

 <b>Executive</b> <b>12th February 2014</b>		<b>Agenda Item No.</b> <b>18E</b>
<b>Title</b>	Quality of Life Report	
<b>For further information about this report please contact</b>	Fiona Clark	
<b>Wards of the District directly affected</b>	All	
<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Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006?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>		

<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>
Chief Executive/Deputy Chief Executive	03/01/14	Andrew Jones
Head of Service	03/01/14	Andrew Jones
CMT	21/01/14	Chris Elliott, Bill Hunt
Section 151 Officer	03/01/14	Mike Snow
Monitoring Officer	03/01/14	Andrew Jones
Finance		-
Portfolio Holder(s)	03/01/14	Cllr Mrs Grainger
<b>Consultation &amp; Community Engagement</b>		
None.		
<b>Final Decision?</b>		Yes
<b>Suggested next steps (if not final decision please set out below)</b>		

## **1. SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report presents the 2013 Quality of Life report summary. The full report is a very large document and so has not been presented here but may be accessed either via this link: [Full Quality of Life report](http://www.warwickshireobservatory.org) or [www.warwickshireobservatory.org](http://www.warwickshireobservatory.org)

## **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 That Executive notes the contents of the Quality of Life report and agrees that Service Area Managers and Portfolio Holders use the Quality of Life data to help inform the development of the 2014/15 Service Area Plans / Portfolio Holder Statements.

## **3. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 The Annual Quality of Life report is produced by the Warwickshire Observatory. It provides a way of accessing data to help us understand how effectively we are progressing towards our organisational purpose. At the Executive meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> February 2011, it was agreed that the report be submitted to Executive each year.
- 3.2 The Quality of Life report provides important data about what is changing in our district. As such, it is not only useful in understanding the impact of our strategies, but can also inform the development of future strategy and services together with the annual service planning process. The 2013 report also includes 2011 Census data across a number of themes and includes some new indicators.

## **4. POLICY FRAMEWORK**

- 4.1 Fit for the Future has been approved as the Council's central strategic strategy document and business plan. The Quality of Life report provides a way of accessing data to help us understand how effectively we are progressing towards our organisational purpose. In this respect it is relevant to the whole of Fit for the Future.

## **5. BUDGETARY FRAMEWORK**

- 5.1 There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

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

- 6.1 As members requested that the Quality of Life report be submitted to Executive annually, no alternative options were considered.

## **7. BACKGROUND**

- 7.1 The Warwickshire Quality of Life has been produced annually by the Warwickshire Observatory since 2000. It provides information on social, economic and environmental trends across the County. Whilst much of the data is County-wide only, there are some pieces of data that are broken down by District.

- 7.2 The 2013 Quality of Life Report identifies a number of key themes and trends. Some of the key messages to pick out for Warwick District are:
- 7.2.1 **Population Growth:** there are a number of amendments to previous estimates which should be noted. The 2011 estimates put the District's population at 138,000, of which 123,600 are in urban areas and 14,100 in rural areas. The District's population is the largest in the County. Between 2002 and 2011, Warwick's population grew by 15.3% to 30,100; Leamington's grew by 8.3% to 49,600; Whitnash's by 7.3% to 8,800 and Kenilworth's by 0.4% to 23,400. In total the District's population grew by 9.1% between 2001 and 2011 – the second largest increase in the County and more than the Warwickshire average of 7.8%.
- 7.2.2 **Projected Population Growth:** Using the 2011 Census data as the base year, it is estimated that the District population growth over the next 10 years will be 8% compared to an average for Warwickshire of 8.2%. By 2021 the projected population for Warwick will be 148,700.
- 7.2.3 **Deprivation:** Warwick District's national ranking, in relation to deprivation, improved significantly between 2007 and 2010. The proportion of children in poverty is defined as the proportion of children living in families in receipt of out of work benefits or tax credits where their reported income is less than 60% median income. In 2011, 11% of children in Warwick are calculated to be in poverty, 27% in Brunswick ward, and 22% in Crown ward.
- 7.2.4 **Waste:** In 2012/13, Warwick continues to be the best performing authority with the least kilogrammes of waste collected per head of population, whilst also having the second highest recycling and composting rates in Warwickshire.
- 7.2.5 **Health:** Levels of obesity (2008 figures) in the District are lower than the other Districts in Warwickshire, yet 25,300 people in the District are obese. Brunswick ward is estimated to have a high prevalence of obese Year 6 aged children with 23.3% which is significantly higher than the Warwickshire average.
- 7.2.6 **Affordable Housing and Housing Need:** In comparison with the County and England as a whole, the District faces some significant issues in relation to housing affordability. Housing tenure has changed over the last 10 years; social renting has continued to decline, private renting has seen a marked increase and the proportion of homes owned outright has increased – 32.6% in Warwick. A key trend from the 2011 Census confirms the rise in privately rented homes. Warwick recorded a significant shift in private renting much higher than the county average; almost 17% of homes are privately rented. This, in part, is due to the higher student numbers at Warwick University and the number of young professionals in the area. The top three Lower Super Output Areas in the county with the highest levels of private renting are all in Warwick; Leamington Town Centre 1 and 2 at 54.7% and 48.8% respectively (Clarendon ward) and Old Town North West at 47.1% (Willes ward). Additionally, Lillington East (Crown ward) has the highest proportion of socially rented homes in the county at 63.6%.

- 7.2.7 **Community Safety:** Overall recorded crime rates in Warwick are just below the Warwickshire average; however violent crime is reported just above the Warwickshire average but just below the rate for other similar sized forces. In 2010/11 Warwick was recorded as having the national best performance in reducing violence. Warwick recorded the second largest reduction in crime in Warwickshire at 15% reduction.
- 7.2.8 **Income and Earnings:** Residents of Warwick tend to earn more than those who work within the district by £1766. In 2012, the median for workplace based earnings was £26,989 and the residence based earnings was £28,755. This is a 0.2% decrease on the previous year, but remains approximately 3% above the national and regional equivalent.
- 7.2.9 **Wellbeing:** the top three Lower Super Output areas in Warwickshire which are considered the 'happiest' are all in Warwick; Milverton North, Glass House and Windy Arbour and Leek Wootton, Guys Cliffe and Beausale. However the 'worst' performing area is Lillington East where 41% of people could be considered 'unhappy'. These results need to be considered together with levels of deprivation.
- 7.2.10 **Education and Skills:** Warwick has the lowest percentage of residents aged 16 and over with no qualifications at 16% however in Whitnash this figure is 21%. Educational attainment at Key Stage 2 is slightly above the national average however those pupils who receive free school meals achieve significantly less than the national average. Warwick has the highest proportion of residents with degree level or higher qualifications. The proportion of young people in Warwick aged 16 – 19 who are not in education, employment or training and seen a steady decline from 4.6% in 2011 to 2.8% in 2013.
- 7.2.11 **Transport and Environment:** Average road speeds have fallen since 2011 in all Warwickshire towns. Roads in Warwick town centre continue to have the slowest recorded speeds indicating increased congestion.