

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL

9th August 2010

PETITION – REDI USERS

Relevant Portfolio Holder(s)	Cllr P Anderson / Cllr J Pearce
Relevant Head of Service	Head of Leisure & Cultural Services
Not a Key Decision <i>(in relation to this specific item)</i>	

A Petition has been received containing over 1,250 signatures in accordance with the new constitutional arrangements / new Petition Scheme. The 'prayer' of the petition is as follows:

"We the undersigned would like to petition the Councillors of Redditch to fund the REDI Centre fully until either further funding is found, or the business is transferred to another provider.

We feel as Taxpayers and voters we have the right to ask the Councillors to seriously consider the above request. The Council have a duty of care to the adult population of Redditch to provide opportunities to obtain further skills and qualifications to give us better employment prospects which in turn will help the local economy. Previously when cuts have been suggested we have always had NEW College as an alternative – this is no longer an option as their funding is for 18-19 year olds.

If you close the REDI Centre we have nowhere else that provides a duplication of this service, the qualification courses, learndirect, on-site nursery and Restaurant and Advice and Guidance."

The recently adopted scheme provides for the 'petition organiser', Ms Justine Bailey, to be given the opportunity *"to present the petition at the meeting and the petition will then be discussed by Councillors, with a maximum of 15 minutes being allowed for the consideration of each petition. The Council will decide how to respond to the petition at this meeting. They may decide to take the action the petition requests, not to take the action requested for reasons put forward in the debate, or to commission further investigation into the matter, for example by a relevant committee. Where the issue is one on which the Council's Executive Committee is required to make the final decision, the Council will decide whether to make recommendations to inform that decision. The petition organiser will then receive written confirmation of this decision."*

AUTHOR OF REPORT

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