

	Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 1 June 2016	Agenda Item No. 5
Title	Comments from the Executive	
For further information about this report please contact	Lesley Dury, Committee Services Officer, 01926 456114 or committee@warwickdc.gov.uk	
Service Area	Democratic 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Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006	No	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	5 April 2016 & 19 April 2016	
Background Papers	Executive Minutes – 6 April 2016 and 20 April 2016	

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		
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 informs the Committee of the response the Executive gave to their comments regarding the reports submitted to the Executive at the start of April and to the response the Executive gave to the comments from the Joint Finance & Audit Overview and Scrutiny Committees regarding the report submitted to the Executive on 20 April 2016.

2. **Recommendation**

- 2.1 The responses made by the Executive are noted.

3. **Reasons for the Recommendation**

- 3.1 This report is produced to create a dialogue between the Executive and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. It ensures that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee are formally made aware of the Executive's responses.
- 3.2 Where the Overview & Scrutiny Committee have made a recommendation as opposed to a comment the Executive are required to respond to the recommendation(s) made, including whether or not they accept the recommendation(s).

4. **Alternative Option considered**

- 4.1 This report is not produced and presented to the Committee.

5. **Budgetary Framework**

- 5.1 All work for the Committee has to be carried out within existing resources.

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 new scrutiny process, the Committee is no longer considering the whole of the Executive agenda.
- 7.2 On the day of publication of the Executive agenda all Councillors are sent an e-mail asking them to contact Committee Services, by 09.00am on the day of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting to advise which Executive items they would like the Committee to consider.
- 7.3 As a result the Committee considered the items detailed in appendix 1. The response the Executive gave on each item is also shown.
- 7.4 In reviewing these responses Committee can identify any issues for which they would like a progress report. A future report, for example on how the decision has been implemented, would then be submitted to the Committee at an agreed date which would then be incorporated within the work programme.

**Response from the meetings of the Executive on Overview and Scrutiny
Committee Comments and Joint Finance & Audit Sand Overview and Scrutiny
Committees – 6 April 2016 and 20 April 2016**

6 April 2016:

Items no.	3	Title	Codes of Procurement Practice	Requested by	Green Party
Reason considered	<p>This is in regard to appendices 2, 3 and 4 that cover ethical, sustainable and social value issues (see below).</p> <p>Overall, I'm delighted that the council is including ethical, sustainability and social value criteria into procurement of council goods and services. For example, consideration of life-cycle costing and supporting SMEs and voluntary organisations within the District is to be applauded.</p> <p>The main issues I'd like discussed are what these policies will mean in practice, how can their impact be measured, and what evaluations are to be undertaken. This is particularly true for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethics, page 1 bottom 4 bullets • Sustainability: Annex B (although I've not seen it) and section 4.9 • Social value: the scope on page 2 <p>Other points</p> <p>Sustainability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic growth to me cannot be sustainable. I hope most agree that there is a tension between sustainability and economic growth, and that the last bullet in 2.1 can be re-written to reflect this e.g. by splitting into two "Maintenance of high and stable levels of employment" and "Without impacting unduly upon economic growth". • 4.1 line 3 seems to be missing a word: add 'during' or similar. • 4.2. What does being 'proportionate' mean, here? • 4.3. Can you re-word so that it (and 4.2) will be correct when EU thresholds change e.g. "below the EU threshold (this is currently £164,176.00) ... " <p>Social value</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Page 1 last bullet, can; and be deleted? • Page 2, delete 3 that is just above 'The scope' • Add s after Warwick District Council' 				
Scrutiny Comment	<p>The Overview & Scrutiny Committee suggests that a higher loading/weighting should be placed against "Social Value" when evaluating quotes and tenders.</p> <p>The Overview & Scrutiny Committee intends to monitor the outcomes of the proposed changes and would urge Executive to set up a monitoring and evaluation regime that clearly states the strategic outcomes the Council aims to achieve and how the achievement of these will be assessed. The Committee will be putting on its Work Programme an action to review the impact of the changes 12 months after implementation.</p>				

Executive Response	Whilst the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Councillor Whiting, recognised the comments of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee, he felt there was a need for this Council to balance social value against the guardianship of the money from our community and this balance needed to be set at the right level. He welcomed that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee would be looking at this in 12 months.
---------------------------	---

Items no.	7	Title	Support for Government Syrian Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme	Requested by	Labour Group
Reason considered	Question the scale and breadth of the Council's response to the Syrian Refugee situation.				
Scrutiny Comment	The Overview & Scrutiny Committee recommends that recommendation 2.1 is amended so that the pledge is to assist in resettling at least five families within the district, within the life of the current scheme.				
Executive Response	<p>Councillor Shilton supported the recommendation from the Overview & Scrutiny Committee because in his view this Council should be doing as much as possible to support as many families as possible caught in this conflict.</p> <p>In response to these points the Portfolio Holder explained that it was important not just to home these families but ensure that they were resettled within the community with appropriate support, so that they could become part of it. At this time, the Council was being asked for a firm commitment of numbers and not offering an "at least". The Executive needed to be mindful that there were over 3,000 people waiting for Council houses in Warwick District and they needed to provide consideration of this and the wider community in the District at the same time.</p> <p>Councillor Mobbs explained that this Council was committed to ensuring that the right quality of support was provided to these families and by increasing the number could impact on this. He therefore proposed that the recommendation be amended to remove the words up to in recommendation 2.1 and rejecting the recommendation of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee on this basis.</p>				

Items no.	9	Title	Master-planning of housing site allocations south of Coventry	Requested by	Labour Group
Reason considered	To understand the specific assumptions made about the timescale and numbers of dwellings proposed.				
Scrutiny Comment	The report was noted.				
Executive Response	The recommendations in the report were agreed.				

20 April 2016

Items no.	2	Title	Council HQ Relocation and replacement Covent Garden Car Park Project – Part A	Requested by	
Reason considered	The significant importance of the decisions.				
Scrutiny Comment	Recommended that we maximised the amount of affordable housing up to 40% before any disbursement of profit to the two partners.				
Executive Response	<p>The Executive did not accept the recommendation because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there was adequate protection on the affordable housing issue already; • Recommendation 2.8 proposed establishing a Member Reference Group on which all groups would be represented; • Recommendation 2.9 delegated authority to officers, in consultation with the Member Reference Group, to agree the terms of the planning applications the LLP would submit; • the Member Reference Group would be fully aware of the Council’s policy position on affordable housing and would make its judgements in light of it; • the planning applications would be determined before the Council made a decision on committing to phase 2; • Planning Committee would make a decision on any applications, approved by the Member Reference Group, submitted with less than 40% affordable housing, as normal; • the LLP was committed to delivering a policy compliant scheme and the intention of the phase 1 work would be to examine whether this was possible and viable; • part of this examination would be to determine whether the Council foregoing its final profit share would assist in delivering a higher proportion of affordable housing; and • It was therefore unwise to fetter the LLP’s discretion by adopting this recommendation given that this protection was already in place. 				

Items no.	4	Title	Council HQ Relocation and replacement Covent Garden Car Park Project – Part B (Confidential Report)	Requested by	
Reason considered	The significant importance of the decisions.				
Scrutiny Comment	Supported the recommendations in the report.				
Executive Response	The recommendations in the report were agreed.				