

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL



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# Local Development Framework



## Pre-submission Consultation Statement

Regulation 25 (1) and 26  
(The Town and Country Planning (Local Development)  
(England) Regulations 2004)  
and Regulation 25  
(The Town and Country Planning (Local Development)  
(England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008)

27 October 08

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## **Consultation Arrangements (Regulation 25 and 26)**

### **Introduction**

The consultation process for preparing a Development Plan Document (DPD) is regulated by the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 and further guidance is provided in Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 12 (Local Spatial Planning (2008)). The consultation procedures used by Redditch Borough Council on the Issues and Options document are thus informed and obligated by these directives.

This document gives the details of the public participation procedures associated with the Core Strategy DPD pre-submission consultation, together with details of the Council's responses to representations received throughout the pre-submission process. This approach accords with Regulations 25 and 26 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004.

On the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2008, an Amendment to the Town and Country Planning Regulations came into force (The Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008). This amendment altered the previous Regulations that were associated with public consultation (detailed above). As the preparation process for the Core Strategy began before this Amendment was published, the consultation procedures are only required to be in conformity with the 2004 Regulations. However, it is considered that the public consultation that is detailed in this document is also in conformity with Regulation 25 of the Amendment.

**Pre-Issues and Options consultation period  
18<sup>th</sup> June 2007 and 21<sup>st</sup> April 2008**

This section details the consultation and information gathering events that took place between 18<sup>th</sup> June 2007 and 21<sup>st</sup> April 2008 to inform the preparation of the Core Strategy Issues and Options Document. Although there is no statutory requirement to undertake consultation prior to the Issues and Options stage, Planning Policy Statement 12: Local Development Frameworks states that “Local planning authorities should front load the preparation of development plan documents by facilitating early involvement and securing inputs from the community and all stakeholders” (Para 4.2).

One of the key objectives of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 is to ensure that any interested individuals, groups or organisations are able to become effectively involved at all levels of the various local planning processes. The Borough Council’s ‘Statement of Community Involvement’ details how the Borough Council will enable interested persons and organisations to become involved and contribute to the planning process (available at [www.redditchbc.gov.uk](http://www.redditchbc.gov.uk)).

During the events that took place between 18<sup>th</sup> June 2007 and 21<sup>st</sup> April 2008, consultees were asked to identify ‘issues’ relating to the Borough of Redditch. The outcome of these events can be viewed at [www.redditchbc.gov.uk](http://www.redditchbc.gov.uk) in a document entitled ‘The outcome of informal consultation used to inform the Issues and Options paper’.

The issues raised have, where appropriate, informed the Issues and Options Document. Issues and Options is the first formal stage in the preparation of the Core Strategy. The document highlights the matters relevant to Redditch Borough (Issues) and the ways in which these issues can be combated through the application of planning policy (Options). Consultation on the Issues and Options took place between 9<sup>th</sup> May and 20<sup>th</sup> June 2008.

## **Series of Events**

### **Approval of Local Development Scheme**

Local Development Scheme No.2 was approved for publication on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2006. This timetable the preparation of Issues and Alternative Options for September 2007 – May 2008.

### **State of the Borough Conference**

The State of the Borough Conference was held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2007 at Redditch Town Hall. The event comprised a series of talks, discussion groups and presentations. The primary purpose of the Conference was to bring together members of the Redditch Partnership and associates to explore the ways in which the Sustainable Community Strategy should be updated, as well as generating issues that could be tackled by the emerging development plan. Participants were asked to complete a questionnaire which was split into the six themes of the Community Strategy.

- Communities that are safe and feel safe
- A better environment for today and tomorrow
- Economic success that is shared by all
- Improving health and well-being
- Meeting the needs of children and young people
- Stronger communities

Under each theme, respondents were asked to write down issues about Redditch Borough that could be considered in the development plan, along with evidence to support their responses. (A copy of the questionnaire can be seen at Appendix B).

### **Planning Advisory Panel (PAP) Meetings**

The Planning Advisory Panel comprises Elected Members. Included in the Terms of Reference for PAP is the duty to consider all matters associated with the preparation of Development Plan documents and to make recommendations to the Executive/Full Committee. Meetings were held between 4<sup>th</sup> September 2007 and 16<sup>th</sup> April 2008 during which Members were asked to identify issues that they thought were relevant to Redditch Borough.

## Local Democracy Week Event

On Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2007 students from local high schools attended the local democracy event at Redditch Town Hall to learn about democratic processes in Redditch Borough. Members of the Development Plans team attended and discussed with students the improvements they would like to see in Redditch Borough. The questions asked of students can be seen at Appendix C.



Display at Local Democracy Week, 15 October 2007

## Meeting with the Redditch Student Council

On Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2007, a member of the Development Plans team attended a meeting with the Redditch Student Council to discuss the production of the new Core Strategy Development Plan. The Student Council was informed that both residents and stakeholders from local businesses/organisations were being invited to attend discussion panels in order to help identify planning issues relating to the Borough. Student Council members were invited to attend and all members agreed to display publicity material related to the panels at their schools.

## **Citizen and Stakeholder Discussion Panels**

A series of citizen and stakeholder discussion panels were held between 15<sup>th</sup> November 2007 and 17<sup>th</sup> January 2008. The purpose of the discussion panels was to provide an opportunity for citizens, stakeholders and statutory bodies to identify planning issues across the Borough. Initially, six discussion panels for citizens and six for stakeholders were planned; however, due to a low response rate the decision was taken to merge some of the citizen and stakeholder groups into one session. Details of topics covered and the dates of the discussion panels are listed below:

15 November 2007	'Economy' Citizen and Stakeholders Discussion Panel
22 November 2007	'Health and Well Being' Citizen and Stakeholders Discussion Panel
30 November 2007	'Communities and Young People' Citizen and Stakeholder Discussion Panel
11 December 2007	'Better Environment' Citizen and Stakeholder Discussion Panel
8 January 2008	'Development Strategy' Citizen Discussion Panel
10 January 2008	'Development Strategy' Stakeholder Discussion Panel
15 January 2008	'Housing and Climate Change' Citizen Discussion Panel
17 January 2008	'Housing and Climate Change' Stakeholder Discussion Panel

The discussion panels were advertised in a number of ways:

- All those on the Development Plans database were written to on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2007 (either by post or e-mail) to advise them of the discussion panels (the letter can be seen at Appendix D). Also enclosed was a leaflet (Appendix E) which detailed the purpose of the sessions, who should attend, what was expected of participants, where and when the discussions panels would take place and a response form.
- An A4 sized poster was displayed on forty notice boards in Council-owned buildings across the Borough. These were displayed from 14/09/07 – 29/10/07 (Appendix F)
- A display with supplementary leaflets was accommodated at Planning Reception in Redditch Town Hall from 14/09/07 – 29/10/07.
- A press release appeared in the 'Redditch Standard' on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2007 inviting residents and stakeholders to join the discussion panels. (Appendix G)



Display at Planning Reception, Town Hall advertising the Citizen and Stakeholder Discussion Panels

**Planning Information Day - Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2008, 10am – 9pm, Redditch Town Hall**

This event was held to give local residents and anyone interested in planning the opportunity to find out about the planning process in Redditch Borough. A presentation which introduced the Issues and Options consultation process was given at 11am and repeated at 1pm, 3pm, 5pm and 7pm. Attendees were informed of the purpose of the consultation and the dates that it was taking place. The event was advertised in the following ways:

- Press releases appeared in the Redditch Standard, Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2008 and Redditch Advertiser Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2008. (Appendix H)
- Local residents, businesses and organisations on the Development Plans database were sent an A5 postcard inviting them to the event. (Appendix J)
- An A4 poster was displayed on forty notice boards in Council-owned buildings across the Borough (Appendix K).





Displays relating to the Local Development Framework and Issues and Options Consultation at Planning Information Day.

## **Continued consultation**

On Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May, Development Plans Staff (John Staniland and Ruth Bamford) along with Officers from the Communications department gave a media briefing to local press, including The Advertiser Newspaper and Touch FM. The intention of the media briefing was to provide the local press with an overview and understanding of the Issues and Options consultation period and the Sustainable Community Strategy consultation period. A presentation was given and an opportunity was provided for questions and answers.

## **Issues and Options consultation period 9<sup>th</sup> May and the 20<sup>th</sup> June 2008**

### **Introduction**

The Core Strategy Development Plan Document 'Issues and Options' has been produced by the Borough Council to inform the development of Redditch Borough's Core Strategy – a key document in the future of the Borough. This Issues and Options Document highlights the matters relevant to Redditch Borough (Issues) and the ways in which these issues can be combated through the application of planning policy (Options).

In accordance with Redditch Borough Council's Adopted Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), the consultation process undertaken satisfied all of the minimum requirements of the SCI. The sections below outline the public consultation that was undertaken in conformity with the SCI.

The Issues and Options document was placed on deposit for public consultation between the 9<sup>th</sup> May and the 20<sup>th</sup> June 2008. During this period interested parties were asked to submit comments via a questionnaire. This questionnaire and the Issues and Options full document were available at various locations, specified in the ensuing section 'Document Availability'. All the questionnaires and comments received were responded to by officers and presented to the Council (see Appendix L).

In order to ensure that the DPD conformed to the consultation requirements of the SCI, the following pages detail the consultation that was undertaken.

### **Consultation on the Sustainable Community Strategy**

The Core Strategy is required to have strong links with the Borough's Sustainable Community Strategy. The Sustainable Community Strategy creates a long-term, sustainable vision for the Borough and determines local priorities. These priorities are based on a County-wide document called the Local Area Agreement.

The Sustainable Community Strategy is prepared by the Local Strategic Partnership. The 'Redditch Partnership' brings together the views of the local private, voluntary and community sectors to prepare and then implement the Sustainable Community Strategy for Redditch Borough. The draft Sustainable Community Strategy was placed on consultation at the same time as the Core Strategy Issues and Options document (9<sup>th</sup> May – 20<sup>th</sup> June 2008). The intention of this 'joint' consultation period was to prevent consultation fatigue for the general public, to ensure the public responded to the document they felt most appropriately dealt with their circumstances and to increase the availability of staff and budget resources to carry out effective consultation.

## **Series of events**

### **Document Availability**

Issues and Options Documents (including the supplementary questionnaire) and Sustainable Community Strategies, together with any supporting documentation, were available for inspection at the Planning Reception at Redditch Town Hall, Redditch Library, Mobile library, Woodrow library and Redditch One Stop Shops.

Additionally, all documents were placed on the Redditch Borough Council website. There was also an opportunity for people to fill out their questionnaire responses online (only for the Issues and Options questionnaire).

### **Displays and Exhibitions**

A number of displays and exhibitions concerning the consultation of the documents were undertaken at various locations around the Borough (see below). A mix of displays, daytime and evening exhibitions was used to allow the broadest range of the population to be consulted. The permanent display was in situ for the length of the consultation period. A daytime temporary exhibition or evening exhibition involved a member of the Development Plans team standing at the display to allow an opportunity for the general public to consult with a member of the Development Plans team and take a document and questionnaire if inclined.

#### **Permanent display**

- A permanent display in the Planning Reception at the Town Hall for the length of the consultation period.



- A permanent display in The Palace theatre for the length of the consultation period.



Temporary daytime exhibition

- 9<sup>th</sup> May Redditch Town Hall 10:00am – 4:00pm



- 17<sup>th</sup> May Redditch library, 9.30am-5pm



- 20<sup>th</sup> May Sainsbury's 10am-3pm
- 29<sup>th</sup> May Arrow Valley Countryside centre 10am-4pm



- 6<sup>th</sup> June Morrison's 10am-3pm
- 9<sup>th</sup> June Kingfisher centre 9am -5.30pm

Temporary evening exhibition

- 22<sup>nd</sup> May CR3 7-9pm, presentation @ 7.30
- 10<sup>th</sup> June CR3 7-9pm, presentation @ 7.30

**Neighbourhood Groups**

The two Documents under consultation were allocated as 'talk of the town items' on all Neighbourhood Group Agendas. A planner attended each meeting to discuss and answer any questions regarding the consultation period.

The neighbourhood groups that were attended by members of the Planning team include:

Abbeydale, Abbey Park, Riverside & Town Centre / PACT	7.00 PM Wed 4th June
Astwood Bank / PACT	7.30 PM Tue 24th June
Batchley & Brockhill / PACT	7.00 PM Mon 23rd June
Central and Southcrest / PACT	7.00 PM Mon 2nd June
Church Hill / PACT	7.00 PM Wed 4th June
Crabbs Cross, Callow Hill & Walkwood / PACT	7.00 PM Mon 23rd June
Greenlands, Woodrow & Wire Hill / PACT	7.00 PM Wed 4th June
Headless Cross / PACT	7.00 PM Mon 2nd June
Lodge Park, Lakeside/St. Georges / PACT	7.00 PM Mon 16th June
Matchborough / PACT	7.00 PM Wed 18th June
Oakenshaw / PACT	7.30 PM Mon 23rd June
Webheath / PACT	7.00 PM Mon 16th June
Winyates & Winyates Green / PACT	7.00 PM Mon 9th June

**Posters**

Posters were placed on all Redditch Borough Council notice boards during the consultation period (a copy of the poster can be seen at Appendix R).

### **Newspaper articles**

Two articles were issued during the consultation period. One appeared on the 9<sup>th</sup> May 2008 in The Standard, entitled '*Have your say on how to develop the town*' and another on the 30<sup>th</sup> May 2008 in The Standard, entitled '*Town's blueprint for a safer future*' (A copy of these articles can be seen in Appendix S).

### **Advert**

An advert was placed in The Standard on Friday May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2008 (the advert is the same as the poster and can be seen at Appendix R).

### **Correspondence**

Letters/ emails were sent to all statutory consultees and all parties that the Borough Council considered to have an interest in the Issues and Options Document. The correspondence detailed the role of the future Core Strategy and all of the consultation activities known at the time (a copy is attached in Appendix U). (On 31<sup>st</sup> January 2006 a letter was sent to everyone on the Council's consultation database asking which documents scheduled for production in the Local Development Scheme they wished to be consulted on. Everyone who requested to be consulted on the Core Strategy DPD was sent a letter).

### **Consultation calendar**

The consultation period for the Sustainable Community Strategy and the Issue and Options Consultation period were scheduled on Worcestershire County Council's online consultation calendar for the duration of the consultation period. The Consultation Planner and Finder bring together information about public consultation undertaken by Worcestershire County Council and other organisations.

### **Conclusion**

There is a statutory requirement to undertake pre-submission consultation prior to the submission stage. The Borough Council has found the early consultation, using a variety of methods, a useful tool for identifying some planning issues that need to be addressed in the Borough up to 2026 and giving the public the opportunity to consider the best approach for dealing with the identified issues. Offering a diverse and continued consultation opportunity has added considerable value to the development of the Core Strategy so far. The Council is grateful to all stakeholders and residents who have generously given their time.

**Appendix A:** Summary of comments received during the Core Strategy Pre-Issues and Options consultation period, and Officer responses can be viewed at the Council website ([www.redditchbc.gov.uk](http://www.redditchbc.gov.uk)) or under separate cover).



## Issues for the Development Plan Document

**Person 1:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Person 2:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Communities that are safe and feel safe

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

A better environment for today and tomorrow

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

Economic success that is shared by all

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

Improving health and well-being

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting the needs of children and young people

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

Stronger communities

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

Are there any areas of land that you are aware of that could possibly used for development?

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

## What do you think are the Issues for Redditch Borough?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

What would make your community better to live in?

Why?

What would make the environment better?

Why?

What would make the economy better?

Why?

What facilities would you like to see for children and young people?

Why?

What do you like about Redditch Borough and what should be kept in the future?

Why?

Thank you for helping us!



**Appendix D:** Letter sent to all those on the Development Plans database detailing the Citizen and Stakeholder Discussion Panels and other planning policy matters.

Our Ref: P301  
Contact: Alexa Williams Extn: 3376 or  
Alexa.williams@redditchbc.gov.uk  
Or Louise Brockett Extn: 3221 or  
Louise.brockett@redditchbc.gov.uk

Date as postmark

Dear Sir/Madam

Please find below details of opportunities to have your say on two new planning documents – the Core Strategy Development Plan Document and a Supplementary Planning Document on Affordable Housing. There are also details of six Supplementary Planning Documents that have recently been adopted by the Council.

**Your chance to have a say on the future of planning in Redditch Borough**

The Development Plans team is working on the Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD). This forms part of the Local Development Framework (LDF) for the Borough and will be the main planning document for the Borough up to 2026. The first stage in the production of the Core Strategy is to identify planning issues that relate to the Borough of Redditch.

The leaflet enclosed has information on how you can get involved by taking part in one or more of our citizen or stakeholder discussion panels. This is your opportunity to tell us what you think are the planning issues in your local area and across the Borough.

We want as many people as possible to join the discussion panels and we look forward to meeting you there.

**Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) Consultation**

The Borough Council has prepared a Draft SPD - Affordable housing provision for public consultation. The consultation period will begin on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2007 and run until 16<sup>th</sup> November 2007.

The Draft SPD originally went out to public consultation 31 October-12 December 2006. However, during this time a number of key documents were published (these include PPS 3 'Housing', the Code for Sustainable Homes and the Design and Quality Standards). The Council considered it important to include the provisions of these documents within the SPD in addition to other suggested changes as a result of public consultation and other minor amendments. As these changes overall are substantial to the document, it is necessary for the SPD to be subject to another period of public consultation.

The revised Affordable Housing Provision Draft SPD sets out the Borough Council's negotiating position for affordable housing and draws attention to the areas in need of consideration when applying for a housing scheme.

Copies of the Draft SPD are available for inspection at the locations detailed below. Hard copies are also available on request from the Development Plans team.

Should you have any queries about these matters or require any further information regarding the SPD, please contact Louise Brockett (Development Plans Team).

We are inviting comments on the Draft SPD which must be received no later than 5pm on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2007 and should be sent in writing to John Staniland at the Development Plans Team at the address on the letterhead.

### **Adopted Supplementary Planning Documents**

The Council has now adopted six Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs). Each SPD provides more detailed guidance and information on policies within Local Plan No.3 (adopted May 31<sup>st</sup> 2006) (Local Plan No.3 covers the whole of the administrative area of Redditch and sets out detailed land use policies which guide development).

Each SPD was subject to a statutory six week consultation period; a summary of the responses received and the Council's response can be viewed alongside the SPDs at the locations listed below.

The six SPD's are as follows:

- **Church Road, Town Centre (Formally known as the North West Quadrant).** This SPD provides more detailed guidance on issues contained in the Borough of Redditch Local Plan No.3 Policy E(TCR).6. 'North West Quadrant'. Specifically the SPD is a development brief to inform and guide development within the Church Road site.
- **Church Hill District Centre Development Brief.** This SPD provides more detailed guidance on issues contained within the Borough of Redditch Local Plan No.3 Policy E(TCR).9. 'District Centres' and E(TCR).10. 'District Centre Redevelopment'. Specifically the SPD provides a planning policy framework for the possible re-development of Church Hill District Centre.
- **Edward Street.** This SPD provides more detailed guidance on issues contained within the Borough of Redditch Local Plan No.3 Policy E(EMP).5 'Edward Street Site'. Specifically the SPD has been prepared in order to provide planning and urban design guidance for the future re-development of the Edward Street site. It is hoped that re-development of the site will make the "gateway" to Redditch more attractive to train passengers.
- **Land to the Rear of Alexandra Hospital Development Brief.** This SPD provides more detailed guidance on issues contained within the Borough of Redditch Local Plan No.3 Policy E(EMP).1. 'Employment Provision'. Specifically the SPD has been prepared in order to guide the development of employment site IN 69 under Local Plan No.3. A parcel of land to the rear of the Alexandra Hospital is designated for two hectares of employment land.
- **Open Space Provision.** This SPD provides more detailed guidance on issues contained within the Borough of Redditch Local Plan No.3 'Provision of Informal Unrestricted Open Spaces', R.4 'Provision and Location of Children's Play Area's' and R.5 'Playing Pitch Provision'. Specifically the SPD provides detailed guidance on the relevant level of planning obligations to be sought from developers in relation to new housing developments. It is anticipated this SPD will be applied to all new developments across the Borough.

- **Prospect Hill, Town Centre.** This SPD aims to guide re-development of the Prospect Hill site. It provides more detailed guidance on issues contained within the Borough of Redditch Local Plan No.3 Policy B(HSG).1. 'Housing Provision'. Specifically the SPD has been prepared in order to guide the development of a reserve housing site identified for possible residential development in the Borough of Redditch Local Plan No.3. The site is brownfield land in private ownership and has the capacity for 61 dwellings.

**Viewing documents**

All SPDs can be viewed on the Council's Website [www.redditchbc.gov.uk](http://www.redditchbc.gov.uk) or at the following locations:

- Redditch Town Hall (Planning Reception), Monday-Friday 9am-5pm
- One Stop Shops (Batchley, Winyates and Woodrow) Monday-Friday 9am-5pm
- Redditch Library, Woodrow Library and Mobile Library

If you would like further information on any of the above items please do not hesitate to contact the Development Plans Team on 01527 64252 or e-mail [devplans@redditchbc.gov.uk](mailto:devplans@redditchbc.gov.uk).

Yours faithfully,



Alexa Williams  
Planning Officer

### When?

**Response Form**

Name

Address

Organisation you represent (if any)

Email

Daytime Tel No.

Do you prefer to be contacted: (Please tick the appropriate box)

Letter  e-mail

Would you like to be considered for:

Citizens Panel  or Stakeholder Panel

Topic areas	Citizens panel	Stakeholder panel
Economy	<input type="checkbox"/> 12.11.07	<input type="checkbox"/> 15.11.07
Health and well being	<input type="checkbox"/> 22.11.07	<input type="checkbox"/> 26.11.07
Communities that are safe Children and young people Stronger communities	<input type="checkbox"/> 30.11.07	<input type="checkbox"/> 03.12.07
Better environment	<input type="checkbox"/> 06.12.07	<input type="checkbox"/> 11.12.07
Development strategy	<input type="checkbox"/> 08.01.08	<input type="checkbox"/> 10.01.08
Housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate change	<input type="checkbox"/> 15.11.08	<input type="checkbox"/> 17.01.08

Please return completed forms to the address below or send your contact details and the panels you would like to attend by e-mail to [devplans@redditchbc.gov.uk](mailto:devplans@redditchbc.gov.uk)

If you have any special requirements please let us know in advance of the panels and we will do our best to accommodate them.

**Development Plans, Redditch Borough Council  
Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch,  
Worcestershire B98 8AH**

**Telephone: 01 527 64252**

**E-mail: [devplans@redditchbc.gov.uk](mailto:devplans@redditchbc.gov.uk)**

If you have any questions or would like further information please contact the Development Plans team.

If you'd like to take part please complete the response form overleaf and return it to us by

**Monday 15th October 2007**

We'll contact you shortly afterwards to tell you what happens next.

Copies of Council publications can be made available in large print, Braille or audio cassette.  
Call 01527 64252 x 3002

اپ انگریزی میں مدد چاہتے ہیں۔ نسلیاتی رسائی  
01905 25121 سے رابطہ کریں لیلینون: [Ethnic Access]  
ইংরেজি ভাষায় বিয়ে সাহায্য চান - এথনিক অ্যাকসেস্  
[Ethnic Access] এর সাথে যোগাযোগ করুন, টেলিফোন: 01905 25121  
Potrzebujesz pomocy z Angielskim - skontaktuj się z  
Ethnic Access Tel: 01905 25121'

0907 ref: 0365

**We want your views on the future of Redditch**

**If you have any ideas about planning the future of Redditch then please join our discussion panels.**

**REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL**

*making a difference*

[www.redditchbc.gov.uk](http://www.redditchbc.gov.uk)





## Why?

The Development Plans team are working on the Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD). This forms part of the Local Development Framework (LDF) for the Borough and will replace Local Plan No.3 once completed. The Core Strategy will be the main planning document for the Borough. It will set out the aims and vision of the Borough of Redditch up to 2026 and will contain planning policies.

The first stage in the production of the Core Strategy is to identify planning issues that relate to the Borough of Redditch. We need your help to identify and develop these issues. We want to know what you think the planning issues are in your local area and across the Borough.

To do this we are holding a series of Stakeholder and Citizens Panels to give you the opportunity to discuss the future of Redditch Borough with your Planning Officers.

## Who?

We want a variety of people from different backgrounds to join our panels. It doesn't matter if you're young or old, what your ethnic background is, whether you're new to the town or have lived here all of your life or if you work or not.

We also want representatives from all kinds of local businesses and organisations. It doesn't matter if you represent a new business or long standing firm, local group or regional development consultancy.

All of your views are important to us.



## Where?

The dates of the panels and the topics to be discussed are detailed on the response form overleaf. We want to make the sessions flexible - some issues may take longer than others to discuss - its up to you. We would like people to arrive at 9.30am to start at 10am and expect to finish about 1pm.

We anticipate that some people may only be interested in certain issues and so we want to give you the opportunity to choose which sessions you want to attend or all of them if you prefer and if places permit.

The panels will take place at the Town Hall in Redditch. Lunch will be provided and refreshments throughout the day.

## What?

Citizens Panels will be made up of around 10 - 15 local residents. The Stakeholder Panels will have a similar number of people who represent local businesses, developers, local services and organisations with an interest in Redditch Borough.

As shown overleaf, each panel meeting will discuss different key themes, i.e. the economy, health and well being, communities and children and young people, the environment, development strategy and housing and climate change. The panel discussing the Development Strategy will consider the vision and aims and overarching policies for the Borough.

## How?

Panellists will:

- work as part of a team
- take an active role in finding out about planning in Redditch
- discuss the planning issues that affect Redditch

Panellists need to:

- be interested in and care about Redditch
- work well as part of a team
- take on board other people's views
- put forward their own ideas.



**Appendix F:** A4 poster advertising the Citizen and Stakeholder Discussion Panels.



# We want your views on the future of Redditch

**The Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD) will be the main planning document for Redditch. The first stage is to identify and develop planning issues that relate to the Borough.**

The Council is holding a series of discussion panels to get the views of residents and stakeholders throughout November, December and January.

Each panel will discuss different key themes including the economy, health and well being, communities and children and young people, the environment, development strategy and housing and climate change.

To register or for more information please contact the **Development Plans team** on **01527 64252 x 3376 or 3221** or e-mail [devplans@redditchbc.gov.uk](mailto:devplans@redditchbc.gov.uk) . Details can also be found at [www.redditchbc.gov.uk](http://www.redditchbc.gov.uk)

**The closing date to register to take part in the discussion panels is Monday 15th October.**

0907 ref:0368



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**Appendix G:** Press release sent to local media to advertise the Citizen and Stakeholder discussion panels

# Press Release

For Immediate Release

Date: 25th September 2007

Ref: HH 295/07



## Council seeks your planning views

Redditch Borough Council is inviting people to tell it what they think are the planning issues of the future.

The Council's Development Plans team are holding discussion panels this autumn to give residents and stakeholders the chance to discuss their ideas and help plan the future of the borough.

The team are working on the Core Strategy Development Plan Document, which will be the main planning tool for Redditch Borough.

It will set out the aims and vision for Redditch up to 2026 and the first stage in its production is to identify planning issues.

The discussion panels will take place during November, December and January and will be held at the Town Hall.

The citizens panels will each be made up of around 10-15 local residents. The stakeholder panels will have a similar number of people from local businesses, developers, local services and organisations.

Each panel will discuss a different key theme, including the economy, health and well being, communities and children and young people, the environment, development strategy and housing and climate change.

Anyone who would like to register, or get more information can contact the Development Plans team by calling (01527) 64252 or by e-mail at [devplans@redditchbc.gov.uk](mailto:devplans@redditchbc.gov.uk). Details of the panels can also be found at [www.redditchbc.gov.uk](http://www.redditchbc.gov.uk). The closing date to register to take part in the discussion panels is Monday, October 15th.

For more information contact the Press Office on 01527 534 007

Redditch Borough Council. Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch Worcestershire.  
B98 8AH.

Tel: (01527) 534007 or 64252. Fax : (01527) 65216. [www.redditchbc.gov.uk](http://www.redditchbc.gov.uk)

**Appendix H:** Article appearing in the Redditch Advertiser, 26<sup>th</sup> September 2007 advertising the Citizen and Stakeholder Discussion Panels.

**Press release in Redditch Advertiser on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September advertising the citizen and stakeholder discussion panels.**

8 REDDITCH ADVERTISER, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2007

# Ideas sought on planning issues

RESIDENTS are being asked what they think the planning issues of the future are by Redditch Council.

The council's development plans team will be holding discussion panels this autumn to give residents and stakeholders the chance to discuss their ideas and help plan the future of the borough.

The team are working on the core strategy development plan document, which will be the main planning tool for Redditch.

It will set out the aims and vision for the town up to

2026 and the first stage in its production is to identify planning issues.

The discussion panels will take place during November, December and January and will be held at the town hall, Walter Stranz Square.

The citizens panels will each be made up of around 10-15 local residents. The stakeholder panels will have a similar number of people from local businesses, developers, local services and organisations.

Each panel will discuss a different key theme, includ-

ing the economy, health and well being, communities and children and young people, the environment, development strategy and housing and climate change.

Anyone who would like to register, or get more information can contact the development plans team by calling 64252 or by email at [devplans@redditchbc.gov.uk](mailto:devplans@redditchbc.gov.uk).

Details of the panels can also be found on the site. The closing date to register to take part in the discussion panels is Monday, October 15.

**Appendix I:** Press release sent to local media to inform of the extension to the Citizen and Stakeholder discussion panels.

# Press Release

For Immediate Release

Date: 17th October 2007

Ref: HH 309/07



## Deadline extended for planning panels

The deadline has been extended for taking part in the Council's discussion panels to help plan the future of the borough.

The new deadline for applying to be on the citizens and stakeholder panels is Monday, October 29<sup>th</sup>.

The Council's Development Plans team are working on the Core Strategy Development Plan Document, which will be the main planning tool for Redditch Borough.

It will set out the aims and vision for Redditch up to 2026 and the first stage in its production is to identify planning issues.

The discussion panels will take place during November, December and January and will be held at the Town Hall.

The citizens panels will each be made up of around 10-15 local residents. The stakeholder panels will have a similar number of people from local businesses, developers, local services and organisations.

Each panel will discuss a different key theme, including the economy, health and well being, communities and children and young people, the environment, development strategy and housing and climate change.

Anyone who would like to register, or get more information can contact the Development Plans team by calling (01527) 64252 or by e-mail at [devplans@redditchbc.gov.uk](mailto:devplans@redditchbc.gov.uk). Details of the panels can also be found at [www.redditchbc.gov.uk](http://www.redditchbc.gov.uk).

For more information contact the Press Office on 01527 534007

Redditch Borough Council. Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch Worcestershire. B98 8AH.

Tel: (01527) 534007 or 64252. Fax : (01527) 65216. [www.redditchbc.gov.uk](http://www.redditchbc.gov.uk)

**Appendix J:** Article appearing in the Redditch Standard, Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2008 and Redditch Advertiser Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2008 advertising Planning Information Day.

<h2>Planning information event</h2>		
<p>RESIDENTS can learn about their local planning system next week at an information day at the Town Hall.</p>	<p>ing how planning works in the borough at the Council Chamber on Thursday, April 10 from 10am to 9pm.</p>	<p>Strategy will be held at 11am, 1pm, 3pm, 5pm and 7pm.</p>
<p>Redditch Borough Council's planning services will be explain-</p>	<p>Brief presentations about the West Midlands Regional Spatial</p>	<p>For more information call the planning services team on 01527 84252 or email <a href="mailto:developmentcontrol@redditchbc.gov.uk">developmentcontrol@redditchbc.gov.uk</a>.</p>

*Redditch Standard,  
Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2008*

REDDITCH ADVERTISER, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 2008 25

## Information day about planning

PEOPLE who want to know how the planning system works can attend an information day tomorrow. Redditch Council planning services will be holding a planning information day in the council chamber at the town hall from 10am-9pm. People can find out about the plan making process, permitted development rights, the

planning application process, Tree Preservation Orders and High Hedges, planning enforcement, planning appeals and E-Planning. A brief presentation will also be given at 11am, 1pm, 3pm, 5pm and 7pm. Members of the planning services team will be available to answer specific questions and to help people discover more about the planning process.

Appendix K: A5 postcard invitation to Planning Information Day.


**Want to know how the Planning System works?**  
This is your invitation to

Redditch Borough Council's

# Planning Information Day


**When:** Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2008  
**Time:** 10:00am until 9:00pm  
**Where:** Council Chamber, Town Hall,  
Walter Stranz Square, Redditch, B98 8AH

Come along and find out about




local  
Development  
Framework


The Plan  
Making Process




Tree Preservation Orders  
High Hedges




PLANNING  
FORUM  
e-planning



APP  
The Planning Application  
Process



Planning  
Enforcement




Permitted  
Development  
Rights

A brief presentation will be given at 11am, 1pm, 3pm, 5pm and 7pm including information on the West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy. Members of the Planning Services team will be available throughout the day and evening so drop in at any time whether you have a specific question to ask or simply want to enjoy a cup of tea and discover more about the Planning Process!


This event is open to everyone so please mention it to anyone you think might be interested.

For further information please contact:

**Alexa Williams** or **Lyndsey Hadley**  
01527 64252 ext. 3376 or 3401  
alex.williams@redditchbc.gov.uk  
lyndsey.hadley@redditchbc.gov.uk



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# Want to know how the Planning System works?

Then come along to

Redditch Borough Council's

# Planning Information Day


You can find out about




**Local Development Framework**

The Plan Making Process


Permitted Development Rights






Tree Preservation Orders  
High Hedges

e-planning



PLANNING PORTAL



**APP**  
The Planning Application Process


**Planning Enforcement**

**When:** Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2008  
**Time:** 10:00am until 9:00pm  
**Where:** Council Chamber, Town Hall,  
Walter Stranz Square, Redditch, B98 8AH


A brief presentation will be given at 11am, 1pm, 3pm, 5pm and 7pm including information on the West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy. Members of the Planning Services team will be available throughout the day and evening so drop in at any time whether you have a specific question to ask or simply want to enjoy a cup of tea and discover more about the Planning Process!

This event is open to everyone so please mention it to anyone you think might be interested.

For further information please contact:  
**Alexa Williams** or **Lyndsey Hadley**  
01527 64252 ext. 3376 or 3401  
alex.williams@redditchbc.gov.uk  
lyndsey.hadley@redditchbc.gov.uk



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**Appendix M:** Summary of representations received during the Core Strategy Issues and Options consultation period and Council Responses. This document can be found at the Council website (<http://www.redditchbc.gov.uk/>) or is available under separate cover.

**Appendix N:** The poster that was displayed on all Redditch Borough Council display boards (and was also used as an advert in The Standard on Friday May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008).

# A snapshot of the future

## Have your say in planning the future development of Redditch

As Redditch Borough Council prepares to develop a future vision for the town, it is offering residents, workers and visitors the opportunity to contribute to the development of Redditch. The Issues and Options Document and Sustainable Community Strategy for Redditch will inform key decisions on the Borough's future and are being made available for public consultation.

**The Issues and Options Document:**  
As part of the Local Development Framework, the Council's Development Plans Team is currently working on the Core Strategy Development Plan Document. This sets out the long-term vision and objectives of the Borough of Redditch up to 2026 and replaces the current Local Plan No.3. The Core Strategy will guide major decisions in Redditch including those relating to new housing and employment. The first formal stage in the preparation of the Core Strategy is the creation of the Issues and Options Document. This highlights the matters relevant to Redditch Borough (Issues) and the possible solutions for the improvement of these issues (Options). The Issues and Options document is relevant to all aspects of life in Redditch and has been created following consultation with interested community stakeholders. Some of the issues on which the Council is seeking feedback include:

**Housing and employment** - Meeting regional requirements for housing and employment provision is an important consideration for the Core Strategy. This will mean lots of development on Greenfield land.

**The Rural Area and open space** - The Issues and Options Document considers the importance of the Borough's development in relation to the need to protect the countryside's character, Green Belt and open spaces within the urban area.

**Transport** - We need to think about how to get more people to walk, cycle and use the bus.

**The Town Centre** - The new plan will need to make sure that the Town Centre has more shops and offices.

The new plan explores the ways in which existing buildings could be adapted and new buildings designed, to deal with the effects of climate change.

Other key areas of concern cover where development should go, how it should look, health and tourism and designing out crime within Redditch Borough.

**The Sustainable Community Strategy:**  
The Sustainable Community Strategy is a key document in delivering the goals and aspirations of the Redditch Partnership. It outlines the direction and long-term vision for Redditch Borough with the aim of improving the economic, environmental and social wellbeing of the area for local people both now and in the future. The Sustainable Community Strategy consultation document presents a series of draft proposals for tackling some of the main concerns affecting the Redditch community. It will therefore have a significant influence on the future of the local community.

### Your Views and Comments:

Redditch Borough Council is offering the opportunity for people to comment on both the Issues and Options Document and the Sustainable Community Strategy during a 6-week consultation period from Friday 9th May to Friday 20th June 2008. If you are at all interested in having a say in the future of Redditch Borough, your feedback is welcomed.

**To find out more:**  
Redditch Borough Council will be holding the following exhibitions and drop-in sessions for those wishing to find out more about the Issues and Options Document or the Sustainable Community Strategy:

When	Where
<b>Friday 9th May</b> 10am – 4pm A brief presentation will be given at 11am, 1pm and 3pm	Committee Room 3, Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch
<b>Saturday 17th May</b> 9.30 am – 5pm	Redditch Library, 15 Market Place, Redditch
<b>Thursday 22nd May</b> 7pm – 9pm A brief presentation will be given at 7.30pm	Committee Room 3, Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch
<b>Thursday 29th May</b> 10am – 4pm	Arrow Valley Countryside Centre, Batters Drive, Winyates, Redditch
<b>Monday 9th June</b> 9am – 5.30pm	Kingfisher Shopping Centre
<b>Tuesday 10th June</b> 7pm – 9pm A brief presentation will be given at 7.30pm	Committee Room 3, Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch

The Issues and Options Document and the Sustainable Community Strategy can also be viewed on the Council's website, where you can access and complete the Issues and Options questionnaire: ([www.redditchbc.gov.uk](http://www.redditchbc.gov.uk)).

Alternatively, the documents and questionnaire will be made available at the following locations:

- ▶ Redditch Town Hall (Planning Reception), Mon-Fri 9am-5pm
- ▶ One Stop Shops (Batchley, Winyates and Woodrow) Mon-Fri 9am-5pm
- ▶ Redditch Library, Woodrow Library and Mobile Library

For those seeking more information on the Issues and Options Document or Core Strategy please contact the Development Plans Team on 01527 64252 ext. 3219 or [devplans@redditchbc.gov.uk](mailto:devplans@redditchbc.gov.uk).

For those seeking more information on the Sustainable Community Strategy please contact Matthew Borough on 0152764252 ext. 3120.

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0408 160459

**Appendix O:** Press release sent to the media advertising the consultation period for the Issues and Options Document and the Sustainable Community Strategy.

## Press Release

For Immediate Release

Date: 2 May 2008

Ref: SB 412/08



## Local people to help shape future Redditch Borough

From Friday 9 May until Friday 20 June, Redditch Borough Council is offering residents, workers and visitors the opportunity to contribute to the future development of Redditch.

The Issues and Options Document and Sustainable Community Strategy for Redditch will contribute towards key decisions on the Borough's future over the next 20 years and are being made available for public consultation.

The outcomes of this consultation will bring the vision for Redditch in 2026 into reality. This is for Redditch to be successful and vibrant, with sustainable communities built on partnership and shared responsibility, with people who are proud that they live or work in Redditch.

That means a town that is distinctively green, highly accessible, culturally and ecologically rich, and the safest town in England. It aims to have achieved regeneration of its pockets of deprived areas and the Borough will have attractive facilities, vibrant centres, diverse employment areas, new housing of the best possible quality, with development that has been carbon neutral for many years. The residents of Redditch Borough will be healthy and highly skilled.

People are encouraged to take part in the consultation, and can fill in all of the questionnaires or just complete the parts they feel are most relevant to them.

**John Staniland, Head of Planning at Redditch Borough Council** said:

“This is an important and far-reaching chance for people to get involved in shaping the future of their town. Whether people live, work or visit Redditch, we want to hear their views over the next six weeks.”

“The Council is having the public consultation about both of these subjects at the same time because a number of issues are related. Redditch Borough Council is undertaking the Sustainable Community Strategy on behalf of the Redditch Partnership. Doing the consultations together makes sense. It's more efficient and allows the Council to take a more 'joined up' approach.”

There will be consultation events around the Borough for members of the public to get involved: on Friday 9 May at Redditch Town Hall; on Saturday 17 May at Redditch Library; Thursday 22 May at Redditch Town Hall; Thursday 29 May at Arrow Valley Countryside Centre; on Monday 9 June at the Kingfisher Shopping Centre; and on Tuesday 10 June at Redditch Town Hall.

The questionnaires are available for completion on the Redditch Borough Council website ([www.redditchbc.gov.uk](http://www.redditchbc.gov.uk)). Paper copies are also available, and can be returned in Freepost envelopes.

The Core Strategy forms part of the Local Development Framework, which Redditch Borough Council will use in the future to guide its planning and development in the Borough. The Sustainable Community Strategy is decided upon by a range of local partners who form the Redditch Partnership, Redditch's Local Strategic Partnership. Both the Core Strategy and the Sustainable Community Strategy will show how the priorities for Redditch will be met. The priorities reflect the six themes which are contained in the Worcestershire Local Area Agreement.

#### **Notes to editors**

**1** Redditch Borough Council will be holding the following exhibitions and drop-in sessions for people wishing to find out more about the Issues and Options Document or the Sustainable Community Strategy:

##### **Friday 9 May**

10am-4pm

Committee Room 3, Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch

A brief presentation will be given at 11am, 1pm and 3pm

##### **Saturday 17 May**

9.30am-5pm

Redditch Library, 15 Market Place, Redditch

##### **Thursday 22 May**

7pm-9pm

Committee Room 3, Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch Borough Council

A brief presentation will be given at 7.30pm

##### **Thursday 29 May**

10am-4pm

Arrow Valley Countryside Centre, Battens Drive, Winyates, Redditch

##### **Monday 9 June**

9am-5.30pm

Kingfisher Shopping Centre

##### **Tuesday 10 June**

7pm-9pm

Committee Room 3, Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch

A brief presentation will be given at 7.30pm.

- 2** The questionnaires will also be available at the following locations:
- Redditch Town Hall (Planning Reception) Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

- One Stop Shops (Batchley, Winyates and Woodrow) Mon-Fri 9am-5pm
- Redditch Library, Woodrow Library and mobile library

### **3 What is the Local Development Framework?**

The Framework is what Redditch Borough Council will use in the future to guide its planning and development in the Borough. It will replace what is currently used, which is Local Plan 3. The Core Strategy will form part of this Framework.

### **4 What is the Core Strategy?**

The Core Strategy will be the principal planning document for Redditch Borough Council. It will be part of the Local Development Framework. The full title is the Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD). It is the strategic planning document that will guide growth in the area up to 2026.

### **5 What is the Development Plan (DP)?**

This is the 'rule book' for Planning Committee decisions. There must be very good reasons to take decisions which do not fit the 'rules'. The Core Strategy decisions must be consistent with the Development Plan (DP) guidelines. The Development Plan for the Borough is made up of the Regional Spatial Strategy and the Local Development Framework (which are Development Plan Documents, or DPD's).

### **6 What is the Regional Spatial Strategy?**

This is the government (Regional Assembly)'s document about how the region will develop over the next 20 years, including housing, office and manufacturing requirements and locations.

### **7 What is the Redditch Local Strategic Partnership (LSP)?**

The Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) is responsible for preparing the Sustainable Community Strategy, managing its implementation and reporting upon the delivery of its actions. The 'Redditch Partnership' (our LSP) brings together a range of statutory and non statutory agencies and organisations from the community, voluntary and business sectors to work effectively in support of each other on a number of different local schemes and initiatives. The work of the Partnership is based on a common purpose and these agencies have committed themselves to achieve the vision and priorities that the Sustainable Community Strategy sets out. The priorities are based on the six themes of the Local Area Agreement.

### **8 What are the six Local Area Agreement themes?**

- Communities that are safe and feel safe
- A better environment – for today and tomorrow
- Economic success that is shared by all
- Improving health and well being
- Meeting the needs of children and young people
- Stronger communities.

### **9 What is the Sustainable Community Strategy?**

This is a key document in delivering the goals and aspirations of the Redditch Partnership. It outlines the direction and long-term vision for Redditch Borough and focuses on activity needed in the short term (2008 – 2013) with the aim of improving the economic, environmental and social wellbeing of the area helping to improve the lives of local people both now and in the future. The Sustainable Community Strategy consultation document presents a series of draft proposals for tackling some of the main concerns affecting the Redditch community. It will therefore have a significant influence on the future of the local community.

The Core Strategy sets out the spatial aspects of the Sustainable Community Strategy using the Local Area Agreement themes.

For more information call the Press Office on 01527 534007.

**Redditch Borough Council. Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch  
Worcestershire. B98 8AH.**

**Tel: (01527) 534007 or 64252. Fax : (01527) 65216.  
[www.redditchbc.gov.uk](http://www.redditchbc.gov.uk)**



**Appendix P:** A second Press release sent to the media advertising the consultation period for the Issues and Options Document and the Sustainable Community Strategy.

## Press Release

For Immediate Release

Date: 15 05 2008

Ref: LS 419/08



## Consultations on town's future get under way

Redditch Borough Council's consultations on two key documents which play a huge part in the future development of the town got under way with a drop-in for the public last week.

And residents are asked to continue finding out how to have their say throughout May and June as further events are planned. The Borough Council is asking the public's view on two areas: the Council's own Issues and Options document and the overarching Sustainable Community Strategy which has been drawn up by the Redditch Partnership. The Council wants feedback on how those who live, work and visit Redditch feel it should develop over the next 20 years.

Residents' views are sought on the number of houses being built in the town, employment and tourism opportunities, the infrastructure needed to support any development and ensuring that keeping communities safe is a key part of the planning process. Respondents are asked to fill in a questionnaire outlining any issues they feel need highlighting.

The consultation started with a display at the Town Hall on Friday (May 9), which was well attended throughout the day. Residents can continue to find out more about the key subjects at a number of events around the town over the next few weeks.

**Angie Heighway, Redditch Borough Council's Head of Strategy and Partnerships, acting on behalf of the Redditch Partnership,** said: "These two documents are vitally important in setting out how Redditch will evolve over the coming decades. They will play a part in laying down the policies we will use to plan the Redditch of the future, and for that reason it's imperative that residents feed into the process now, rather than further down the line.

"Some people may feel that these documents aren't relevant to them, but you've only got to look at how much Redditch has changed over the past 20 years to see that it's important to shape issues sooner rather than later."

**Ruth Bamford, Redditch Borough Council's Development Plans Manager,** added: "Our first event went really well and we had a lot of interesting feedback from those that came along. These are very detailed issues that we're dealing with, but those residents that came along seemed to understand them well.

“Hopefully this was because our officers were on hand to explain the more complex matters we’re trying to deal with. It therefore makes sense for residents to come along to all the other public meetings we’re holding, starting this Saturday.”

The events will take place at:

**Saturday, May 17**, Redditch Library, 15 Market Place, 9.30am - 5pm.

**Tuesday, May 20**, Sainsbury’s supermarket, Abbey Trading Estate, 10am – 3pm.

**Thursday, May 22**, Committee Room 3, Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch Borough Council, 7pm - 9pm. A brief presentation will be given at 7.30pm.

**Thursday, May 29**, Arrow Valley Countryside Centre, Battens Drive, 10am - 4pm.

**Friday, June 6**, Morrison’s supermarket, Warwick Highway, Winyates, 10am – 3pm.

**Monday, June 9**, Kingfisher Shopping Centre, 9am - 5.30pm.

**Tuesday, June 10**, Committee Room 3, Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch, 7pm - 9pm. A brief presentation will be given at 7.30pm.

Questionnaires are available for completion on the Redditch Borough Council website ([www.redditchbc.gov.uk](http://www.redditchbc.gov.uk)). Paper copies are also available at Redditch Town Hall (Planning Reception) Mon-Fri 9am-5pm, One Stop Shops (Batchley, Winyates and Woodrow) Mon-Fri 9am-5pm, Redditch Library, Woodrow Library and the mobile library and can be returned in Freepost envelopes.

### Notes to editors

- 1 A photograph of Redditch Borough Council’s Planning team members Alexa Williams and Ashley Baldwin at the first exhibition is attached.

For more information call the Press Office on 01527 534007

**Redditch Borough Council. Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch Worcestershire. B98 8AH.**

**Tel: (01527) 534007 or 64252. Fax : (01527) 65216. [www.redditchbc.gov.uk](http://www.redditchbc.gov.uk)**



www.redditchstandard.co.uk The Standard, Friday May 30, 2008

# Have your say on how to develop the town

CONSULTATIONS on the town's future are under way as residents have attended drop-in sessions at venues across the town.

**Lianne Cooper**

And Redditch Borough Council is urging members of the public to continue having their say throughout June.

Meetings throughout May gave visitors the chance to look through displays on plans for future development, view presentations and put forward questions to council officers.

The council is asking the public's view on two areas - its own Issues and Options document and the Sustainable Community Strategy, which has been drawn up by the Redditch Partnership - and wants feedback on how those who live and work in Redditch as well as those who visit the town feel it should develop over the next 20 years.

Residents' views are sought on the number of houses being built in the town, employment and tourism opportunities, the infrastructure needed to support any development and ensuring that keeping communities safe is a key part of the planning process.

Respondents are asked to fill in a questionnaire outlining any issues they feel need highlighting.

Angie Heighway, the council's head of strategy and partnerships, acting on behalf of the Redditch Partnership, said: "These two documents are vitally important in setting out how Redditch will evolve over the coming decades.

"They will play a part in laying down the policies we will use to plan the Redditch of the future, and for that reason it's imperative that residents feed into the process now, rather than further down the line.

"Some people may feel that these documents are not relevant to them, but you've only got to look at how much Redditch has changed over the past 30 years to see that it's important to shape issues sooner rather than later."

Questionnaires are available for completion at www.redditchthe.gov.uk and paper copies are also available at the

Town Hall, One Stop Shops in Batchley, Winayates and Woodrow, Redditch Central Library, Woodrow Library and mobile libraries.



Redditch Borough Council's planning team members, Alexa Williams and Ashley Baldwin, at the first exhibition. (s)

# Town's blueprint for a safer future

REDDITCH will be the safest town in England by 2026 - that is the bold claim contained in the council's latest development strategy.

As Redditch Borough Council prepares to launch a consultation period for its Issues and Options Document and Sustainable Community Strategy today (Friday May 9), promises have already been made for the town to be "distinctively green, highly accessible, culturally and ecologically rich, and the safest town in England" within 20 years.

A spokesperson for the council added: "Redditch will have achieved regeneration of its pockets of deprived areas and the borough will have attractive facilities, vibrant centres, diverse employment areas and new housing of the best possible quality with development that will have been carbon neutral for many years.

"And the people of Redditch will be healthy and highly skilled."

Residents, workers and visitors to the town are being asked to put their views forward on the strategy over the next six weeks.

However, Conservative group leader Carolie Gandy urged caution, saying she would make no actual promises that the town would be the safest in the country by the next 20 years, we will do our utmost to make sure Redditch is a safer town," she told The Standard.

"But to compare ourselves to other towns, especially those with smaller populations, would be wrong. I am not a fan of league tables and charts - it is no good if Redditch is the safest town in England compared to others if it is still unsafe generally.

"We will be working closely with the police over this period to combat antisocial behaviour, vandalism and crime to make Redditch as safe as possible."

John Stanland, head of planning at the council, said the strategy was an important and far-reaching chance for people to get involved in shaping the future of their town.

"Whether people live, work in or just visit Redditch, we want to hear their views over the next six weeks," he said.

The council is undertaking the strategy on behalf of the Redditch Partnership, an umbrella group which takes in local authorities, emergency services and health groups across the town.

Exhibitions and drop-in sessions for residents wishing to find out more about the strategy will be taking place across the town over the coming weeks.

To find out more call 01827 65216.

Head of planning John Stanland gets started on shaping the future of Redditch. (s)



The Standard, Friday May 9, 2008



**Appendix R:** The letter sent to consultees informing them of the consultation period

Our Ref: P301  
Contact: Alexa Williams Extn: 3376  
Alexa.williams@redditchbc.gov.uk  
Or Louise Brockett Extn: 3221  
Louise.brockett@redditchbc.gov.uk

Date as postmark

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Core Strategy Issues and Options and  
Sustainable Community Strategy Consultation**  
**9<sup>th</sup> May – 20<sup>th</sup> June 2008**

The Core Strategy and the Sustainable Community Strategy are two key documents in delivering the goals and aspirations of Redditch Borough's community. The Core Strategy is the spatial delivery of the goals within the Sustainable Community Strategy and therefore these two documents and consultation periods are delivered together.

The Development Plans team is working on the Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD). This forms part of the Local Development Framework (LDF) for the Borough and will be the main planning document for the Borough up to 2026. Once adopted the Core Strategy will replace Local Plan No.3 It will set out the aims and vision of the Borough of Redditch up to 2026 and will contain planning policies.

The first formal stage in the preparation of the Core Strategy is called Issues and Options. The Issues and Options Document highlights the matters relevant to Redditch Borough (Issues) and the ways in which these issues can be combated through the application of planning policy (Options).

If you would like to comment on the Issues and Options document please complete the questionnaire which can be found at [www.redditchbc.gov.uk](http://www.redditchbc.gov.uk). You can also complete the questionnaire at the locations detailed below.

Although it is not statutory to do so at this stage, a draft Sustainability Appraisal has been completed incorporating the requirements for Strategic Environmental Assessment. This has given a general assessment of the sustainability of the alternative options in the Issues and Options document. This Sustainability Appraisal is also available for consultation and can be viewed at the locations detailed below.

A number of other documents have been produced to support the Issues and Options Document including 'The Context to the Core Strategy Issues and Options Document' and 'The Outcome of Informal Consultation used to inform the Issues and Options Document'.

The Sustainable Community Strategy is produced by the Redditch Local Strategic Partnership. It sets out the direction and long term vision for Redditch Borough with the aim of improving the lives of local people both now and in the future. The Sustainable Community Strategy consultation document outlines a series of draft proposals for tackling some of the key issues affecting the Redditch community.

The consultation period for the Issues and Options Document and the Sustainable Community Strategy runs for six weeks from Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May and ends on Friday 20<sup>th</sup>

June 2008. During this time we will be hosting a number of exhibitions and drop-in sessions for you to find out more about the Issues and Options Document.

You can attend the following exhibitions/drop-in sessions:

When		Where
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	10am – 4pm A brief presentation will be given at 11am, 1pm and 3pm	Committee Room 3, Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	9.30 am – 5pm	Redditch Library, 15 Market Walk, Redditch
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	7pm – 9pm A brief presentation will be given at 7.30pm	Committee Room 3, Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> May	10am-4pm	Arrow Valley Countryside Centre, Battens Drive, Winyates, Redditch
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	9am – 5.30pm	Kingfisher Shopping Centre
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	7pm – 9pm A brief presentation will be given at 7.30pm	Committee Room 3, Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch

All of the above mentioned documents can be viewed on the Council's Website [www.redditchbc.gov.uk](http://www.redditchbc.gov.uk) or at the following locations:

- Redditch Town Hall (Planning Reception), Monday-Friday 9am-5pm
- One Stop Shops (Batchley, Winyates and Woodrow) Monday-Friday, opening times vary
- Redditch Library, Woodrow Library and Mobile Library

For more information on the Issues and Options Document or the Core Strategy process please contact the Development Plans Team on 01527 64252 or [devplans@redditchbc.gov.uk](mailto:devplans@redditchbc.gov.uk) or use the contact details given above.

For more information on the Sustainable Community Strategy please contact Matthew Bough on 01527 64252 ext 3120.

Yours faithfully,



Alexa Williams  
Planning Officer