

 <b>Executive – 10 August 2011</b>		<b>Agenda Item No.</b>
<b>Title</b>	Use of delegated powers	
<b>For further information about this report please contact</b>	Bill Hunt Deputy Chief Executive 01926 456014 <a href="mailto:bill.hunt@warwickdc.gov.uk">bill.hunt@warwickdc.gov.uk</a>	
<b>Wards of the District directly affected</b>	Stoneleigh	
<b>Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006?</b>	No	
<b>Date and meeting when issue was last considered and relevant minute number</b>	n/a	
<b>Background Papers</b>	n/a	

<b>Contrary to the policy framework:</b>	No
<b>Contrary to the budgetary framework:</b>	No
<b>Key Decision?</b>	No
<b>Included within the Forward Plan? (If yes include reference number)</b>	No
<b>Equality &amp; Sustainability Impact Assessment Undertaken</b>	No
.	

<b>Officer/Councillor Approval</b>		
<b>Officer Approval</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>
Deputy Chief Executive		Author
Head of Service	19/7/11	Paul Pinkney
CMT	19/7/11	Chris Elliott, Andrew Jones, Bill Hunt
Section 151 Officer	20/7/11	Mike Snow
Monitoring Officer	19/7/11	Andy Jones
Finance		Mike Snow
Portfolio Holder(s)	19/7/11	Cllr. Hammon
<b>Consultation &amp; Community Engagement</b>		
n/a		
<b>Final Decision?</b>		Yes
<b>Suggested next steps (if not final decision please set out below)</b>		

## **1. SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise members of the exercise of delegated powers under CE(4) of the Scheme of Delegation to enable a letter of support to be submitted from this Council for a proposed University Technical College (UTC) at Stoneleigh Park.

## **2. RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 That Executive note the use of delegated power CE(4) for the purposes of submitting the letter of support attached at Appendix One.

## **3. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 The Scheme of Delegation, contained within the Council's Constitution provides for the Chief Executive (and in their absence the Deputies) to have authority to: 'deal with urgent items that occur between meetings, in consultation with the relevant Deputy Chief Executives, Heads of Service (if available) and Group Leaders (or in their absence Deputy Group Leaders) subject to the matter being reported to the Executive at its next meeting'. [CE(4)]
- 3.2 In the absence of the Chief Executive, the Deputy Chief Executive (BH) used this delegated power to seek approval for a letter of support for a bid proposal for a UTC at Stoneleigh Park, attached at **Appendix One**.
- 3.3 The letter of support was submitted on 27 May 2011 but reporting timetables have meant this is the first Executive to which a report could be submitted.

## **4. POLICY FRAMEWORK**

- 4.1 The use of delegated powers is as set out in the Council's Constitution, as is this retrospective reporting.
- 4.2 The provision of a letter of support is consistent with the delivery of this Council's Vision for Warwick District to be a great place to live, work and visit as the principles of the UTC bid support the Council's Sustainable Community Strategy strategic priority of working with partner's on the Economy, Skills and Employment agenda to create an economically vibrant and creative community.

## **5. BUDGETARY FRAMEWORK**

- 5.1 There are no budgetary implications arising from this report.

## **6. ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S) CONSIDERED**

- 6.1 The alternative option would have been not to provide a letter of support but this was discounted on the basis that it would not further the Council's Sustainable Community Strategy's aims.

## **7. BACKGROUND**

- 7.1 UTCs are colleges for 14-19 year olds, specialising in technical studies. Each UTC will be sponsored by a university and offer full time courses which combine academic and practical studies. They are being established under the Coalition Government's academies programme, from which they will receive funding after bid proposals are approved by the Department for Education. Further

information, including a list of Frequently Asked Questions is available at:  
<http://www.utcolleges.org/home>

- 7.2 The Stoneleigh Park bid is jointly sponsored by Coventry University and Warwickshire College and would specialise in science and technologies in relation to land based industries in their widest sense.
- 7.3 The development of a UTC at Stoneleigh Park would be consistent with the vision of its owners, LaSalle Investment Management, to establish the site as the primary national location for rural and agricultural organisations.
- 7.4 Were the bid to be successful the development of a UTC at Stoneleigh Park would be subject to the submission of a planning application, as normal.
- 7.5 It is hoped that the outcome of the bid will be known prior to the Executive meeting and, if so, an update will be provided to members as appropriate.