



Executive – 3 September 2008

Agenda Item No.

Title	Overview and Scrutiny Committee & Audit and Resources Scrutiny Committee – Scrutiny Work Currently Being Undertaken
For further information about this report please contact	Councillors Mrs Knight and Gifford Theresa Goss & Peter Dixon, Committee Services Officers, 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Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006	No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	Overview and Scrutiny Committee & Audit and Resources Scrutiny Committee agendas and minutes 3 June 2008.

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	12.08.08	Bill Hunt
Chief Executive	12.08.08	Chris Elliott
CMT	14.08.08	
Section 151 Officer		
Legal	12.08.08	Simon Best
Finance	12.08.08	Marcus Miskinis
Portfolio Holders		Councillors Mrs Bunker, Caborn, Doody, Mrs Grainger, Hammon, Kinson, Kirton, Shilton and White
Others		Councillors Gifford and Mrs Knight

Consultation Undertaken	
N/A	
Final Decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Suggested next steps (if not final decision please set out below)	

1. SUMMARY

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

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The report and any comments from the Committees' received since the publication of the agenda, be noted; and
- 2.2 Any further comments the Executive make, be passed back to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Audit and Resources 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 & Audit and Resources 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 Overview and Scrutiny Committees' and Audit & Resources Scrutiny Committees' activities.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 This report is not produced and presented to the Executive. The Executive could receive the Overview and Scrutiny Committees' and Audit & Resources Scrutiny Committees' minutes for information, as there is a legal obligation for this flow of information.

5. BUDGETARY FRAMEWORK

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

6. POLICY FRAMEWORK

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

7. BACKGROUND

- 7.1 At the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 15 July 2008, the Committee considered the following items:

- (1) Year End Performance Results – this report presented the full year end results for all indicators as produced by the Council's Performance Management System. A number of missed targets were highlighted and the Portfolio Holder for Cultural Services, Councillor White was asked to attend the next meeting on 2 September 2008. Since the meeting on 15 July, it has been identified that some of the target are actually within the Environment

Portfolio, therefore Councillor Kinson would also be attending the meeting on 2 September 2008.

- (2) Rent Arrears Performance – this report highlighted the factors that contributed to the failure to meet targets during 2007/08 and gave details of the steps being taken to ensure performance was improved during 2008/09. Councillor Mrs Grainger, Portfolio Holder for Housing also attended the meeting and a follow up report was requested for February 2009.
- (3) Scrutiny of Flooding – the Committee received a presentation and final report which would be submitted to the Executive in September 2008. A follow up report was requested for February 2009.
- (4) Scoping Documents – the scoping documents for CCTV and Engaging Young People were submitted and approved by the Committee. Task and Finish Groups were also appointed. The scoping document for the Golf Working Party was not approved, as the Committee felt that the members of the WP should also have an input. Therefore, it was deferred to the next meeting.
- (5) Comments from the Executive – the Committee noted the response the Executive made on their comments.
- (6) Review of Work Programme – the Committee added the items mentioned above to their work programme and also appointed Councillor Crowther as the Councils' representative on the county-wide scrutiny group looking at the Public Service Board.

7.2 CCTV Task and Finish Group – The members appointed to the group were Councillor Boad, Ms Dean, Edwards, Illingworth, Mrs McFarland and Pittarello. The first meeting of the group was held on Tuesday 5 August 2008 at the Town Hall and Councillor Illingworth was appointed as Chairman. The group discussed the scoping document and made some minor amendments. They also received some statistical information from the Neighbourhood Services Manager. It was agreed that the group would meet on a monthly basis with the intention of presenting a draft report to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in February 2009 and a final report to the Executive in March 2009.

7.3 The following items were considered at the meeting of the Audit & Resources Scrutiny Committee on 15 July 2008:

- (1) Benefit Fraud Investigation Annual Performance Report 2007/08 – the report highlighted problems encountered by the Department for Work and Pensions which had impacted upon performance. Members sought reassurances concerning the anticipation and prevention of shortfall in the future and requested details of costs and savings relating to the department and, if available, comparative data with other local authorities.
- (2) EDRMS Project – the Committee were unhappy with how the project was progressing. They requested a detailed report for the next meeting analysing developments to date and the proposed way forward, and asked that the Head of ICT Services attend the next meeting to respond to Members'

questions. They also resolved that spending on the project cease until a workable solution had been identified and that the working party be provided with information previously requested.

- (3) Comments from the Executive – the Committee noted the Executive's response to their comments.
 - (4) Review of the Work Programme – the Committee noted that a scoping document for the Waste Contract had been produced by a small group of Members, to be circulated to the rest of the Committee for comments. It also requested information on EDRMS and Snowdrop before September, with a final report by the end of October, and Members expressed concern over how these two issues had progressed.
 - (5) The Committee also considered 11 items on the Executive Agenda for 23 July.
- 7.4 Engaging Young People Task & Finish Group – the members of the group consisted of Councillors Mrs Blacklock, Britland, Gifford, Mrs Knight and Mrs Sawdon. The original intention had been for the group to have their first meeting early in August, but this had been delayed due to the majority of the group being unavailable or on holiday until later in the month.