

**Response from the meeting of the Cabinet on the
F&A Committee's Comments**

4 Review of Warwick District Council Members' Allowances Scheme - 2021

The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee raised a question from one of the political groups about the rationale for adopting the recommendations of the independent review regarding the increase in Special Responsibility Allowances in the current economic climate. It received clarification about the decisions that the Council could take on the review, noting that the last review had been held in 2017 and there had been changes in the roles and expectations of those Councillors who held positions of responsibility and leadership subsequently as the review noted. It had no further questions on the review of the Scheme.

Cabinet Response:

The recommendations in the report were approved.

6 General Fund 2022/23 Budgets and Council Tax

The Committee noted the questions that had been raised in writing by Councillors regarding the Budgets and decision on Council Tax prior to the meeting. Some members expressed concern about the continuing impact of a freeze on Council Tax on the medium-term financial position for the Council. The Committee examined the rationale for the assumptions on inflation, wage increases and other factors, the reserves position, the need for further savings, and noted the financial pressures and risks in the medium-term financial statements, notwithstanding that a balanced budget was being proposed for 2022/23. It also noted the CFO's statement at Appendix 1. Overall, the Committee was satisfied that appropriate statements had been made about the assumptions in the Budgets and MTFs, and in the statements of risk and projections that lay behind the proposals.

Cabinet Response:

The recommendations in the report were approved.

7 Housing Revenue Account Rent Setting and Budget 2022/23

The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report.

Cabinet Response:

The recommendations in the report were approved.