

Executive Committee

12th January 2011

Notice of Decisions

Present:

Councillor Carole Gandy (Chair), Councillor Michael Braley (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Juliet Brunner, Brandon Clayton, Malcolm Hall, Gay Hopkins, Jinny Pearce and Debbie Taylor

Also Present

Councillors Roger Hill and Graham Vickery

Officers:

J Bayley, H Bennett, K Cook, C Flanagan, S Hanley, C John, J Pickering, G Revans, L Tompkin, A Walsh and A de Warr

Committee Services Officer:

I Westmore

145. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Malcolm Hall declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Item 10 (Learndirect – Relocation Update) as detailed at Minute 154 below.

146. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Greg Chance.

147. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Leader advised the Committee that the following items of business, scheduled on the Forward Plan to be dealt with at this evening's meeting, had been rescheduled to a later meeting of the Committee:

- River Revetment Works – Old Forge Drive and Park Way
- Quarterly Monitoring of Sickness Absence

The Leader also advised that she had accepted late circulation of the following item:

.....
Chair

- Item 7 – Update of Medium Term Financial Plan 2011/12 – 2013/14.

148. MINUTES

In the absence of the minutes of the previous meeting, Members noted the decision notice of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 2nd December 2010.

149. EXTERNAL REFURBISHMENT OF HOUSING STOCK SHORT SHARP REVIEW - FINAL REPORT

RESOLVED that

- 1) light colour paints be utilised to decorate garage doors to improve their visual appearance (as detailed in paragraphs 4.2 – 4.2.3 to the report);**
- 2) the retaining wall to the rear of 1-12 Martley Close be redecorated as part of a Council arts project (as detailed in paragraphs 4.4 – 4.4.4);**
- 3) the Council ensure that, when replacing diseased and dead plants, different types of plants are introduced to ensure there is a variety of leaf colours and foliage in any given area (as detailed in paragraphs 4.6 – 4.6.3);**
- 4) the remaining Section 106 money available for use on capital landscaping work in the Greenlands Open Spaces be allocated to soft landscaping work in the courtyard area located in Wishaw Close (as detailed in paragraphs 4.7 – 4.7.6);**
- 5) in order to minimise the level of disruption experienced by local residents, a holistic approach to the delivery of frontline services be adopted (as detailed in paragraphs 4.8 – 4.8.2);**
- 6) representatives of local schools be invited to participate in estate walkabouts (as detailed in paragraphs 4.9 – 4.9.6);**
- 7) representatives of the local GP's Consortium be invited to participate in the estate walkabouts once the consortia have been introduced in 2012/13 (as detailed in paragraphs 4.10 – 4.10.4);**

- 8) **Worcestershire County Council Highways Officers be contacted to require them to repair the road surface entrance to Rushock Close (as detailed in paragraphs 4.12 – 4.12.4);**
- 9) **the Portfolio Holder for Housing, the Local Environment and Health be urged to consider the abolition of the garages in Wishaw Close as a priority case due to their bad state of repair (as detailed in paragraphs 4.13 – 4.13.3);**
- 10) **further information on the following matters be reported back to a future meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:**

the decoration of the lintels featured on Council properties to improve the visual appearance of those properties (as detailed in paragraphs 4.3 – 4.3.2);

the Council assuming responsibility for the maintenance of small strips of land located close to private properties and public spaces in the Woodrow area (as detailed in paragraphs 4.5 – 4.5.3);

consultation with Council tenants and owner occupiers to find out whether they would support repainting of the pebbledash properties on Ombersley Close and Rushock Close using lighter colours and, if so, which colours they would prefer to use (it being made clear to owner occupiers that this service would only be made available to them at a cost) (as detailed in paragraphs 4.11 – 4.11.5);
and

- 13) **the report be noted.**

150. JOINT WORCESTERSHIRE HUB TASK AND FINISH GROUP - FINAL REPORT

RESOLVED that

the report of the Worcestershire Hub Scrutiny Task and Finish Group be noted.

151. UPDATE OF MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2011/12 - 2013/14

RESOLVED that

- 1) the revenue bids 2011/12 – 2013/14 as identified in Appendix A be noted;**
- 2) the new capital bids 2011/12 – 2013/14 at Appendix B be noted and the priority categorisation of the following bid be amended:**

Solar Panels (POLICY AND COMMUNICATIONS) - upgrade from MEDIUM to HIGH; and

- 3) Heads of Service be requested to continue to review the budget with the aim of presenting a balanced position to the Executive Committee meeting in February 2011.**

(It was noted that the figure of £13K for the Development Training Programme in the Revenue Bids was for all three years, not just 2011/12 as stated in the report.

Members highlighted their intention to accept only those bids that were categorised as high priority bids.)

152. COUNCIL TAX BASE

RESOLVED that

- 1) the calculation of the Council's Tax Base for the whole and parts of the area for 2011/12, as detailed in the Appendices to the report, be approved; and**
- 2) in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulations 1992, the figures calculated by Redditch Borough Council as its tax base for the whole area for the year 2011/12 be 27,569.18 and for the parts of the area listed below be:**

Parish of Feckenham	<u>367.29</u>
Rest of Redditch	<u>27,201.89</u>

153. CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE STRATEGY 2011 - 2014

RECOMMENDED that

the Every Customer, Every Time Customer Experience Strategy, attached at Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.

154. LEARNDIRECT - RELOCATION UPDATE

RESOLVED that

- 1) the report be noted; and**
- 2) a full review of the property known as the REDI Centre, 54 South Street, Redditch, be undertaken by Worcestershire County Council Property Services to identify options available to the Council for Members' future consideration.**

(Officers undertook to carry out a general satisfaction survey of new and existing users of the service, the results of which would be reported back to Members in due course.)

(Prior to consideration of this item, and in accordance with the requirements of Section 81 of the Local Government Act 2000, Councillor Malcolm Hall declared a personal and prejudicial interest in view of his involvement with a group which was considering the acquisition of leasehold use of these premises, should it become available.)

155. COUNCIL RESPONSE TO "LOCAL DECISIONS - A FAIRER FUTURE FOR SOCIAL HOUSING"

RESOLVED that

the response to the consultation paper: Local Decisions, A Fairer Future for Social Housing be endorsed.

(Members requested that the exclusion of applicants with more than £20,000 in savings from the social housing waiting list in the response to Question 17 be revisited, in order that the appropriateness of the amount and the relevance of an applicant's age or personal circumstances can be considered further.)

156. GARDEN WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE - OUTCOMES OF TRIAL

RESOLVED that

the trial service ends and that the Council revisits the garden waste collection service at a later date as a possible shared service.

157. REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL ESTABLISHMENT - QUARTERS 1 AND 2 - APRIL TO SEPTEMBER 2010/11

RESOLVED that

the report be noted.

158. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDED that

- 1) Redditch Borough Council endorse and support the need for a Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) in the West Mercia Police area;**
- 2) the Council issue a letter to the Health and Wellbeing Board highlighting the level of uncertainty for future provision of a SARC within the West Mercia Police area and the apparent gaps in the NHS White Paper *Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS*” in this regard; and**

RESOLVED that

- 3) the minutes of the meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 17th November and 8th December 2010 be received and noted;**

159. SHARED SERVICES BOARD

Joint Property Services WETT

RECOMMENDED that

the improvements to performance management and monitoring of Shared Services, outlined at Section 15 of the Progress report, be endorsed.

(During consideration of this item, Members considered matters that necessitated the disclosure of exempt information. Given that there was no discussion of the exempt matters under consideration, exclusion of the public and press was not necessary. There is nothing exempt in this record of the proceedings.)

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

There were no minutes or referrals under this item.

161. URGENT BUSINESS - RECORD OF DECISIONS

Members noted an Urgent Business decision which had been approved in accordance with Standing Order 36, namely:

HMRS – Licence for use of Town Hall Premises
(Decision Reference 488)

RESOLVED that

the matter be noted.

162. ADVISORY PANELS - UPDATE REPORT

RESOLVED that

the report be noted.

163. ACTION MONITORING

RESOLVED that

the report be noted.