

**Response from the meeting of the Joint Cabinet on the
O&S Committee's Comments – 29 June 2022**

Item Number 4 – South Warwickshire Local plan – Settlement Analysis Evidence
Report

Scrutiny Comment:

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee:

- (1) was keen that we stayed close to housing demand numbers and interrogated them when they were published along with the requirements for infrastructure within the areas;
- (2) wished to know when the budget shortfall would be addressed; and
- (3) requested that information should be added to the report up front to provide clarity on:
 - a. how the greenbelt was impacted (or not) by this report and when that would be addressed.
 - b. the definition of a twenty-minute neighbourhood, with examples provided, for people to better understand the concept;
 - c. densities and the impact these might have had on future issues and options; and
 - d. the distinction/difference between the Scoping and Call for Sites consultation results and the analysis done in this report and at what stage the results from both would come together.

The Committee recommended that the District Councils should engage with Town and Parish Councils earlier in the process to validate the findings for particular settlements.

Joint Cabinet Response:

The Joint Cabinet approved the recommendation in the report and also the following recommendation which was instead of the recommendation made by Overview & Scrutiny Committee:

That parish and town councils are given the opportunity to comment on the settlement analysis prior to the Issues and Options consultation; and the Heads of Development, in consultation with the Portfolio Holders for Place and Economy and Planning and Place, make any subsequent factual and consistency changes, and any changes, as appropriate, following consultation with parish and town councils, and ward members.

Other information concerning Overview & Scrutiny Committee discussed at the meeting of Joint Cabinet:

At the Joint Cabinet meeting there was also discussion on whether there should be a Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee but this was rejected:

- (1) the Chair of the WDC Overview & Scrutiny Committee recognised the importance of joint working but noted that this was being done by the Joint Cabinet meetings. He stated that he was elected to represent the interests of residents of Warwick District, and in order to do that properly the Scrutiny committees needed to be kept separate; and
- (2) Councillor Day stressed the importance of benefitting from the input of both Scrutiny Committee chairs at Joint Cabinet meetings but stated that his own view was that the two chairs should be trusted to bring their comments to Joint Cabinet individually. While there were things the two councils had in

common, there were other things that needed to be considered separately, and that could not be done with a Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

**Response from the meeting of the Cabinet on the
O&S Committee's Comments – 6 July 2022**

Item Number 5 – New Projects for the Leisure Development Programme

Scrutiny Comment:

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report. Members were keen to ensure the individual projects were referred to the Programme Advisory Boards.

Some broad comments were made about the provision of sports facilities across the District and the Committee recommended to Cabinet that these should be discussed at the Programme Advisory Boards (PABs).

The Committee wanted to see the ongoing use of project management reviewed and expressed a keenness to ensure these will be looked at to help deliver a range of projects moving forward.

Cabinet Response:

The recommendations in the report were approved along with the recommendation made by Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

Items 6 & 13 – Continuation of Hydrogen Hub Project and confidential appendix

Scrutiny Comment:

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee supported the work going forward and was keen to see the business case develop, particularly relating to the return on investment and the case for electric vehicles vs hydrogen vehicles and how these technologies evolve over time.

Cabinet Response:

The recommendations in the report were approved.

Item 7 – South Warwickshire Electric Vehicle (EV) Infrastructure Strategy Report

Scrutiny Comment:

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee recommended that this item continue to be discussed by the Climate Change Programme Advisory Board (PAB) in order to shape the strategy before it returns to Cabinet.

Cabinet Response:

The recommendations in the report were approved along with the recommendation made by Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

Item 9 – Supporting our Communities

Scrutiny Comment:

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report. Members wished to reinforce its appreciation of the outstanding effort of officers and

Members, recognising the work that has been put in to keep services going to residents throughout the last two years.

The Committee also recommended that Members take part of a public round of applause for staff at the next full Council meeting on 28 July.

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee welcomed the service area plans. Members recognised the amount of that work that had gone into them and expressed a desire to see these in the context of historical data.

Members also recognised the high amount of information received and requested that attention is paid to how best to communicate changes to key performance indicators.

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee recommended to Cabinet that

- (1) officers could look at other ways to distribute the information in the Energy Price Rise Leaflet (appendix 3 to the report) via Parish/Town Councils / District Councillors;
- (2) the Committee asked officers to produce a definition of the RAG status to be used across the Council for consistency; and
- (3) the Committee asked that the performance measures are reviewed by the PABs to ensure that measure things of importance and are clear in what they are measuring.

Cabinet Response:

The recommendations in the report were approved along with the recommendations made by Overview & Scrutiny Committee.