

Response from the meeting of the Executive on Overview and Scrutiny Committee Comments – 17 March 2009

Item no.	Title	Requested by	Reason	Comment to Executive	Executive Response
3	Annual Audit & Inspection Letter	Labour Group	Declining BVPIs	The Committee supported the recommendations in the report and would be keenly looking at the PI's over the next 12 months.	The Executive were grateful to the Scrutiny Committees for their support, and also looked forward to looking at the Performance Indicators over the next 12 months.
6	Budget & Improvement Programme (BIP)	Liberal Democrat Group	The relevance of some of this report to the Scrutiny Function	The Committee supported the recommendations in the report and were pleased to see funding was now available for additional scrutiny support from officers. The Committee hoped to set up a Task and Finish Group with regard to options for a Culture Trust and were keen to work with the Executive on the BIP Programme. The Committee would also look at further items on the BIP programme when considering the need for future Task and Finish Groups.	The Executive thanked the Audit and Resources and Overview and Scrutiny Committees for their comments. They also suggested that it would be useful for Councillor Gifford, as Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, to speak with the Assistant Chief Executive (Members' Services) in relation to the funding for the additional scrutiny support from officers.

7	Building on Excellence – 18 months on	Liberal Democrat Group	The importance of this report to the whole Council but also to get a clearer idea of how the structure will work in coming years.	The Committee supported the recommendations in the report and would like to see any changes in Portfolio Holder responsibilities implemented as soon as a revised service area structure was approved. This would ensure the portfolio holders are immediately accountable for their service area responsibilities. The Committee also wished to see revised Portfolio Holder statements issued as soon as any changes to the portfolio structure are agreed.	The Executive thanked the Scrutiny Committees for their support and the Chief Executive noted the comments from Audit and Resources requesting a more detailed risk register in relation to Building on Excellence, and financial comparisons against the original targets in each update report.
8	Portfolio Holder Statements and Service Delivery Plan Summaries 2009/10	Labour Group Liberal Democrat Group	Housing & Human Resources Portfolio To get a greater idea of the responsibilities of various portfolio holders and how that might work in the new structure.	The Committee supported the recommendations in the report. However members wished to convey their considerable unhappiness about the current performance on the handling of applications for Disabled Facilities Grants. These problems needed addressing as a matter of urgency and the Committee requested a report be submitted to it in June 2009.	Councillor Mrs Grainger responded to the concerns of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in relation to the handling of applications for Disabled Facilities Grants and assured them that this was being looked at as a high priority as well as other issues.

19	Future Maintenance of Bus Shelters within Warwick District	Liberal Democrat Group	The effect this proposal may have on the people of Warwick District and the implications of devolving services to town and parish councils.	The Committee highlighted that as this was a County Council function, that Warwickshire County Council be pursued to investigate whether funds from the decriminalisation process or any bus shelter advertising receipts received by the County could be used to provide an enhanced service. The Committee believed that Town Councils would not be able to undertake this function and if people were to be encouraged to use the buses and not use their cars, then bus shelters were essential.	The Executive noted the comments of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Head of Engineering Services assured the Executive that the County Council would not be funding any part of the maintenance of the bus shelters. Recommendation 2.3 as set out within the report would only take place if the Town Councils were in agreement.
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