Response from the meeting of the Executive on the O&S Committee's Comments – 29 September 2020

Item Number: 4 – Joint Local Plan Review.

Requested by: The Liberal Democrat Group.

Reason Considered:

To discuss and clarify further the arrangements and role of the different bodies in Scrutiny. We would also like to explore options for strengthening the approach to Affordable Housing.

Scrutiny Comment:

The Committee felt that a clear distinction was required to make it apparent that the working party was not a scrutiny function. It also felt that the term "Programme Advisory Board" should be avoided because of the very specific meaning it had at Warwick District Council and the confusion that could arise.

It was noted that concerns raised about the potential impact of the Local Government review and on potential differing needs for affordable and other housing allocations would be addressed through the proposed officer work and member review.

Executive Response:

Councillor Cooke noted the comments from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, taking on board its suggestion to avoid the term "Programme Advisory Board", and requested that the Head of Development Services, would suggest another term that was distinctly different. He then proposed the report as laid out.

The Deputy Chief Executive (BH) clarified for Members that the review was going to be a strategic framework for a Joint Plan across both Districts, and sitting underneath would be a number of Development Plan Documents. Not everything that was spoken about at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee would be in the Joint Plan, and some would come in a Development Plan Document.

Item Number: 5 – Trees for our Future – Project Framework and Start-up.

Requested by: The Green Group.

Reason Considered:

The Green Group had questions that needed answers.

Scrutiny Comment:

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee thanked officers for their work and welcomed this initial plan which was felt to be a good foundation to determine the final plan details. It looked forward to information on the both the final number of trees and the amount of woodland established. The community involvement was noted as a very positive aspect of the project.

Executive Response:

The Executive approved the recommendations in the report.