

	Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 10 March 2015	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	
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Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006	No	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	10 February 2015	
Background Papers	Executive Minutes – 11 February 2015	

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 February.

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 – 11 February 2015**

Items no.	8	Title	Allocation of Budget to deliver Voluntary Sector Services in Warwick District 2015-2018	Requested by	Labour Group / Independent Group
Reason considered	<p>Labour Group – Members wished to discuss the proposed changes to the decision making process.</p> <p>Independent Group – To ask for further explanations on the allocation of budget to deliver voluntary sector services in Warwick District.</p>				
Scrutiny Comment	<p>The Overview & Scrutiny Committee recommend that in respect of Recommendation 2.2 in the report, the Executive does not agree to the revised decision making process as described in points 3.6 to 3.12 in the report in respect of voluntary sector commissioning whereby future tenders are evaluated by an officer panel prior to being submitted to the Deputy Chief Executive (AJ) in consultation with the Chair of the Member Grant Review Panel for final approval.</p> <p>The Committee cited the following reasons for asking the Executive not to agree the revised decision process:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Members felt that their integrity and ability to declare interests where appropriate when tenders were submitted was being questioned; (2) Members felt that their involvement in Outside Bodies was seen as causing conflict with the decision making process; (3) Members felt that their involvement in Outside Bodies contributed to the decision making process; (4) Members believed that their skill set and knowledge of the Voluntary Sector would not be used as a result of the curtailment of their involvement fully in the process; (5) It was noted that an officer approval process would mean that councillors' involvement would become a mere formality and not active participation; (6) Members felt that undue influence from the Voluntary Sector to curtail Members' involvement had been accepted without challenge or Member consultation. 				
Executive Response	<p>The Portfolio Holder for Health & Community Protection, Councillor Coker, agreed with the concerns of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and proposed that recommendation 2.2 was amended to read "That Executive agrees the revised decision making process as described in paragraphs 3.6 -3.12 be reviewed, culminating in a further report to Executive, in respect of future VCS service commissioning".</p> <p>Resolved that</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) the reasons for the changes to the 2015-2018 voluntary sector services tender evaluation and scoring process, be noted; 				

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">(2) the revised decision making process as described in paragraphs 3.6 - 3.12 be reviewed, culminating in a further report to Executive, in respect of future VCS service commissioning;(3) a briefing note will be provided for all Councillors, after the election, on their work on outside bodies (when they are formally appointed as a District Councillor and those where they end up involved because they are a Councillor);(4) the outcomes of the tender award process for the delivery of voluntary and community sector services in Warwick District for 2015 - 2018 commencing 1st April 2015 as detailed in Appendix 1, be noted;(5) as a result of the bid from the current service provider being unsuccessful, and in accordance with Procurement policy, Lot 3 - Targeted Service Delivery in Crown Ward, will be put through a full, open procurement process again in April with a contract commencement date of 1 July 2015. |
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