

	Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 6 February 2017	Agenda Item No. 4
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	
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Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006?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	3 January 2018	
Background Papers	Executive Minutes – 4 January 2018	

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
Equality Impact Assessment Undertaken	No
Not Applicable.	

Officer/Councillor Approval		
Officer Approval	Date	Name
Chief Executive/Deputy Chief Executive		Andrew Jones
Head of Service		
CMT		Andrew Jones
Section 151 Officer		
Monitoring Officer		Andrew Jones
Finance		
Portfolio Holder(s)		
Consultation & Community Engagement		
Not Applicable.		
Final Decision?	Yes	
Suggested next steps (if not final decision please set out below)		

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report informs the Overview & Scrutiny Committee of the response the Executive gave to their comments regarding the reports submitted to the Executive 4 January 2018.

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. Policy Framework

4.1 Fit for the Future (FFF)

The Council's FFF Strategy is designed to deliver the Vision for the District of making it a Great Place to Live, Work and Visit. To that end amongst other things the FFF Strategy contains several Key projects.

The FFF Strategy has 3 strands – People, Services and Money and each has an external and internal element to it. The table below illustrates the impact of this proposal if any in relation to the Council's FFF Strategy.

FFF Strands		
People	Services	Money
External		
Health, Homes, Communities	Green, Clean, Safe	Infrastructure, Enterprise, Employment
<u>Intended outcomes:</u> Improved health for all Housing needs for all met Impressive cultural and sports activities Cohesive and active communities	<u>Intended outcomes:</u> Area has well looked after public spaces All communities have access to decent open space Improved air quality Low levels of crime and ASB	<u>Intended outcomes:</u> Dynamic and diverse local economy Vibrant town centres Improved performance/productivity of local economy Increased employment and income levels
Impacts of Proposal		
Nil	Nil	Nil
Internal		
Effective Staff	Maintain or Improve Services	Firm Financial Footing over the Longer Term

<u>Intended outcomes:</u> All staff are properly trained All staff have the appropriate tools All staff are engaged, empowered and supported The right people are in the right job with the right skills and right behaviours	<u>Intended outcomes:</u> Focusing on our customers' needs Continuously improve our processes Increase the digital provision of services	<u>Intended outcomes:</u> Better return/use of our assets Full Cost accounting Continued cost management Maximise income earning opportunities Seek best value for money
Impacts of Proposal		
Nil	Dialogue between Scrutiny and Executive enables robust decision making and ensures all elements of the proposal in respect of service provision are taken into account.	Nil

4.2 **Supporting Strategies**

Each strand of the FFF Strategy has several supporting strategies; however, this report is for governance purposes. It is important that when the Executive has not accepted a recommendation made by the Scrutiny Committee, an explanation has been provided.

4.3 **Changes to Existing Policies**

There are no changes to existing policies.

4.4 **Impact Assessments**

There are no new policy changes in respect of Equalities.

5. **Budgetary Framework**

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

6. **Risks**

6.1 This Committee contributes to the effective minimisation of risk by fulfilling its duties in a timely manner and scrutinising the work undertaken by the Executive.

7. **Alternative Option(s) considered**

7.1 This report is not produced and presented to the Committee, and Members refer to the minutes from the relevant meeting of the Executive.

8. **Background**

- 8.1 As part of the new scrutiny process, the Committee is no longer considering the whole of the Executive agenda.
- 8.2 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.
- 8.3 As a result the Committee considered the items detailed in appendix 1. The response the Executive gave on each item is also shown.
- 8.4 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 O&S Committee's Comments
- 3 January 2018**

Items no.	3	Title	Revisions to the Scheme of Delegation & Council Procedure Rules	Requested by	Labour Group
Reason considered	To scrutinise the Revisions to the Delegation Agreement regarding the Planning Committee trigger procedures.				
Scrutiny Comment	<p>The Overview & Scrutiny Committee supported the report with the following exceptions.</p> <p>The Overview & Scrutiny Committee had concerns about the revision to include the need for the five objections to be from different addresses, this was because the Committee felt this was removing the rights of individuals. It was agreed the Development Manager & Democratic Services Manager would look at this with the Portfolio Holder and Chairman of Planning Committee and bring an amendment to either Executive or Council ahead of the final decision.</p> <p>The Overview & Scrutiny Committee welcomed, after discussion and agreement with Officers, that the proposal to delegation DS(70) (iv) should remain within the scheme of delegation and therefore the current proposal to remove this should be withdrawn.</p> <p>The Overview & Scrutiny Committee had concerns about delegation DS70(iii)(b) and the potential for this to imply that Parish/Town Council may lose the right for their objection to bring the matter to Planning Committee. The Development Manager & Democratic Services Manager would look at this with the Portfolio Holder and Chairman of Planning Committee and bring an amendment to either Executive or Council ahead of the final decision.</p>				
Executive Response	The recommendations in the report were approved subject to the changes to DS(70) not being taken forward at this stage and officers are asked to consider these in the light of the comments made by the Scrutiny Committee.				

Items no.	4	Title	Housing Allocations Policy Review	Requested by	Green Party
Reason considered	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. possible broadening of paragraph 2 on item 4/ page 12; this potentially perverse situation of it being better to be in a lower band may apply to other bands and bedrooms e.g. regarding the transfer band and band 2 2. Rephrase "that do not fall to be considered" on page 14 (4th paragraph of split households) 3. Section 14, page 15 is laudable; but what definition of 'minor policy changes' is being used? 				

Scrutiny Comment	<p>The Overview & Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report.</p> <p>The Committee welcomed the agreement from the Portfolio Holder to widen the criteria to address the situation where the property allocation quotas might mean it could be better to be in a lower priority band compared to higher bands e.g. regarding the balance between band 2's and band 3's demand and available properties. The Committee supported the following revision to the section on the imbalance of the housing register to remove this potential issue within paragraph 2 on Item 4/ page 12;</p> <p>"It is proposed that this should be monitored and if the situation does not improve the Head of Housing, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, should have delegated authority to re-balance the quotas to secure that a greater proportion of the out-of-balance properties would be advertised to the higher priority band to redress the balance.</p> <p>The Committee welcomed that the 4th paragraph on Item 4, page 14 of the report would be amended to read "For applicants in this situation that cannot be considered under homelessness legislation....".</p> <p>The Committee were mindful of the proposed delegation to the Head of Housing in consultation with the Portfolio Holder to make minor changes to the Policy (Item 4 Page 15). They noted that the intention to this would be to accommodate any amendments by statute, government guidance or to enable clarity on policy and its intentions. Therefore the Committee welcomed that the Portfolio Holder would incorporate details of these changes as part of his annual report to the Committee.</p>
Executive Response	<p>The recommendations in the report were agreed subject to an implementation date of no later than 1 August 2018 and the amendments as outlined in the comments of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.</p>

Items no.	6	Title	Homelessness Initiatives and the New Legislation	Requested by	Labour Group
Reason considered					To understand further how the scheme will operate in practice and to discuss the current and potential future initiatives.
Scrutiny Comment					The Overview & Scrutiny Committee noted the report and welcomed the work being undertaken in homelessness initiatives and strongly encouraged the continued dialogue between Housing Associations and this Council to help tackle this problem.
Executive Response					The Executive thanked the O&S Committee for its comments.