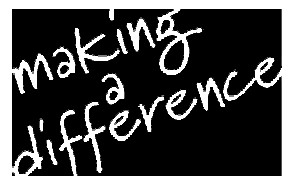


# Executive Committee

Tuesday, 29th May  
2012  
7.00pm

Committee Room 2  
Town Hall  
Redditch



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

# 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@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk](mailto:ivor.westmore@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk)**

# Welcome to today's meeting.

## Guidance for the Public

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### ***Agenda Papers***

The **Agenda List** at the front of the Agenda summarises the issues to be discussed and is followed by the Officers' full supporting **Reports**.

### ***Chair***

The Chair is responsible for the proper conduct of the meeting. Generally to one side of the Chair is the Committee Support Officer who gives advice on the proper conduct of the meeting and ensures that the debate and the decisions are properly recorded. On the Chair's other side are the relevant Council Officers. The Councillors ("Members") of the Committee occupy the remaining seats around the table.

### ***Running Order***

Items will normally be taken in the order printed but, in particular circumstances, the Chair may agree to vary the order.

***Refreshments*** : tea, coffee and water are normally available at meetings - please serve yourself.

### ***Decisions***

Decisions at the meeting will be taken by the **Councillors** who are the democratically elected representatives. They are advised by **Officers** who are paid professionals and do not have a vote.

### ***Members of the Public***

Members of the public may, by prior arrangement, speak at meetings of the Council or its Committees. Specific procedures exist for Appeals Hearings or for meetings involving Licence or Planning Applications. For further information on this point, please speak to the Committee Support Officer.

### ***Special Arrangements***

If you have any particular needs, please contact the Committee Support Officer.

Infra-red devices for the hearing impaired are available on request at the meeting. Other facilities may require prior arrangement.

### ***Further Information***

If you require any further information, please contact the Committee Support Officer (see foot of page opposite).

### ***Fire/ Emergency instructions***

**If the alarm is sounded, please leave the building by the nearest available exit – these are clearly indicated within all the Committee Rooms.**

**If you discover a fire, inform a member of staff or operate the nearest alarm call point (wall mounted red rectangular box). In the event of the fire alarm sounding, leave the building immediately following the fire exit signs. Officers have been appointed with responsibility to ensure that all visitors are escorted from the building.**

**Do Not stop to collect personal belongings.**

**Do Not use lifts.**

**Do Not re-enter the building until told to do so.**

**The emergency Assembly Area is on Walter Stranz Square.**

# Declaration of Interests: Guidance for Councillors

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DO I HAVE A "PERSONAL INTEREST" ?

- Where the item relates or is likely to affect your **registered interests** (what you have declared on the formal Register of Interests)

**OR**

- Where a decision in relation to the item might reasonably be regarded as affecting **your own** well-being or financial position, or that of your **family**, or your **close associates** more than most other people affected by the issue,

you have a personal interest.

WHAT MUST I DO? **Declare the existence, and nature, of your interest and stay**

- The declaration must relate to specific business being decided - a general scattergun approach is not needed
- **Exception** - where interest arises only because of your membership of another **public body**, there is no need to declare unless you **speak** on the matter.
- You **can vote** on the matter.

IS IT A "PREJUDICIAL INTEREST" ?

In general only if:-

- It is a personal interest **and**
- The item affects your **financial position** (or conveys other benefits), or the position of your **family, close associates** or bodies through which you have a **registered interest** (or relates to the exercise of **regulatory functions** in relation to these groups)

**and**

- A member of public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably believe the interest was likely to **prejudice** your judgement of the public interest.

WHAT MUST I DO? **Declare and Withdraw**

BUT you may make representations to the meeting before withdrawing, **if** the public have similar rights (such as the right to speak at Planning Committee).



# Executive

29th May 2012

7.00 pm

## Committee

Committee Room 2 Town Hall

### Agenda

#### Membership:

Cllrs: To be confirmed at the Annual Meeting of the Council

<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. Leader's Announcements</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>To give notice of any items for future meetings or for the Forward Plan, including any scheduled for this meeting, but now carried forward or deleted; and</li><li>any other relevant announcements.</li></ol> <p>(Oral report)</p>
<b>4. Minutes</b> (Pages 1 - 8) Chief Executive	To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 24th April, 2012.  (Minutes attached)
<b>5. Implementation of a Pilot Scheme to Gate an Alleyway Between Crabbs Cross Lane and St Peters Close, Crabbs Cross</b>  (Pages 9 - 18) Head of Community Services	To seek approval for implementation of a Gating Order at Crabbs Cross Lane.  (Report attached)  <b>(Crabbs Cross Ward)</b>
<b>6. Redditch Borough Council Response to Stratford-on-Avon Draft Core Strategy</b>  (Pages 19 - 26) Head of Planning and Regeneration	To seek approval for Redditch Borough Council's Response to Stratford-on-Avon's Core Strategy.  (Report attached)  <b>(All Wards)</b>

# Executive

Committee

29th May 2012

<p><b>7. Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>  (Pages 27 - 36)  Chief Executive</p>	<p>To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 17th April 2012.</p> <p>There are no recommendations to consider.</p> <p>(Minutes attached)</p>
<p><b>8. Shared Services Board</b>  (Pages 37 - 40)  Chief Executive</p>	<p>To consider the minutes of the most recent meeting of the Shared Services Board.</p> <p>(Minutes attached)</p>
<p><b>9. Minutes / Referrals - Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Executive Panels etc.</b>  Chief Executive</p>	<p>To receive and consider any outstanding minutes or referrals from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Executive Panels etc. since the last meeting of the Executive Committee, other than as detailed in the items above.</p>
<p><b>10. Advisory Panels - update report</b>  (Pages 41 - 44)  Chief Executive</p>	<p>To consider, for monitoring / management purposes, an update on the work of the Executive Committee's Advisory Panels and similar bodies, which report via the Executive Committee.</p> <p>(Report attached)</p>
<p><b>11. Action Monitoring</b>  (Pages 45 - 48)  Chief Executive</p>	<p>To consider an update on the actions arising from previous meetings of the Committee.</p> <p>(Report attached)</p>
<p><b>12. Exclusion of the Public</b></p>	<p>Should it be necessary, in the opinion of the Chief Executive, to consider excluding the public from the meeting in relation to any items of business on the grounds that exempt information is likely to be divulged it may be necessary to move the following resolution:</p> <p><b>“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.”</b></p>

	<p>These paragraphs are as follows:</p> <p>Subject to the “public interest” test, information relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Para 1 – <u>any individual</u>;</li><li>• Para 2 – the <u>identity of any individual</u>;</li><li>• Para 3 – <u>financial or business affairs</u>;</li><li>• Para 4 – <u>labour relations matters</u>;</li><li>• Para 5 – <u>legal professional privilege</u>;</li><li>• Para 6 – <u>a notice, order or direction</u>;</li><li>• Para 7 – the <u>prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime</u>;</li></ul> <p>may need to be considered as ‘exempt’.</p>
<p><b>13. Confidential Minutes / Referrals (if any)</b></p>	<p>To consider confidential matters not dealt with earlier in the evening and not separately listed below (if any).</p>







## Executive Committee

24th April 2012

### MINUTES

#### Present:

Councillor Carole Gandy (Chair), Councillor Michael Braley (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Juliet Brunner, Greg Chance, Brandon Clayton, Jinny Pearce, Debbie Taylor and Derek Taylor

#### Also Present:

Councillors David Bush, Simon Chalk and Gay Hopkins

#### Officers:

J, Bayley, K Dicks, C Flanagan and A Heighway

#### Committee Services Officer:

I Westmore

#### 212. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

#### 213. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 214. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Leader advised that the following item of business, scheduled on the agenda to be dealt with at this meeting, had been rescheduled to a later meeting of the Committee as the Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered that additional work was required prior to submission of the final report to the Executive:

- Access for Disabled People Review – Final Report

She also advised that she had accepted the following item as Urgent Business:

- Youth Service Provision Review – Final Report

(Not meeting the publication deadline.)

.....  
Chair

**215. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED that**

**the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 3rd April 2012 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.**

**216. ACCESS FOR DISABLED PEOPLE TASK AND FINISH GROUP - FINAL REPORT**

As mentioned above in the Leader's Announcements, this item had been deferred.

**217. YOUTH SERVICES PROVISION TASK AND FINISH GROUP - FINAL REPORT**

Councillor Simon Chalk, Chair of the Youth Service Provision Task and Finish Group, presented the final report prepared on behalf of the Group to the Executive Committee.

The Group had set out to examine the provision of activities and services to young people in the Borough in the context of a changing model of provision, with the establishment of a local Commissioning Group which was tasked with commissioning positive activities for young people. The Group recognised that much of the importance of its review lay in its ability to influence the commissioning process.

Councillor Chalk outlined the key findings of the Group, noting that most young people simply wanted a warm, secure place in which to meet their friends, socialise, listen to and create music and the means by which they could participate in sporting activities. The barriers preventing young people from participating in activities were also touched upon with transport, cost, access to information, the location of activities and a lack of self-confidence amongst some young people being identified as key factors.

Members of the Executive Committee congratulated Councillor Chalk and his Group for the report which was considered to have much to commend it.

Promotion and communication was seen as a key area to be addressed. Despite the recognition that the Council's website was now much improved and that the Council did now make use of Facebook and Twitter, there was still considered to be a significant gap between the Council's means of communicating and the expectations and reality for young people today. The Committee

was receptive to the idea of making greater use of the Frog Intranet system which was available to high school students across the Borough.

The problem of young people accessing activities was discussed at some length. It was acknowledged that public transport provision was not adequate to fulfil the needs of young people to the extent that they or the Council might wish. The means by which the Council could assist were considered and it was proposed that a further report be prepared exploring the feasibility of using the Council's Dial-a-Ride service to make certain events more accessible for young people. The proposal within the report to make use of the WRVS Community Transport Scheme, which was currently being piloted, was not seen as an appropriate or effective solution on a number of levels, including the fact that the pilot may not continue beyond June.

It was recognised that much good work was already being carried out by the Borough Council, County Council and the Voluntary and Community Sector in providing positive activities for young people. It was hoped that this could be continued and built upon where possible and the expertise of experienced youth workers, both paid and voluntary, be retained.

It was proposed that the Commissioning Group receive a presentation from the Task and Finish Group in order that it might outline the findings of the review and thereby positively influence the commissioning of services.

**RESOLVED that**

- 1) **youth activities in Redditch should be promoted using the following communication tools:**  
**social networking platforms;**
- 2) **Redditch Borough Council should submit bids for positive activities funding in the new commissioning framework in partnership with Voluntary and Community Sector organisations that have experience delivering youth activities and should offer to host these activities at Council owned *community centres* where appropriate;**
- 3) **Officers be requested to explore the option of Dial a Ride vehicles being used to transport young people to local events and festivities and a report be submitted to a future meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee; and**

**RECOMMENDED to Worcestershire County Council and the Redditch Commissioning Group that**

- 4) **youth activities in Redditch should be promoted using the following communication tools:**
  - a) **a new dedicated Redditch youth website;**
  - b) **Worcestershire Plug and Play website;**
  - c) **local high schools' Frog Intranet systems;**
- 5) **there should be a youth work co-ordinator for Redditch financed by funding held by Worcestershire County Council to help maximise the number of youth activities in the town;**  
*(The Redditch Commissioning Group to be advised of this recommendation, rather than this being a recommendation to the Group itself);*
- 6) **the Redditch Commissioning Group should ensure that there is a seamless transition from the old system for delivering youth services to the new commissioning framework to make sure that gaps in service provision to young people in Redditch do not occur;**
- 7) **the Redditch Commissioning Group should seriously consider the following types of bids for funding:**
  - a) **bids for youth work to be delivered using a social enterprise model; and**
  - b) **bids requesting that the funding cover the costs of employing a trained youth worker as part of delivering a positive activity to young people;**
- 8) **when the Redditch Commissioning Group is consulting with young people, the following groups should be consulted as part of this process:**
  - a) **Redditch Student Council; and**
  - b) **a focus group of young offenders and young people at risk of offending;**
- 9) **the Redditch Community Safety Partnership / North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership should be invited to present information to the Redditch Commissioning Group about youth related crime and anti-social behaviour in Redditch as part of the new commissioning framework;**

- 10) **links should be provided directly from the Frog intranet system used by local high schools to bus companies' websites to provide young people with access to up to date information about bus timetables and routes in Redditch; and**
- 11) **the Youth Services Provision Task Group's findings and the content of the group's final report should be considered by the Redditch Commissioning Group prior to commissioning youth activities for the Borough.**

## 218. **WORCESTERSHIRE EXTRA CARE HOUSING STRATEGY 2011 - 2026**

The Committee considered adoption of a County-wide strategy for Extra Care Housing for older people and those with disabilities covering the period 2011-2026.

Members considered that a very good report had been produced which would assist in the Core Strategy process and which contained an excellent level of detail.

### **RECOMMENDED that**

- 1) **the Worcestershire Extra Care Housing Strategy, as attached to the report at Appendix 1, be endorsed and adopted; and**
- 2) **it be added to the Council's Constitutional Policy Framework.**

## 219. **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

The Committee received the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny meeting held on 2nd April 2012. Members considered the one outstanding recommendation requesting that the Council issue a letter to the Government expressing its concern with the recent changes to Housing Benefits, particularly the direct payments of benefits to applicants rather than landlords.

The Leader explained that she had met with Worcestershire MPs recently and had highlighted this as a matter to be raised with the Government. The Leader also commented on the request from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee that the letter be an open letter. It was noted that the matter had been extensively covered in the local media, and the Leader stressed that the Council was considering providing details of local case studies to support the views expressed in the letter, case studies which would not be

appropriate for inclusion in an open letter. It was suggested that a Press Release be prepared to accompany the issuing of the letter.

**RESOLVED that**

- 1) **the Council issue a letter to the Government expressing its concern with the recent changes to housing benefits, especially concerning its direct payment to the applicant and not the landlord; and**
- 2) **the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 2nd April be received and noted.**

**220. SHARED SERVICES BOARD**

The Committee considered the minutes of the most recent meeting of the Shared Services Board.

**RESOLVED that**

**the minutes of the meeting of the Shared Services Board held on 8th March 2012 be noted.**

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

There were no minutes or referrals to consider under this item.

**222. ADVISORY PANELS - UPDATE REPORT**

Members considered and noted the latest version of the report on the Council's Advisory Panels and similar bodies.

**223. ACTION MONITORING**

Members considered and noted the most recent version of the Committee's Action Monitoring report.

**224. URGENT BUSINESS - RECORD OF DECISIONS**

The Executive Committee considered an Urgent Business decision which had been approved in accordance with the Council's urgency procedures, namely:

Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations – Street Closure Fund  
(Urgent Business Reference 496)

The decision involved the approval of the use of the unallocated balance from the Voluntary and Community Sector Grants Programme.

**RESOLVED that**

**the decision be noted.**

**225. REVIEW OF OPERATION OF THE COMMITTEE**

Given that this was the last scheduled meeting of the municipal year, Members considered the operation of the Committee and any amendments they might wish to have incorporated in the Committee's Terms of reference and Procedure Rules during the process of updating the Council's Constitution at the Annual Meeting.

Officers noted a discrepancy between the current Terms of Reference and Procedure Rules in respect of the quorum of the Committee, a matter which would be resolved during the updating of the Constitution.

The Meeting commenced at 7.00 pm  
and closed at 8.07 pm

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Chair





**EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE**

29th May 2012

**IMPLEMENTATION OF A PILOT SCHEME TO GATE AN ALLEYWAY  
BETWEEN CRABBS CROSS LANE AND ST PETERS CLOSE, CRABBS  
CROSS**

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Portfolio Holder for Community Safety
Portfolio Holder Consulted	Yes
Relevant Head of Service	Angie Heighway, Head of Community Services
Ward(s) Affected	Crabbs Cross
Ward Councillor(s) Consulted	Yes
Non-Key Decision	Yes

**1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS**

- 1.1 Under s.2 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (CNEA) 2005 Redditch Borough Council has the power to implement a Gating Order made by the relevant Highways Authority in order to restrict access to any public highway by gating it. The reason for the gating can be due to serious and/or persistent anti-social behaviour (ASB) and/or crime.
- 1.2 There have been long-standing issues of ASB crime and disorder associated with a particular pathway between Crabbs Cross Lane and St Peters Close in Crabbs Cross. Following consultation with residents carried out by Redditch Borough Council, Redditch Community Safety Partnership and West Mercia Police and the implementation of a number of alternative measures to address the issues, an application for a pilot scheme Gating Order has been submitted to Worcestershire County Council and approved.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**The Executive Committee is asked to RESOLVE that:**

**the implementation of the Gating Order for the Crabbs Cross Lane pilot scheme be approved, which would have the effect of allowing gates/barriers to be erected between Crabbs Cross Lane and St Peters Close at the location identified on the map attached at Appendix 1.**

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**3. KEY ISSUES****Financial Implications**

- 3.1 There are no financial implications for the Council in implementing the Gating Order for this pilot scheme. Due to the complexities and history of this particular case Redditch Community Safety Partnership and Worcestershire County Council have identified funding to support delivery of this pilot in its entirety. A total cost in the region of £10,000 has been identified for the pilot scheme which includes manufacture, installation and provision for opening/closing the gates for a 5 year period. It has been agreed that this cost will be split equally between Redditch Community Safety Partnership and Worcestershire County Council.
- 3.2 Highways Officers from Worcestershire County Council have advised that approval for any future Gating Order applications will be subject to the Borough Council identifying funding for all costs outside of those incurred in the advertising and making of the order. Currently no budget has been identified for any future Gating schemes and further work will need to be carried out in order to present options for a procedure to assess any future gating order requests.

**Legal Implications**

- 3.3 Under s.2 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005, Worcestershire County Council can exercise its power to make and implement a Gating Order to prevent or regulate passage along a public right of way to reduce crime and/or anti-social behaviour. In doing so, Worcestershire County Council has to be satisfied that premises adjacent to the highway are affected by crime and/or anti-social behaviour, that the existence of the highway is facilitating the persistent commission of criminal offences or anti-social behaviour and consider the effect on adjoining occupiers, others in the locality and the availability of any alternative route.
- 3.4 Under the same legislation, Redditch Borough Council can exercise its power under s.129B (7) to implement, operate and maintain the gate authorised by the order.
- 3.5 Under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 as amended by the Police and Justice Act 2006, Local Authorities have a statutory duty to do all they can to reduce crime, disorder and ASB in an area.

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29th May 2012

**Service / Operational Implications**

- 3.6 There has been a long history of crime and anti-social behaviour associated with the pathway between Crabbs Cross Lane and St Peters Close. These incidents involve damage to fences, objects thrown into private gardens, trespass into private gardens, disorderly gatherings, alcohol misuse and litter.
- 3.7 The design features of the pathway encourage crime and anti-social behaviour as the pathway is narrow, poorly overlooked, set back some distance from the road and contains a dog-leg.
- 3.8 These issues have been regularly identified by residents and local police as concerns. A range of alternative interventions have been applied in the area such as targeted patrols, Section 30 Dispersal Orders, liaison with schools and the establishment of a local youth club to provide diversionary activity. However it has always been maintained that the closure of the pathway during the peak times of ASB activity would provide the most benefit. Redditch Community Safety Partnership provided detailed data analysis of crime, disorder and ASB in the area over a 5 year period which was submitted to Worcestershire County Council in support of the Gating Order proposal.
- 3.9 Following submission of the gating order proposal, sponsored by Worcestershire County Councillor Barry Gandy, lengthy negotiations between Redditch Borough Council and Worcestershire County Council took place, during which time it was agreed that due to the complexities of this particular area and its circumstances, the proposal would be pursued and jointly funded as a pilot scheme. Following this agreement, the Gating Order proposal was formally advertised on 1st February 2012.
- 3.10 The pilot scheme proposal is for the installation of two gates, one at either end of the alley (shown at Appendix 1), to prevent illegitimate access and protect properties adjacent to the route. These gates are to be locked twice weekly Friday 18:00hrs to Saturday 07:00hrs, and Saturday 18:00hrs to Sunday 07:00hrs coinciding with times when majority of problems occur. Outside of these times gates will remain open to allow residents legitimate use of the pathway to access local shops. The locking and unlocking of the gates will be undertaken by a registered security company identified through a competitive procurement process. This will ensure safe and efficient operation of the gates as detailed in the Order.

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- 3.11 Worcestershire County Council has advised that there were no public objections to the making of order during the statutory advertisement period between 1st February and 1st March 2012, therefore should Redditch Borough Council formally agree to implement, operate and maintain the gates authorised in the order, the order will be sealed and will remain in place for the agreed pilot scheme period of 5 years.

**Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications**

- 3.12 Full consultation with local residents and with relevant stakeholders has been undertaken. This has been facilitated through the joint neighbourhood group / PACT meetings and at specific community meetings to discuss the proposed gating order. These meetings have consistently shown high levels of concern with crime and anti-social behaviour on Crabbs Cross Lane. West Mercia Police are in full support of the proposed pilot scheme and have fully contributed to the evidence gathering and application process.
- 3.13 In particular, the gate opening and closing times have been negotiated in full consultation with local residents to ensure legitimate users of the path were not disadvantaged or inconvenienced by the measures put in place to reduce crime, disorder and ASB committed by a minority of people in the area. This type of arrangement is not usual practice when implementing Gating Orders. Other examples of gating orders across the country tend to be permanent closures or affect so few residents as to allow individual gate keys to be issued. Therefore this pilot scheme has been developed as a one off solution to mitigate the complexities of this particular area and the concerns of the local residents. A letter to local residents has been drafted outlining matters including the funding and operational responsibilities for the pilot scheme (attached at Appendix 2) which will be circulated to relevant parties immediately prior to implementation.

**4. RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 4.1 In implementing this Gating Order pilot scheme there is a risk of raising the expectations of local residents experiencing similar issues in other areas as to how widely this power will be used. If formally agreed, this will be the first Gating Order made in the county and Worcestershire County Council have indicated that alongside the financial restrictions associated with this process, capacity implications mean that there are likely to be only 2 to 3 orders made a each year across the county.
- 4.2 To reduce this risk it is proposed that following approval and implementation of the pilot scheme in Crabbs Cross Lane, the Community Safety Team develop a robust gating order assessment procedure to be presented to the Committee for approval. A formal

**EXECUTIVE  
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assessment criteria and procedure will ensure that should further funding be identified for future schemes there is a transparent process for prioritising applications.

**5. APPENDICES**

- Appendix 1 - Map showing the alleyway between Crabbs Cross Lane and St Peters Close.
- Appendix 2 - Draft letter for circulation to local residents.

**6. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Home Office Guidance – CNEA 2005 Guidance on Gating Orders.  
Worcestershire County Council Gating Order Policy.  
Crabbs Cross Lane Gating Order Proposal sponsored by Local County Cllr Barry Gandy.  
GO/R/01 Worcestershire County Council Environmental Services.  
Report on Crabbs Cross Lane Gating Order.  
Memorandum of Understanding between RBC and WCC - Crabbs Cross Lane Gating Order.

**AUTHOR OF REPORT**

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Tel.: 01527 64252 ext 3194



**APPENDIX 1**

**Figure 1: Aerial view of the alleyway between Crabbs Cross Lane & St Peters Close**







**Redditch Borough Council**

Town Hall,  
Walter Stranz Square,  
Redditch,  
Worcs B98 8AH

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fax: (01527) 65216  
minicom: 595528  
dx: 19106 Redditch

Dear Resident

At its meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup> May 2012, Redditch Borough Council agreed to implement a Gating Order for the closure of the footpath between Crabbs Cross Lane and St Peter's Close at specific times agreed by local residents. This Gating Order has been made by Worcestershire County Council as the highway authority for a period of 5 years as a pilot project.

In implementing the Gating Order, Redditch Borough Council asks residents to note the following information:-

- Funding for the Pilot Scheme has been provided by Redditch Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and Worcestershire County Council (WCC) for a period of 5 years from installation. Redditch Borough Council has not been required to contribute to the funding for the scheme.
- All costs for the pilot project, including installation, maintenance and operation of the gates for the whole 5 year period will be met from the project funding provided by Redditch CSP and WCC.
- Once installed the gates will be closed and secured between 18:00 pm and 7:00 am every Friday and Saturday evening for the period of the Order, as negotiated and agreed with local residents, businesses and other interested parties.
- To ensure safe and appropriate operation of the gates, responsibility for securing and re-opening the footpath will be undertaken by a registered security company for the period of the Order.
- It is intended that after the period of 5 years, Worcestershire County Council will review the Order and the parties will consider any future arrangements for the operation and maintenance of the gate after that time, including decommissioning and removal, depending on the circumstances at that time and availability of funding.
- In relation to all other functions and aspects of the footpath, responsibility remains with Worcestershire County Council as the highway authority

If you require any further information regarding the implementation of this Gating Order, please contact the Community Safety Team at [communitysafety@redditchbc.gov.uk](mailto:communitysafety@redditchbc.gov.uk)

Yours faithfully

Bev Houghton  
Community Safety Manager  
Redditch Borough Council



**EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE**

29th May 2012

**REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL RESPONSE TO STRATFORD – ON –  
AVON DRAFT CORE STRATEGY**

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Portfolio Holder for Planning, Regeneration, Economic Development & Transport
Portfolio Holder Consulted	Yes
Relevant Head of Service	Ruth Bamford, Head of Planning & Regeneration
Ward(s) Affected	All Wards
Ward Councillor(s) Consulted	Yes
Key Decision	

**1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS**

This report requests that the Redditch Borough Council (RBC) response (attached at Appendix 1) to the Stratford-on-Avon Draft Core Strategy be approved to formalise the Officer response submitted to Stratford-On-Avon District Council (SoADC) on 29th March 2012 (in line with consultation period dates). The response supports the Districts Core Strategy and promotes joint working where required (particularly with regard to meeting employment needs) to ensure both Authorities progress with sound plans.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**The Executive Committee is asked to RECOMMEND that the Officer response (attached at Appendix 1) to the Stratford-on-Avon Draft Core Strategy, as submitted to Stratford-On-Avon District Council (SoADC) on 29th March 2012 (in line with consultation period dates), be endorsed.**

**3. KEY ISSUES**

**Financial Implications**

3.1 None.

**Legal Implications**

3.2 All Local Authorities have a legal obligation to produce a Local Plan in accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) Regulations 2012.

**EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE**

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**Service / Operational Implications**

- 3.3 In accordance with the above legal requirements SoADC are required to prepare a plan. Under previous regulations they are progressing with a Core Strategy. Stratford-On-Avon have previously consulted Redditch on two stages of the draft Core Strategy. Both responses have supported the policies put forward in the strategy and have recommended that the two Authorities work together to progress plans that complement each other. On this basis the following key points have been submitted to Stratford in response to this version of the draft Core Strategy (the full response can be seen at Appendix 1).
- 3.4 RBC strongly supports references in the document to the potential need to accommodate Redditch related growth. RBC feels it is in a position to work closely with SoADC on the progression of this aspect of the plan and can provide detailed information on the exceptional circumstances which demonstrate that cross-boundary growth is essential, particularly with regard to employment allocations at Gorcott Hill;
- 3.5 It is noted from the plan that Redditch provides a significant amount employment to Stratford residents, accordingly it would be appropriate that some employment land need generated by Redditch should be accommodated in a suitable location within Stratford District;
- 3.6 RBC recommends that housing options between Studley and Redditch (Options 1 and 2) are likely to be unsuitable locations for development as these locations would reduce the gap between Studley and Redditch where this land serves an important Green Belt purpose (contradicting two of the principles contained within the Draft Plan);
- 3.7 RBC would suggest discussions with Bromsgrove District Council and SoADC regarding alignment of submission dates in the interests of cooperation; and
- 3.8 RBC would support the allocation of housing and some employment along the A435 Corridor.

**Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications**

- 3.9 None.

**EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE**29th May 2012

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**4. RISK MANAGEMENT**

If the Officer response to the Stratford-On-Avon Draft Core Strategy is not approved then this would affect the influence RBC can have on the content of the Stratford-On-Avon Core Strategy. In turn this could affect the content of the Redditch Plan and may lead to both documents being found unsound should the content of these two plans conflict.

**5. APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 - Redditch Borough Council response to the Stratford-on-Avon Draft Core Strategy

**6. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Stratford-On-Avon Draft Core Strategy (October 2008).

Redditch Borough Council response to the Stratford Core Strategy Draft Document (January 2009).

Stratford-On-Avon Consultation Core Strategy (February 2010).

Redditch Borough Council Representations on 'Directions for Stratford-on-Avon District Consultation Core Strategy' (March 2010)

**7. KEY**

RBC - Redditch Borough Council  
SoADC - Stratford – on – Avon District Council

**AUTHOR OF REPORT**

Name: Louise Jones  
email: louise.jones@redditchbc.gov.uk  
Tel.: 3221



**Stratford-on-Avon District  
Local Development Framework  
Draft Core Strategy 2012**



## Comment Form

*Have you considered using the on-line comment form available on [www.stratford.gov.uk/dcs2012](http://www.stratford.gov.uk/dcs2012)*

**Please use black ink**

**A separate form should be used for each topic**

Which part of the Consultation Core Strategy is your comment about?  
(please give the reference no. used in the document if possible)

Section  Policy  Consultation Question

Other part of document

What is the nature of your comment?  
(please tick appropriate box)

Support

Object

Other comment

Please give the reasons for your opinion on the other side of the form

Put your contact details in the box(es) below – please use BLOCK CAPITALS

Person(s) or Organization Submitting Comments		Agent (if applicable)	
Name	LOUISE JONES	Name	
Organization (if applicable)	REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL	Organization	
Address	DEVELOPMENT PLANS PLANNING SERVICES REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL TOWN HALL WALTER STRANZ SQUARE REDDITCH B98 8AH	Address	
Tel No.	01527 64252 EXTN: 3221	Tel No.	
Email	LOUISE.JONES@REDDITCHBC.GOV.UK	Email	

If you are using an Agent, future correspondence will be sent to them unless informed otherwise

Please note that responses cannot be treated as confidential

Please note that your response will be published on the District Council's website. However, this will exclude the postal address, telephone number and email address of individual respondents. The details of respondents will only be retained by the District Council for the purposes of Local Development Framework consultation and will not be used for any other purpose.

Please state in the box below the reasons for your opinion on the topic:

Please note this is an Officer only response, this response is due to be endorsed by Members in June 2012, at which point confirmation will be sent that this is a formal Redditch Borough Council representation.

## **Specific Areas**

Redditch Borough Council (RBC) strongly supports **paragraph 2.3.2 1), 10.8.21 and 7.1.6 3)** where reference is made for the potential need to accommodate Redditch related growth. RBC feels it is in a position to work closely with Stratford – on – Avon District Council (SoADC) on the progression of this aspect of the plan and can provide detailed information on the exceptional circumstances which demonstrate that cross-boundary growth is essential, particularly with regard to employment allocations at Gorcott Hill.

With regard to **Question 1)**, RBC suggests further joint working is required to demonstrate the exceptional circumstances for the location of new development.

**Page 12** (and throughout the document including Consultation Question 13) refers to the West Midlands Sustainability Checklist, this tool no longer exists and its reference should be removed or replaced.

**Question 179** – It is considered that Options 1 and 2 are likely to be unsuitable locations for development as these locations would reduce the gap between Studley and Redditch where this land serves an important Green Belt purpose. Development at these locations would contradict two of the principles contained within the Draft Plan which apply to Studley. These are - Principle 1 which is to *“Retain the separate and distinct identity of Studley and maintain the open gap between the village and Redditch.”* Principle 12 also states *“Protect the area of land separating Studley and Redditch, ensuring urban development does not encroach and undermine the character of the area as a separate entity.”* In addition **Paragraph 10.8.3** notes that *“While the village is surrounded on all sides by Green Belt, this area is particularly significant in preserving the separate identity of Studley from Redditch.”*

The first point of the future development strategy at **paragraph 10.8.14** also states, *“It is evident that the most critical feature about Studley which should be preserved is its separate identity from Redditch. One of the key purposes of the Green Belt is to prevent settlements from merging into one another and it is important that the gap of open countryside between the two is not encroached on by development.”*

With regard to **Section 1.1.1** the change to the end date of the plan is noted, it is anticipated that adoption would be 2013? RBC would suggest discussions with Bromsgrove District Council (BDC) and RBC regarding alignment of submission dates in the interests of cooperation.

**Section 2.1.2** of the strategy refers to discussions between the authorities on determining the key cross-boundary 'issues' and we need to continue these discussion between the Authorities.

**Section 2.3.2 Point 1)** refers to 'the 'case for growth', this evidence base still exists for the purposes of the West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy Phase 2, which is not yet revoked and lawfully this evidence base must still be considered. Until the Regional Spatial Strategy is formally revoked evidence must be provided which fully justifies an alternative approach otherwise the Duty to Cooperate will not be fulfilled.

SoADC is aware of the RBC evidence being collated to justify new growth options. RBC's consultation on growth options is to follow Stratford's consultation shortly. Officers at Redditch recognise the need to follow up any potential growth cross boundary with our neighbour's if it is required. It may be required that some of Redditch's growth need to be



met on land adjacent to Redditch (in SoAD) and this could be achieved where Green Belt boundary adjustments are not necessary (i.e. the A435 corridor). RBC considers that there is evidence to support such an allocation and would welcome further discussion about the land involved.

**Section 5, Policy CS 1 'Sustainable Development' point a)** states *"Protect, enhance and manage the character and appearance of the individual towns and villages and landscape within Stratford-on-Avon District, maintaining and strengthening the distinctiveness of special qualities, and protecting the integrity of the District's countryside."* RBC recognises the importance of this in relation to Studley and believes this is well evidenced by the jointly commissioned WYG 'Study into future growth implications for Redditch Stage 1 and 2'.

**Section 7, District Designations, Point 3** - With regard to Gorcott Hill, RBC note the possible exceptional circumstance for employment related development at this location and recognise the site constraints. It may be applicable to add more detail into this section such as site size. It may also be useful to explain the reasons for these exceptional circumstances (i.e. the employment land supply constraints in Redditch) which the Council is willing to collaborate on.

With regard to **key drivers**, it is noted that the 'Study into Future Growth Implications of Redditch (2009)' is relevant and it may also be appropriate to refer to Redditch Employment Land Review as the exceptional circumstance is reflected here.

**Section 9.03** - The first point of this paragraph is to *"Aim for lower net in-migration"*. RBC feels this risks being an un-deliverable aspiration as there is no strategy or agreement to reverse the in-migration.

The fourth point of this paragraph is to *"Preserve the special nature of the district"*. It could be made clearer which special character this is referring to, is this environmental characteristics? If this is the case is this supported by the Sustainability Appraisal which should suggest that there are insurmountable environmental issues of meeting housing needs where it arises.

**Policy CS16 Spatial Distribution of Development** contains a section which states *"To preserve the character of Stratford-upon-Avon estate sizes of a maximum of 100 homes will be required"*. There are infrastructure concerns with setting a maximum threshold as prescribed, for example an additional 20-30 homes may make infrastructure viable or 100 extra dwellings may overload a facility?

**Section 9.7.13** states that *"Limited additional employment allocations are appropriate to support higher value economic growth in Class B1a offices and B1b research development sectors."* It is unclear exactly what is meant by this, further explanation and evidence could be provided to demonstrate why allocations are limited.

**Section 9.7.14** states that *"there is a potential surplus of between 44.5-69 hectares of land across the District for the plan period to 2028. This land is currently primarily used for industrial activities (Class B1c and B2)."* It is considered that all surplus land should be vacant unused land, whereas this section states that surplus land is actually in use, and therefore cannot be considered as surplus.

**Section 10.8.3** - with regard to Studley states *"...the village is surrounded on all sides by Green Belt, this area is particularly significant in preserving the separate identity of Studley from Redditch."* RBC agrees with this statement and there is evidence to support this.

**Section 10.8.13 Studley Area Policy Profile, Policy Principles** – a) environmental – bullet points 1, 4, 10, 12 and 13. RBC can assist with achieving these principles for development through Redditch's development proposals.

**Section 10.8.20** *"In terms of employment development, the Employment Land Study concluded that there is no need to identify additional land given the scale of existing"*

*provision. While there is a high level of out-commuting to jobs, a large proportion of these are at nearby Redditch.”* As referred to above, due to the significant amount of job opportunities available to Stratford residents within Redditch, this may be an appropriate rationale for allocating some suitable Redditch employment land in Stratford in particular the release of Gorcott Hill allocated for employment purposes to meet Redditch's needs (as referred to a paragraphs 10.8.21 and 10.8.22).

**General**

Redditch Borough Council would support the allocation of housing and some employment along the A435 Corridor.

It is noted from the plan that Redditch provides a significant amount employment to Stratford residents (*“9.7.9 -The most significant workplace destinations outside the District are Warwick District (11.5%), Worcestershire, particularly Redditch (5.7%)”*). In addition 7% of Alcester residents work in Redditch, 2% of Henley-in-Arden and 25% of Studleys employed residents work in Redditch). In addition paragraph 10.8.20 states that *“In terms of employment development, the Employment Land Study concluded that while there is a high level of out-commuting to jobs, a large proportion of these are at nearby Redditch.”* Accordingly it would be appropriate that some employment land need generated by Redditch should be accommodated in a suitable location within Stratford District.

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary

Date

29<sup>th</sup> March 2012

Forms should be returned by **5.00pm on Friday 30 March 2012** to: Policy Team, Corporate Support Stratford-on-Avon District Council, Elizabeth House, Church Street, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 6HX or by email to [planning.policy@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@stratford-dc.gov.uk)

Thank you for contributing your views



# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday, 17th April, 2012

## MINUTES

### Present:

Councillor Phil Mould (Chair), and Councillors Peter Anderson, Andrew Brazier, Simon Chalk, Bill Hartnett, Gay Hopkins, Brenda Quinney, Alan Mason and Luke Stephens

### Also Present:

Tim Deakin (Wychavon District Council)

### Officers:

J Pickering, R Bamford, P Liddington, T Kristunas and L Hadley

### Committee Services Officer:

M Craggs and A Scarce

### 212. APOLOGIES AND NAMED SUBSTITUTES

Apologies were received from Councillors Andy Fry and Mark Shurmer.

### 213. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND OF PARTY WHIP

There were no declarations of interest nor of any party whip.

### 214. MINUTES

#### RESOLVED that

**The minutes of the Committee meeting held on 2nd April 2012 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.**

### 215. CIVIL PARKING ENFORCEMENT - ANNUAL MONITORING UPDATE REPORT

The Committee received the annual Civil Parking Enforcement Service Update Report and noted that the service was self-financing and the current arrangements whereby Wychavon District

.....  
Chair

# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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Tuesday, 17th April, 2012

Council operated the service on half of the Council continued to work well.

Members noted that there was currently three Civil Enforcement Officers who patrolled all areas of the Borough with the option of filling a vacant post if it was deemed necessary.

The Committee received details of the Residents' Parking Schemes (RPSs) and it was noted that the administration of the RPSs was now the responsibility of Wychavon District Council and that all permit applications were undertaken by a postal service and the administration costs were met by the income received from those Permit applications.

The Committee was informed that a superseding report would shortly be considered by the Executive Committee with the recommendation that Pay and Display car parks be discontinued.

Members questioned why it was not possible for the Dial-a-Ride service to drop and pick up passengers closer to the Town Centre without a Blue Badge. Officers explained that this was a legal requirement and not one which had been set by the authority. A Blue Badge could not be issued in respect of a specific vehicle, however if a passenger on the vehicle had a Blue Badge with them, it could be used to enable the Dial-a-Ride service to drop off and pick up passengers at a more suitable location. Officers were asked to liaise with the Dial-a-Ride service to try and resolve this issue.

Members queried whether it would be possible to create a number of designated spaces which were more convenient for dropping off and picking up, an example of this was in closer proximity to the cinema in the town centre. Officers informed Members that this was a Worcestershire County Council's Highways department matter and outside the jurisdiction of the Council.

Officers clarified the role of the Parking Enforcement Appeals Panel, which held a governance and national policy setting role. However, from this discussion Members requested that future reports should include statistically data in respect of appeals which had been made and the success rate.

**RESOLVED that**

**The report be noted.**

# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday, 17th April, 2012

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## 216. WAR MEMORIAL - UPDATE REPORT

The Committee considered the Monitoring Report in respect of the effectiveness of actions taken to tackle anti-social behaviour around the War Memorial. Although some actions had been put in place, Members were concerned that many of the recommendations were still outstanding. Particular concern was raised in respect of the financial implications of recommendation one as these appeared to be very high and Members suggested alternative sources for the purchase of the planters.

Members agreed that recommendation two should also include the involvement of local schools in order to educate the young people as to why the War Memorial was such an important landmark in the Town Centre and to the residents. Although signage had been erected in respect of recommendation three, Members felt that the wording used could have been stronger and more direct. In respect of recommendation four, Members requested that should a further waste bin be installed it should be dual purpose to enable recycling.

The Committee urged relevant Officers to accelerate progress to implement of the recommendations that were endorsed by the Executive Committee in October 2011 to reduce anti-social behaviour around the War Memorial.

### **RESOLVED that**

- 1) the Committee receive a further monitoring update on actions taken to implement the recommendations concerning the War Memorial petition at its meeting on 11th September 2012; and**
- 2) the report be noted.**

## 217. FINANCIAL BORROWING REPORT

Members received a verbal report into the Council's financial borrowing position. This had been requested by the Committee during consideration of the quarter three financial monitoring report for 2011/12 at its previous meeting.

Having received the Council's latest financial borrowing figures, a Member suggested that it might be more advantageous for the Council to finance the development of housing stock through short rather than long-term loans as it was thought that the interest rates would be lower. Officers responded that while interest rates were usually lower for short-term loans, these would increase

# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday, 17th April, 2012

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considerably if the Council was unable to repay the loans by set dates.

Officers confirmed that they would be able to provide Members with more detailed information on this matter at a forthcoming meeting.

## **RESOLVED that**

- 1) A further report on the Council's financial borrowing position be considered by the Committee and included on it's work programme for its meeting on 19th June 2012; and**
- 2) the report be noted.**

## **218. ACCESS FOR DISABLED PEOPLE TASK GROUP - FINAL REPORT**

Councillor Alan Mason, Chair of the Access for Disabled People Task Group provided the Committee with a presentation which summarised the work of the Task Group, its findings and the proposed recommendations following completion of the review. Councillor Mason explained that he had proposed this topic as he felt the needs of people with disabilities living in Redditch needed to be investigated, however it had soon become apparent that the topic was wide reaching that it was agreed that the main objectives of the review would be to consider how people with disabilities accessed Redditch town centre by bus or taxi and the provision of disabled parking spaces. Each member of the Task Group was responsible for meeting a particular objective in order to complete the review within the allotted timescale.

The Committee was shown a "safer journey" card which had been designed specifically for the needs of bus users with disabilities and which allowed them to travel independently, by making the driver of the vehicle aware of their needs in a discreet manner. Members were also made aware that at recommendation seven, in respect of the use of audio-visual systems on buses, since completion of the report First Bus Group had also indicated that they would be interested in participating in negotiations for such a system.

Members were informed that regarding recommendation one, the Group had come up with a majority and minority recommendation as they were unable to reach a consensus position. Recommendation two was dependant upon the minority recommendation being carried forward.

# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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Councillor Mason thanked the Members of the review and supporting Officers, in particular, Jess Bayley, for their help and support in what was a very detailed investigation.

Members also discussed the following areas in more detail:

- The responses to the questionnaire prepared by the Task Group.
- The inclusion of the map showing disabled parking spaces on the Council's website.
- The number of disabled parking spaces available and legislative requirements.
- Drop off and pick up points and any improvements that could be made (and the role of Worcestershire County Council's Highways Department in providing these).
- The availability of the area and possible uses of the rear of the Debenhams store (this would be subject to the appropriate planning permission being granted for some of the suggested uses).
- Access to the Shop-mobility scheme and provision of different types of wheelchair.
- The Town Centre Partnership and the sale of the Kingfisher Centre.
- The use of the blind and deaf system already in place at the Kingfisher Centre, which it was understood had not been activated at the moment.

The Committee agreed that further input from partner agencies was required before the recommendations could be passed to the Executive Committee for endorsement.

## **RESOLVED that**

- 1) The Access for Disabled People Task and Finish Group undertake further discussions with relevant agencies to complete all outstanding areas of the review; and**
- 2) A revised final report be considered by the Committee at its future meeting on 11th September 2012.**

## **219. YOUTH SERVICES PROVISION TASK GROUP - FINAL REPORT**

Councillor Simon Chalk, Chair of the Youth Services Provision Task Group, provided a presentation which summarised the work of the Group, its findings and the proposed recommendations following completion of the review. Cllr Chalk explained that he had proposed the topic as he was concerned that there was little

# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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Tuesday, 17th April, 2012

available for young people to do in Redditch and wanted to help young people to access what was available. The review was undertaken at a time when Worcestershire County Council (WCC) was reviewing its methods for delivery of youth services and the Task Group considered WCC's proposed changes. The recommendations were therefore, largely designed to influence the new provision of those new services; how the funding available could be put to the best use, how the activities could be facilitated and communicated to the young people in Redditch.

The Committee discussed the following areas in more detail:

- The availability of activities for young people and what the young people would like to see provided.
- The promotion of activities and the most appropriate method of communicating with young people (including through Redditch Matters, Facebook and Twitter).
- Access to the activities including the cost and availability of public transport.
- The Plug and Play website and the Frog intranet system currently used by the local High Schools and the development of both these systems.

Members agreed that recommendation two needed to clarify that the proposed youth work co-ordinator post would be funded from the monies provided by WCC to the Commission Group and not from the Council's budget. The Committee therefore asked that this recommendation be re-worded to ensure there was no confusion.

Councillor Chalk thanked the members and supporting Officers for the hard work shown throughout the investigation and gave specific thanks to Harry Bishop, a student at Trinity High School, who had been co-opted on to the Group and had attended several meetings to ensure that a younger person's perspective was provided throughout the review.

## **RECOMMENDED that**

**further to the re-wording of recommendation two as detailed above, all of the final recommendations of the review be approved.**

## **RESOLVED that**

**the report be noted.**



# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday, 17th April, 2012

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## 220. ACTIONS LIST

The Committee received a brief summary of the updated actions since the previous meeting.

In relation to the action regarding Pitcheroak Golf Course, Members were very pleased that Hereford and Worcestershire Golf Partnership's contract to provide the Golf Professional Services for the course had been extended by three years as they felt that this reflected an excellent service.

### **RESOLVED THAT**

**the actions list be noted.**

## 221. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES AND SCRUTINY OF THE FORWARD PLAN

The Committee received the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on 3rd April 2012 and considered the latest edition of the Forward Plan.

Members noted that all the recommendations contained within the final report of the Increasing Rates of Recycling Review had been endorsed by the Executive Committee.

### **RESOLVED that**

**the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 3rd April 2012 and the Forward Plan be noted.**

## 222. TASK & FINISH REVIEWS - DRAFT SCOPING DOCUMENTS

There was no draft scoping documents for consideration.

## 223. TASK AND FINISH GROUPS - PROGRESS REPORTS

The Committee received the following reports in relation to current reviews:

a) Access for disabled People – Chair, Councillor Alan Mason

There was no update as the final report had already been considered by the Committee.

# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday, 17th April, 2012

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b) Promoting Sporting Participation – Chair, Councillor Luke Stephens

Councillor Stephens explained that the recommendations had been formulated and that the final report would be ready for consideration by the Committee at its next meeting on 22nd May 2012.

c) Youth Services Provision – Chair, Councillor Simon Chalk

There was no update as the final report had already been considered by the Committee.

**RESOLVED that**

**The update report be noted.**

**224. HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Councillor Quinney had been unable to attend the recent meeting of the Worcestershire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) and was therefore unable to provide the Committee with an update.

**225. CRIME AND DISORDER SCRUTINY PANEL - CHAIR'S UPDATE**

The Chair of the Redditch Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel, Councillor Bill Hartnett, delivered an overview of his report for the most recent Panel meeting on 11th April 2012.

Members were informed that the main agenda item had been the Annual Report of the Chair of the Community Safety Partnership and the Panel was provided with a response to three specific questions which had been submitted in advance. These were on the subjects of the Victim Support and Community Payback schemes, and finally in relation to two officers of the Community Safety Team receiving training to become specialist advisors on crime prevention.

The Panel had also considered the Partnership's quarter three performance tables and it was noted that although there had been increases in incidents of domestic burglary, criminal damage and serious acquisitive crime compared to the previous year, West Mercia was a low crime area.

# **Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

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Tuesday, 17th April, 2012

**RESOLVED that**

**the report be noted.**

**226. REFERRALS**

There were no referrals.

**227. WORK PROGRAMME**

As this was the final meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for 2011/12, the Chair took the opportunity to thank Members for their hard work and dedication over the past twelve months and in particular gave special thanks to Councillor Anderson who would not be standing for re-election at the forthcoming elections.

**RESOLVED that**

**The Committee's Work Programme be noted.**

The Meeting commenced at 7.00 pm  
and closed at 9.12 pm



**REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL AND  
BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**SHARED SERVICES BOARD**

**19th April 2012 at 5.30pm**

**COMMITTEE ROOM 3, TOWN HALL, REDDITCH**

**Present:** Councillors Carole Gandy (Chair), Michael Braley (Redditch Borough Council)

Mark Bullivant (substitute for Cllr Hollingworth), Steve Colella and Mike Webb (Bromsgrove District Council).

**Officers:** Ruth Bamford, Kevin Dicks, Rebecca Dunne, Sue Hanley, Helen Mole, Deb Poole, Jayne Pickering and Liz Tompkin

**Notes:** Denise Sunman

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Cllrs Hollingworth, Sherrey (BDC) and Cllr Hartnett (RBC).

**2. MINUTES**

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Board held on 8th March 2012 were agreed as a correct record.

**3. MATTERS ARISING**

In response to a Member's query (Cllr Colella), Officers confirmed that the presentations had been circulated following the meeting.

**CONFIDENTIALITY**

These notes are an open public record of proceedings of the Board.

[Meetings of the Board are not subject to statutory Access to Information requirements; but information relating to individual post holders and/or employee relations matters would nonetheless not be revealed to the press or public.]

#### **4. PROGRESS REPORT**

4.1 Mr Dicks requested endorsement of the following:

- 1) That update reports on existing shared services be discontinued;
- 2) That benefit realisation summaries be reported once following the completion of the implementation of the business case; and
- 3) That, following the implementation of the Single Business Case, the Shared Service Board starts to focus primarily on transformation and become a Transformation Board, which would continue to monitor financial savings.

It was **AGREED to endorse the above requests.**

4.2 Mr Dicks gave an up-date on the locality work being carried out in the Winyates area of Redditch and, in particular, the formation of three groups that had been formed with multi-agency involvement:

- 1) Consumption of Alcohol and Drugs;
- 2) Mental Health Thresholds; and
- 3) Pro-active Prevention.

4.3 Ms Pickering reported that severance costs resulting from the current restructures had amounted to £315k rather than the £562k initially estimated.

4.4 The Chair reported that a request had been made by RBC Overview and Scrutiny Committee for a letter to be sent to Central Government regarding the proposed changes in the payment of Housing Benefit. Officers to provide data from the Housing Management intervention for inclusion in the letter.

It was **AGREED that progress to date be noted, as detailed in the Progress report, subject to Members' comments and any specific further actions, as recorded above.**

#### **5. PRESENTATIONS**

5.1 Repairs and Maintenance

Mrs Tompkin gave a detailed presentation on the work undertaken to date on transformation of the Repairs and Maintenance Service in Redditch. She said that the intervention had started in October 2011 and had identified that customers wanted the purpose of the service to be "fix and repair my home, right first time and at a time that suits me."

Analysis of work flow had identified that it took an average of 27 days for the completion of a repair. It had also identified that there was a lot of time wasted for both operatives and customers when more than one visit had to be made before a repair could be completed.

She outlined a repairs flow that was being used on a trial basis using four of the forty staff employed in the service. The improved system had led to an increase in compliments from customers. It was noted that 'void properties' were to be added to the trial.

## 5.2 ICT Helpdesk

Ms Poole reported that the scoping exercise had begun in late November 2011 to obtain a high level view of the system.

It had been found that of 650 outstanding ICT Helpdesk calls, using the Vanguard method, 90% had been identified as failure demand.

A New Helpdesk had been set up operated directly by BDC/RBC ICT staff. The initial pilot had been extended to include two thirds of staff at both Councils and was proving successful with a customer satisfaction rate of 97%.

The Old Helpdesk operated by Tamworth Council would be given notice to terminate.

## 5.3 Planning Services

Mrs Bamford gave a verbal up-date on transformation of Planning Services.

A group had been formed to look at what the customer wants from Planning Services together with the various ways that they wanted to access information about planning applications. This group had included a cross section of staff working in all areas of the department.

Members were informed that the group were working on the flow and system conditions relating to a planning application. She said that it had proved useful to have had time to think through the problem with lots of people being involved in discussions.

The Planning and Housing intervention teams had met and had identified that it would be useful for housing staff to be attend pre-application meetings when necessary.

## 5.4 Performance Monitoring

Ms Poole and Miss Dunne outlined suggested changes to the Performance Monitoring Framework to include a Dashboard of Measures that would be owned and monitored by both the Corporate and Senior Management Teams. This would feed information into a Monthly Performance Report, which would be monitored by Members. Members were shown examples of capability charts used in another authority.

6. **NEXT MEETING**

Members noted that the next meeting of the Board would be held on Thursday, 31st May 2012 at the Bromsgrove DC Conference Room commencing at 5.30 pm, as previously.

The meeting commenced at 5.30 pm  
and closed at 7.05pm



**REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL****EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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**ADVISORY PANELS, WORKING GROUPS, ETC - UPDATE REPORT**

Relevant Portfolio Holder	To be confirmed
Relevant Head of Service	Claire Felton, Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services
Non-Key Decision	

**1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS**

To provide, for monitoring / management purposes, an update on the work of the Executive Committee's Advisory Panels, and similar bodies which report via the Executive Committee.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**The Committee is asked to RESOLVE that**

**subject to Members' comments, the report be noted.**

**3. UPDATES****A. ADVISORY PANELS**

	<b><u>Meeting :</u></b>	<b><u>Lead Members / Officers :</u></b> (Executive Members shown <u>underlined</u> )	<b><u>Position :</u></b> (Oral updates to be provided at the meeting by Lead Members or Officers, if no written update is available.)
1.	Climate Change Advisory Panel	Chair: <u>TBC</u> / Vice-Chair: TBC  Kevin Dicks / Ceridwen John	Last meeting – 7th February 2012.
2.	Economic Advisory Panel	Chair: <u>TBC</u> / Vice-Chair: TBC  John Staniland / Georgina Harris	Next Meeting – 18th June 2012.
3.	Housing Advisory	Chair: <u>TBC</u> / Vice-Chair: TBC	Last meeting –

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	Panel	Liz Tompkin	22nd March 2012.
4.	Planning Advisory Panel	Chair: <u>TBC</u> / Vice-Chair: TBC  John Staniland / Ruth Bamford	Next meeting – 30th May 2012

B. **OTHER MEETINGS**

5.	Constitutional Review Working Party	Chair: <u>TBC</u> / Vice-Chair: TBC Cllr Braley Steve Skinner	Next meeting – To be set after the Council AGM
6.	Member Support Steering Group	Chair: <u>TBC</u> / Vice-Chair: TBC Steve Skinner / Trish Buckley	Next meeting – To be set after the Council AGM
7.	Grants Panel	Chair: <u>TBC</u> / Vice-Chair: TBC Angie Heighway	Next meeting – to be set in June 2012
8.	Procurement Group	Chair: <u>TBC</u> / Vice-Chair: TBC Jayne Pickering / Teresa Kristunas	In abeyance pending Transformation.
9.	Independent Remuneration Panel	Chair: <u>Mr R Key</u> /  Sheena Jones (WDC) / Ivor Westmore / Karen Firth	Last meeting – 9th May 2012

**REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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**ACTION MONITORING**

<b>Portfolio Holder(s) / Responsible Officer</b>	<b>Action requested</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>27th January 2010</b>		
<b>Cllr Gandy / R Dunne</b>	<p><b>Single Equalities Scheme</b></p> <p>Members requested that a report/action plan be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee or Council detailing what the Council, as Community Leader, expected to receive in terms of education provision for the Borough and its children and young people.</p>	<p>Officers to update at future meeting. The LSP action plan in respect of this issue is under consideration at present. The Single Equalities Scheme itself is no longer extant.</p>
<b>21st May 2011</b>		
<b>M Braley / T Kristunas</b>	<p><b>Review of Lease - 21 and 21a Salters Lane</b></p> <p>Officers to prepare a report on a policy regarding the granting of concessionary rents.</p>	<p>Policy to be submitted to meeting of the Committee on 24th July 2012.</p>
<b>13th September 2011</b>		
<b>M Braley / T Kristunas</b>	<p><b>Review of Lease - Unit 1, Matchborough Centre</b></p> <p>Alongside consideration of the terms of the lease Members requested that a policy be developed to determine appropriate rents for voluntary sector organisations.</p>	<p>Policy to be submitted to meeting of the Committee on 24th July 2012.</p>

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<b>20th February 2012</b>		
<b>M Braley / S Skinner</b>	<p><b>Independent Remuneration Panel for Worcestershire District Councils - Annual Report and Recommendations for 2012-13</b></p> <p>Member Support Steering Group to consider the apportionment of Special Responsibility Allowances to determine whether they are set at the appropriate levels and targeted at the appropriate posts.</p>	Members' allowances have been updated for the 2012 Annual Meeting of the Council.
<b>21st February 2012</b>		
<b>B Clayton / M Braley / L Tompkin / T Kristunas</b>	<p><b>Housing Revenue Account - Outcome of Review</b></p> <p>Officers bring forward a report outlining the proposals for how this Council might build council houses on some of the land owned by the Council and already declared surplus.</p>	Pending submission of a report to the Executive Committee.
<b>13th March 2012</b>		
<b>M Braley / A de Warr</b>	<p><b>Making Experiences Count – Quarterly Customer Service Report</b></p> <p>Officers undertook to add a number of 'unjustified' complaints to future reports.</p>	Pending the next quarterly monitoring report in June 2012.
<b>M Braley / T Kristunas</b>	<p><b>Sickness Absence Performance and Health for Period 31st December 2011</b></p> <p>Officers to consider measures by which the report might be developed to enhance its usefulness as a management tool.</p>	Pending the next quarterly monitoring report in June 2012.

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<b>24th April 2012</b>		
<b>Derek Taylor</b> / J Godwin / A Heighway / J Willis	<b>Youth Services Provision Task Group</b>  1) Officers were requested to explore the option of Dial a Ride vehicles being used to transport young people to local events and festivities and submit a report to a future meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.  2) It was proposed that the Commissioning Group receive a presentation from the Task and Finish Group in order that it might outline the findings of the review and thereby positively influence the commissioning of services.	This report will be presented to Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 11th September 2012.  Done - Chair of the Task Group attended the Local Children's Partnership meeting on 16th May 2012.
<b>M Braley</b> / T Kristunas / D Taylor	<b>Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>  It was agreed that a letter be issued to the Government expressing the Council's concern with the recent changes to housing benefits, especially in respect of direct payment to the applicant and not the landlord	Done - Letter sent on behalf of the Council on 2nd May 2012.
<b>Note:</b>	<i>No further debate should be held on the above matters or substantive decisions taken, without further report OR unless urgency requirements are met.</i>	Report period: 27/01/10 to 24/04/12

