



Overview & Scrutiny Committee

No Direct Ward Relevance

9th October 2012

PORTFOLIO HOLDER ANNUAL REPORTS: QUESTIONS AND SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION WITH COUNCILLOR GREG CHANCE, PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR PLANNING, REGENERATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSPORT

The following questions have been suggested by Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. These questions will be posed to Councillor Greg Chance, Portfolio Holder for Planning, Regeneration, Economic Development and Transport at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on Tuesday 9th October 2012.

- 1) Please could you outline what you consider to be:
 - a) The successes within the remit of your Portfolio?
 - b) Areas of concern within the remit of your portfolio?

- 2) Regarding economic development and regeneration in Redditch:
 - a) What are your plans to encourage new business start-ups in the town?
 - b) To what extent does Redditch have a cross-section of housing types to accommodate both employees and employers?
 - c) Within the emerging local plan, what is being done to encourage local developers to build?
 - d) Is the focus of the 'Eastern Gateway' strategic employment site being placed on generating new employment or housing development?

- 3) What are your plans for the regeneration of:
 - a) Town centre
 - b) Train station and its local environment

- 4) What plans do you have to engage local people, especially elderly residents and young people, on their aspirations for the town?

- 5) What are you doing to ensure that the proposer submitted for traffic surveys are based on current and not historic data and will cover all the roads that are likely to be affected by development?

- 6) Regarding European Regional Development Funding (ERDF):
 - a) How much funding is expected to be received in Redditch?
 - b) How will the funding received be used to support young people setting up new businesses? Is there any provision in the ERDF to support this?

- 7) Regarding *Choose How You Move 2*:
 - a) How do you define 'sustainable transport' as part of this?
 - b) How will residents, businesses and visitors be encouraged to use sustainable modes of transport?
 - c) What are you expecting to achieve from this project?

- 8) What is being done to address any skills shortages issues being experienced by local businesses?

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NB Note draft revision /Update – Page 2. S

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL GUIDE TO / FOR PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

Portfolio Holders are appointed annually by the Council (separate sheet refers) and between them cover all areas of the Council’s work and responsibility.

“Portfolio” indicates a specified area of responsibility allotted by formal resolution, for the purposes listed below.

“Portfolio Holder” indicates a member of the Council’s Executive Committee who, within the allotted area of responsibility,

CAN	1.	<p>Monitor Council performance informed by documents such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Strategy • Corporate Plan • Service Plans • Budgets • E.Government statements • BVPI’s / Local PI’s (separate document available) • Forward Plan 	*
	2.	<p>Monitor the implementation of Council policy and decisions informed, in addition to the above, by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council reports and Minutes • Personal contact with Officers 	*
	3.	<p>Act as consultee for Members and Officers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formally, in accordance with approved delegations of authority to Officers • Informally for general reference. 	*
	4.	<p>Act as “Spokesperson” for the Council in relation to Press / Media / outside the Council, but not exclusively (other Members may also have this shared role)</p>	

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		<i>(Council decision – 11th October ??)</i>	
	5.	<p>Act as “Rapporteur”</p> <p>a) to report annually to Overview & Scrutiny on the Services for which the Portfolio Holder has responsibility; and</p> <p>b) to act as a channel for feedback from representatives of outside bodies which fall within the remit of the Portfolio Holder.</p> <p><i>(Council Annual Meeting 22nd May 2006)</i></p>	
	6.	<p><i>the role of Portfolio Holders be expanded to include a higher level of involvement with the Local Strategic Partnership, and, more specifically, with relevant Sub-Groups of the Redditch Partnership, as and when formed.</i></p> <p><i>(Exec January 2007 / Council ...)</i></p>	
CANNOT		Act with delegated authority in any personal capacity (PFHs cannot therefore commit resources – financial / staffing, without further authority – Exec., Council, or Officer authority)	
			*
MAY	1.	Represent and “sponsor” their allotted Portfolio(s) at meetings of the Executive and the Council, and, <i>where appropriate</i> , at other Council meetings, e.g. O&S.	
	2.	Develop closer working relationship with relevant lead Directors and, via Directors, other relevant Officers.	
	3.	<p>Attend relevant meetings, e.g. relevant O&S meetings, beyond those to which formally appointed by the Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As an approved duty where invited to the meeting • Also as an approved duty when present on own initiative. <p style="text-align: right;">in accordance with current approved constitutional requirements.</p>	
	4.	<p>Seek to trigger reports to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Executive or Council, via normal report / agenda preparation processes • Regulatory Committees, via normal report / 	

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		agenda preparation processes	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
		in accordance with current approved constitutional requirements.	

G:M&C/Members/Portfolio Holder Guide
& Constitution / Const.documents/revised sms/8.7.6/16.7.7