



Title	Comments from the Executive
For further information about this report please contact	Peter Dixon 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Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006	No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	Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee minutes 10/03/2015 Executive minutes from 11/03/2015

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).		
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 11 March 2015.

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 10 March 2015, 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 11 March 2015 to the Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee's comments

Item no	3	Title	Updated Code of Financial Practice
Scrutiny Comment	The Committee supported the recommendations in the report.		
Executive Response	-		

Item no	4	Title	Procurement Strategy and Action Plan
Scrutiny Comment	The Committee supported the recommendations in the report. Members asked that in future revisions to the Code of Procurement Practice be cross referenced with the Code of Financial Practice. The Committee also asked that further consideration be given to page 6 paragraph 1.2 to ensure they remain controlled and within the appropriate controls and budgets.		
Executive Response	The Portfolio Holder for Finance acknowledged the comments from the Committee and assurances were given that working practices would continue to be monitored.		

Item no	7	Title	HRA Business Plan Review for 2015/16 to 2061/62
Scrutiny Comment	The Committee supported the recommendations in the report.		
Executive Response	-		

Item no	9	Title	Regeneration in Lillington
Scrutiny Comment	The Committee supported the recommendations in the report.		
Executive Response	-		

Item no	11	Title	Warwick District Council / Waterloo Housing Group Joint Venture (W2) State Aid Review
Scrutiny Comment	The Committee supported the recommendations in the report.		
Executive Response	-		

Item no	12	Title	Corporate Property Planned Preventative Maintenance Programme 2015/16
Scrutiny Comment	The Committee supported the recommendations in the report.		
Executive Response	-		

Item no	13	Title	Reinstatement of Land Kites Nest Lane, Beausale
Scrutiny Comment	The Committee agreed it was the Council's responsibility to act for the interests of local residents and recommended to the Executive that, before this issue was considered, the complete budget outlining all associated costs be provided to the Executive and the Committee for due consideration.		
Executive Response	In response, the Executive was content that the complete budget was sufficient and all associated costs would be provided to the Portfolio Holder and the Chairman of Finance & Audit for assurance.		

Item no	14	Title	Combined Authorities
Scrutiny Comment	The Committee supported recommendation 2.4 in the report.		
Executive Response	The recommendations in the report were agreed with an amendment to recommendation 2.1 to ensure that all comments were received by the Chief Executive by 5.00pm on Wednesday 18 March 2015.		

Item no	15	Title	Proposed Exemption from the Code of Procurement Practice
Scrutiny Comment	<p>The Committee expressed disappointment over this matter because there was a contract register in place for which a main purpose was to bring forward early warnings and resolve any issues. It was of the view that it was not acceptable to carry on this way because this was a major contract and especially because the contracts register identified that work had started on this contract. The Committee explained that this should have been recognised and mitigated against through the proper procurement and resources allocated or requested if they were short.</p> <p>That said the Committee welcomed that the Procurement Team were looking at a new contract management system and that it was planned in the next financial year that this would provide the appropriate workflows and safeguards for contract management.</p> <p>The Committee welcomed that benchmarking would be undertaken on this work before the extension agreement was signed to confirm that value for money was achieved.</p> <p>With these views the Committee accepted the recommendations of the report because it felt there was no real alternative.</p>		

Executive Response	The Executive accepted the Committee's comments. The Portfolio Holder commented that this could be taken as positive recognition of procurement issues being addressed within Housing & Property Services.
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Item no	17a	Title	Historic Buildings Grants Allocations
Scrutiny Comment	The Committee supported the recommendation in the report.		
Executive Response	-		

Item no	17b	Title	Rural / Urban Capital Improvement Scheme (rucis) Application
Scrutiny Comment	The Committee supported the recommendations in the report.		
Executive Response	-		

Item no	19	Title	Regeneration in Lillington
Scrutiny Comment	The Committee supported the recommendation in the report so long as the Executive had clarification on the funding split, between parties, for the funding outlined in recommendation 2.2c.		
Executive Response	In response, the Executive amended the wording of recommendation 22c.		

Item no	20	Title	Asset Management Redesign Update
Scrutiny Comment	The Committee supported the recommendations in the report.		
Executive Response	-		

Item no	22	Title	Strategic Opportunity Proposal
Scrutiny Comment	The Committee supported the recommendations in the report.		
Executive Response	-		