



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	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Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006	No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	5 and 13 March 2012
Background Papers	Executive Minutes – 6 and 14 March 2012

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 in March.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 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 OPTIONS 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 meeting of the Executive on Overview and Scrutiny
Committee Comments –
6 March 2012**

Item no.	3	Title	Housing Revenue Account Draft Business Plan 2012-2062 and Self Financing	Requested by	Chair
Reason considered	The importance to the Council.				
Scrutiny Comment	The Overview and Scrutiny Committee was keen that the present Project Board remained in place until September, and that the planned replacement governance structure should be subject to a wide ranging review. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee felt that councillors from all parties, the relevant Portfolio Holders and tenant representatives should be involved in this review.				
Executive Response	The Portfolio Holder agreed with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's comments regarding governance of the Project Board and anticipated that the Board would bring the recommendation forward regarding their structure in line with the Scrutiny Committee's suggestions.				

**Response from the meeting of the Executive on Overview and Scrutiny
Committee Comments –
14 March 2012**

Item no.	4	Title	C&CS Review – Team Structure, ICT Strategy & Channel Strategy	Requested by	Labour Group
Reason considered	The Labour Group requested this item as its Members had questions about service to customers.				
Scrutiny Comment	The Overview and Scrutiny Committee noted the report.				
Executive Response	The Executive thanked the Committee for its support.				

Item no.	5	Title	Tourism & Visitor Economy	Requested by	Labour Group
Reason considered	The Labour Group requested this item as this is a key sector for the District and Members had some questions about the plans.				
Scrutiny Comment	The Overview and Scrutiny Committee thanked Joe Baconnet, the Economic Development and Regeneration Manager for answering questions and supported the recommendations in the report.				

Executive Response	The Executive was pleased that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's queries had been clarified by officers the previous evening and thanked the Committee for its support.
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Item no.	7	Title	Disposal of Council owned Land at Kingsway, Royal Leamington Spa	Requested by	Labour Group
Reason considered	The Labour Group requested this item because of the importance of affordable housing.				
Scrutiny Comment	<p>The Overview and Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report, subject to a change to recommendation 2.4. The Committee recommended that an offer should be made to the community to give it the chance to have a community hub facility. The Committee recommended that the wording of 2.4 should be altered as follows:</p> <p>"To agree to make an offer to the local community that 1 of the 11 dwellings be converted to a community hub facility. If the community do not wish to take up this offer, then the apartment will be used as affordable housing."</p> <p>Councillor Vincett, the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Property, informed the Overview and Scrutiny Committee that a Circular could be sent to the community with the offer.</p>				
Executive Response	<p>Councillor Vincett thanked the Members of Overview & Scrutiny Committee for their discussion and support the previous evening. He proposed that recommendation 2.4 be amended further, keeping in line with the intent of the Scrutiny Committee. The wording would be altered to read:</p> <p>"To invite the local community to consider an offer by Warwick District Council in partnership with Waterloo Housing Group that 1 of the 11 dwellings be converted to a community hub facility. If the community do not wish to take up this offer, then the apartment will be used as affordable housing."</p>				

Item no.	8	Title	Health and Wellbeing Improvements in Warwick West	Requested by	Labour Group
Reason considered	The Labour Group requested this item as Members had some questions about delivery.				
Scrutiny Comment	The Overview and Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report but recommended that recommendation 2.1 should be				

	<p>amended to promote education, skills and training. The recommendation should be worded as follows:</p> <p>“That Executive agrees to officers commencing an open and transparent procurement process to commission health and wellbeing activities, and activities to promote education, skills and training, for the residents of the District with particular focus on those who live on the Forbes Estate.”</p>
Executive Response	<p>The Executive felt that the recommendation put forward could be clarified further and suggested that it should be less prescriptive leaving it open to innovative bids from groups. The recommendation should be worded as follows:</p> <p>“That Executive agrees to officers commencing an open and transparent procurement process to commission health and wellbeing activities, and activities to promote education, skills and training, for the residents of the District with particular focus on those who live on the Forbes Estate/St Mary’s Lands.”</p>

Item no.		Title	Requested by
11		South West Warwick (Chase Meadow) Community Centre Development	Lib Dem Group
Reason considered	<p>The Liberal Democrat Group requested this item to discuss possible alternative sources for any additional funding that may be approved and to explore the reasons for the ongoing annual payment of £1,500 for maintenance / upkeep of the shared car parking space and facilities and the consequences of being unable to pay the fee in the future.</p>		
Scrutiny Comment	<p>The Overview and Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report but recommended that the Council’s contribution should not come from the Capital Investment Reserve, but should come from the Urban/Rural Initiatives Fund.</p> <p>This would mean a change to the wording of recommendation 2.5 with “Capital Investment Reserve” being replaced with “Urban/Rural Initiatives Fund”.</p>		
Executive Response	<p>In response, the Portfolio Holder advised that to use the Urban/Rural Initiatives Fund was not an option. Officers had advised that any unallocated balance would be used by the end of 2012/13 because the Council already had eight applications for the scheme in the pipeline.</p>		