Committee's consideration. Members were advised that this was a technical report which outlined the Council Tax contributions that would be made to all precepting authorities in the 2022/23 financial year. The various partner organisations that were precepting authorities had agreed their Council Tax requirements in recent weeks and had notified the Council, which had incorporated the figures into the report.

**RESOLVED to NOTE that at a meeting on 11th January 2022, the Executive Committee calculated the Council Tax Base 2022-23 as:**

- (a) for the whole Council area as 26,546.63 [Item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")]; and
- (b) for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates; this being Feckenham Parish as 374.52.

**RECOMMENDED that**

# Executive Committee

Monday, 21st February, 2022

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- 1) the calculation for the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2022-23 (excluding Parish precepts) be £6,746,772.92;
- 2) the following amounts be calculated for the year 2022-23 in accordance with sections 31 to 36 of the Act:
  - (a) £46,984,027 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (2) of the Act (taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils) (*i.e.*, *Gross expenditure*);
  - (b) £40,222,255 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (3) of the Act. (*i.e.*, *Gross income*);
  - (c) £6,761,772 being the amount by which the aggregate of 1.2.2(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 1.2.2(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31A (4) of the Act, as its Council Tax requirement for the year. (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act);
  - (d) £254.71 being the amount at 1.2.2 (c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (1.1(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts);
  - (e) £15,000 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Feckenham Parish precept) referred to in Section 34 (1) of the Act;
  - (f) £254.15 being the amount at 1.2.2 (d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 1.2.2 (e) above by Item T (1.1 (a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34 (2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept relates;
  - (g) £294.20 being the amount given by adding to the amount at 1.2.2(f), the amount of the special item relating to the Parish of Feckenham 1.2.2(e), divided by the amount in 1.1(b) above;

# Executive Committee

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- (h) the amounts below given by multiplying the amounts at 1.2.2(f) and 1.2.2(g) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band, divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in Band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwelling listed in different valuation bands.

Valuation Band	Proportion of Band D tax paid	Parish of Feckenham £	All other parts of the Council's area £
A	6/9	196.13	169.43
B	7/9	228.82	197.67
C	8/9	261.51	225.91
D	1	294.20	254.15
E	11/9	359.58	310.63
F	13/9	424.96	367.11
G	15/9	490.33	423.58
H	18/9	588.40	508.30

- 3) it be noted that for the year 2022-23, Worcestershire County Council, Police and Crime Commissioner for West Mercia and Hereford and Worcester Fire Authority have issued precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each category of dwelling in the Council's area as indicated below:

	Valuation Bands							
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Worcestershire County Council	931.19	1,086.38	1,241.58	<b>1,396.78</b>	1,707.18	2,017.57	2,327.97	2,793.56
Police and Crime Commissioner for West Mercia	166.44	194.18	221.92	<b>249.66</b>	305.14	360.62	416.10	499.32
Hereford and Worcester Fire Authority	59.60	69.53	79.47	<b>89.40</b>	109.27	129.13	149.00	178.80

# Executive Committee

Monday, 21st February, 2022

- 4) having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 1.2.2(h) and 1.2.3 above, that Redditch Borough Council in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 hereby sets the amounts shown below as the amounts of Council Tax for 2022-23. for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings:

Valuation Band	Proportion of Band D tax paid	Parish of Feckenham £	All other parts of the Council's area £
A	6/9	1,353.36	1,326.66
B	7/9	1,578.91	1,547.76
C	8/9	1,804.48	1,768.88
D	1	2,030.04	1,989.99
E	11/9	2,481.17	2,432.22
F	13/9	2,932.28	2,874.43
G	15/9	3,383.40	3,316.65
H	18/9	4,060.08	3,979.98

- 5) the Executive Director Finance & Resources be authorised to make payments under Section 90(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 from the Collection Fund by ten equal instalments between April 2022 to March 2023 as detailed below:

	Precept £	Deficit on Collection Fund £	Total to pay £
Worcestershire County Council	37,079,802.00	970,233.00	38,050,035.00
Police and Crime Commissioner for West Mercia	6,627,631.65	173,751.00	6,801,382.65
Hereford & Worcester Fire Authority	2,373,271.31	66,447.00	2,439,718.31

- 6) the Executive Director Finance & Resources be authorised to make transfers under Section 97 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 from the Collection Fund to the General Fund the sum of £6,941,602 being the Council's own demand on the Collection Fund (£6,746,773) and Parish Precept (£15,000) and the distribution of the surplus on the Collection Fund (£179,829);

# Executive Committee

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- 7) the Executive Director Finance & Resources be authorised to make payments from the General Fund to Feckenham Parish Council the sums listed above (£15,000) by instalment after 1 April 2022 in respect of the precept levied on the Council;
- 8) the above resolutions to be signed by the Chief Executive for use in legal proceedings in the Magistrates Court for the recovery of unpaid Council Taxes;
- 9) notices of the making of the said Council Taxes signed by the Chief Executive are given by advertisement in the local press under Section 38(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992; and
- 10) authority be delegated to the Head of Finance and Customer Services (Interim S151) following consultation with the finance portfolio holder to amend the resolution should the Hereford and Worcester Fire Authority Service not approve the estimated figure that is being used in this report. This is due to the Fire service having their approval meeting after this resolution report has been brought to Council.

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

The Leader advised that there were no referrals from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or the Executive Advisory Panels on this occasion.

## 85. ADVISORY PANELS - UPDATE REPORT

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 there had been no meetings of the Climate Change Cross Party Working Group since the previous meeting of the Executive Committee.

- b) Constitutional Review Working Party – Chair, Councillor Matthew Dormer

# Executive Committee

Monday, 21st February, 2022

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Members were advised that a meeting of the Constitutional Review Working Party was due to take place on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022.

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

Councillor Nazir explained that there were no updates to report.

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

Councillor Dormer advised that a meeting of the Member Support Steering Group had taken place on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022. During the meeting, Members had discussed the draft induction pack for Councillors due to be elected in May 2022. The requirements for Members to attend training, including the circumstances under which training should be classified as mandatory, had also been considered.

Members had given consideration to the need for Members' safety training to be provided, following the death of Sir David Amess MP. It was anticipated that this training would be delivered before the end of the municipal year.

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

The Executive Committee was informed that there were no scheduled meetings of the Planning Advisory Panel due to take place.

The Meeting commenced at 6.30 pm  
and closed at 6.43 pm

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# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE LEADER'S

## WORK PROGRAMME

1 April 2022 to 31 July 2022

(published as at 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022)



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

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](mailto: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 Joanne Beecham, Portfolio Holder for Leisure

Councillor Aled Evans, 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 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
Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2021/22 <b>Key:</b> No	Council 11 Apr 2022		Report of the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Joanne Gresham, Senior Democratic Services Officer Tel: 01527 64252 Ext: 3031
Asset Management Strategy and investment programme for council housing stock <b>Key:</b> No	Executive 14 Jun 2022 Council 27 Jun 2022		Report of the Head of Environmental and Housing Property Services	Simon Parry, Housing Property Services Manager Tel: 01527 64252
Asset Rationalisation for Community Centres and Easemore Road <b>Key:</b> Yes	Executive Not before 14th Jun 2022	This report may contain exempt information which would need to be considered in private session.	Report of the Head of Legal, Democratic and Property Services	Claire Felton, Head of Legal, Democratic and Property Services Tel: 01527 881429
Council Plan (Including Recovery and Restoration Plan) <b>Key:</b> No	Executive 14 Jun 2022 Council 27 Jun 2022		Report of the Head of Business Transformation, Organisational Development and Digital Strategy	Deb Poole, Head of Business Transformation and Organisational Development Tel: 01527 881256

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
Council Tax Support Scheme -Update <b>Key:</b> No	Executive 14 Jun 2022		Report of the Interim Head of Finance and Customer Services	Peter Carpenter, Interim Deputy S151 - Finance
Digital Strategy <b>Key:</b> No	Executive 14 Jun 2022  Council 27 Jun 2022		Report of the Head of Business Transformation, Organisational Development and Digital Strategy	Deb Poole, Head of Business Transformation and Organisational Development Tel: 01527 881256
Future Plans for Auxerre House <b>Key:</b> No	Executive Not before 14th Jun 2022  Council Not before 27th Jun 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
Future Use of the Town Hall and Customer Access <b>Key:</b> Yes	Executive Not before 14th Jun 2022	This report may contain exempt information which would need to be considered in exempt session.	Report of the Head of Legal, Democratic and Property Services	Claire Felton, Head of Legal, Democratic and Property Services, Peter Carpenter, Interim Deputy S151 - Finance Tel: 01527 881429,

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
Housing Policies <b>Key:</b> No	Executive 14 Jun 2022 Council 27 Jun 2022		Report of the Head of Community and Housing Services	Judith Willis, Head of Community and Housing Services Tel: 01527 64252 ext 3284
Redditch Town Investment Plan Business Cases <b>Key:</b> Yes	Executive 14 Jun 2022 Council 27 Jun 2022		Report of the Head of Planning, Regeneration and Leisure Services	Ostap Paparega, Head of North Worcestershire Economic Development and Regeneration Tel: 01562 732192
Staff Survey <b>Key:</b> No	Executive 14 Jun 2022		Report of the Head of Business Transformation, Organisational Development and Digital Strategy	Deb Poole, Head of Business Transformation and Organisational Development Tel: 01527 881256
Tree Services Review Including Ash Die Back Update <b>Key:</b> No	Executive 14 Jun 2022 Council 27 Jun 2022		Report of the Head of Environmental and Housing Property Services	Carl Walker, Environmental Services Manager Tel: 01527 64252 ext 3421

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
Worcestershire Housing Strategy 2040 <b>Key:</b> No	Executive 14 Jun 2022 Council 27 Jun 2022		Report of the Chief Executive	Judith Willis, Head of Community and Housing Services Tel: 01527 64252 ext 3284
Climate Change Strategy <b>Key:</b> No	Executive 12 Jul 2022 Council 25 Jul 2022		Head of Community and Housing Services and Head of Environmental and Housing Property Services	Guy Revans, Head of Environmental and Housing Property Services, Judith Willis Head of Community and Housing Services Tel: 01527 64252 ext 3292, Tel: 01527 64252 ext 3284
Asset Strategy <b>Key:</b> No	Executive Not before 6th Sep 2022		Report of the Head of Legal, Democratic and Property Services	Claire Felton, Head of Legal, Democratic and Property Services Tel: 01527 881429
HR and Organisational Development / People Strategy <b>Key:</b> No	Executive Not before 6th Sep 2022		Report of the Head of Business Transformation, Organisational Development and Digital Strategy	Deb Poole, Head of Business Transformation and Organisational Development Tel: 01527 881256

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
Leisure Strategy <b>Key:</b> No	Executive Not before 6th Sep 2022  Council Not before 19th Sep 2022		Report of the Head of Planning, Regeneration and Leisure Services	Ruth Bamford, Head of Planning, Regeneration and Leisure Services Tel: 01527 64252
Levelling Up Fund Bid <b>Key:</b> Yes	Executive Not before 6th Sep 2022  Council Not before 19th Sep 2022			Ruth Bamford, Head of Planning, Regeneration and Leisure Services Tel: 01527 64252
Matchborough and Winyates Regeneration Proposals <b>Key:</b> Yes	Executive Not before 6th Sep 2022		Report of the Head of Planning, Regeneration and Leisure Services	Ostap Paparega, Head of North Worcestershire Economic Development and Regeneration Tel: 01562 732192
Voluntary Bodies Scheme <b>Key:</b> No	Executive 6 Sep 2022		Report of the Head of Community and Housing Services	Judith Willis, Head of Community and Housing Services Tel: 01527 64252 ext 3284

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
Environment Act - Changes to Waste Services - Implications <b>Key:</b> No	Executive Not before 25th Oct 2022  Council Not before 14th Nov 2022		Report of the Head of Environmental and Housing Property Services	Guy Revans, Head of Environmental and Housing Property Services Tel: 01527 64252 ext 3292
Homelessness Prevention Grant 2023/24 <b>Key:</b> Yes	Executive 6 Dec 2022		Report of the Head of Community and Housing Services	Amanda Delahunty, Housing Strategy and Enabling Officer Tel: (01527) 881269
Decarbonisation of the Council Fleet <b>Key:</b> No	Executive 7 Feb 2023  Council 3 Apr 2023		Report of the Head of Environmental and Housing Property Services	Kevin Hirons, Environmental Services Manager Tel: 01527 881705

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**Overview & Scrutiny**

Committee

March 2022

**WORK PROGRAMME 2020/21**

(Report of the Chief Executive)

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>Subject Matter</b>	<b>Officer(s) Responsible for report</b>
<b>ALL MEETINGS</b>	<b>REGULAR ITEMS</b>	<b>(CHIEF EXECUTIVE)</b>
	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
	<b>REGULAR ITEMS</b> 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

March 2022

MEETING DATE	ITEM TO BE CONSIDERED	RELEVANT LEAD
<b>March 2022</b>	Declaration of Land Surplus to Requirement at Lodge Road/Union Street, Smallwood and Available for Disposal	Claire Felton, Head of Legal, Democratic and Property Services
<b>March 2022</b>	Update on Parking Enforcement	Kevin Hiron, Environmental Service Manager
<b>March 2022</b>	Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2021/22	Democratic Services Officer
<b>June 2022</b>	Health Priorities in Redditch	Kevin Dicks, Chief Executive Officer
<b>June 2022</b>	Redditch Town Centre Regeneration Business Cases	Ostap Paparega, Head of North Worcestershire Economic Development
<b>June 2022</b>	Pre-Decision-Scrutiny - Asset Management Strategy and investment programme for council housing stock	Simon Parry, Housing Property Services Manager
<b>June 2022</b>	Pre-Decision-Scrutiny - Future Plans for Auxerre House	Simon Parry, Housing Property Services Manager
<b>July 2022</b>	New Cemetery Provision – Update	Bereavement Services Manager
<b>September 2022</b>	Matchborough and Winyates Regeneration Proposals – pre-scrutiny	Ostap Paparega, Head of North Worcestershire Economic Development