



<b>Title</b>	Comments from the Executive
<b>For further information about this report please contact</b>	Lesley Dury, Committee Services Officer, 01926 456114 or <a href="mailto:committee@warwickdc.gov.uk">committee@warwickdc.gov.uk</a>
<b>Service Area</b>	Democratic Services
<b>Wards of the District directly affected</b>	N/A
<b>Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006</b>	No
<b>Date and meeting when issue was last considered and relevant minute number</b>	13 January 2015
<b>Background Papers</b>	Executive Minutes – 14 January 2015

<b>Contrary to the policy framework:</b>	No
<b>Contrary to the budgetary framework:</b>	No
<b>Key Decision?</b>	No
<b>Included within the Forward Plan? (If yes include reference number)</b>	No

<b>Officer/Councillor Approval</b>		
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).		
	<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>
Relevant Director		
Chief Executive		
CMT		
Section 151 Officer		
Legal		
Finance		
Portfolio Holders		

<b>Consultation Undertaken</b>	
N/A	
<b>Final Decision?</b>	Yes
<b>Suggested next steps (if not final decision please set out below)</b>	

## 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 December.

## 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 – 14 January 2015**

<b>Items no.</b>	3	<b>Title</b>	Housing Appeals and Review Panel	<b>Requested by</b>	Liberal Democrat Group/ Independent Group/ Labour Group
<b>Reason considered</b>	<p>Liberal Democrat Group - Because of its importance to vulnerable members of the Public.</p> <p>Independent Group – We wish to know what the rationale is for reducing Member involvement in the process.</p> <p>Labour Group – Members had comments about proposed changes to powers of HARP.</p>				
<b>Scrutiny Comment</b>	<p>It was with regret that the Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee recognised that this meets the Councils statutory requirement and that these changes must be made because they felt there is value in retaining councillor involvement in the appeal process for those items removed from the HARP process.</p> <p>The Committee welcomed the agreement from the Portfolio Holder for, and Head of, Housing &amp; Property Services that they will ensure that the correspondence for HARPs, especially with applicants and tenants, is put into plain English.</p> <p>They also welcomed that Housing &amp; Property Services officers will ensure that the tenant will be directed to their Ward Councillor about appeal matters and that Ward Councillors will be notified about appeals regarding applicants or tenants in their Ward.</p>				
<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>The Executive thanked the Scrutiny Committee for their comments and agreed that member involvement with tenants was important.</p> <p>The Portfolio Holder assured members that when the procedure notes were reviewed they would highlight that individuals would be encouraged to contact their Ward Councillor during the process.</p>				

<b>Item no.</b>	4	<b>Title</b>	Council Procedure Rules	<b>Requested by</b>	Independent Group
<b>Reason considered</b>	Independent Group – Clarification of the Working Party involvement in the Employee Code of Conduct				
<b>Scrutiny Comment</b>	The Overview & Scrutiny Committee asked that: 1. Procedure rule 9(1) be amended to reflect in the main body that questions can be directed to portfolio holders about their specific remit; and 2. Procedure rule 13(1) be amended to enable that any Councillors can call for the motion to be in to be writing but the chairman takes the final decision.				
<b>Executive Response</b>	The Executive supported the comments from the Committee and clarified the wording for 13(1) which was duly proposed to and agreed by Council on 28 January 2015.				

<b>Item no.</b>	5	<b>Title</b>	Convictions & Cautions Policy	<b>Requested by</b>	Independent Group
<b>Reason considered</b>	Independent Group – All reports welcomed apart from concern on the sanction for not wearing your badge. Does the punishment match the crime?				
<b>Scrutiny Comment</b>	The Overview & Scrutiny Committee welcomed the report, but asked that officers include the normal enforcement steps (i.e. gentle reminder, warning letter etc) underneath the table of offences.				
<b>Executive Response</b>	The Executive agreed that the normal enforcement steps would be included in the Policy as requested.				

<b>Item no.</b>	7	<b>Title</b>	2014 National Bowls Championships	<b>Requested by</b>	Labour Group
<b>Reason considered</b>	Labour Group - Members had questions about action planning following this review.				
<b>Scrutiny Comment</b>	The Overview & Scrutiny Committee passed their congratulations to all involved on a well organised national event and welcomed that the issues were being investigated and responded to.				
<b>Executive Response</b>	The Executive thanked the Committee for their comments and agreed with their sentiments.				

<b>Item no.</b>	9	<b>Title</b>	Council's Strategic Approach to Sustainability and Climate Change	<b>Requested by</b>	Labour Group
<b>Reason considered</b>	Labour Group - Members had questions about priorities and resources for delivery.				
<b>Scrutiny Comment</b>	The Overview & Scrutiny Committee welcomed the report and looked forward to updates on this through the Portfolio Holder statements.				
<b>Executive Response</b>	The Executive agreed the recommendations in the report.				