



Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Thu 21 Jul
2022
6.30 pm

Council Chamber,
Redditch Town Hall,
Walter Stranz Square
Redditch
B98 8AH

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL

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**If you have any queries on this Agenda please contact
Jess Bayley-Hill**

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GUIDANCE ON FACE-TO-FACE MEETINGS

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.

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

Members and Officers who still have access to lateral flow tests (LFTs) are encouraged to take a test on the day of the meeting. Meeting attendees who do not have access to LFTs are encouraged not to attend the meeting if they have common cold symptoms or any of the following common symptoms of Covid-19 on the day of the meeting; a high temperature, a new and continuous cough or a loss of smell and / or taste.

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. Seating will be placed in such a way as to achieve as much space as possible for social distancing to help protect meeting participants. 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 who still have access to lateral flow tests (LFTs) are encouraged to take a test on the day of the meeting. Meeting attendees who do not have access to LFTs are encouraged not to attend the meeting if they have common cold symptoms or any of the following common symptoms of Covid-19 on the day of the meeting; a high temperature, a new and continuous cough or a loss of smell and / or taste.

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 July, 2022

6.30 pm

Council Chamber Town Hall

Agenda

Membership:

Cllrs:

Bill Hartnett (Chair)
Joanna Kane (Vice-
Chair)
Salman Akbar
Imran Altaf
Michael Chalk

Brandon Clayton
Sid Khan
Timothy Pearman
Gareth Prosser

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. Public Speaking

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

4. Pre-Decision Scrutiny - UK Shared Prosperity Fund (To Follow)

5. Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme (Pages 1 - 4)

6. External Scrutiny Bodies - Update Reports (Pages 5 - 8)

- 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.

Overview & Scrutiny

Committee

21st July 2022**WORK PROGRAMME 2022-23**

(Report of the Chief Executive)

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

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21st July 2022

MEETING DATE	ITEM TO BE CONSIDERED	RELEVANT LEAD
21 st July 2022	UK Shared Prosperity Fund	Ruth Bamford, Head of Planning, Regeneration and Leisure Services
1 st September 2022	Climate Change Strategy – pre-scrutiny	Judith Willis, Head of Community and Housing Services and Guy Revans, Head of Environmental and Housing Property Services
1 st September 2022	Pre-Decision-Scrutiny - Asset Management Strategy and investment programme for council housing stock	Simon Parry, Housing Property Services Manager
22 nd September 2022	Pre-Decision Scrutiny – Redditch TIP – Library Business Case	Ruth Bamford, Head of Planning, Regeneration and Leisure Services
20 th October 2022	Pre-Decision-Scrutiny - Future Plans for Auxerre House	Simon Parry, Housing Property Services Manager
20 th October 2022	Asset Strategy – pre-scrutiny	Claire Felton, Head of Legal, Democratic and Property Services and Pete Carpenter, Interim Section 151 Officer
20 th October 2022	Voluntary Bodies Scheme – pre-scrutiny	Judith Willis, Head of Community and Housing Services
20 th October 2022	Pre-Decision Scrutiny – Leisure Strategy	Ruth Bamford, Head of Planning, Regeneration and Leisure Services
20 th October 2022	Environment Act - Changes to Waste Services – Implications – pre-scrutiny	Guy Revans, Head of Environmental and Housing Property Services

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1st December 2022	Worcestershire Housing Strategy 2040 – pre-scrutiny	Judith Willis, Head of Community and Housing Services
1st December 2022	HR and Organisational Development / People Strategy – pre-scrutiny	Deb Poole, Head of Business Transformation, Organisational Development and Digital Strategy
1st December 2022	Matchborough and Winyates Regeneration Proposals – pre-scrutiny	Ostap Paparega, Head of North Worcestershire Economic Development
1st December 2022	Revisiting Items Identified During the Overview and Scrutiny Training held on 6 th June 2022	Jess Bayley-Hill, Principal Democratic Services Officer
2nd February 2023	Draft Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2022/23	Councillor Bill Hartnett
Date to be confirmed	Support Provided by the Council to residents in respect of the cost of living – Overview item	Various Heads of Service
Date to be confirmed	New Cemetery Provision – Update – Overview item	Bereavement Services Manager
Date to be confirmed	Health Priorities in Redditch - Overview item	Kevin Dicks, Chief Executive Officer

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The chair is appointed by the Board but the deputy is elected from the Labour members of the committee. The Mayor is a conservative. As this was the first meeting of the new municipal year only a few of us moved and accepted the minutes of the last meeting. The Chair took the opportunity to thank the retired members.

We had a report on the 'trailblazer' devolution deal in which both WMCA and Manchester are fast tracking the next deal with the Government, transport, skills and housing being the main areas of interest. The WMCA need to have the submission ready for September 2022.

Following this was a more detailed report on the 'levelling up' provisions. There are a range of specifications some of which apply to local authorities, the most important one being planning.

A verbal report on O&S governance was given after questions were asked at the previous meeting. It appears that O&S members are considered to be co-opted and as such can have an allowance. It was also explained that reports should be either 4 or 6 pages maximum, depending on the context. The Transport Security Sub-Committee is an anomaly being set up under a previous system but is hoped to bring it into line with the WMCA.

The allocation of the Skills budget was discussed at length with Birmingham having 50.68%. Employment is returning to pre-covid levels and there are more level 3 qualifications but still not enough. It was suggested that there was a need for more lower-level qualifications to fit the job market.

Finally the committee had a view of the grant register and was able to comment.

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As is usual, the pre-meeting discussed the various questions and a range of general comments were made as to the general state of the NHS in Worcestershire.

The Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust (the Trust) introduced the Integrated Care System that was a combination of the board and providers. It is anticipated that this will break down barriers and give better outcomes. Several explanations were given about current health care, which is expected to improve in 5/6 weeks. One area of concern is the ambulance hand over time particularly at the Royal Worcester Hospital. An acknowledgement was given that there is "always room for improvement."

One other area that was discussed was the arrangements for discharge from hospital. Golden Discharge was still not in place although discharge timing was improving.

The hospitals were back into using a significant amount of personal protective equipment (PPE), with staff being off for 5 days after a positive covid test.

A new bed system is in place which everyone tries to allow a quicker admission to discharge. This is expected to be the "Right Plan."

When questioned on minor Injury Units the response was that they are all different, with opening times and availability detailed on the respective websites. The chair is pushing for improvement all-round by September 2022 and HOSC are expecting quality reports showing where the improvements are.

Covid vaccinations in Hereford and Worcestershire are going well but we still have a high percentage of the young and areas of deprivation where the numbers are low. Mortality rates are below national averages.

The massive survey held between February and May 2022 is helping to develop a 10-year strategy. Action plans are being prepared for many areas particularly alcohol and drug abuse. It is expected that these will come to HOSC as early as September.

The budget of £30.365M is allocated with a reserve of £9.7M most of which is also allocated to projects.

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