

Overview and Scrutiny Recommendations Tracker
Recommendations made directly by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2011/12

Date of O&S Committee	Recommendation	Date considered by Executive Committee	Comments on action taken to implement the Committee's recommendations (where required).
24/05/11	<p>Petition: Unicorn Hill – Location of the Taxi Rank</p> <p>Recommended that the petition and an accompanying Officer report be submitted to the Licensing Committee for consideration by that body.</p>	21/06/11	<p>The Overview and Scrutiny Committee's recommendation was APPROVED.</p> <p>The petition was considered at a meeting of the Licensing Committee on 14th July 2011. Following receipt of the petition a consultation exercise had been carried out with relevant agencies, including West Mercia Police, West Mercia Road Traffic Management Police, Redditch Taxi Association and Worcestershire County Council (WCC). The consensus amongst those consulted was that the current location of the taxi rank was the most ideal location to service travellers on that side of the town.</p> <p>The suggestion by the petitioners to move the rank to the station car park was not considered to be viable as the Council has no right of access to Private Land and previous enquiries had resulted in a negative response from the land owners.</p>

			A further attempt was made to present the petition for the consideration of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in November 2011. However, the petition was not accepted for reconsideration, because it had been determined by the Council as recently as July 2011.
26/07/11	<p>Waste Collection Rates</p> <p>Recommended that the previous best performance indicator BV 84, which measures the total amount of waste collected (kg per head) be incorporated into the quarterly performance monitoring report.</p>	23/08/11	<p>The Overview and Scrutiny Committee's recommendation was APPROVED.</p> <p>The PI started to be monitored in the Council's quarterly monitoring reports from the second quarter of the 2011/12 year.</p>
16/08/11	<p>Private Sector Home Support Service – Post-Scrutiny</p> <p>Recommended that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) the Home Support Service be extended to all eligible residents of the Borough regardless of tenure; 2) the Council enable this service to be available to those who are not eligible for supporting people funding; and 	21/02/12	<p>The recommendations were REJECTED.</p> <p>The recommendations were not approved when a report was presented on the subject to the Executive Committee in February 2012. However the Executive Committee agreed with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's suggestion that any proposals to increase staffing or the capacity of the service should be brought back to the Executive Committee in the form of a business case.</p>

	<p>3) arrangements mirror other housing associations and extend the supporting people eligibility to those on Council tax benefit.</p>		
16/08/11	<p>Staff Volunteering Policy</p> <p>Recommended that</p> <p>subject to noting Members' comments as detailed in the preamble above (<i>as set out in relevant minute</i>), the Staff Volunteering Policy be approved.</p>	23/08/11	The recommendation was APPROVED.
27/09/11	<p>External Refurbishment of Housing Stock Short, Sharp Review – Update Report</p> <p>Recommended that:</p> <p>1) based on the costs involved, no further action be taken regarding repainting the pebble dashed facades of properties located on Ombersley Close and Rushock Close;</p> <p>2) no further consultation work be undertaken in respect of the repainting of pebble dashed facades.</p>	15/11/11	The recommendations were APPROVED. No further action was required in relation to these recommendations.

<p>18/10/11</p>	<p>Petition Regarding the War Memorial</p> <p>Recommended that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) that planters be installed around the war memorial to deter people from sitting on the war memorial; 2) a campaign of education about the war memorial be launched to increase awareness of the purpose of the war memorial; 3) the Executive Committee ask Officers to investigate the possibility of introducing improved signage for the war memorial; 4) the Executive Committee ask Officers to investigate the possibility of introducing seating in the area; 5) the Executive Committee ask Officers to investigate the possibility of installing an extra litter bin in the area. 	<p>15/11/11</p>	<p>The recommendations were APPROVED.</p> <p>Officers have had some plans drawn up for the planters which will go around and replicate the shape of the Memorial. These will cost £710 in materials and will take approximately one week to make. This cost does not include any of the soil/materials/plants that will be required.</p> <p>The electrical box situated opposite the Memorial has been identified as a suitable location for some polite signage requesting that people treat the area with due respect and reverence.</p> <p>Officers have identified that two benches could be placed on the raised area surrounding the Memorial. They can be attached to the wall to make them secure which will require the manufacture of some bespoke brackets. The brackets will cost approximately £140 plus vat. The Council would be able to utilise benches that are currently in storage but they would need to be refurbished. A quotation received for this work is £1,150 plus VAT, however, Officers are awaiting a second quotation.</p> <p>The Portfolio Holder has been kept up to date with what Officers are doing regarding the War memorial.</p>
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<p>18/10/11</p>	<p>Quarterly Meeting of the Leader and Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee</p> <p>Recommended that</p> <p>the quarterly meetings between the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Leader of the Council be removed as a requirement from the Council's constitution.</p>	<p>15/11/11</p>	<p>The recommendation was APPROVED.</p> <p>This requirement has now been removed from the Council's constitution.</p>
<p>08/11/11</p>	<p>Community Safety Partnership</p> <p>Recommended that</p> <p>Redditch Borough Council does not approve the merger of Redditch Community Safety Partnership (RCSP) with Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership (BCSP) and Wyre Forest Community safety Partnership (WFCSP) resulting in the creation of a North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership (NWCSP).</p>	<p>15/11/11</p>	<p>The recommendation was REJECTED.</p>

<p>08/11/11</p>	<p>Gritting and Snow Clearance – Redditch Borough Council’s Approach</p> <p>Recommended that</p> <p>1) the following policy be adopted with regards to gritting and snow clearance:</p> <p>Redditch Borough Council will strive to keep the following areas clear of snow and ice and safe to use:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) crematorium and cemeteries to allow funerals to continue;b) Redditch Borough Council staff car parks to ensure that there are suitable parking areas for Council staff who are getting into work to provide essential services;c) key Council sites like the Town Hall and district centres to assist local shops and businesses and enable residents to access services;	<p>15/11/11</p>	<p>Each of the recommendations were APPROVED.</p> <p>Officers have arranged to present a separate report outlining the response to the Committee’s recommendations as well as the original recommendations from the Gritting Short, Sharp Review Group on 6th March 2012. Further information on the action that has been taken in response to scrutiny proposals will therefore be provided on that date.</p>
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	<p>d) gritting/snow clearance at other areas including Council sheltered accommodation will only be carried out subject to available resources; gritting/snow clearance at Council owned sheltered accommodation will be to allow the home Support Service Access to residents;</p> <p>2) the Council will not provide grit bins on any highway land but may provide grit bins on its own land to enable gritting to take place – e.g. at leisure sites;</p> <p>3) further publicity is undertaken to ensure that residents are aware of how the Council will deal with gritting/snow clearance and what to do when bad weather affects their waste collection service;</p> <p>4) Officers purchase appropriate snow clearance and gritting equipment from within existing budgets; and</p>		
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	<p>5) relevant Officers from Redditch Borough Council arrange a meeting with relevant Officers from Worcestershire County Council in advance of winter 2011/12 to discuss additional issues raised in the Gritting Short, Sharp Review Group's final report and arrangements for gritting and snow clearance in Redditch for the winter.</p>		
10/01/12	<p>Budget Setting 2012/13</p> <p>Recommended that:</p> <p>the priority levels for the revenue and capital bids be supported subject to the following amendments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) the bid for improvement to footpaths in Morton Stanley Park be removed; and ii) the bid for the Energy Advisor be deferred to allow Officers to obtain additional information and report back to the Committee. 	10/01/12	<p>The first recommendation was REJECTED.</p> <p>The second recommendation was APPROVED.</p>

24/01/12	<p>Petition – Short Stay Parking – Town Centre</p> <p>Recommended that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) the Executive Committee refer the issue of short-stay car parking in Redditch town centre for consideration to the Worcestershire County Council’s Highways Forum; and 2) the Executive Committee ask Officers to facilitate a meeting with relevant agencies and stakeholders, including the petitioners, to obtain further information on proposals for short-stay car parking in the town centre prior to its consideration at the Highways Forum. 	31/01/12	<p>The first recommendation was REJECTED.</p> <p>The second recommendation was APPROVED.</p>
24/01/12	<p>Energy Advisor – Revenue Bid 2012/13 – Update Report</p> <p>Recommended that:</p> <p>the revenue bid for the Council to invest with Bromsgrove District Council in an</p>	31/01/12	<p>The recommendation was APPROVED.</p>

	Energy Advisor be supported as a high bid in the budget bids process for 2012/13		
14/02/12	<p>Housing Revenue Account 2012/13</p> <p>Recommended that</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) the draft 2012/13 Estimates for the Housing Revenue Account, attached to the report at Appendix 1, be approved; 2) the actual average rent increase for 2012/13 be 7 %; and 3) £2 million be transferred to a reserve as a Revenue Contribution to Capital to fund the future Capital Programme. 	20/02/12	All of the recommendations were APPROVED.
14/02/12	<p>Housing Revenue Account Report – Update on Future Arrangements</p> <p>Recommended that</p> <p>subject to the Council's approval of the</p>	21/02/12	All of the recommendations were APPROVED.

	<p>budgetary implications,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) the 5 year Housing Capital Programme, as set out at Appendix 1 to the report, be approved;2) the Director of Finance and Corporate Resources be authorised to acquire debt from the Public Works Loans Board up to the amount of the actual Debt Cap in line with the profile set out at Appendix 4 to the report;3) subject to Members' comments, the viability of the 30 year business case for the Housing Revenue Account, and the projected availability of resources within the Business Plan to undertake projects such as regeneration be noted;4) Officers be authorised to incur expenditure as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, up to the limit approved by the Council and for the purposes detailed in the report; and5) the Council approve the financial / budgetary implications, as detailed in the report.		
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<p>14/02/12</p>	<p>Street Naming and Numbering Policy – Pre-Scrutiny</p> <p>Recommended that</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) the revised policy on Street Naming and Numbering, as attached to the report at Appendix 1 and 2, be approved and adopted; 2) authority be delegated to the Head of Business Transformation to carry out all functions relating to the addressing process, as now detailed in the revised Policy; 3) the Scheme of Delegation to Officers be updated accordingly; and 	<p>21/02/12</p>	<p>All of the Committee’s recommendations were APPROVED.</p>
<p>02/04/12</p>	<p>Quarterly Performance Report – Quarter Three – Period Ending 31st December 2011</p> <p>Recommended that</p> <p>the Council issue an open letter to the Government expressing its concern with</p>	<p>03/04/12</p>	<p>The recommendation was APPROVED.</p>

	the recent changes to housing benefits, especially concerning its direct payment to the applicant and not the landlord		
02/04/12	<p>Increasing Recycling Rates Review – Final Report</p> <p>We recommend that:</p> <p>1. <u>WORKING WITH THE MEDIA</u></p> <p>(a) A media strategy be developed to help forge a close working relationship with the local media to publicise what can be recycled, illustrate how recycled waste is eventually re-used, and to explain the importance of reducing waste - for example through the <i>Love Food Hate Waste</i> campaign;</p> <p>(b) Press releases are issued to the local media on a regular basis to remind residents that they can have an extra or larger green bin at no charge; and</p> <p>(c) The Council work with the local media to publicise its new approach to</p>	03/04/12	The recommendations were all APPROVED.

	<p>collect waste from grey bins from all districts in the Borough one week, and to collect from all green bins the next when this is introduced in 2012/13 as part of the 'route optimisation' work.</p> <p>2. <u>GENERAL PUBLICITY</u></p> <p>(a) As part of the Council's regular recycling campaign, that images be displayed of items made 100% from recycled products on the Council's fleet of waste collection vehicles to publicise what happens to recycling and to reassure residents that recycling is worthwhile; and</p> <p>(b) A new sticker be produced that can be placed on bins with excess recyclables to inform residents that they can have an extra or larger green bin at no charge.</p> <p>3. <u>CAPTURING AND UTILISING WASTE DATA</u></p> <p>(a) Maps which illustrate tonnage levels for grey bin waste and green bin waste collected by individual areas be</p>		
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	<p>produced at regular intervals; and</p> <p>(b) This information be used to target areas with the lowest recycling rates with publicity and awareness raising activities to promote waste minimisation and recycling.</p> <p>4. <u>ENGAGING WITH MINORITY ETHNIC AND TRANSIENT COMMUNITIES</u></p> <p>(a) The Council engages with groups and forums that represent minority ethnic communities in Redditch to help inform more residents from these communities about recycling;</p> <p>(b) The Council work with the local education authority to further promote the benefits of recycling in schools, especially in those areas identified by the recycling maps as having the lowest rates in Redditch; and</p> <p>(c) The Council work closely with local landlord groups, representatives, and the Council's Tenancy team, to communicate information about recycling and waste minimisation to</p>		
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	<p>transient communities within Redditch.</p> <p>5. <u>RAISING MEMBERS AWARENESS</u></p> <p>A Members Information Session be arranged to inform Members of the new 'route optimisation' approach to collecting recyclable and non-recyclable waste in Redditch and Bromsgrove, and at the same time, to receive a general overview of the waste collection service, including information on the EnviroSort facility.</p> <p>6 <u>OPERATIONAL</u></p> <p>(a) The waste collection crews be encouraged to feedback any concerns when collecting from the grey or green bins, including identifying any specific areas that do not appear to be recycling properly, so that improvements quickly can be made;</p> <p>(b) The waste collection crews be empowered to swiftly resolve recycling/general waste issues for residents where this is possible;</p>		
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	<p>(c) The Council should look to address the problem of residents requesting extra grey bins; and</p> <p>(d) The Council consider introducing dual purpose litter bins outside retail outlets, especially in public parks and local centres.</p> <p><u>7 IMPLEMENTING AND MONITORING RECOMMENDATIONS</u></p> <p>That Officers develop an implementation plan, including financial considerations, to deliver the report's recommendations and to update the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on progress made within six months of the report's endorsement.</p>		
17/04/12	<p>Youth Services Provision Task Group – Final Report</p> <p>We RECOMMEND that</p> <p>1) Youth activities in Redditch should be promoted using the following</p>	24/04/12	<p>Nine of the group's recommendations were APPROVED.</p> <p>Recommendation 8a was REJECTED.</p> <p>The Executive Committee supported recommendation 8b in principle but requested a</p>

	<p>communication tools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) a new dedicated Redditch youth website;b) Worcestershire Plug and Play website;c) local high schools' Frog Intranet systems; andd) social networking platforms. <p>2) 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.</p> <p>3) 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.</p> <p>4) The Redditch Commissioning Group should seriously consider the following types of bids for funding:</p>		<p>report on the feasibility of this proposal be provided by relevant Officers prior to a decision being made on the subject. Therefore a decision on Recommendation 8b is PENDING.</p>
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	<p>a) bids for youth work to be delivered using a social enterprise model; and</p> <p>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.</p> <p>5) The Redditch Commissioning Group has been tasked with consulting with young people. We recommend that the following groups should be consulted as part of this process:</p> <p>a) Redditch Student Council; and</p> <p>b) a focus group of young offenders and young people at risk of offending.</p> <p>6) 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.</p> <p>7) Redditch Borough Council should submit bids for positive activities funding in the new</p>		
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	<p>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 <i>community centres</i> where appropriate.</p> <p>8) Access to public transport has been consistently identified as a barrier to youth participation in positive activities. We recommend that to address this problem the following actions should be considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) the remit of the WRVS Redditch Community Rides scheme should be extended to helping transport young people to different activities in the Borough and this pilot scheme should be extended beyond the current deadline of April 2012; andb) Dial a Ride vehicles should be provided to transport young people to local events and festivities. <p>9) Links should be provided directly from the Frog intranet system used by local high schools to bus companies'</p>		
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	<p>websites to provide young people with access to up to date information about bus timetables and routes in Redditch.</p> <p>10)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.</p>		
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Total Number of recommendations 2011/12: 54

Number of Recommendations APPROVED by the Executive Committee: 47

Number of Recommendations REJECTED by the Executive Committee: 6 ½

Number of Recommendation PENDING a decision from the Executive Committee: ½ a recommendation.