

Scrutiny Overview Committee

18 April 2024 at 6:00PM

Meeting Venue: Council Chamber at the Council House, Lichfield Street, Walsall

[Livestream Link](#)

Membership:

Councillor Murray (Chair)
Councillor Nawaz (Vice-Chair)
Councillor P Bott
Councillor Cooper
Councillor Follows
Councillor Hicken
Councillor K. Hussain
Councillor Latham
Councillor Sears
Councillor Singh Sohal
Councillor Waters

Portfolio Holder:

Councillor Bird - Leader of the Council

Quorum:

4 Members

The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012
Specified pecuniary interests

The pecuniary interests which are specified for the purposes of Chapter 7 of Part 1 of the Localism Act 2011 are the interests specified in the second column of the following:

Subject	Prescribed description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	<p>Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the relevant authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by a member in carrying out duties as a member, or towards the election expenses of a member.</p> <p>This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Regulations (Consolidation) Act 1992.</p>
Contracts	<p>Any contract which is made between the relevant person (or a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest) and the relevant authority:</p> <p>(a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and</p> <p>(b) which has not been fully discharged.</p>
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the relevant authority.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the relevant authority for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	<p>Any tenancy where (to a member's knowledge):</p> <p>(a) the landlord is the relevant authority;</p> <p>(b) the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest.</p>
Securities	<p>Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where:</p> <p>(a) that body (to a member's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and</p> <p>(b) either:</p> <p>(i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or</p> <p>(ii) if the share capital of that body is more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.</p>

Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972 (as amended)

Access to information: Exempt information

Part 1

Descriptions of exempt information: England

1. Information relating to any individual.
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
4. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
6. Information which reveals that the authority proposes:
 - (a) to give any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
 - (b) to make an order or direction under any enactment.
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.
8. Information being disclosed during a meeting of a Scrutiny and Performance Panel when considering flood risk management functions which:
 - (a) Constitutes a trades secret;
 - (b) Its disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the risk management authority);
 - (c) It was obtained by a risk management authority from any other person and its disclosure to the public by the risk management authority would constitute a breach of confidence actionable by that other person.

Part 1 – Public Session

- 1. Apologies**
To receive apologies for absence from Members of the Committee.
- 2. Substitutions**
To receive notice of any substitutions for a Member of the Committee for the duration of the meeting.
- 3. Minutes of the previous meeting**
To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 14 March 2024.
(Enclosed - Pages 6–12)
- 4. Declarations of Interest and Party Whip**
To receive declarations of interest or the party whip from Members in respect of items on the agenda.
- 5. Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985 (as amended):**
To agree that the public be excluded from the private session during consideration of the agenda items indicated for the reasons shown on the agenda.
- 6. Marketing and Advertising Strategy**
To receive an overview of the Council's marketing and advertising strategy.
(Enclosed – Pages 13 - 19)
- 7. Emergency Planning**
To receive an overview of the Council's Emergency Planning function.
(Enclosed – Pages 20 – 46)
- 8. Operation Freeway**
To receive an overview of the Operation Freeway.
(Enclosed – Pages 47 - 48)
- 9. School Gate Parking Working Group – Recommendation Monitoring**
To review the implementation of the recommendations from School Gate Parking Working Group.
(Enclosed – Pages 49 - 56)
- 10. Housing Standards Working Group – Final Report (Published on 17th April 2024)**
For the Committee to consider the final report of the Housing Standards Working Group
(Enclosed – Pages 57 - 80)
- 11. Scrutiny Chairs Feedback**
To invite Scrutiny Chair's present to present their feedback in respect to matters raised at other Scrutiny Overview Committees since the previous meeting.
- 12. Areas of focus – 2023/24**
To consider the areas of focus for the Committee during 2023/24
(Enclosed – Pages 81 - 82)
- 13. Forward Plans**
To receive the latest Forward Plans in respect of the following:
 - Executive Forward Plans.

- Black Country Joint Executive Committee.
- West Midlands Combined Authority Board.

(Enclosed – Page 83 – 93)

14. Recommendations Tracker

To consider progress on recommendations from the previous meeting.

(Enclosed – Pages 94 - 98)

15. Date of next meeting

To be determined at Annual Council in May 2024.