

## Response from the meeting of the Executive on this Committee's Comments

July 2018

<b>Items no.</b>	3	<b>Title</b>	<b>Final Accounts 2017/2018</b>
<b>Scrutiny Comment</b>	The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations but expressed their disappointment that the government deadline of 31 July 2018 for the sign-off of the audited Statement of Accounts would not be met. Members noted that officers were working on a programme to rectify the situation and supported the decision that a report detailing the reasons for the delay would be submitted to them in due course.		
<b>Executive Response</b>	In response, the Executive stated that they shared the concerns relating to the failure to meet the deadline. However, whilst pleased about the underspend, they recognised the ongoing need to invest in Council assets and make budgetary provision for this investment.		

<b>Items no.</b>	4	<b>Title</b>	<b>Ultra-Low Emission Bus Scheme Grant Application</b>
<b>Scrutiny Comment</b>	The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee fully supported the recommendations in the report.		
<b>Executive Response</b>	Members felt that this was an innovative bid which should be welcomed because it covered Leamington, including an air quality management area.		

<b>Items no.</b>	5	<b>Title</b>	<b>Software and Hardware Upgrade for CCTV Service</b>
<b>Scrutiny Comment</b>	The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee fully supported the recommendations in the report.		
<b>Executive Response</b>	The Executive did not respond to this.		

<b>Items no.</b>	6	<b>Title</b>	<b>Air Quality SPD</b>
<b>Scrutiny Comment</b>	The Overview & Scrutiny Committee welcomes and supports the report and recommend that the report is aligned with the new NPPF prior to the report going out for consultation. <b>The Executive are required to vote on this because it forms a recommendation to them.</b>		
<b>Executive Response</b>	The Executive did not respond to this.		

<b>Items no.</b>	10	<b>Title</b>	<b>Leamington Car Park Displacement Strategy</b>
<b>Scrutiny Comment</b>	The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report.		

<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>The Executive thanked the scrutiny committees for their support and the discussions at their meetings which would help shape the ongoing work to develop the strategy further. The Leader highlighted that Covent Garden Car Park needed to be replaced irrespective of the decision to move the Council HQ.</p> <p>The Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhood Services, explained that dispersal onto the streets was already occurring because not everyone wanted to pay to park. The Council would be offering alternative car parks further out of town at a cheaper rate. She advised that officers were talking to the County Council but so far progress had been frustrating.</p>
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<b>Items no.</b>	11 B	<b>Title</b>	<b>Significant Business Risk Register</b>
<b>Scrutiny Comment</b>	The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee were unable to consider this item.		
<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Councillor Quinney addressed the Executive and expressed his disappointment that the Leader had not been present to discuss this item at Finance &amp; Audit Scrutiny Committee. He felt that this sent the message that the risks were not being paid due respect.</p> <p>In response, the Executive highlighted that Councillor Whiting was also listed on the report as Portfolio Holder and had been present at the time of discussion. Members did not feel that the absence of the Leader was a sufficient reason for the Committee not to consider the report.</p>		

<b>Items no.</b>	11 C	<b>Title</b>	<b>Risk Management Annual Report 2017/18</b>
<b>Scrutiny Comment</b>	The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report.		
<b>Executive Response</b>	The Executive did not respond to this.		

<b>Items no.</b>	13	<b>Title</b>	<b>Creative Quarter: Growth Deal, Bid Options &amp; Potential Purchases</b>
<b>Scrutiny Comment</b>	The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report.		
<b>Executive Response</b>	The Executive did not respond to this.		

### August 2018

<b>Items no.</b>	3	<b>Title</b>	<b>Stock Condition Survey</b>
<b>Scrutiny Comment</b>	The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report enthusiastically.		

<b>Executive Response</b>	The Executive thanked the Scrutiny Committee for their endorsement of the report.
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<b>Items no.</b>	4	<b>Title</b>	<b>Budget Review to 30 June 2018</b>
<b>Scrutiny Comment</b>	The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report.		
<b>Executive Response</b>	The Executive did not respond to this.		

<b>Items no.</b>	5	<b>Title</b>	<b>Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2019/20</b>
<b>Scrutiny Comment</b>	The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report.		
<b>Executive Response</b>	The Executive did not respond to this.		

<b>Items no.</b>	7	<b>Title</b>	<b>Assets Redesign – Additional Budget Requirement</b>
<b>Scrutiny Comment</b>	The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report and recognised the positive contribution this is intended to make to reduce slippage in work programmes. The Committee also took the opportunity to highlight to Employment that an Engineer post was to be deleted, that these roles had disappeared across the Council and to questions if this is may be a false economy.		
<b>Executive Response</b>	The Executive noted the comments to Employment Committee, but were mindful that the post had been vacant for over two years.		

<b>Items no.</b>	8	<b>Title</b>	<b>Bid for Local Authority Housing Programme</b>
<b>Scrutiny Comment</b>	The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report.		
<b>Executive Response</b>	The Executive did not respond to this.		

<b>Items no.</b>	9a	<b>Title</b>	<b>Rural and Urban Capital Improvement Scheme (RUCIS) Application</b>
<b>Scrutiny Comment</b>	The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report.		
<b>Executive Response</b>	The Executive did not respond to this.		

## 26 September 2018

Items no.	3	Title	<b>Fees and Charges 2019/20</b>
<b>Scrutiny Comment</b>		<p>The Finance &amp; Audit Scrutiny Committee thanked the officers for the detailed response to the questions submitted in advance.</p> <p>The Committee sought clarification on a number of smaller points which the Head of Finance agreed to look at and provide detail for the Executive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can the Council refuse the proposed increase in Core prices by Everyone Active even if they were no greater than CPI?</li> <li>• On Page A23 the increase in fees appears to vary considerably between 3% and 7% was there a specific reason for this?</li> <li>• On Page A30 some the application fees for Private Hire appeared to be lower than the renewal fees why is this?</li> <li>• On Page A37 there appeared to be no licence fee proposed for dog breeding kennels with over 11 bitches?</li> </ul> <p>In addition the Committee asked the Executive to consider if the concessionary prices for people on benefits, both Core EA prices and in other areas such as Recreational &amp; Sport (Pages A13/14), Environmental Health (Page A35) and Waste collection (Page A55 could be held at the current prices in 2019/20 with standard prices being increased further if necessary to cover the reduced price for concessions. This view was taken based on the freezing of most Benefits nationally in cash terms from 2016 to 2020.</p>	
<b>Executive Response</b>		The Leader agreed to consider the potential to freeze some fees for those on benefits and bring forward a paper or decision at Council if possible.	

Items no.	4	Title	<b>Leisure Development Programme Phase Two – Kenilworth Facilities</b>
<b>Scrutiny Comment</b>		The Overview & Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report.	
<b>Executive Response</b>		The Executive did not respond to this.	

Items no.	5	Title	<b>Events Strategy</b>
<b>Scrutiny Comment</b>		<p>The Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report but made the following comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A standardised EIA, the format of which has been defined by the Council, should be completed for all events.</li> <li>• Event organisers should be encouraged to ensure the use of recyclable materials for all disposable items, e.g. plastics.</li> <li>• Parish and Town Councils should be sent a copy of the events manual once it is published.</li> <li>• All events organisers should receive a copy of the events manual.</li> </ul>	

<b>Executive Response</b>	The Executive agreed that these comments would be sent round to officers, for them to consider as part of this process.
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<b>Items no.</b>	6	<b>Title</b>	<b>Continual Maintenance of Pay on Foot Equipment</b>
<b>Scrutiny Comment</b>	The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendation in the report.		
<b>Executive Response</b>	The Executive did not respond to this.		

<b>Items no.</b>	8	<b>Title</b>	<b>Contract for management of shared accommodation provision for former rough sleepers</b>
<b>Scrutiny Comment</b>	The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendation in the report.		
<b>Executive Response</b>	The Executive did not respond to this.		