

Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel

Tue 7 Sep
2010
7.00 pm

Committee Room 2
Town Hall
Redditch

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL



www.redditchbc.gov.uk

Access to Information - Your Rights

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

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

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Agenda

Membership:

Cllrs:

Bill Hartnett (Chair)
Simon Chalk

Anita Clayton
Wanda King

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| 1. Apologies and named substitutes | To receive apologies for absence and details of any Councillor (or co-optee substitute) nominated to attend this meeting in place of a member of this panel. |
| 2. Declarations of Interest and of Party Whip | To invite Councillors to declare any interest they may have in items on the agenda and any Party Whip. |
| 3. Minutes (Pages 1 - 8) | To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 8th March 2010. (Minutes attached). (No Specific Ward Relevance) |
| 4. Actions List (Pages 9 - 10) | To note the contents of the Panel's Actions List. (Report attached). (No Specific Ward Relevance) |
| 5. Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) | To receive a presentation on the subject of Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARCs) (Verbal presentation to follow). (No Specific Ward Relevance) |
| 6. Questions for Worcestershire PCT | Subject to the outcome of discussions under item 5, to propose questions for the consideration of representatives from Worcestershire PCT on the subject of Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARC). (Oral report). (No Specific Ward Relevance) |

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| <p>7. Policing White Paper - Policing in the 21st Century: Reconnecting Police and the People (Pages 11 - 62)</p> | <p>To consider the contents of the policing White Paper - Policing in the 21st Century: Reconnecting Police and the People – and to determine whether any feedback should be provided by the Panel as part of the White Paper consultation process.</p> <p>(Report attached).</p> <p>All Wards</p> |
| <p>8. Referrals</p> | <p>To consider any referrals to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee direct, or arising from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Executive Committee;• The Overview and Scrutiny Committee; or• Other Sources. <p>(No report).</p> <p>(No Specific Ward Relevance)</p> |
| <p>9. Work Programme (Pages 63 - 64)</p> | <p>To consider the contents of the Panel’s Work Programme.</p> <p>(Report attached).</p> <p>(No Specific Ward Relevance)</p> |
| <p>10. Exclusion of the Public</p> | <p>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:</p> <p>“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.”</p> <p>(No Specific Ward Relevance)</p> |