



Title	Comments from the Executive
For further information about this report please contact	Amy Carnall Committee Services Officer 01926 456114 committee@warwickdc.gov.uk
Service Area	Civic & Committee 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Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006	No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	N/A
Background Papers	

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).		
Officer Approval	Date	Name
Deputy Chief Executive		
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 summarises the Executive's response to comments given by the Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee on reports submitted to the Executive on 2 December 2014.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the responses made by the Executive be noted.

3. Reasons for the Recommendation

- 3.1 This report is produced to create a dialogue between the Executive and the Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee, ensuring that the Scrutiny Committee is formally made aware of the Executive's responses.

4. Alternative Options Considered

- 4.1 The Committee receives and notes the minutes of the Executive instead.

5. Budgetary Framework

- 5.1 There is no impact on the budgetary framework. This is for the Committee's information only.

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 scrutiny process, the Committee no longer considers the whole of the Executive agenda.
- 7.2 Councillors are emailed at the time of the publication of the Executive and Scrutiny Committee agendas, asking them to contact Committee Services by 9.00 am on the day of the Scrutiny Committee, to advise which Executive items they wish the Scrutiny Committee to pass comment on and the reasons why.
- 7.3 As a result, at its meeting on 2 December 2014, the Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee considered the items detailed in the appendices. The responses which the Executive gave are also shown.

Responses from the meeting of the Executive held on 1 October 2014 to the Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee's comments

Item no	3	Title	General Fund Base Budgets latest 2014/15 and original 2015-2016
Scrutiny Comment		<p>The Finance and Audit Committee supported the recommendations in the report but expressed concern about recommendation 2.6. Members were disappointed that the NI contributions had not been fully quantified when the figures were originally agreed.</p> <p>Members also raised concerns about recommendation 2.8 relating to the replacement public address system at the Pump Rooms. The Committee noted the reasons why this was such a last minute request but felt that more information could be provided on what the system is used for and how frequently. The query was raised as to whether an entire new system was necessary or had options for hiring the equipment been explored?</p>	
Executive Response		<p>The Finance & Audit Committee were thanked for their contributions and advised that as per the arrangements in place, the Council were responsible for the replacement of the public address system at the Pump Rooms. An email advising of the replacement of the system was only received on 13 November.</p>	

Item no	4	Title	Housing Revenue Accounts (HRA) Budgets latest 2014/15 and base 2015-2016
Scrutiny Comment		<p>The Finance and Audit Committee supported the recommendations in the report. Members did raise concerns regarding the issue of 'Right to Buy' not appearing in the Risks section of the report. It was felt that the potential loss of Council owned properties was still a risk, however small.</p>	
Executive Response		<p>The comments were acknowledged by the Portfolio Holder who advised that the risks relating to 'Right to Buy' had appeared on earlier reports. He stated that there was no reason why it couldn't be included in the future and reminded them that a report in the New Year would include all risks.</p>	

Item no	5	Title	Review of Affordable Rent Policy
Scrutiny Comment		<p>The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report.</p>	
Executive Response		<p>The Portfolio Holder thanked the scrutiny committees for their comments.</p>	

Item no	6	Title	Code of Procurement Practice
Scrutiny Comment		<p>The Finance and Audit Committee supported the recommendations in the report and were pleased that the approach would no longer be a devolved process but enforced the need for managers to work together</p>	

	with the Procurement team.
Executive Response	The Portfolio Holder thanked the scrutiny committees for their comments.

Item no	9	Title	Tachbrook Country Park
Scrutiny Comment	<p>The Finance and Audit Committee supported the recommendations in the report.</p> <p>Members sought clarity on the S106 contributions lasting for 13 years and noted that this period would begin when the transfer of land was completed, which was upon occupation of the 400th dwelling. Therefore, Members raised concerns about the cost of maintaining the land after the 13 years, and the risk of this falling on the public purse. In addition, Members queried who would be responsible for maintaining the land prior to the Council taking ownership.</p> <p>Some Members were uncertain that the Section 106 monies would be enough to last 13 years but noted that officers were comfortable that Red Kite had produced accurate valuations.</p>		
Executive Response	The Executive thanked the scrutiny committee for their support.		

Item no	12A	Title	Rural/Urban Capital Improvement Scheme Application
Scrutiny Comment	The Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report and noted the additional information contained in the addendum.		
Executive Response	The Executive thanked the scrutiny committee for their support.		

Item no	15	Title	Options for HR & Payroll Functions
Scrutiny Comment	The Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee fully supported recommendations 2.2 and 2.3 in the report and the amended recommendation 2.1 in the addendum.		
Executive Response	The Executive thanked the scrutiny committee for their support.		