

 Executive – February 2011		Agenda Item No. 16a
Title	Overview and Scrutiny Committee & Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee – Scrutiny Update	
For further information about this report please contact	Councillors Gifford and Mrs Knight. Peter Dixon & Emma Millward, Committee Services, 01926 456114 or committee@warwickdc.gov.uk	
Service Area	Councillors / Members' 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Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006	No	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 & Overview & Scrutiny Committee agendas and minutes January 2011.	
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).		
	Date	Name
Relevant Director		Bill Hunt / Andy Jones
Chief Executive		Chris Elliott
CMT		
Section 151 Officer		
Legal		
Finance		Marcus Miskinis
Portfolio Holders		Councillors Mrs Bunker, Caborn, Doody, Mrs Gallagher, Mrs Grainger, Hammon, Kirton, Mobbs and Shilton.
Others		Councillors Gifford and Mrs Knight
Consultation Undertaken		
N/A		
Final Decision?	Yes	
Suggested next steps (if not final decision please set out below)		

1. **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report informs the Executive of scrutiny work being undertaken by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 The report be noted; and
- 2.2 Any further comments the Executive make be passed back to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee.

3. **REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 This report is produced to create a dialogue between the Executive and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee & Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee.
- 3.2 This item on the Executive was previously the Scrutiny Committees' minutes from the previous cycle. However, producing a report was considered a more effective way of keeping the Executive informed of the Scrutiny Committees' activities.

4. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 4.1 That this report is not produced or presented to the Executive. The Executive could receive the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee's minutes for information, as there is a legal obligation for this flow of information. However this report gives brief and meaningful information on the scrutiny work and further details can be supplied if necessary.

5. **BUDGETARY FRAMEWORK**

- 5.1 There is no impact on the budgetary framework because this is for the Executive's information only.

6. **POLICY FRAMEWORK**

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

7. **BACKGROUND**

- 7.1 The following items were considered at the meeting of the Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee held on 5 January 2011:
 - (1) Annual Audit Letter – the Committee received a report from the Head of Finance regarding the External Auditors assessment of the Council;
 - (2) Internal audit Quarter 2 2010/11 Progress report – the Committee received a report regarding the progress in achieving the Internal Audit Plan 2010/11;
 - (3) Comments from the Executive – Members noted the Executive's response to comments made by the Committee on reports addressed by the Executive on 24 November 2010;

- (4) Forward Plan – a report presenting the current forward plan was considered and noted;
- (5) Review of the Work Programme – the work programme for 2011 was reviewed; and
- (6) Executive agenda – the Committee commented on 10 items due to be considered by the Executive on 6 January 2011.

7.2 The following items were considered at the meeting of Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 5 January 2011:

- (1) Comments from the Executive – the Executive’s response to the comments made by Overview and Scrutiny on items considered by the Executive on 24 November 2010 were noted;
- (2) Forward Plan – a report presenting the current forward plan was considered and noted;
- (3) Review of the Work Programme – the Committee noted the work programme for 2011;
- (4) Executive agenda – the Committee passed comment on five items due to be considered by the Executive on 6 January 2011;
- (5) Scrutiny of Partnerships – the Committee considered a report from the Deputy Chief Executive (AJ). They noted the partnership arrangements in place for the Town centres; and
- (6) Creation of Volunteering Policy – the Committee received a verbal update from the deputy Chief Executive (BH).

7.3 The following items were considered at the meeting of the Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee held on 25 January 2011:

- (1) Comments from the Executive – Members noted the Executive’s response to comments made by the Committee on reports addressed by the Executive on 5 January 2011;
- (2) Forward Plan – a report presenting the current forward plan was considered and noted; and
- (3) Review of the Work Programme – the work programme for 2011 was reviewed;
- (4) Value for Money Conclusion – the Committee received a report from Finance; and
- (5) Tenders and Strategy Update – the Committee received a report from the Procurement Manager.

7.4 The following items were considered at the meeting of Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 25 January 2011:

- (1) Comments from the Executive – the Executive’s response to the comments made by Overview and Scrutiny on items considered by the Executive on 5 January 2011 were noted;
- (2) Forward Plan – a report presenting the current forward plan was considered and noted;
- (3) Review of the Work Programme – the Committee noted the work programme for 2011;
- (4) Executive agenda – the Committee passed comment on three items due to be considered by the Executive on 26 January 2011;
- (5) Discretionary Travel Scheme – the Committee received a report from the Task and Finish Group; and
- (6) Economic Development Strategy – the Committee received a verbal update from Councillor Wilkinson.