

# Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

8 September 2010

## Agenda

A meeting of the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be held at the **SHIRE HALL, WARWICK on WEDNESDAY, 8 SEPTEMBER 2010 at 14.00 p.m.**

The agenda will be: -

### 1. General

- (1) **Appointment of Vice Chair**
- (2) **Apologies**
- (3) **Members' Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.**

Members are reminded that they should disclose the existence and nature of their personal interests at the commencement of the relevant item (or as soon as the interest becomes apparent). If that interest is a prejudicial interest the Member must withdraw from the room unless one of the exceptions applies.

'Membership of a district or borough council is classed as a personal interest under the Code of Conduct. A Member does not need to declare this interest unless the Member chooses to speak on a matter relating to their membership. If the Member does not wish to speak on the matter, the Member may still vote on the matter without making a declaration'.

### (4) **Remit of the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

To review and or scrutinise the provision of public services in Warwickshire relating to Fire & Rescue, Community Safety, Trading

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The public reports referred to are available on the Warwickshire Web  
[www.warwickshire.gov.uk/committee-papers](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/committee-papers)

Standards, Transport and Highways, Economic Development and Environment, Adult Learning Libraries, Heritage, and Tourism.

**(5) Minutes of the meeting of the Corporate Services and Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 1 June 2010**

These are provided for information to help inform discussion on the future work programme.

**(6) Chair's Announcements**

**2. Public Question Time (Standing Order 34)**

Up to 30 minutes of the meeting is available for members of the public to ask questions on any matters relevant to the business of the Corporate Services and Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Questioners may ask two questions and can speak for up to three minutes each.

For further information about public question time, please contact Ann Mawdsley on 01926 418079 or e-mail [annmawdsley@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:annmawdsley@warwickshire.gov.uk).

**3. Questions to the Portfolio Holders**

**Councillor Alan Cockburn (Lead Portfolio Holder, Environment and Economy)**

**Councillor Colin Hayfield (Lead Portfolio Holder, Customers, Workforce and Partnership)**

**Councillor Richard Hobbs (Community Safety)**

Up to 30 minutes of the meeting is available for Members of the Committee to put questions to the Portfolio Holders on any matters relevant to the Communities remit.

**4. Combined Aerial Rescue Platform (CARP)**

Report of the Chief Fire Officer.

Fire and Rescue Service have taken delivery of 2 Combined Aerial Rescue Platform (CARP) appliances. Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee have asked for an update on progress with commissioning of these vehicles.

**Recommendation**

The Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee consider the report and make recommendations as appropriate

For further information please contact Jim Onions, Assistant Chief Fire Officer, Tel: 01926 423231 E-mail [jimonions@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:jimonions@warwickshire.gov.uk).

## 5. Youth Justice Service Report on Reduction of Re-offending

Report of the Strategic Director for Children, Young People and Families

This report was requested by the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee. It outlines the excellent performance of the Warwickshire Youth Justice Service (WYJS) in achieving the stated objectives of preventing youth crime and reducing re-offending of those young people who have committed offences.

The paper describes some of the interventions provided to young people supervised by the Service and demonstrates the effectiveness of those interventions.

The paper also outlines the effect of the current economic climate on both re-offending rates and the ability of the WYJS to be effective in continuing the excellent performance.

### Recommendation

That the Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee

- i. note the report and the current YJB rated performance of 'excellent' for Warwickshire Youth Justice Service with regard to reducing re-offending and the effectiveness of the interventions delivered by the Service.
- ii. consider the potential risks resulting from the current economic climate and reduction in funding to the Youth Justice Service.

For further information please contact Lesley Tregear, Warwickshire Youth Justice Service Manager, Tel : 01926 736204 E-mail [lesleytregear@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:lesleytregear@warwickshire.gov.uk) or Phil Sawbridge, Head of Service – Children in Need Division, Tel: 01926 742577 E-mail [philsawbridge@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:philsawbridge@warwickshire.gov.uk).

## 6. Committee Work Programme and suggested topics for Task and Finish Groups

This report outlines the draft work programme for the Committee and review outlines for suggested Task and Finish Groups to be passed onto the Overview and Scrutiny Board for consideration..

### Recommendation

The Committee is recommended to agree:

- i) the draft work programme, to be reviewed and reprioritised as appropriate throughout the year

- ii) the suggested review outlines and forward them onto the Overview and Scrutiny Board for consideration

For further information please contact Michelle McHugh, Overview and Scrutiny Manager, Tel: 01926 412144 E-mail [michellemchugh@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:michellemchugh@warwickshire.gov.uk).

### **Forward Plan**

For information:

Cabinet – 9 September 2010

Concessionary Travel Policy and discretionary options within Warwickshire

Cabinet – 18 November 2010

Concessionary Travel funding position from DfT

## **7. Any Other Items**

which the Chair decides are urgent.

**JIM GRAHAM**  
Chief Executive

### **Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

#### **County Councillors**

Sarah Boad, Richard Chattaway, Jeff Clarke, Barry Lobbett, Mike Gittus, Phillip Morris-Jones, Martin Shaw, Ray Sweet, John Whitehouse (Chair), Chris Williams

#### **Cabinet Members**

Councillor Alan Cockburn (Lead Portfolio Holder for Environment and Economy)

Councillor Colin Hayfield (Lead Portfolio Holder for Customers, Workforce and Partnerships)

Councillor Richard Hobbs (Lead Portfolio Holder for Community Safety)

**The reports referred to are available in large print if requested**

**General Enquiries: Please contact Ann Mawdsley on 01926 418079**

**E-mail: [annmawdsley@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:annmawdsley@warwickshire.gov.uk)**

**Enquiries about specific reports: Please contact the officers named in the reports.**

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The public reports referred to are available on the Warwickshire Web  
[www.warwickshire.gov.uk/committee-papers](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/committee-papers)

**The Corporate Services and Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Committee met at the Shire Hall, Warwick on the 1 June 2010.**

**Present:**

**Members of the Committee:**

Councillors            Martyn Ashford  
                              Richard Chattaway  
                              Chris Davis  
                              Jim Foster  
                              Peter Fowler  
                              Mike Gittus  
                              Brian Moss  
                              Chris Saint (in the Chair following election)  
                              Dave Shilton  
                              David Wright  
                              Clive Rickard

**Other Councillors**

Councillor Colin Hayfield, Lead Portfolio Holder for Customers, Workforce and Governance  
Councillor Martin Heatley, Lead Portfolio Holder for Resources  
Councillor Richard Hobbs, Lead Portfolio Holder for Community Safety  
Councillor Peter Butlin, Support Portfolio Holder for Workforce and Partnership.  
Councillor June Tandy, Group Leader (Labour)

**Officers: Warwickshire Police**

DCC Andy Parker  
ACC Neil Bunton

**Customers, Workforce and Governance**

David Carter, Strategic Director  
Jean Hardwick, Principal Committee Administrator  
Kate Nash, Head of Community Safety and Localities  
Paul Williams, Scrutiny Officer

**Fire and Rescue Service**

Graeme Smith, Chief Fire Officer

**Resources Directorate**

Tonino Ciuffini, Head of ICT

**Environment and Economy Directorate**

Roger Newham, County Transport Planner

## **1. General**

### **(1) Election of Chair**

Councillor Peter Fowler, seconded by Councillor David Wright, proposed that Councillor Chris Saint be appointed Chair of the Committee.

Resolved that Councillor Chris Saint be appointed Chair of the Committee.

#### Welcome

The Chair welcomed ACC Neil Bunton to his first meeting of the Committee following his appointment to Warwickshire Police and DCC Andy Parker and CFO Graeme Smith.

### **(2) Election of Vice Chair**

Councillor Dave Shilton, seconded by Councillor Jim Foster, proposed that Councillor Mike Gittus be appointed Vice Chair of the Committee.

Resolved that Councillor Mike Gittus be appointed Vice Chair of the Committee.

### **(3) Apologies.**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Martin Shaw, Jim Graham, Chief Executive and DCFO Glen Ranger.

### **(4) Members' Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.**

None

### **(5) Remit of Corporate Services and Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Committee.**

The Committee's remit, as agreed by Council on 23 June 2009, was noted.

A Member commented that the remit for this Committee was too wide and, coupled with the reduction in the number of meetings, meant that there was insufficient time to carry out its work. Other Members agreed with this view and also commented that the change in Portfolio Holders' remits and the establishment of Support Portfolio Holders was confusing. Reference was made to the review of the Overview and Scrutiny function that was shortly to be carried out and Members agreed that they would raise their concerns when this was debated at Council. Members acknowledged the need for a review but suggested that whatever system was introduced, provided it was properly resourced, it would work.

**(6) Minutes**

Resolved:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 2 March 2010 be approved and signed by the Chair.

There were no matters arising.

**(7) Feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Board**

None

**(8) Chair's Announcement**

None

**2. Public Question Time (Standing Order 34)**

None

**3. Portfolio Holders' Question time**

Councillor Martin Heatley, Portfolio Holder for Resources, in reply to questions in respect of the following issues, said that –

(a) Rugby Western Relief Road

This issue was the responsibility of the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Economy (Councillor Alan Cockburn) but he would ensure that Members were provided with an update of the position as soon possible. Councillor David Wright said that he was a member of the Western Relief Road Board and that the issue was near to a conclusion.

(b ) Future use of the Courts and Judges House

An email would be circulated to all Members updating them on the proposals for future use of the Courts, Judges House, Northgate Street and The Butts properties inviting comment prior to a report to Cabinet and Council.

(c) Property Portfolio

Councillor David Wright expressed concern that, despite an expectation that scrutiny of the Council's property portfolio would take place 12 months previously, this had not been done. Notwithstanding the Vanguard management training that senior officers had undertaken 3 years previously decision making within the Council was too slow. Councillor Heatley acknowledged that progress on scrutinising the Council's portfolio had been slow and said he would ensure that the Chief Executive and senior officers were made aware of the need to move at a greater speed on this issue.

With regard to Smallholding properties, which again were Councillor Cockburn's portfolio, a review of rents was ongoing and a review of land and buildings to identify properties that were redundant and premises sold rather than retained was being undertaken.

Councillor Colin Hayfield, Portfolio Holder for Customers, Workforce and Governance and Councillor Peter Butlin, Support Portfolio Holder for Workforce and Governance, in reply to questions said that –

- (1) Customer access to council services was working well but there was scope for improvement;
- (2) With regard to partnership working and Locality Forums – Councillor Hayfield said he would be in a better position to report to the next meeting on this issue;
- (3) With regard to mystery shopping exercises David Carter explained that extensive mystery shopping exercises had been carried out in the past and the results reported to committee but these had been reduced and increasingly feedback from customers had been relied on.

Councillor Richard Hobbs, Portfolio Holder for Community Safety, in reply to questions, said with regard to -

- (1) Sale of alcohol to young people – that a Government Directive was awaited on this issue but acknowledged that the main difficulty was young people obtaining alcohol from home or being supplied by other people.
- (2) Fitting and checking of smoke detectors - work was on going with this initiative but expanded to include other appliances and was being progressed by the Fire and Rescue Service working in partnership with other agencies;
- (3) Preventing the distress caused by fireworks - Trading Standards had undertaken work to prevent underage sales, had identified “hotspot” areas and working with PCSOs had raised awareness of the hazards of fireworks through the schools safety programme;

The Committee thanked the Portfolio Holders for their updates.

#### **4. Fire and Rescue Service Update on Service Improvement Plan Consultation**

Councillor Richard Hobbs said that the outcome of the consultation and Improvement Plan would be reported to July Council when Members would have the opportunity to debate the recommendation proposed. A draft report setting out the proposals would be circulated to party leaders by the beginning of July.

##### Appointment of Deputy CFO

Councillor Hobbs reported that Gary Phillips currently with Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service had been appointed to replace Glen Ranger as Deputy CFO with effect from the first week in August.

#### **5. Report On Progress within Warwickshire Direct**

The Committee considered the report of the Strategic Director, Customers, Workforce and Governance which set out to appraise members on progress



within Warwickshire Direct – incorporating telephone, face to face and electronic service delivery.

The key messages included:

- A summary of activity to date to implement the alignment of all customer facing channels in line with the One Front Door initiative
- Details of partnership activity and initiatives in support of the Customer Service and Access strategy
- Description of service activity and performance

In reply to questions Kushal Birla said that –

- (1) Discussions had taken place with Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council (NBBC) about relocating the One Stop Shop to the Council House but this had not proved possible because of lack of space. NBBS would , however, be relocating their Customer Service Centre to Kings House, Bedworth;
- (2) The Police enquiries service provided from Warwick One Stop Shop should not be seen as a substitute for uniformed police. One Stop Shop staff only provided answers for the “most frequently asked questions”;
- (3) Poor performance in connection with Warwick District Council switchboard enquiries was being addressed by speeding up the integration of both the County Council and Warwick District Councils’ switchboards and by addressing the high staff turnover which had also contributed to poor performance.

Members commended and congratulated Warwickshire Direct on its service and initiatives and supported its improvement plan proposals.

## **6. Anti-Social Behaviour Action Plan: End of Year Progress Report.**

The Committee considered the report of the Strategic Director, Customers, Workforce and Governance which provided Members with an update on progress made in relation to the 2009-10 anti-social behaviour action plan.

During discussion the following comments were noted:

- (1) That the progress made in tackling anti social behaviour was welcomed and the further work outlined in the report supported;
- (2) That promoting public confidence was still an issue that needed to be addressed;
- (3) That there was need for improvement in response to telephone calls requesting Police assistance;
- (4) That, whilst incident numbers had reduced, it was considered that 400 incidents per week was still too high;
- (5) Members questioned whether the reduction in the number of incidents could be sustained and whether there was still an under reporting of crimes;
- (6) That the public had a mixed understanding of Police Community Support Officers’ (PCSOs) powers and responsibilities.

In reply to the above Councillor Hobbs said that –

- (1) The Police Confidence Board had agreed a range of initiatives to build public confidence. These initiatives included engagement with the community by recruiting volunteers to work with the Police to ensure that the community aware of what was happening in their areas. The public was also being encouraged to report all crime;
- (2) The action taken by some communities involving and engaging young people had helped to reduce anti social behaviour in those areas;
- (3) Information was available about Safer Neighbourhood Teams' performance and Members had previously been circulated with the details of PCSO's powers. He was confident that the powers were right and that they were doing a good job
- (4) He welcomed Members comments and said he was confident that with the engagement of the local community and identification of "hot spots" that anti-social behaviour could be reduced.

Kate Nash added that Community Forums were actively promoting the need to report all crime and pushing up crime figures rather than there being an increase in under-reporting of crime.

The Chair thanked Members for their comments and the debate which he considered had been very helpful. .

## **7. Provisional Items for Future Meetings and Forward Plan Items Relevant to the work of this Committee**

### **(a) Provisional Items for Future Meetings**

The Committee noted the table setting out provisional items for future meetings.

### **(b) Forward Plan Items Relevant to the work of this Committee (Cabinet only)**

The Committee noted the County Council and Cabinet Forward Plan items relevant to the work of this Committee.

The Chair commented that this was likely to be the last meeting of the Committee in the light of the proposal to change the Council's Overview and Scrutiny structure. Discussion followed during which the following comments were noted:

- (1) That any proposal should driven by non-executive members or the Overview and Scrutiny Board;
- (2) That the current structure had not worked because it was under-resourced and lacked member engagement;
- (3) That any change should have cross-party support and engage back-bench members.
- (4) That the Rugby Borough Council scrutiny function should be seen as working well and a good model.

## 8. Any Other Items

### Deputy Chief Fire Officer Glen Ranger

Councillor Richard Hobbs reported that Deputy Chief Fire Officer Glen Ranger had recently been appointed to the post of Deputy Chief Fire Officer for Bedfordshire and Luton Fire and Rescue Service. He said that DCFO Ranger was well respected for the work he had undertaken for Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service which had been excellent and said that the promotion was well deserved.

The Committee endorsed the above comments and thanked DCFO Ranger for his good work with Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service and wished him well in the future.

The Committee rose at 4.20 p.m.

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Chair of Committee

**Agenda No .**

**AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET**

**Name of Committee** Communities Overview and Scrutiny

**Date of Committee** 8<sup>th</sup> September 2010

**Report Title** Combined Aerial Rescue Platform (CARP)

**Summary** Fire and Rescue Service have taken delivery of 2 Combined Aerial Rescue Platform (CARP) appliances. Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee have asked for an update on progress with commissioning of these vehicles.

**For further information please contact:** Jim Onions 01926 423231  
Assistant Chief Fire Officer

**Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework?** No – Procurement has been undertaken in line with County Council financial regulations.

**Background papers** Cabinet paper 7<sup>th</sup> September 2006 – FRS Efficiency Savings

**Appendices**

**CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:-**

Details to be specified

- Other Committees
- Local Member(s)
- Other Elected Members  Councillor John Whitehouse, Councillor Richard Chattaway, Councillor Chris Williams
- Cabinet Member  Councillor Richard Hobbs,
- Chief Executive
- Legal  Greta Needham
- Finance  Helen Murphy
- Other Chief Officers
- District Councils
- Health Authority

Police

Other Bodies/Individuals  Michelle McHugh

***FINAL DECISION***

***SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:***

Details to be specified

Further consideration by this Committee  Verbal update for future scrutiny committee when 2<sup>nd</sup> appliance becomes operational

To Council

To Cabinet

To an O and S Committee

To an Area Committee

Further Consultation

## Communities Overview and Scrutiny

8<sup>th</sup> September 2010

### Combined Aerial Rescue Platform (CARP) Fire Appliance

#### Report of the Chief Fire Officer

##### Recommendation

- The Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee consider the report and make recommendations as appropriate

#### 1.0 Introduction

1.1 Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service operate a number of specialist vehicles to undertake its firefighting and rescue roles. Key to this function is the standard pumping appliance, which is the traditional vehicle that many will associate with the fire and rescue service, it carries a tanked supply of water, various ladders, breathing apparatus, equipment for dealing with road traffic collisions, protective equipment for dealing with hazardous materials and a comprehensive range of tools, breaking in gear and medical equipment. A further familiar type of vehicle is the Aerial Platform which provides for high level firefighting attack and rescue capability from a cage operating up to 28metres from the ground. The Combined Aerial Rescue Pump (CARP) capability combines the functions of both vehicles into one.

1.2 There are numerous benefits of this approach, namely;

- Increased firefighting and rescue capability across the county in the provision of two rescue platforms where previously there had been only one.
- Crews more likely to use the platform equipment as they will respond to incidents with it – rather than having to call the resource on separately.
- Reduced staffing costs, by introducing the CARP capability the Service has reduced its operational establishment by 12 firefighter and officer posts at a saving to the County Council of © £370,000 per annum. A financial saving achieved whilst increasing operational capability.
- Financial saving of £132,000 per annum of annual charge of providing aerial cover in the north of the County from West Midlands Fire Service.
- Small reduction in size of vehicle fleet reducing maintenance overheads.

## **2.0 Combined Aerial Rescue Platform (CARP)**

- 2.1 Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service will commission two Combined Aerial Rescue Platform Appliances at Leamington Spa and Nuneaton Fire Stations to provide aerial firefighting and rescue cover in the north and south of the county.
- 2.2 The capital expenditure on the vehicles represents a significant investment by the County Council in its Fire and Rescue Service, nonetheless procuring the combined appliances is more cost effective than procuring separate pumping and aerial platform appliances.
- 2.3 The vehicles have the full functionality of an aerial platform combined with rescue and firefighting role of a pumping appliance together with water tank and rescue equipment. Further innovation includes a camera and remote water monitor enabling the vehicle to be positioned for an aerial firefighting attack, but without committing firefighters into the hazard area.
- 2.4 However, the true financial benefits of the CARP is realised by the reduced crewing levels required for the appliances. Introducing the 2 CARPs ensures the Service no longer requires a dedicated crew for an aerial platform appliance – this has saved £370,000 from the staffing budget and £135,000 from charges made by West Midlands Fire Service to provide aerial cover in the north of the County (over £500,000 per annum). The CARPs will help ensure that Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service is more resilient and self sufficient.
- 2.5 The initial estimate for delivery of the vehicles was very ambitious and hadn't factored in the level of research and contract negotiation that was required. The build programme for the vehicles bespoke to Warwickshire requirements was therefore closer to two years rather than the predicted one year. Further to this there have been modifications conducted on the vehicles at Warwickshire's request to align the CARPs to the Service's precise requirements.
- 2.6 The CARPs by their very nature are complex fire and rescue appliances, and this complexity did lead to some early reliability problems. Many of these problems related to computer software programmes that control 'fail-safe' devices on the elevating boom sections. Although these fail-safe devices caused early problems, they are vital to the safe operation of the vehicle and they are now working well.
- 2.7 The teething snags have been made apparent by the intense usage that the vehicles are currently receiving during the initial training period. Fire and Rescue Service officers have been working in partnership with the manufacturer to rectify issues, improve functionality and resolve the initial unreliability problems.
- 2.8 Some downtime involving the vehicles cannot be attributed to the vehicles or their design. Some damage was caused to a CARP through a problem

involving a battery charging procedure whilst a second involved damage to a differential that could happen to any vehicle.

- 2.9 Our CARP appliances have been fully tested by firefighting crews to ensure their full functionality before becoming operational.
- 2.10 The complexity of the vehicles has led to an extensive training programme for engineering staff and to ensuring that Firefighters from both Stations are competent in their use. In total over 100 operational and engineering staff have required training in the use of these appliances, this has clearly taken some considerable time to achieve.
- 2.11 Training on the vehicles has also had to include input for drivers to experience the extra weight and length of the vehicles and the new 'rear-steer' configuration.
- 2.12 Fire and Rescue Services have received bad press due their CARPs being too heavy for their axle loadings. Central Scotland, Humberside, South Yorkshire are amongst Service's that have experienced such problems. This has not been the case with the Warwickshire appliances, as our design is fundamentally different as we have specified a three axle layout rather than two axles, giving the vehicles the extra weight capacity required. Therefore our CARP appliances will not suffer the problems others have received nationally.
- 2.13 The Service has also had to undertake changes to its operational procedures and mobilising principles to accommodate the new capability.
- 2.14 The overall delay in commissioning the appliances has not been due to any single issue, but a combination of late delivery, early reliability problems and an extensive training programme for operational staff.
- 2.15 The first CARP will be commissioned and become operational at Nuneaton Fire Station on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2010.
- 2.16 The second CARP will be commissioned and become operational at Leamington Fire Station on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2010.

### **3.0 Recommendation**

- The Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee consider the report and make recommendations as appropriate

**Graeme Smith**  
**Chief Fire Officer**



**AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET**

**Name of Committee** **Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

**Date of Committee** **8 September 2010**

**Report Title** **Youth Justice Service Report on Reduction of Re-offending**

**Summary**  
This report was requested by the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee. It outlines the excellent performance of the Warwickshire Youth Justice Service (WYJS) in achieving the stated objectives of preventing youth crime and reducing re-offending of those young people who have committed offences.  
The paper describes some of the interventions provided to young people supervised by the Service and demonstrates the effectiveness of those interventions.  
The paper also outlines the effect of the current economic climate on both re-offending rates and the ability of the WYJS to be effective in continuing the excellent performance.

**For further information please contact:**

Lesley Tregear  
Youth Justice Service  
Tel: 01926 736204  
lesleytregear@warwickshire.gov.uk

Phil Sawbridge  
Safeguarding Division  
Tel: 01926 742577  
philsawbridge@warwickshire.gov.uk

**Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy**

No

**Framework? [please identify relevant plan/budget provision]**  
**Background papers**

Background information can be found at [www.yjb.gov.uk](http://www.yjb.gov.uk)  
[www.homeoffice.gov.uk](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk)

**CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:**

Details to be specified

Other Committees  .....

Local Member(s)  .....

Other Elected Members

CYP&F O&S Chair  
Cllr June Tandy

CYP&F O&S Spokesperson  
Cllr Peter Balaam  
Cllr Carolyn Robbins

Cabinet Member

For information:  
Cllr Heather Timms  
Cllr Richard Hobbs

Other Cabinet Members consulted

.....

Chief Executive

.....

Legal

Fay Ford – ‘*Fine*’

Finance

.....

Other Strategic Directors

Graeme Smith, Strategic Director – Fire & Rescue  
(for information)

District Councils

.....

Health Authority

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Police

.....

Other Bodies/Individuals

Michelle McHugh, Overview and Scrutiny  
Manager

**FINAL DECISION**

**YES/NO**

**SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:**

Details to be specified

Further consideration by this Committee

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To Council

.....

To Cabinet

.....

To an O & S Committee

.....

To an Area Committee

.....

Further Consultation

.....

## Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

8 September 2010

### Youth Justice Service Report on Reduction of Re-offending

#### Report of the Strategic Director for Children, Young People and Families

##### **Recommendation:**

That the Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee

- i. note the report and the current YJB rated performance of 'excellent' for Warwickshire Youth Justice Service with regard to reducing re-offending and the effectiveness of the interventions delivered by the Service.
- ii. consider the potential risks resulting from the current economic climate and reduction in funding to the Youth Justice Service.

## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 The Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee requested a report on the effectiveness of Warwickshire Youth Justice Service (WYJS) interventions in reducing re-offending within Warwickshire. In particular, the Committee requested information on the impact of the current economic climate on offending rates, and the opportunities and challenges for the Service going forward.
- 1.2 The way in which youth rates of re-offending is reported has recently changed and is currently calculated as the 'rate' of re-offending – numbers of young people re-offending against the number of offences each young person commits. However, for the purpose of this report this rate and the previous calculations – the percentage of young people re-offending and the seriousness of the offences committed following the imposition of an order, have been considered in order to give a true picture of the service delivered.
- 1.3 The ability of the Service to continue to deliver this performance within the current economic climate is considered alongside the recent review and performance report of the Service by the Youth Justice Board (YJB).

## **2. Offending rates**

- 2.1 Offending rates have reduced nationally but to a much lesser extent than that within Warwickshire, where a reduction in first time entrants to the youth justice system (FTEs) has been supported through partnership work between prevention staff within WYJS, the police and the partners in Integrated Youth Support Services.
- 2.2 WYJS practitioners and community police officers trained in restorative justice supervise Youth Restorative Disposals (YRDs) imposed on those young people who commit anti-social behaviour which puts them at risk of entering the criminal justice system.
- 2.3 Interventions to reduce the risk of offending are based upon an assessment of risk identified using the ONSET tool. These interventions nevertheless ensure the young people concerned face the consequences of their behaviour with restorative justice being used to bring the 'offender and their victim face to face and/or make reparation for the 'offence/s' committed.
- 2.4 During 2009/10 WYJS reported a further reduction of crime committed by young people, with a 19% reduction in young people committing offences compared to 2008/9 and a 22% reduction in the number of offences committed. The percentage of young people in Warwickshire committing crime in 2009/10 was 1.7%.
- 2.5 As a result of our prevention work and that of our partners we continue to see very few children below the age of 13 years within the court system. During quarter 1 of 2010 no young people aged less than 13 years were sentenced in court.

## **3. Re-offending rates**

- 3.1 WYJS performance for reduction of re-offending rates is comparable with the West Midlands region but significantly better than that of our YOT family and the national performance.
- 3.2 Rates of youth re-offending within Warwickshire have continued to reduce year on year since 2007/8. This is the result of the work of practitioners within WYJS, using a risk led approach to delivery of interventions which is linked to the assessment of the young person. These assessments are carried out using the Asset tool which has a predictive validity rate of over 69%.
- 3.3 Interventions are designed to address factors contributing to the young person's offending and are therefore dependant on the presenting needs of the each young person.
- 3.4 Increasingly young people subject to court orders present with complex issues requiring intensive supervision by practitioners. The statutory partnership of YOTs is therefore extremely beneficial in ensuring that these young people

receive prompt and appropriate support by professionals qualified to both assess and address their needs.

- 3.5 Each of the agencies within WYJS contributes to interventions based on their own professional discipline as well as contributing to the overall multi-agency approach to casework within the Service.

### **3.6 Effectiveness of Interventions**

- 3.6.1 The Service uses many different interventions to address the causes of offending. Due to the complexity of each young person's issues it is usual for a variety of methods to be adopted in any one case. However, as interventions are linked to assessed risks it is possible to demonstrate effectiveness in many areas:-

- Interventions to address sexually harmful behaviour are carried out by social workers within the Service. This programme has proved extremely effective with a re-offending rate for those committing sexual offences of 25%, none of which were for sexual offences. As a result of this the Service has introduced the use of a further assessment tool to support these cases.
- In 2001 and again more recently an analysis of health needs of young people known to WYJS was undertaken which showed a significant number (54%) of young people presenting with some sort of mental health issue and 50% had experienced a head injury which research by the Child Brain Injury Trust shows can result in cognitive behavioural difficulties. Mental health practitioners within WYJS are able to deliver prompt and appropriate services to those young people identified with mental health needs. 42% of young people supervised by the Service during 2009/10 with identified mental needs showed improvement in the state of their mental health.
- An anger management programme devised by one of the health practitioners in the early days of Warwickshire YOT continues to be used for those young people where anger forms part of the reason for offending. This programme has proved to improve the thinking and behaviour of the young people concerned in almost 49% of cases.
- An analysis of re-offending rates where WYJS parenting provision has been provided alongside other WYS interventions demonstrates an 80% success rate, with none of the young people offending during the following 12 months.
- During 2010 work with schools and the Out of Schools Group has continued and as such we have seen a significant increase in performance for young people known to the Service in full time education, with 76.6% compared to the baseline performance of 57.3%; of which 83% of young people were aged under 16 years and 70.2% were aged 16 years and over.
- Probation officers within the Service supervise many of the older age group of 16 and 17 year olds. This group is consistently the most prolific of offenders and as such often require substantial support to reduce their likelihood of re-

offending. Of the cohort of young offenders from 2009 56% of these young people did not re-offend within 12 months, compared to 44% in 2008.

- Over 40% of the young people who were supervised by WYJS for a knife related offence during 2009-10 showed improvements in 'Family and Personal Relationships', 'Lifestyle' and 'Thinking and Behaviour' at the end of WYJS intervention. Only 29% of those young people supervised by WYJS who committed knife related offences re-offended during that period.
- The work of police practitioners within WYJS was reviewed in 2008/9 and now focuses increasingly on the management of risky young people and Persistent Young Offenders (now described as Deter Young Offenders or DYOs). This work includes sharing intelligence with officers within the community ensuring all are aware of conditions made against individual young people in order to bring them back to justice for non-compliance; home visits to ensure the young people are complying with requirements of orders or bail; and supervision of orders where the skills of the police are required to reduce offending. WYJS work with those young people identified as DYOs is demonstrated to reduce their offending by 50%.

## **4. Impact of the Economic Climate**

- 4.1 As a result of reductions in youth crime the number of young people supervised by WYJS has reduced during 2010. However, with the implementation of the Youth Justice Reforms introduced as a result of the Criminal Justice and Immigration Act 2008 and changes to statutory practice for YOTs (the scaled approach and new national standards) the workload of practitioners has begun to rise, as predicted using the YJB forecasting tool.
- 4.2 In addition to the rise in workloads we have seen an increase in the number of cases being managed by practitioners in WYJS, the first rise of it's' kind for more than 2 years. Further analysis shows that the increase in caseloads is due to increased complexity of issues presented by the young people supervised by the service. This complexity is further demonstrated by the reduction in early discharges of court orders supervised by WYJS for completion and good progress during 2009/10 (14%) compared to 29% for the previous year.
- 4.3 It is difficult to assess the impact of the economic climate in relation to future offending within Warwickshire but the British Crime Survey report states that "During 1990 -1992 the UK was suffering a recession. This led to economic hardship which can be linked to increases in levels of crime in the early 90s. From 1996/97 onwards the economy was growing, which is thought to have contributed to the decrease in property crime since the peak in 1995".
- 4.4 The impact of increases in offending, together with the increased complexity of presenting issues for young people supervised by WYJS will no doubt have a impact on the resources required to deliver the level of support young people need to address the causes of their criminal behaviour. If the Service experiences reduction in resources the impact could be considered significant.

## 5. Sustainability of the Service

- 5.1 In February of this year the Strategic Director of Children's Services and the Youth Justice Service Manager were interviewed by the YJB to establish the sustainability of the success of the WYJS as part of the national review of YOT management. This formed part of the Capacity and Capability Self Assessment undertaken on each Youth Offending Team as part of the Youth Justice Planning Improvement Framework (YJPIF).
- 5.2 Following this interview the YJPIF was validated by the YJB both regionally and nationally and WYJS was found to be 'excellent' in terms of performance and 'good' with regards to capacity and capability. The inability to recruit to the post of Performance Manager due to funding concerns corporately was noted as the weak element leaving the WYJS with a reduced capacity to carry out detailed analysis on intervention effectiveness:-
- 5.3 The validator's notes state:
- 5.3.1 "The validation of the Warwickshire Youth Justice Service (WYJS) demonstrates that the Service is performing excellently against the national indicators with good capacity and capability to sustain and improve performance. The WYJS is improving significantly in reducing re-offending, increasing education, training and employment (ETE) and reducing First Time Entrants (FTE). Although the Custody performance appears static, the number of custodial sentences has actually reduced from 31 in 2008/09 to 17 in 2009/10
- 5.3.2 Although there is evidence of detailed reporting on Performance, there is insufficient detailed analysis. This is linked to the departure of the Performance Manager. The post is currently being reviewed.
- 5.3.3 There are a number of notable areas of emerging practice.
- 5.3.4 The WYJS Management Board is small but well represented at a senior level. It has recently re-structured the management levels of the WYJS with efficiency savings in mind. Covering 5 districts in the county has been challenging but reporting to and consulting with districts is well incorporated into the management responsibilities.
- 5.3.5 There are a number of notable and innovative practices"
- 5.4 The current constraint on budgets following the coalition government's emergency budget is already starting to impact on the work of the WYJS with partners requesting a review of funding to the Service and grants being reduced or removed. Health has recently undertaken a review of provision within the WYJS; and the County Council and Police have also requested a review.

- 5.5 The 'Area Based Grant' (ABG) was used to support parenting provision within the Service, an area cited as one of good practice by the YJB. This grant has been removed mid year with salaries already paid which will impact on the rest of the Service, and will result in the reduction of services to parents (30 families at any one time).
- 5.6 In addition to this the YJB currently support WYJS in the provision of grants, one of which is to support prevention which has proved effective in reducing FTEs (as noted above). This grant is under review and it is anticipated that the grant may be removed either during 2010/11 or 2011/15, following the Comprehensive Service Review. This will have a major impact on the ability of the Service to provide anything other than supervision of statutory orders.

## **6. Conclusion**

- 6.1 Warwickshire can feel confident in the effectiveness of WYJS in delivering interventions that result in both prevention and reduction of offending by young people. All of which results in a safer environment to Warwickshire residents.
- 6.2 The YJB have reported confidence in the Services' ability to sustain this success in terms of our commitment to continuous improvement and excellent partnership work. However, financial constraints that lead to reductions in funds will no doubt impact on performance and the range of services that can be provided.
- 6.3 Current and anticipated reviews of contributions to the Service by the statutory partners will be discussed by the Chief Officers of the partnership who will consider closely the impact of such reductions on outcomes to young people, parents, victims and the wider community. However, removal of grants such as the ABG and in particular those provided by the YJB, the Services' major contributor, will also need to be considered in order to ensure the Service can fulfil its' statutory duties.

MARION DAVIS  
Strategic Director for Children,  
Young People and Families

Saltisford Office Park  
Ansell Way  
Warwick

16<sup>th</sup> August, 2010



**AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET**

**Name of Committee** Communities Overview And Scrutiny Committee

**Date of Committee** 8th September 2010

**Report Title** Committee Work Programme and suggested topics for Task and Finish Groups

**Summary** This report outlines the draft work programme for the Committee and review outlines for suggested Task and Finish Groups to be passed onto the Overview and Scrutiny Board for consideration.

**For further information please contact:** Michelle McHugh  
Overview and Scrutiny Manager  
Tel: 01926 412144  
michellemchugh@warwickshire.gov.uk

**Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework?** No.

**Background papers** None

**CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:-**

Details to be specified

- Other Committees  .....
- Local Member(s)  N/A
- Other Elected Members  Cllr Whitehouse, Cllr Chattaway, Cllr Sweet
- Cabinet Member  .....
- Chief Executive  .....
- Legal  .....
- Finance  .....
- Other Strategic Directors  David Carter, Strategic Director for Customers, Workforce and Governance
- District Councils  .....

Health Authority  .....

Police  .....

Other Bodies/Individuals

**FINAL DECISION NO**

**SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:**

Details to be specified

Further consideration by this Committee  .....

To Council  .....

To Cabinet  .....

To an O & S Committee  Suggested review outlines for Task and Finish Groups to be forwarded onto the Overview and Scrutiny Board on (5th October) for consideration

To an Area Committee  .....

Further Consultation  .....

## Agenda No

### Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 8th September 2010.

#### Committee Work Programme and suggested topics for Task and Finish Groups

#### Report of the Strategic Director for Customers, Workforce and Governance

##### Recommendation

The Committee is recommended to agree:

- i) the draft work programme, to be reviewed and reprioritised as appropriate throughout the year
- ii) the suggested review outlines and forward them onto the Overview and Scrutiny Board for consideration

## 1. Summary

- 1.1 On the 19<sup>th</sup> July 2010, the Communities OSC held a work programming workshop to identify issues to be included in the Committee's work programme and to identify issues for Task and Finish Group type scrutiny.
- 1.2 Attached as Appendix A is the draft Committee Work Programme which emerged through this process. The Work Programme will be reviewed and reprioritised throughout the year so that the Committee can adopt a flexible approach and respond to issues as they emerge.
- 1.3 Attached as Appendix B are review outlines for suggested topics for Task and Finish Group scrutiny. These will need to be forwarded onto the Overview and Scrutiny Board for consideration.

CLLR WHITEHOUSE  
Chair of the Communities  
Overview and Scrutiny  
Committee

Shire Hall  
Warwick

10 August 2010

## Communities O & S Committee - Work Programme for 2010 -11

MEETING DATE	ITEM AND RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	OBJECTIVE OF SCRUTINY	Holding e to Account	Policy Review/Development	Overview	Raising Levels of Educational Attainment	Maximising independence for older people and adults with disabilities.	Developing sustainable places and communities	Protecting the Community and making Warwickshire a safer place to live	Cross cutting themes/ LAA
8 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Youth Re-offending Lesley Tregear, Warwickshire Youth Justice Service Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To scrutinise the rate of youth re-offending in Warwickshire and effectiveness of initiatives and support in place to deter young people from re-offending</li> </ul>			✓				High	NI 30- Re offending rate of prolific and priority offenders
	Warwickshire Fire and Rescue – Procurement of CARP Jim Onions, WFRS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To review the procurement process in relation to the CARP and to identify lessons learnt for future procurement of equipment</li> </ul>	✓						High	
	Communities OSC Work Programme and proposed Task and Finish Groups Michelle McHugh, O+S Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To agree the Communities OSC work programme and suggested Task and Finish Groups to be forwarded to the Overview and Scrutiny Board</li> </ul>								
3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2010	Winter Maintenance Graeme Fitton, Head of Transport and Highways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To review the County Council's policy regarding winter maintenance of highways to ensure effectiveness and efficiency</li> </ul>		✓					High	NI 47 - People killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents
	Domestic Abuse Sue Ingram, Domestic Abuse Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To scrutinise the options to remodel the service and support available for domestic abuse within Warwickshire in the light of a withdrawal of government funding</li> </ul>		✓					High	NI 15 – Most serious violent crime rate

MEETING DATE	ITEM AND RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	OBJECTIVE OF SCRUTINY	Holding e to Account	Policy Review/Development	Overview	Raising Levels of Educational Attainment	Maximising independence for older people and adults with disabilities.	Developing sustainable places and communities	Protecting the Community and making Warwickshire a safer place to live	Cross cutting themes/ LAA
	Waste (presentation), Martin Stott, Head of Environment and Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider Warwickshire's long term strategy for waste</li> </ul>		✓				High		
	Fire and Rescue Improvement Plan Jim Onions, WFRS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To scrutinise the robustness of the implementation plan developed to deliver the Fire and Rescue Improvement Plan</li> </ul>	✓		✓				High	
	High Speed Railway (HS2), Andy Cowan, County Planner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To set the scene regarding HS2 to inform later scrutiny regarding the proposed route.</li> </ul>						High		
22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2010	Libraries Ayub Khan, Head of Libraries Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider business model and strategy for the library service going forward (Libraries Blue Print)</li> </ul>		✓						
	Museums Service, Mark Ryder, Head of Trading Standards, Heritage and Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To review proposed changes to the Museums service business model and strategy to ensure the service meets current and future challenges</li> </ul>		✓				High		
	Financial Well Being Mark Ryder, Head of Trading Standards, Heritage and Culture	To review progress made on the Financial Well-Being agenda and identify any gaps or areas for improvement		✓	✓			High		

MEETING DATE	ITEM AND RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	OBJECTIVE OF SCRUTINY	Holding e to Account	Policy Review/Development	Overview	Raising Levels of Educational Attainment	Maximising independence for older people and adults with disabilities.	Developing sustainable places and communities	Protecting the Community and making Warwickshire a safer place to live	Cross cutting themes/ LAA
1 <sup>st</sup> March 2011	Warwickshire's Safer Communities Partnership (Crime and Disorder), Kate Nash, Head of Community Safety and Localities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To review the effectiveness of Warwickshire's Safer Communities Partnership</li> </ul>	✓		✓				High	
	High Speed Railway (HS2) Andy Cowen, County Planner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To scrutinise proposals for the High Speed Rail route in Warwickshire and provide a recommended response to Cabinet</li> </ul>		✓				High		
<b>Briefing Notes</b>										
	Flooding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To scrutinise how effectively the new flooding responsibilities are being managed</li> <li>To scrutinise the effectiveness of recommendations following scrutiny reviews into flooding in Warwick and Bedworth</li> </ul>			✓			High	High	
	S106 Agreements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To scrutinise the extent to which local authorities adopt a consistent approach to S106 agreements</li> <li>To consider whether S106 is being used appropriately</li> <li>To provide an update on S106 outlined in report presented to Environment OSC on 19/02/09</li> </ul>		✓				Med		

MEETING DATE	ITEM AND RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	OBJECTIVE OF SCRUTINY	Holding e to Account	Policy Review/Development	Overview	Raising Levels of Educational Attainment	Maximising independence for older people and adults with disabilities.	Developing sustainable places and communities	Protecting the Community and making Warwickshire a safer place to live	Cross cutting themes/ LAA
	On-street Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To scrutinise the effectiveness of on-street parking across the County</li> <li>To explore differences in how on street parking is managed across the County</li> <li>To review revenue associated with on-street parking arrangements</li> </ul>			✓			Med		
	Community Empowerment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To review examples of best practice where communities are actively resolving local issues (relevant to the Committee's remit) and identify lessons learnt and key factors of success</li> </ul>		✓	✓			High	High	
<b>Items to be timetabled</b>										
	Rugby Western Relief Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To scrutinise the project management (including the development of the contract) of the Rugby Western Relief Road and identify lessons learnt</li> </ul>	✓					High		
	Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To scrutinise the effectiveness of the Climate Change Partnership</li> <li>To review the outcomes achieved by the Climate Change Partnership</li> </ul>	✓					Med		

MEETING DATE	ITEM AND RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	OBJECTIVE OF SCRUTINY	Holding e to Account	Policy Review/Development	Overview	Raising Levels of Educational Attainment	Maximising independence for older people and adults with disabilities.	Developing sustainable places and communities	Protecting the Community and making Warwickshire a safer place to live	Cross cutting themes/ LAA
	Future of local economic / enterprise partnerships (to send a briefing note in the first instance)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To assess implications of the discontinuation of AWM</li> <li>To identify an organisational and partnership strategy for the future economic / enterprise agenda in light of the discontinuation of AWM</li> </ul>		✓				High		
	Concessionary Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To review the transfer of the administration of concessionary transport to the County Council and associated risks</li> </ul>			✓					
<b>Proposed Task and Finish Groups</b>										
	Skills Agenda / Adult Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To establish whether the skills agenda is joined up across the Council and partners</li> <li>To identify any gaps in provision</li> <li>To establish whether the skills agenda is meeting the needs of Warwickshire residents</li> </ul>		✓			High	High		
	Control of Alcohol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To scrutinise the control of alcohol across the County – focussing on licensing, underage sales</li> </ul>		✓					High	



MEETING DATE	ITEM AND RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	OBJECTIVE OF SCRUTINY	Holding e to Account	Policy Review/Development	Overview	Raising Levels of Educational Attainment	Maximising independence for older people and adults with disabilities.	Developing sustainable places and communities	Protecting the Community and making Warwickshire a safer place to live	Cross cutting themes/ LAA
	Public Realm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To scrutinise how effectively public services are working together to manage the public realm (street scene).</li> </ul>	✓					High		NI 198 – Improved street and environmental cleanliness
	Support for new business start ups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To review support available for new business start ups within Warwickshire</li> <li>▪ To identify gaps in services and support available</li> </ul>		✓				High		

Proposed Scrutiny Review Outline

<b>Review Topic</b> (Name of review)	<b>Support for New and Small Businesses</b>
<b>Panel/Working Group etc – Members</b>	TBA
<b>Key Officer Contact</b>	TBA
<b>Relevant Portfolio Holder(s)</b>	Cllr Alan Cockburn, Environment and Economy
<b>Relevant Corporate/LAA Priorities/Targets</b>	Developing sustainable places and communities NI 171 - VAT registration rate NI 171a – VAT registration rate Nuneaton and Bedworth
<b>Timing Issues</b>	RDA's and Business Link have been dissolved and Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) will be introduced to drive economic development and enterprise locally. The deadline for LEP proposals in the 6 <sup>th</sup> September and it is anticipated that LEP for our sub-region will be in place by April 2011. However, this should not necessarily delay the start of this review.  It is estimated that this review would take between 3 -4 months to complete (having an agreed final report ready for submission to the committee)
<b>Type of Review</b>	In depth review
<b>Resource Estimate</b>	This is potentially a complex review and again the level of support required will depend on the exact methodology adopted by the review. A provisional estimate of scrutiny officer support is between 288 to 312 hours or 48-52 days depending on the actual methodology used by the review. This assumes a review planning meeting, 4 evidence sessions, evidence review meeting, meeting to develop conclusions and recommendations, between 4-5 local site visits and a best practice visit. This includes arrangements for meetings, research time, liaison and contact with witnesses and write up of evidence and the final report.
<b>Rationale</b> (Key issues and/or reason for doing the review)	Supporting new and small businesses to develop and thrive is essential for developing a sustainable economy. New and small businesses make a valuable contribution to the local economy, creating wealth, meeting gaps in the market and often providing employment opportunities.  In the current economic climate, with high unemployment rates, establishing a business should be promoted as a lucrative alternative to employment. However, individuals wishing to establish a new business or expand an already established small business, require a range of support and advice. It is important to ensure that the County Council and key partners are providing accessible and effective support for new and small businesses.

<p><b>Objectives of Review</b> (Specify exactly what the review should achieve)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To identify the support available across the County for individuals wishing to set up a new business or small businesses wishing to expand.</li> <li>▪ To understand the support that is needed by individuals and small businesses, at different stages of business development.</li> <li>▪ To identify gaps between need and current provision, this should include whether services are accessible to all sections of the community and whether there are any differences in support available across the County.</li> <li>▪ To identify effective practice both locally and nationally.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Scope of the Topic</b> (What is specifically to be included/excluded)</p>	<p><u>Include</u> The following is included in the scope of the review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Support offered by County Council and key partners (including District and Borough Councils, Connect Midlands, Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce, Warwick University)</li> </ul> <p><u>Exclude</u> The following falls outside the scope of the review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Unemployment</li> <li>▪ Skills agenda</li> </ul>
<p><b>Indicators of Success – Outputs</b> (What factors would tell you what a good review should look like?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recommendations accepted and implemented to deliver improvements</li> </ul>
<p><b>Indicators of Success – Outcomes</b> (What are the potential outcomes of the review e.g. service improvements, policy change, etc?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recognisable improvements in the support available for new and small businesses</li> <li>▪ Recognisable improvements in the start up and survival rates of new businesses</li> </ul>
<p><b>Other Work Being Undertaken</b> (What other work is currently being undertaken in relation to this topic, and any appropriate timescales and deadlines for that work)</p>	

Proposed Scrutiny Review Outline

<b>Review Topic</b> (Name of review)	<b>Alcohol Control – Review of Licensing across the County</b>
<b>Panel/Working Group etc – Members</b>	TBA – It is recommended that this is undertaken as a partnership review
<b>Key Officer Contact</b>	TBA
<b>Relevant Portfolio Holder(s)</b>	Cllr Richard Hobbs, Community Safety
<b>Relevant Corporate/LAA Priorities/Targets</b>	Protecting the community and making Warwickshire a safer place to live NI 15 Most Serious violent crime rate NI 21 Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and the police NI 120 All age all cause mortality NI 139 Alcohol related hospital admissions
<b>Timing Issues</b>	See section on other work being undertaken.  The review will take approx 3-4 months to complete (up to having an agreed final report ready for submission to Committee).
<b>Type of Review</b>	In depth review
<b>Resource Estimate</b>	A provisional estimate of scrutiny officer support is between 240 to 264 hours or 40-44 days depending on the actual methodology used by the review. This assumes a review planning meeting, 3 evidence sessions, evidence review meeting, meeting to develop conclusions and recommendations and a best practice visit. It includes arrangements for meetings, research time, liaison and contact with witnesses and write up of evidence and the final report.
<b>Rationale</b> (Key issues and/or reason for doing the review)	It is widely recognised that excessive alcohol consumption can lead to number of problematic issues, including poor physical and mental health, violent crime, domestic abuse, risky behaviour and accidents, and anti-social behaviour. Nationally, in 2009/10 there were almost one million alcohol related violent crimes. A fifth of all violent incidents took place in or near a pub or club, and almost two-thirds at night or in the evening. There are 6.6 million alcohol related attendances at Accident and Emergency departments per year, costing £645 million. Additionally, 1.2 million ambulance call outs each year are in relation to alcohol related incidents, costing £372 million. Overall, alcohol related crime and disorder is estimated to cost the taxpayer between £8 billion and £13 billion per year.  Licensing policies and practices are essential to ensure the effective control and regulation of alcohol, in order to reduce negative impacts on individuals, communities and public services.

<p><b>Objectives of Review</b> (Specify exactly what the review should achieve)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To review the effectiveness of licensing policies and practices across the County</li> <li>▪ To identify examples of best practice locally and nationally</li> <li>▪ To identify opportunities for partnership working</li> <li>▪ To identify how a common approach can be achieved across the county, particularly in relation to any changes resulting from current Government consultation</li> </ul>
<p><b>Scope of the Topic</b> (What is specifically to be included/excluded)</p>	<p><u>Include</u> The following is included in the scope of the review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Licensing policy and practice</li> <li>▪ Licensing enforcement</li> <li>▪ Public Houses and retail sales</li> </ul> <p><u>Exclude</u> The following falls outside the scope of the review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Impact of excessive alcohol consumption – health, crime and disorder etc</li> <li>▪ Services and support to address to excessive alcohol consumption and its associated problems</li> </ul>
<p><b>Indicators of Success – Outputs</b> (What factors would tell you what a good review should look like?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recommendations accepted and implemented to deliver improvements</li> </ul>
<p><b>Indicators of Success – Outcomes</b> (What are the potential outcomes of the review e.g. service improvements, policy change, etc?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recognisable improvements in the control of alcohol across the County,</li> <li>▪ Recognisable improvements in violent crime, anti-social behaviour and alcohol related hospital admissions.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Other Work Being Undertaken</b> (What other work is currently being undertaken in relation to this topic, and any appropriate timescales and deadlines for that work)</p>	<p><u>Nationally</u></p> <p>The Government is currently consulting around proposed changes to the current licensing framework, which seeks to give more power and flexibility to local authorities and the police to address local issues. The consultation period ends on 8<sup>th</sup> September. It would seem sensible to delay the commencement of the review until the outcome of the consultation is known, so that the review can consider how any changes can be implemented in Warwickshire.</p> <p><u>Locally</u></p> <p>Warwickshire Safer Communities Partnership (WSCP) has been discussing licensing policies and practices across the county. A sub-group of WSCP, the Drug and Alcohol Management Group (DAMG) has been tasked with exploring the current position in the County and identifying how licensing activity can be better co-ordinated across the County. The DAMG is expected to report back to WSCP in October. Again it seems sensible to delay the commencement of the review until the WSCP has considered the outcomes of DAMG work.</p> <p>Licensing is a Strategic Aim within the Warwickshire Alcohol Implementation Plan, which includes a number of actions to ensure licensing practices protect young people and effectively address irresponsible premises.</p> <p>Licensing has been suggested as a potential Scrutiny review within Nuneaton and Bedworth BC, following any changes to licensing framework following current government consultation.</p>
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Proposed Scrutiny Review Outline

<b>Review Topic</b> (Name of review)	<b>Public Realm</b>
<b>Panel/Working Group etc – Members</b>	TBA – It is recommended that the review is undertaken by a Joint Task and Finish Group
<b>Key Officer Contact</b>	TBA
<b>Relevant Portfolio Holder(s)</b>	Cllr Alan Cockburn, Environment and Economy Cllr Richard Hobbs, Community Safety
<b>Relevant Corporate/LAA Priorities/Targets</b>	Corporate Priority 3 – Developing sustainable places and communities Corporate Priority 4 – Protecting the community and making Warwickshire a safer place to live  NI 195 – Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of graffiti, litter, detritus and fly posting) NI 121 – Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and police
<b>Timing Issues</b>	Rugby BC is currently undertaking a review into Public Realm and Work Services – see other work below. It may be beneficial to delay the commencement of a countywide review until the outcomes of Rugby’s review are known.  If commissioned, the review is likely to take 4-5 months to complete (having an agreed final report ready for submission to the committee)
<b>Type of Review</b>	In depth review
<b>Resource Estimate</b>	This is potentially a complex review and the level of support required will depend on the exact methodology adopted by the review. A provisional estimate of scrutiny officer support is between 312 to 348 hours or 52-56 days depending on the actual methodology used by the review. This assumes a review planning meeting, 4 evidence sessions, an evidence review meeting, a meeting to develop conclusions and recommendations, between 4-5 local site visits and a best practice visit. This estimate includes arrangements for meetings, research time, liaison and contact with witnesses and write up of evidence and the final report.

<p><b>Rationale</b> (Key issues and/or reason for doing the review)</p>	<p>Creating a vibrant and pleasant public realm is essential for creating a sense of place and making Warwickshire an attractive place to live, work and visit. Ensuring a high quality public realm has clear benefits for social, economic and environmental benefits. In particular, a vibrant and pleasant public realm is considered to have positive effects on issues such as community well-being, the extent to which individuals feel safe in their local environment, deterring crime and anti-social behaviour and reducing the degradation of public areas.</p> <p>No single organisation is solely responsible for the public realm, a number of organisations have different contributions to make. Therefore, there is a need to ensure that the contributions of the various public organisations are well co-ordinated.</p> <p><b>The County Council</b> has statutory and discretionary responsibilities for some planning and enforcement, roads, pavements, highway structures, street lighting, signing, traffic regulation and road safety, public transport co-ordination, waste management, highway drainage, footpaths and wider public access and also economic development and sustainability.</p> <p><b>Fire and Rescue</b> contributes to the public realm by undertaking visual audits and through the car clear scheme, which removes abandoned cars.</p> <p><b>Police</b> have an enforcement role in relation to issues such as vandalism, criminal damage and graffiti.</p> <p><b>District and Borough Councils</b> have a number of statutory and discretionary responsibilities covering such issues as planning, environmental health, economic regeneration, town centre management, parks and gardens, litter and waste collection, amenity lighting, drainage, street signing and enforcement.</p> <p>County Highways has historically worked closely with District and Borough Councils regarding the public realm. A Streetpride Initiative was established in 2008, bringing together all local authorities within Warwickshire to co-ordinate services, share best practice and to adopt a Streetscape Appearance Index to champion sustained improvements in the street.</p>
<p><b>Objectives of Review</b> (Specify exactly what the review should achieve)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To establish how effectively public services are working together to deliver a high quality public realm across Warwickshire</li> <li>▪ To understand the impact the public realm has on community well-being, community safety, anti-social behaviour and economic / community sustainability.</li> <li>▪ Identify specific Public Realm Schemes in each District and Borough and associated outcomes</li> <li>▪ To establish the effectiveness of the Streetpride Initiative</li> <li>▪ To identify best practice locally and nationally</li> <li>▪ To identify opportunities for partnership working</li> <li>▪ To coordinate initiatives across the County</li> <li>▪ To identify how local communities and businesses can contribute to creating and sustaining a high quality public realm</li> </ul>



<p><b>Scope of the Topic</b> (What is specifically to be included/excluded)</p>	<p>The public realm encompasses a wide range of different factors, therefore it is suggested that the review focuses on specific elements of the public realm rather than attempting to review all aspects of the public realm.</p> <p><u>Include</u> The following is included in the scope of the review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Physical landscape (streets, town centres)</li> <li>▪ Natural landscape (parks, planting, trees)</li> <li>▪ Civic Pride</li> <li>▪ Impact the public realm has on community well-being, community safety, anti-social behaviour and economic / community sustainability.</li> </ul> <p><u>Excluded</u> The following falls outside the scope of the review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Heritage / Tourism</li> <li>▪ Transport</li> </ul>
<p><b>Indicators of Success – Outputs</b> (What factors would tell you what a good review should look like?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recommendations accepted and implemented to deliver improvements</li> </ul>
<p><b>Indicators of Success – Outcomes</b> (What are the potential outcomes of the review e.g. service improvements, policy change, etc?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increased satisfaction with the public realm</li> <li>▪ Demonstrable improvements in community safety and anti-social behaviour</li> </ul>
<p><b>Other Work Being Undertaken</b> (What other work is currently being undertaken in relation to this topic, and any appropriate timescales and deadlines for that work)</p>	<p>Rugby BC is currently undertaking a review into the Public Realm and Work Services. The objective of the review is to ensure value for money on the provision of the Public Realm service and increase community involvement in the preservation and improvement of the local environment. The scope of the review includes refuse and recycling, street cleansing, grounds maintenance and civic pride. The review is due to complete in October 2010. It may be beneficial to wait until the outcomes of the Rugby review are known, before embarking upon a county-wide review.</p>

Proposed Scrutiny Review Outline

<b>Review Topic</b> (Name of review)	<b>Skills Agenda and Adult Learning</b>
<b>Panel/Working Group etc – Members</b>	TBA
<b>Key Officer Contact</b>	TBA
<b>Relevant Portfolio Holder(s)</b>	Cllr Alan Cockburn, Environment and Economy Cllr Izzi Seccombe, Adult Social Care
<b>Relevant Corporate/LAA Priorities/Targets</b>	<p>Maximising independence for older people and people with disabilities Developing sustainable places and communities</p> <p>NI 141 Number of vulnerable people achieving independent living NI 163 Working age population qualified to at least Level 2 or higher NI 163a Working age population qualified to at least Level 2 or higher, narrowing the gap between the north of the county and the rest of Warwickshire) NI 165 Working age population qualified to at least Level 4 or higher NI 165a Working age population qualified to at least Level 4 or higher, narrowing the gap between South East and Warwickshire average.</p>
<b>Timing Issues</b>	It is estimated that this review would take between 3 -4 months to complete (having an agreed final report ready for submission to the committee)
<b>Type of Review</b>	In depth review
<b>Resource Estimate</b>	This is potentially a complex review and again the level of support required will depend on the exact methodology adopted by the review. A provisional estimate of scrutiny officer support is between 240 to 264 hours or 40-44 days depending on the actual methodology used by the review. This assumes a review planning meeting, 3 evidence sessions, evidence review meeting, meeting to develop conclusions and recommendations. This includes arrangements for meetings, research time, liaison and contact with witnesses and write up of evidence and the final report.
<b>Rationale</b> (Key issues and/or reason for doing the review)	Improving skill levels amongst residents is central to strengthening the local economy, narrowing inequality gaps, improving the quality of life of residents, enhancing independence and developing and maintaining sustainable communities. With the current challenging financial climate and high unemployment, it is fundamentally important to ensure the provision of appropriate skills and learning opportunities. Between April 2008 and June 2010, the number of people claiming job seekers allowance in Warwickshire has increased by 72.4%. (April 2008, 5,621 claimants, June 2010, 9,268 claimants). The skills agenda is a cross cutting issue, involving a number of different County Council teams and external organisations, therefore it is important to ensure that a co-ordinated approach is achieved.

<p><b>Objectives of Review</b> (Specify exactly what the review should achieve)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To ensure that the skills agenda is joined up across the Council and partners</li> <li>▪ To ensure that the skills agenda and adult learning is meeting the needs of Warwickshire residents and local businesses</li> <li>▪ To consider the barriers and challenges individuals face in accessing learning and skills courses</li> <li>▪ To identify any gaps in provision</li> </ul>
<p><b>Scope of the Topic</b> (What is specifically to be included/excluded)</p>	<p><u>Include</u> The following is included in the scope of the review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Adult Learning</li> <li>▪ Basic Skills</li> <li>▪ Job Centre Plus</li> </ul> <p><u>Exclude</u> The following falls outside the scope of the review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Educational Attainment and Skills agenda for young people, 14-19 agenda</li> <li>▪ WCC’s training and development and workforce planning</li> </ul>
<p><b>Indicators of Success – Outputs</b> (What factors would tell you what a good review should look like?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recommendations accepted and implemented to deliver improvements</li> </ul>
<p><b>Indicators of Success – Outcomes</b> (What are the potential outcomes of the review e.g. service improvements, policy change, etc?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recognisable improvement in skill levels across the county</li> <li>▪ Recognisable improvement in working age people on out of work benefits, number of vulnerable people achieving independent living, skills levels of the working age population and average earnings of employees in the area.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Other Work Being Undertaken</b> (What other work is currently being undertaken in relation to this topic, and any appropriate timescales and deadlines for that work)</p>	<p>The Environment and Economy Directorate are planning an internal review of the skills agenda, however timescales for this review have yet to be determined.</p>