



Title	Comments from the Executive
For further information about this report please contact	Amy Barnes Senior 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Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006	No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	

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 28 September 2016.

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 9 February 2016, 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 28 September 2016 to the Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee's comments

Item no	5	Title	Fees and Charges
Scrutiny Comment		<p>The Committee had some concerns about the retrospective recovery of costs on taxi licences in particular and it's possible impact on the trade overall, especially with respect to new applicants. Members asked how recovery of cost was being smoothed over time and asked whether it would be acceptable to phase it in. The Committee therefore asked for officers to circulate to Councillors the process used to calculate the costs of these applications. One Councillor was not in favour of the fees and charges proposal because of these concerns</p> <p>The Committee noted that the detail of Paragraph 15.4.1 had been omitted from Appendix A, and an addendum containing this would be circulated at the Executive.</p>	
Executive Response		<p>The Executive also requested that the following information be circulated to all Councillors prior to the Council meeting on 16 November 2016:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the process used to calculate the fees associated with Taxis and Private Hire Drivers licences; • the clarification on charging structure for burials and cremations for individuals from outside the District to ensure it was correct there was a surcharge for burials and not cremations; and • an explanation on the difference in cost and service between the cremation fee of foetal remains and still-born up to 1 month and communal creation of foetal remains. 	

Item no	8	Title	HEART Shard Service to deliver Home Adaptations (including Disabled Facilities Grants)
Scrutiny Comment		<p>The Committee welcomed the high quality report and the recommendations contained within it. Members were pleased that service/turnaround targets for the District and regular performance monitoring will continue. One member queried whether the planned gains in efficiency and productivity of the new service would reduce its cost to the Council over time.</p>	
Executive Response		<p>Item 8, The Executive thanked the Scrutiny Committee for their comments. The Executive recognised that this was the start of the new service and that it was possible, that in time, there could be savings for the Council. However the priority for now was establishing the new team and then further improving the service provided.</p>	

Item no	9A	Title	Significant Business Risk Register
Scrutiny Comment		<p>The Committee supported the report and welcomed the recognition of the challenges in "staff recruitment and retention" and the work of the People Strategy Steering Group (PSSG) to respond to that specific matter. Due to this, it was noted that in some areas of the Council the risk of "sustained quality service reduction" was now an emerging issue rather than a risk.</p> <p>The Committee welcomed the information that the PSSG and Employment Committee would see results of the work and recommended actions to mitigate the risk at their next meetings.</p>	
Executive Response		<p>The Leader thanked the Scrutiny Committee for their discussion on the Significant Business Risk Register and agreed that all were looking forward to seeing the results of officers work on staff recruitment and retention.</p>	

Item no	Urgent	Title	Premise in Spencer Street
Scrutiny Comment		<p>The Committee supported the recommendations in the report, and were assured of the urgency for the report(the remainder of the comment was confidential)</p>	
Executive Response		<p>The Executive welcomed the discussions of F&A the night before and their understanding of the opportunity this presented.</p>	