

 Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee 12 January 2016		Agenda Item No. 7
Title	Comments from the Executive	
For further information about this report please contact	Amy Carnall Committee Services Officer 01926 456114 committee@warwickdc.gov.uk	
Service Area	Civic & Committee Services	
Wards of the District directly affected	n/a	
Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006	No	
Date and meeting when issue was last considered and relevant minute number	n/a	
Background Papers	Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee minutes 1/12/2015 Executive minutes from 2/12/2015	

Contrary to the policy framework:	No
Contrary to the budgetary framework:	No
Key Decision?	No
Included within the Forward Plan? (If yes include reference number)	No

Officer/Councillor Approval		
With regard to officer approval all reports <i>must</i> be approved by the report authors relevant director, Finance, Legal Services and the relevant Portfolio Holder(s).		
Officer Approval	Date	Name
Deputy Chief Executive		
Chief Executive		
CMT		
Section 151 Officer		
Legal		
Finance		
Portfolio Holders		

Consultation Undertaken	
n/a	
Final Decision?	Yes
Suggested next steps (if not final decision please set out below)	

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report summarises the Executive's response to comments given by the Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee on reports submitted to the Executive on 2 December 2015.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the responses made by the Executive be noted, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

3. Reasons for the Recommendation

- 3.1 This report is produced to create a dialogue between the Executive and the Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee, ensuring that the Scrutiny Committee is formally made aware of the Executive's responses.

4. Alternative Options Considered

- 4.1 The Committee receives and notes the minutes of the Executive instead.

5. Budgetary Framework

- 5.1 There is no impact on the budgetary framework. This is for the Committee's information only.

6. Policy Framework

- 6.1 The work carried out by the Committee helps the Council to improve in line with its priority to manage services openly, efficiently and effectively.

7. Background

- 7.1 As part of the scrutiny process, the Committee no longer considers the whole of the Executive agenda.
- 7.2 Councillors are emailed at the time of the publication of the Executive and Scrutiny Committee agendas, asking them to contact Committee Services by 9.00 am on the day of the Scrutiny Committee, to advise which Executive items they wish the Scrutiny Committee to pass comment on and the reasons why.
- 7.3 As a result, at its meeting on 2 December 2015, the Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee considered the items detailed in the appendices. The responses which the Executive gave are also shown.

Responses from the meeting of the Executive held on 2 December 2015 to the Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee's comments

Item no	3	Title	General Fund Budgets 2016/17
Scrutiny Comment	The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report including the revised wording of recommendation 2.1(c).		
Executive Response	There was no response from the Executive		

Item no	4	Title	Code of Corporate Governance
Scrutiny Comment	The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report.		
Executive Response	There was no response from the Executive		

Item no	5	Title	Digital Transformation of Council Services
Scrutiny Comment	<p>The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report.</p> <p>However, Members had concerns that there were no figures in the report explaining how many residents pay by cash / cheque and this was necessary for them to understand the needs of residents and visitors to the District. Members agreed that the ethos behind the move should be around 'encouraging' digital progression and not implying that the Council would not accept cash or cheques.</p>		
Executive Response	The Executive thanked the Committee from their comments and agreed that this was about encouraging digital progression and that all members (and other relevant parties) would be notified before a service either stopped taking cash/cheques or generic email account was closed.		

Item no	6	Title	Racing Club Warwick, St Mary's Lands, Warwick
Scrutiny Comment	<p>The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report.</p> <p>Members felt that the Executive should provide confirmation that this decision would not set a precedent to other sports clubs within the District but noted that the investment in this case is on Council owned land.</p> <p>The Committee also made comments on the Private & Confidential legal</p>		

	advice received, which the Chairman delivered at the meeting.
Executive Response	<p>Assurance was provided that this did not set a precedent because each matter should be considered on its individual merits.</p> <p>The Executive welcomed the comments on the Legal Advice and risks associated with this and assured the Committee that by taking the interim steps of placing a fence on our land to safeguard the site from the public was, for now, the best approach. Therefore an additional decision was taken to this effect.</p>

Item no	8	Title	Land off Albion Street, Kenilworth
Scrutiny Comment	The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report.		
Executive Response	There was no response from the Executive.		

Item no	9	Title	HR Resources Review
Scrutiny Comment	The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee supported the financial recommendations in the report, knowing that Employment Committee will discuss the establishment in more detail.		
Executive Response	There was no response from the Executive.		