

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

6th December 2018

BUDGET SCRUTINY WORKING GROUP - PROPOSALS

Lead Scrutiny Member	Councillor Jenny Wheeler
Relevant Head of Service	Head of Planning and Regeneration
Ward(s) Affected	Central and Abbey wards.
Key Decision	

1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

This report provides Members with an opportunity to consider a proposal that has been made by the Budget Scrutiny Working Group in respect of the Redditch Business Improvement District.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is asked to RECOMMEND that

the Executive Committee should support the introduction of a Business Improvement District in Redditch town centre.

3. KEY ISSUES

Background

- 3.1 The Budget Scrutiny Working Group is responsible for reviewing items that have financial implications for the Council to ensure that the Council is achieving value for money.
- 3.2 During a meeting of the Budget Scrutiny Working Group on Friday 19th October Members considered information about proposals for the introduction of a Redditch Business Improvement District (BID). The group chose to investigate this matter due to their awareness that the introduction of a BID would have financial implications for the Council. The details discussed during the meeting can be viewed in an extract from the notes of that meeting, attached at Appendix 1 to this report.
- 3.3 Based on the information provided by the Redditch Town Centre Co-ordinator the group concluded that the Council should support the introduction of a Redditch BID.
- 3.4 Should the Overview and Scrutiny Committee endorse this proposal the recommendation will be considered by the Executive Committee on 11th December alongside the report in respect of the proposed Redditch BID.

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Financial Implications

- 3.5 There are direct financial implications for the Council which are detailed in Appendix 1 to this report. The Budget Scrutiny Working Group agreed that this financial implications for the Council would be offset by the potentially beneficial impact that the introduction of a Redditch BID could have on the vibrancy of the local economy.

Legal Implications

- 3.6 There are no direct legal implications for the Council.

Service / Operational Implications

- 3.7 In the event that a BID is introduced in Redditch town centre the Council would be required to co-ordinate the ballot for local businesses. Council Officers will also be required to collect the levy from eligible companies if it is determined through the ballot process that a BID should be introduced in Redditch.

Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications

- 3.8 No specific customer or equalities and diversity implications have been identified.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT

No specific risks have been identified.

5. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Extract from the notes of the meeting of the Budget Scrutiny Working Group held on Friday 19th October 2018.

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