

# Standards Committee

Wed 13 Oct  
2010  
7.00 pm

Committee Room 2  
Town Hall  
Redditch

**REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL**

*making  
a  
difference*

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# Access to Information - Your Rights

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The Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 widened the rights of press and public to attend Local Authority meetings and to see certain documents. Recently the Freedom of Information Act 2000, has further broadened these rights, and limited exemptions under the 1985 Act.

Your main rights are set out below:-

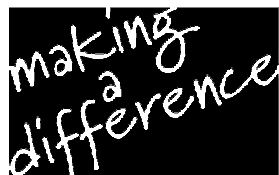
- Automatic right to attend all Council and Committee meetings unless the business would disclose confidential or “exempt” information.
- Automatic right to inspect agenda and public reports at least five days before the date of the meeting.
- Automatic right to inspect minutes of the Council and its Committees (or summaries of business undertaken in private) for up to six years following a meeting.
- Automatic right to inspect lists of background papers used in the preparation of public reports.
- Access, upon request, to the background papers on which reports are based for a period of up to four years from the date of the meeting.
- Access to a public register stating the names and addresses and electoral areas of all Councillors with details of the membership of all Committees etc.
- A reasonable number of copies of agenda and reports relating to items to be considered in public must be made available to the public attending meetings of the Council and its Committees etc.
- Access to a list specifying those powers which the Council has delegated to its Officers indicating also the titles of the Officers concerned.
- Access to a summary of the rights of the public to attend meetings of the Council and its Committees etc. and to inspect and copy documents.
- In addition, the public now has a right to be present when the Council determines “Key Decisions” unless the business would disclose confidential or “exempt” information.
- Unless otherwise stated, all items of business before the Executive Committee are Key Decisions.
- (Copies of Agenda Lists are published in advance of the meetings on the Council’s Website:  
**[www.redditchbc.gov.uk](http://www.redditchbc.gov.uk)**

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**If you have any queries on this Agenda or any of the decisions taken or wish to exercise any of the above rights of access to information, please contact**

**Ivor Westmore  
Committee Support Services**

**Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch, B98 8AH  
Tel: (01527) 64252 (Extn. 3269) Fax: (01527) 65216  
e.mail: [ivor.westmore@redditchbc.gov.uk](mailto:ivor.westmore@redditchbc.gov.uk) Minicom: 595528**



# Standards Committee

13th October 2010

7.00 pm

Town Hall

## Agenda

### Membership:

#### Independent Members:

Deborah Andrews (Chair)  
Michael Collins (Vice-Chair)  
Brian Warwick

#### Redditch Borough Councillors:

D Andrews (Chair)  
M Collins (Vice-Chair)  
B Warwick  
Anita Clayton  
Andrew Fry  
Malcolm Hall  
William Norton  
Brenda Quinney  
Mark Shurmer  
Derek Taylor  
Venables  
Antonia Pulsford

#### Feckenham Parish Councillors:

Antonia Pulsford  
Louisa Venables

<b>1. Apologies</b>	To receive the apologies of any Member who is unable to attend this meeting.
<b>2. Declarations of Interest</b>	To invite Councillors to declare any interests they may have in items on the agenda.
<b>3. Minutes</b> (Pages 1 - 4) Chief Executive	To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee held on 30th June 2010.  (Minutes attached)
<b>4. Monitoring Officer's Report</b>  Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services	To receive a report from the Monitoring Officer on any matters of relevance to the Committee.  (Report to follow)  <b>(No Specific Ward Relevance)</b>

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<p><b>5. Local Assessment of Complaints</b></p> <p>Monitoring Officer, Monitoring Officer</p>	<p>To consider changes to the local Assessment of Complaints procedure.</p> <p>(Report to follow)</p> <p><b>(No Specific Ward Relevance)</b></p>
<p><b>6. Chair's / Members' Reports</b></p> <p>Borough Director</p>	<p>To consider any Chair / Member updates not separately covered on the agenda list, including brief feedback from any Seminars or Conferences.</p> <p>(Oral report)</p>
<p><b>7. Parish Council Report (if any)</b></p>	<p>To consider any report in relation to Feckenham Parish Council.</p> <p>(Oral report)</p>
<p><b>8. Publications</b></p> <p>(Pages 5 - 12)</p> <p>Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services</p>	<p>To note any publications which the Committee may find of interest.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Standards for England – Bulletin 48 (August 2010)</li><li>2) Department for Communities and Local Government Press Release (20th September 2010)</li></ol> <p>(Publications attached)</p> <p><b>(No Specific Ward Relevance)</b></p>
<p><b>9. Work Programme</b></p> <p>(Pages 13 - 14)</p> <p>Monitoring Officer, Head of Legal, Democratic and Property Services</p>	<p>To consider and review the Committee's Work Programme.</p> <p>(Report attached)</p>

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## **10. Exclusion of the Public**

It may be necessary, in the opinion of the Chief Executive, to consider excluding the public from the meeting in relation to the following items of business on the grounds that exempt information is likely to be divulged. It may be necessary, therefore, to move the following resolution:

**“that, under S.100 I of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following matter(s) on the grounds that it/they involve(s) the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the relevant paragraphs (*to be specified*) of Part 1 of Schedule 12 (A) of the said Act, as amended.”**

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