Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Agenda

9 February 2012

A meeting of the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be held at **Shire Hall, Warwick** on **9 February 2012** at **10:00am**

1. General

(1) Apologies

(2) Members' Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

Note: Members are reminded that they should declare 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.

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.

(3) Chair's Announcements

(4) Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising

2. Public Question Time

Up to 30 minutes of the meeting are available for members of the public to ask questions on any matters relevant to the business of the Communities 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 Dave Abbott:
Tel: (01926) 412323
Email: daveabbott@warwickshire.gov.uk

3. Questions to the Portfolio Holders

Up to 30 minutes of the meeting are available for members of the Committee to put questions to the following Portfolio Holders on any matters relevant to the remit of the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and for the Portfolio Holders to update the Committee on relevant issues.

- Councillor Peter Butlin, Portfolio Holder for Transport and Highways
- Councillor Alan Cockburn, Portfolio Holder for Sustainable Communities
- Councillor Colin Hayfield, Portfolio Holder for Customers, Access and Physical Assets
- Councillor Richard Hobbs, Portfolio Holder for Community Safety

4. Neighbourhood Policing Review

A new policing model for Warwickshire, including changes to Neighbourhood Policing, went live on 9th May 2011. This report details those changes and how they have been received so far.

Recommendation

That the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee consider the role of Neighbourhood Policing in Warwickshire and comment on any key issues arising from the report.

5. Transport Infrastructure for Major Development

This report discusses the procedures and funding sources for securing new or improved transport infrastructure and services made necessary by major developments.

Recommendations

(1)   To consider and comment on the approach to supporting major development, set out in this report.
(2)   To agree any areas for scrutiny, as appropriate.

6. Street Lighting Energy Savings

As part of the County Council savings plan, Street Lighting has been set a target of £500,000 to be saved from the annual electricity budget from financial year 2013/14. To achieve this saving part-night lighting is to be implemented throughout the County.

Recommendation

To consider and comment on the report providing background for a Task And Finish Group scrutinising the Street Lighting Energy Saving project.

7. Work Programme 2012

The Communities Overview and Scrutiny draft work programme for 2012.

Recommendation

That the Committee considers the draft work programme at Appendix A and amends as appropriate.

8. Any Other Items

Which the Chair decides are urgent.

For further information please contact Dave Abbott, Democratic Services Officer
Tel: (01926) 412323
Email: daveabbott@warwickshire.gov.uk

Membership of the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

County Councillors

Sarah Boad, Richard Chattaway, Michael Doody, Mike Gittus, Barry Lobbett, Tilly May, Chris Saint, Ray Sweet, Helen Walton, John Whitehouse

Cabinet Members

Councillor Peter Butlin – Portfolio Holder Transport and Highways
Councillor Alan Cockburn – Portfolio Holder Sustainable Communities
Councillor Colin Hayfield – Portfolio Holder Customers, Access and Physical Assets
Councillor Richard Hobbs – Portfolio Holder Community Safety

If you have any enquiries please contact Dave Abbott:
Tel: (01926) 412323
Email: daveabbott@warwickshire.gov.uk

Minutes of the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 6th December 2011

Present:
Members of the Committee
Councillor Sarah Boad
Councillor Richard Chattaway
Councillor Michael Doody
Councillor Mike Gittus
Councillor Barry Lobbett
Councillor Tilly May
Councillor Ray Sweet
Councillor John Whitehouse (Chair)
Councillor Chris Williams

Other County Councillors
Councillor Alan Cockburn
Councillor Peter Butlin
Councillor Colin Hayfield
Councillor Richard Hobbs
Councillor David Johnston

Officers
David Abbott, Democratic Services Officer
Elizabeth Abbott, Performance and Improvement Officer
Angela Chisholm, HR and Organisational Development Support Officer
Phil Evans, Head of Service Improvement and Change Management
Monica Fogarty, Strategic Director for Communities
Martyn Harris, Democratic Services Officer
Gary Phillips, Deputy Chief Fire Officer

There were no members of the public in attendance.

1.   General

(1)   Apologies
Apologies were received on behalf of Councillor Helen Walton.
Apologies were received on behalf of Councillor Chris Saint who had to attend the Local Government Information Unit Member Assembly as the representative for Warwickshire County Council.
Councillor Richard Chattaway notified the Committee that he had to leave the meeting early (10:45am).

(2)   Members' Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests
None.

(3)   Chair's Announcements
None.

(4)   Minutes of the meeting held on 10 October 2011

Changes are in **<u>bold and underlined</u>**:

<u>4.8 Integrated Risk Management Plan Consultation</u> (Page 2 of 9)
Councillor Richard Hobbs confirmed that the revised Integrated Risk
Management Plan will go to full council and will be available electronically for
general public **<u>comment</u>** at that time.

Matters Arising:

<u>Libraries</u>

Councillor Colin Hayfield gave an update on the Library Service transformation:
  ●Officers have been working with community groups to turn their business
      cases into a reality for the 1st of April 2012 start date.
  ●A report will come to Committee in February 2012 to look at the business
      cases and flag up any potential issues.

Councillor Sarah Boad noted that close partnership working between Warwick
District Council and Warwickshire County Council has resulted in positive
changes to the proposed reductions to library opening hours.

The Chair agreed that excellent work has taken place in Warwick District but
recognised that it was built on top of deep foundations. The Chair asked
Councillor Hayfield if it would be possible for other Districts and Boroughs to work
together retrospectively to achieve extensions to opening hours. The Portfolio
Holder said that he hoped that door would always be open.

2.   Public Question Time
There were no public questions.

3.   Questions to the Portfolio Holders

Questions to Peter Butlin, Portfolio Holder for Transport and Highways
<u>Community Links transport</u>

At the last budget setting Community Links transport was scheduled to be cut but a last
minute Central Government grant saved the service. Councillor David Johnston asked
the Portfolio Holder if the grant would continue next year, and if not what the impact
would be on the service.

The Portfolio Holder hoped that the grant for Community Links would continue but if it doesn't the transport department will have to have a rethink about how the service is funded.

Transport links to new housing developments

The Borough and District Councils are currently doing their local plans for housing. Councillor Michael Doody asked the Portfolio Holder when the housing plans are finalised would efforts be made to ensure that transport is available to the large new developments.

The Portfolio Holder responded that travel plans and sustainable transport plans have to be done for any new community that is built.

Councillor Michael Doody said that now the Regional Spatial Strategy has been dropped plans are having to be pushed forward and he asked for reassurance that the County Council is taking this on board in a timely manner.

Bus service reductions

Councillor Ray Sweet asked the Portfolio Holder if an exercise had been done to monitor where services are being used and where they aren't, so that resources can be allocated to places of greatest need.

The Portfolio Holder said there had been a 6 month period of continual tweaking and review of the network following a huge amount of correspondence from members of the public.

The Chair noted that at the Communities O&S meeting to be held on April 2012 there will be a report on bus service reductions which would be useful background for members.

The Chair asked that members from the Districts and Boroughs are invited to that meeting because the bus service issue is something that impacts on the whole County.

The Chair commended the Transport team for doing a great job on the reconfiguration of the bus network. The Chair noted their flexible approach and impressive use of local knowledge to ensure the best service with limited resources.

Questions to Richard Hobbs, Portfolio Holder for Community Safety

Domestic Sprinklers

The Chair asked the Portfolio Holder what coordination there had been with other Counties to push forward the domestic sprinkler agenda.

The Portfolio Holder responded that Warwickshire Fire & Rescue service's campaign for domestic sprinklers had been featured in Local Government magazine and will be

profiled at national seminar in February. Gary Phillips, Deputy Chief Fire Officer, will be attending the event with Dave Curry, Chief Fire Officer, to raise the issue with MPs. The Portfolio Holder also promotes the work as part of his national role in the Local Government Association. The 'two houses' sprinkler demonstration, designed to show how sprinkler systems can save lives, has been featured in a number of national fire magazines.

Gary Phillips also informed the Committee that Warwickshire Fire & Rescue have over 1400 followers on Twitter and are looking to develop a Facebook page with information about fire safety.

Questions to Alan Cockburn, Portfolio Holder for Sustainable Communities

Member Champions

The Chair asked the Portfolio Holder to clarify Helen Walton's role, referring to recent references in the press to her as Warwickshire County Council's waste champion.

The Portfolio Holder said that Helen Walton is the spokesperson for the Communities group. Her role is to support the Portfolio Holder. She had a covering role in country parks and gypsy, and traveller work, and she also helps with waste.

The Chair clarified that in the past the Council has appointed champions with a specific role, Jose Compton leads a Dementia partnership group and Gordon Collett (now retired) was the climate change champion and reported back to Full Council. Now 'champion' seems to just be a label, there's a danger of devaluing it's meaning.

The Portfolio Holder said that he felt there wasn't the need for a climate change champion anymore because climate change work is ingrained into the ethos of Warwickshire County Council.

Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership

Councillor Alan Cockburn updated the Committee on the work of the Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership

The Government has announced a number of projects in response to disappointing economic forecasts that will be delivered through Local Enterprise Partnerships.

- A 'Growing Places fund' has been announced - this is money to be lent out to 'shovel ready' projects. Coventry and Warwickshire has been allocated £8.5 million. Monica Fogarty, Strategic Director for Communities, said that the Growing Places Fund should be up and running by Spring 2012.
- A Rural Growth Network fund of £15 million was announced - these are essentially 'mini-enterprise zones'. Warwickshire County Council are preparing a submission for the pilot.

- One of the key aims of the Local Enterprise Partnership is improving broadband coverage across the County. The lack of good Internet infrastructure is a real barrier to economic growth.
- Central Government has offered £4 million (match funded) to Coventry, Warwickshire, and Solihull - of which £3 million will go directly to Warwickshire.
- George Osbourne confirmed funding for major improvements to the Tollbar End roundabout in Coventry in his Autumn Statement.

Councillor Sarah Boad asked the Portfolio Holder if there were any plans to improve Catthorpe interchange (the M1, M6, A14 interchange) at the same time as Tollbar island.

The Portfolio Holder said that the Tollbar island upgrades could be implemented relatively quickly because the planning stage has already been completed but the Catthorpe interchange work would take a lot longer because there would need to be an inquiry and further planning. Warwickshire County Council has been actively petitioning Central Government to upgrade the Catthorpe interchange for a number of years.

4. **Update on Performance Management from Phil Evans**

Phil Evans, Head of Service Improvement and Change Management, updated the Committee on the work his service has been doing on performance reporting and how to meet the needs of overview and scrutiny:
- Performance management should be as effective as possible - adding real value, and needs to reflect the changing environment.
- At a meeting with the overview and scrutiny Chairs there was a clear message that there needs to be a dialogue with members of the Committees.

A discussion took place and the following points were noted:

- Members need the tools to properly analyse the data that is put in front of them.
- Getting the right balance of performance information for this committee is very challenging because it has such a wide and diverse remit.
- There is an overload of information, a written summary and graphic displays could make the data clearer.
- We need to know where we've come from, how we're doing, and where we are going.
- The data needs to be clearly presented and readable by someone who doesn't have in-depth knowledge of the service.
- The red, amber, green highlighting works well to flag up areas that need further work.
- Trend data and benchmarking are important. Currently it is difficult to tell the direction of travel and whether we are keeping up with equivalent Councils.
- Reports should be consistent - (are figures actual or percentages etc.).
- Targets should be challenging.
- There should be a clearer process for setting targets.

- Councillors agreed that it wouldn't be appropriate for a scrutiny committee to set targets.
- A common frustration for Members was when targets were changed without explanation.
- Members should be able to challenge the Portfolio Holder on why that change has been made. There should be a clear audit trail.

Phil Evans informed the Committee that Warwickshire is working with other Councils and partners to agree a compatible set of indicators.

Phil Evans said that in future his service would be working closer with Democratic Services to determine areas where it might be more appropriate to do more in depth analysis.

Next steps
Feedback from Members will be presented to the Overview & Scrutiny Board to agree a way forward and improvements will be made for the year ahead.

5.   Mid Year Performance Report

The report was presented by Phil Evans, Head of Service Improvement and Change Management.

The Chair asked officers to explain why the data is based on a 'year to date forecast' and not actual figures.

Phil Evans explained that because actual data is not consistently available across the whole organisation they use the forecast position (in this case to March 2012).

6.   Impact of Staffing Reductions within the Communities Group and the Library and Information Service

The report was presented by Angela Chisholm, Human Resources and Organisational Development Support Officer.

Monica Fogarty, Strategic Director for the Communities group:
This is not a situation that the organisation has been in before. We are still developing the skills for how to manage a large scale downsizing. Staff and members are having to pull together. We have lost a lot of skill and experience and there are still gaps in skills and capacity.

Councillor John Whitehouse, Chair:
There are a number of areas where specialist officers were going into schools for specialist subjects (healthy schools, safety etc.). Have services maintained presence on a more generalist basis?

Monica Fogarty, Strategic Director for the Communities group:
Mainstream services have been maintained. It is now a question of prioritising and choice. We can't provide the 'gold standard' but we are still continuing key services like road safety.
We have been talking closely with partners (Police, Fire & Rescue etc.) to maximise face-time for all of our services.

Councillor John Whitehouse, Chair:
Does cutting the EU officer roles mean that Warwickshire County Council is no longer able to access EU funding streams?

Monica Fogarty, Strategic Director for the Communities group:
Warwickshire County Council traditionally hasn't been very successful accessing European Union funding. We have started working closely with Coventry City Council who have done far better. The Council will continue to keep a watchful eye on funding schemes from Europe.

Councillors asked if the bulletin providing voluntary groups with information about European Union funding would continue as it was very valuable. Monica Fogarty informed the Committee that that work will now be picked up by Nick Darwen in the Localities and Partnerships team.

7. **Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Authority Integrated Risk Management Plan**

Richard Hobbs introduced the Integrated Risk Management Plan and the following points were noted:
- Staff and senior officers have agreed a new duty system, following consultation, that will be implemented in January 2012.
- Training will be rolled out to retained firefighters. The service has committed to invest more in training.
- Building work has started at Alcester fire station.
- A fitness programme is going ahead to reduce sickness absence.

Members welcomed the move away from numerical targets on home fire safety checks towards outcome based targets.

The Chair asked how the substantial budget savings were made from management overhead.

Gary Phillips made the following points in response:
- The service has been using resources far more effectively. It now works on a County-wide basis rather than being split up into smaller areas. This allows more efficient use of resources and economies of scale.
- The service has stripped out a lot of hierarchical structure and have been making better use of fire-station resources.

- Under the old system of numerical home fire safety check targets, fire-fighters felt like they didn't have time to deal with very vulnerable people because it would take much longer to complete a full assessment. The new targeted approach allows the service to deliver better outcomes with fewer resources.

The Fire & Rescue Service had also been working in the community to achieve better outcomes:
- The service has been working with student landlords to carry out home fire safety checks in their properties.
- Children in schools are being taught how to carry out safety checks in their own homes, encouraging them to 'own' their fire safety. This has also proven to be a very effective way to reach ethnic minority families with safety advice - where older members of the family might not speak or read English.

5. **Communities Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2011-12**

The Committee agreed the following additions to the work programme:

February 2012
- A preliminary report on street-lighting to give background for a possible task and finish review later in the year.
- An update report on the library service transformation.
- The Local Enterprise Partnership - The Chair will have a discussion with the Portfolio Holder at the next agenda planning meeting to see if any issues have come up.

To be timetabled
- Members suggested that it would be useful to have a Portfolio Holders briefing session on Police Commissioners.

It was also agreed that the following two items would be deferred to 13 June 2012:
- Fire and Rescue Service Improvement Plan
- Community Fire Safety

6. **Any Other Items**
There were no urgent items.

The Committee rose at 11:57am

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Chair

Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee
9 February 2012

Warwickshire Police
Neighbourhood Policing Review

Recommendation

That the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee consider the role of Neighbourhood Policing in Warwickshire and comment on any key issues arising from the report.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Following the election of a new Government in May 2010, an emergency budget increased the Force's budget gap to £13.4 million over four years. In October 2010, the Government announced its Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR), which outlined significant funding reductions to the police service between 2011/14. As a result, the budget gap increased to £22.9 million over the four-year period.

1.2 A Warwickshire Police Programme Team was established under the banner of '150 plus'. The team was afforded prime responsibility for overseeing savings to meet these reductions. They quickly identified the need for a new policing model, based on the fact that significant reductions in officers and staff would be required to meet the new budget. It was evident that the existing geographical model would not remain fit for purpose with such reductions in resources.

1.3 Early financial modeling identified that the new policing model would operate with around 160 fewer police officers and 57 fewer police staff. The project objectives were broadly as follows:

- To conduct a review of Local Policing and Protective Services, with particular emphasis placed on the services delivered to the public at District and Borough level.

- To define policing services and to develop a future vision based on affordable, acceptable, and sustainable principles to be delivered across the County.

- To consider opportunities for regional collaboration of policing services.

- To consider and develop proposals for a future policing model, which is affordable, acceptable, and sustainable.

1.4 The principles that were developed to frame the new model were:

- A focus on protection

- Guaranteed Local Policing

- The right policing response

- Removal of duplication

- A single workforce

1.5   Changes to Neighbourhood Policing were inevitable, but the importance of delivering protection and putting communities first was at the forefront of every decision made. The overall strategic objective for these changes was to enhance current Neighbourhood Policing by creating a single structure that delivers Community Policing from Force to Neighbourhood level. This was underpinned by a number of recommendations:

- Retain the current neighbourhood boundaries within a new single force management structure.

- The work of the Community Protection Department will be integrated into the new neighbourhood policing structure.

- Create a capability within the new neighbourhood structure to focus on Offender Management, anti-social behaviour, and crime trends; dealing with offenders visibly at a local level.

- Retain dedicated Safer Neighbourhood Teams that focus on problem solving in partnership.

- Integrate the Police Specials structure into the Neighbourhood Policing Department and Safer Neighbourhood Teams.

- Rationalise the current estate to align it to the requirements of the safer neighbourhoods structure.

1.6   The new model for policing Warwickshire went live on May 9th 2011. This included changes to Neighbourhood Policing and the current position is detailed in this report.

2.0   Structure of the Neighbourhood Policing Model

2.1   Warwickshire Police has 33 Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNTs), supervised by a number of Police Sergeants. Each SNT is a mixed workforce, comprising of a Beat Manager (Police Constable), Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs), Special Constables, and volunteers.

2.2   In addition, there is a Neighbourhood Protection Team, which is a Force asset focusing on harm reduction through proactive working and managing offenders. This team comprises of an Inspector, 4 Sergeants, and 36 Constables. It is also aligned to the Prolific and Priority Offenders (PPO) Management Team, Youth Offending Team (YOT), and the Warrants Department.

2.3   Finally, Neighbourhood Policing includes the Community Protection Team, Firearms Licensing Team, and Camera Enforcement Unit. The Community Protection Team is led by a civilian manager and comprises licensing officers, crime prevention officers, an architectural liaison officer, a drugs intervention officer, and a watch scheme officer.

A chart showing the Neighbourhood Policing structure for Warwickshire is shown at Appendix A.

3.0   Estate

3.1   In order to reduce costs Warwickshire Police has reviewed its current estate and a
number of changes are taking place that will ultimately see a reduction in the
number of buildings that are used. Neighbourhood Policing has been part of this
review and local officers are now located at a number of sites across the County to
ensure that the maximum amount of their duty time is actually spent in their
respective neighbourhoods with local communities.

3.2   The areas below are where Warwickshire Police will have Safer Neighbourhood
Team deployment under the new policing model:

Stratford	within existing police station
Shipston/Wellesbourne	new Safer Neighbourhood Office (SNO) in Shipston
Alcester	new SNO
Southam	within existing police station
Leamington	within justice centre
Warwick	new SNO
Kenilworth	new SNO
Rugby	within existing police station
Nuneaton	within justice centre
Bedworth	within existing police station
Coleshill	new SNO
Atherstone	new SNO
Wolston	existing Safer Neighbourhood Office
Keresley	existing Safer Neighbourhood Office

These buildings provide a mixed level of services that are available to the public,
in accordance with the Force Estates Strategy.

A map depicting the future Warwickshire Policing Estate is shown at Appendix B.

4.0   Service delivery

4.1   The aim of Neighbourhood Policing in Warwickshire is to protect communities from
harm, by working with partners and the public, to deliver an effective and efficient
policing service at a neighbourhood level.

The role of Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNTs) is:

- Problem solving

- Community Engagement

- Offender Management

- Be identifiable, accessible, and responsive

4.2   It is crucial that SNT officers and staff are visible and engage with communities.
They must listen to what the public are saying, determine what their concerns are
and deal with problems to deliver protection and ensure community cohesion. This
approach is the foundation to Neighbourhood Policing and a number of changes
have been made so that SNT officers and staff are effective and efficient in this
area. These are captured below:

- SNT officers no longer 'carry' an investigative caseload, unless particular crimes are related to a community problem (priority) that they are trying to solve.

- SNT officers are no longer required to be the first response to 'routine' incidents that are reported in their neighbourhood. SNT officers will respond to 'emergency' incidents where they are the nearest and most appropriate resource.

- SNT officers are no longer abstracted from their neighbourhoods to perform tasks that take them away from their local communities.

- SNT officers now work a regulation shift pattern, which means that they are on duty for more days throughout the year.

- A number of Safer Neighbourhood Offices (SNOs) have been established across the County. SNT officers are based at these locations, which means that they are operating within or close to their relevant neighbourhoods.

- SNT officers now have the facility to 'self-brief' and are the subject of 'targeted' deployment.

- The introduction of 'mobile data technology'.

- The increased use of mobile police stations and pedal cycles.

- Specials are now dedicated (posted) to work with SNTs.

- Recruitment and increased use of volunteers (including Specials) dedicated (posted) to work with SNTs.

- Improved SNT websites.

- Greater use of social media, e.g. Twitter.

5.0   Post Implementation Review

5.1   In general, there has been little negative feedback from communities about the introduction of the new policing model. Many people are unaware or disinterested in the fact that the Force has undergone a major restructure. Instead, they tend to focus on the service that they receive, namely, police response and whether local issues are addressed to their satisfaction.

5.2   The risks of negative public perception around the significant reduction of SNT officers and the closure of some police enquiry offices and community contact points have been negated by the fact that those remaining officers and staff now have the ability to concentrate solely on local engagement and problem solving.

5.3   Safer Neighbourhood Teams have improved their level of engagement with local communities. This has been achieved through dedicated staff having the opportunity to focus on neighbourhood policing within their communities. There is also a greater emphasis placed upon officers 'going' to communities, rather than communities 'coming' to them. Data shows that officers are spending more time in their neighbourhoods, and the advantages of social networking sites, for instant communication, are beginning to materialise. This was particularly evident during the recent civil disorder where officers were able to reassure local communities and quell damaging rumours before they spread.

5.4   All Safer Neighbourhood Teams have continued to identify community priorities (problems) that they are committed to dealing with and solving. Specific priorities

and police activities are agreed at Community Forums, but SNTs are actively involved on a daily basis in the acquisition of information to enhance this task. Officers are now sharing a greater volume of information with communities and are more focused on the outcomes that their hard work has delivered. Performance in this area continues to flourish.

5.5   The risk of negative perceptions from partnerships at the withdrawal from a Boroughs and Districts policing model has not materialised. There has been some change, but the work of the Neighbourhood Chief Inspectors and Beat Managers is minimising any lasting issues. Any confusion between the role of Beat Manager and Neighbourhood Sergeant has now been resolved and there is evidence that Beat Managers are providing excellent engagement at local partnership level. The introduction of the SNT Beat Manager role is seen as a success within the Neighbourhood Policing model.

5.6   SNTs work closely with the Community Protection Team (CPT) and a number of functions previously delivered by the CPT have been mainstreamed (or part mainstreamed), e.g. community cohesion, crime prevention.

5.7   The Neighbourhood Protection Team (NPT) has been reinforced as a Force resource that undertakes 'higher harm' tasks. The NPT has 'ownership' for offenders as part of Integrated Offender Management, but all staff have a responsibility to contribute to this process. The team also provides specialist support to other business areas, such as public order, search, prison recalls, warrants, etc. With the NPT being focused on 'higher harms', SNTs have to be more creative when determining resources to resolve longer-term community issues (problems).

5.8   The new SNT structure permitted only one regular warranted officer (Beat Manager) per team. Therefore, in order to maintain levels of capacity, the recommendation was to align all Special Constables to SNTs. This approach was relaxed slightly for some Specials with specialist skills, but most of the 224 officers were assigned to Neighbourhoods and required to perform a minimum number of hours with SNTs before volunteering to support other business areas. For some Specials, this was an unpopular move because they did not join Warwickshire Police to solely perform a community officer role. By being so prescriptive, the Force alienated a large section of its warranted workforce and inadvertently placed obstacles in the way of Specials working towards independent patrol.

5.9   As a result, the deployment of Specials is currently being reviewed against the new policing model. Interim arrangements may be agreed for those Specials currently working with the Force, but the recommendation remains that all future Specials, joining Warwickshire Police, will be allocated to an SNT and work in Neighbourhood Policing. The Special Constabulary is a valuable asset to Warwickshire Police and the contribution made by its officers in delivering protection is outstanding. This was particularly evident during the recent events of civil disorder when officers from the Special Constabulary worked extended hours and performed additional duties.

5.10   Volunteers are a cost effective 'value-added' resource and their actual cost amounts to £254 each per year (including expenses). They cannot be used to replace staff who have vacated their post through redundancy or whose post has been disestablished. Therefore, volunteers can perform any role, but not any job.

Warwickshire Police currently employs 47 'public service volunteers' and 27 of them work within Neighbourhood Policing. There is no question that volunteers deliver an excellent 'value added' cost effective service and plans for future recruitment are in place.

6.0   Safer Neighbourhood Teams Audit

6.1   In November 2011 Warwickshire County Council's Risk and Assurance Services completed an internal audit regarding the key risks associated with the governance and performance of the Safer Neighbourhood Teams.

The scope of the audit included the following areas:

- Strategy, Policy and Procedures

- Participation with Community Forum Panels

- Communication, Engagement and Participation

- Priorities, Targets and Tasks

6.2   The key findings from the audit were as follows:

- Policy, structural documentation, job descriptions, and role profiles have not been fully updated to reflect the introduction of the new policing model.

- Full and appropriate participation is not achieved for community meetings and/or identification and setting of local priorities.

- Standard communication routines are not in place and there is no formal process for vetting publicity information prior to its issue.

6.3   As a result, key actions to be addressed are shown below:

- Safer Neighbourhoods policy structure charts, job descriptions, and role profiles should be reviewed, authorised, and re-issued to reflect arrangements since the introduction of the new policing model.

- Participation of relevant bodies and groups should be targeted and tasking meetings should be re-introduced in order to identify and set local priorities.

- Standard approach should be undertaken for the publication of publicity information and this should be incorporated within a communication policy and plan.

6.4   The findings of the audit come as no surprise bearing in mind that it was completed only 6 months after the introduction of the 'new' Neighbourhood Policing plan. It proved useful in confirming the current position of Neighbourhood Policing with the majority of issues classified as 'low' risk and no 'high' risk concerns being identified. Warwickshire Police has been through significant change in the last 12 months and it is anticipated that further change will take place as it enters a strategic alliance with West Mercia Police. It is far too early to say what that change may be, but caution needs to be applied to reviewing and rewriting policy and procedural documents, that, owing to change, could be out of date almost immediately.

7.0 Conclusion

7.1 The overall strategic objective regarding Neighbourhood Policing has been achieved, with action plans in place to address issues around offender management and the integration of Specials into the policing structure.

7.2 Neighbourhood Policing is seen across the organisation as one of the early successes of the 'new' model, despite the reduction in staff to one 'regular' Police Constable (Beat Manager) per Safer Neighbourhood Team.

7.3 Warwickshire Police are delivering Neighbourhood Policing differently and feedback suggests that it is working. Communities have reported greater visibility of Safer Neighbourhood Team officers and staff. Community engagement has increased and local issues are being solved efficiently and effectively. Neighbourhood Policing is performing a major role in the management of offenders, and staff are actively acquiring intelligence and information to inform policing activity.

7.4 The strategic alliance will undoubtedly provide the opportunity for further development with a view to improving efficiency and effectiveness. Despite its successes, Neighbourhood Policing in Warwickshire will not stand still and will continue to look for improvements to deliver the best possible level of protection to communities, within the resources available.

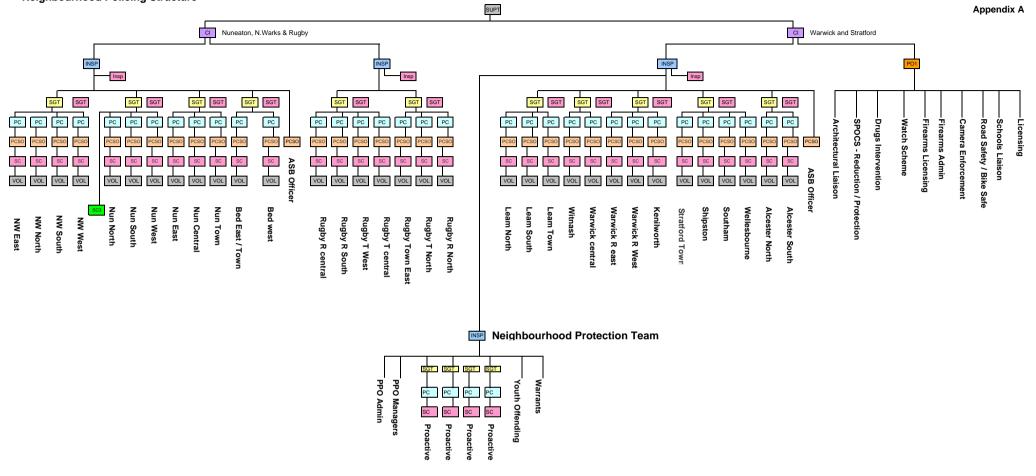### Background Papers
None.

Appendices
Appendix A - Neighbourhood Policing Structure Chart
Appendix B - Estates Map

	Name	Contact details
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Portfolio Holder	Councillor Richard Hobbs	cllrhobbs@warwickshire.gov.uk

Neighbourhood Policing Structure

SUPT

CI — Nuneaton, N.Warks & Rugby

CI — Warwick and Stratford

INSP   Insp

INSP   Insp

INSP   Insp

PO1

SGT SGT   SGT SGT   SGT SGT   SGT SGT

SGT SGT   SGT SGT

SGT SGT   SGT SGT   SGT SGT   SGT SGT   SGT SGT

PC (columns)

PCSO (columns)

SC (columns)

VOL (columns)

SC3

ASB Officer

ASB Officer

PCSO

NW East
NW North
NW South
NW West
Nun North
Nun South
Nun West
Nun East
Nun Central
Nun Town
Bed East / Town
Bed west

Rugby R central
Rugby R South
Rugby T West
Rugby T central
Rugby Town East
Rugby T North
Rugby R North

Leam North
Leam South
Leam Town
Witnash
Warwick central
Warwick R east
Warwick R West
Kenilworth
Stratford Town
Shipston
Southam
Wellesbourne
Alcester North
Alcester South

Architectural Liaison
SPOCS - Reduction / Protection
Drugs Intervention
Watch Scheme
Firearms Llicensing
Firearms Admin
Camera Enforcement
Road Safety / Bike Safe
Schools Liaison
Licensing

INSP **Neighbourhood Protection Team**

SGT SGT SGT SGT

PC PC PC PC

SC SC SC SC

PPO Admin
PPO Managers
Proactive
Proactive
Proactive
Proactive
Youth Offending
Warrants

Future Warwickshire Police Estate

Bedworth Deployment Base

Nuneaton Justice Centre

Leek Wootton Comms Centre

Rugby Police Station

Leamington Justice Centre

Greys Mallory Deployment Base

Southam Site (Forensics)

Stratford Police Station

Safer Neighbourhood Offices

Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee
9 February 2012

Transport Infrastructure for Major Development

Recommendations

(1)   To consider and comment on the approach to supporting major development, set out in this report.

(2)   To agree any areas for scrutiny, as appropriate.

1.0   Key Issues

1.1   Major development creates pressure on existing infrastructure and services and generates the need for improved or new infrastructure and services.

1.2   This report discusses the procedures and funding sources for securing new or improved transport infrastructure and services made necessary by major developments.

2.0   Introduction

2.1   The need for new or improved transport and education provision are the two main pressures the County Council has to deal with when new development takes place. However, there is a range of other requirements that may compete for available funding, e.g. social housing, health and social facilities, fire service, libraries, police, and open space.

2.2   Private development has to be commercially viable. There is therefore a limit on how much private funding can be made available for public infrastructure. The amount of funding available for public infrastructure will vary with the location and nature of the land to be developed. Therefore, the County Council has to be mindful of this when seeking infrastructure improvements, making sure that such requests are reasonable and in scale with the size of the development.

2.3   A decision to grant planning permission is made by the relevant planning authority. For major development in Warwickshire that generally means the District and Borough Councils and the Local Planning Authorities (LPA). The LPA's are often referred to as the 'Deciding Authority,' as they must weigh up the merits of the development and the competing demands for public infrastructure when they decide on whether to grant planning permission, and what conditions and obligations should be imposed on that permission.

2.4   It follows therefore that the need to secure investment for transport is only one of the factors that is taken into account when planning permission is granted and planning conditions and obligations are determined.

2.5   The County Council has established a Strategic Infrastructure Group (SIG) to oversee the Council's response to consultations by Planning Authorities on major developments. The objective of this group is to ensure a coordinated response from the County Council and to enable a corporate view to be taken on priorities for investment. The Terms of Reference for the SIG are attached as **Appendix A.**

2.6   The SIG comprises of two groups; the Officers Group, and the Members Group, which is discussed further in Section 6 of this paper.

3.0   Transport in the Planning Process

3.1   Most major development sites are allocated through the Local Plan (LP) or the Local Development Framework (LDF), prepared by District and Borough Councils as Planning Authority. The County Council is involved in advising the LPA's on the transport implications of major developments from an early stage of LP/LDF development. The intention of our advice is to help with the selection of sites to reduce transport impacts, maximise sustainability, and/or to select sites where mitigation is most easily achieved. However, transport is one of many factors that the LPA will take into account. The County Council is committed to supporting 'targeted growth', i.e. creating conditions for private sector growth and investment. We will look to support some strategic sites that will create wider business benefits for the wider communities and businesses.

3.2   Once likely sites for major developments are known, discussions with potential developers normally begin long before a planning application is submitted. These are known as pre-application discussions. This may involve detailed traffic modelling and detailed discussions about public transport and other infrastructure such as cycle lanes. A great deal of work may be done by both the developer and the County Council during the pre-application phase and the aim is that through pre-application discussions, agreed transport mitigation measures are established. During the pre-application stage the County Council works closely with the Highways Agency to ensure that the impacts on the motorway and trunk road network are considered alongside those of the local road network. Depending on the size and the location of the proposed development, the County Council will work with neighbouring Highway Authorities to ensure a coordinated response.

3.3   The County Council is a statutory consultee on highway and transport matters. Therefore, once the Planning Authority receives a planning application the County Council is formally consulted. However, the Developers are actively encouraged to seek pre-application advice. At this stage the County Council can agree the scope of the transport information required to support the application and look at the likely infrastructure requirements. If the required mitigation measures have not been agreed and the proposals contained in the planning application are considered unacceptable it may be necessary to object to the planning application. As a statutory consultee the LPA have to take our response into account and include it in their final reports. However, the LPA can decide not to follow our advice and grant permission in spite of our objection.

3.4 When the Planning Authority grants planning permission, planning conditions or planning obligations may be imposed on the permission. It is through these planning conditions or obligations that highway and transport infrastructure is secured.

3.5 The above process is illustrated in **Appendix B** through a description of the procedures for the recent Gateway Sustainable Urban Extension Application in Rugby.

4.0 Developer Funding

4.1 At present, if highway and transport infrastructure and services are to be funded by developers, this may be achieved through agreements using Sections 38, 184 or 278 of the Highways Act, and Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act.

4.2 A Section 38 agreement is the mechanism which allows developers to build and then have adopted infrastructure on land they own for the development, e.g. estate roads. Normally the developer builds the infrastructure, which is technically approved and supervised by officers of the County Council, and later asks for it to be adopted, at which point responsibility for maintenance passes from the developer to the Local Authority. The design and specification requirements for infrastructure that is to be adopted is set out by the County Council in design guides.

4.3 A Section 184 or 278 agreement is a mechanism whereby infrastructure is built on the existing public highway, usually to connect the application site to the existing public highway, e.g. a new roundabout. Such work is normally fully funded by the developer but designed and built by the County Council. Highway Works agreements are the preferable method for securing large Civil Engineering works directly related to a development site. The main advantage of this method is that the developer bears all of the cost and there is no risk to the County Council.

4.4 There are many cases where expenditure on infrastructure or services remote from the development site is required to mitigate the impact of a development. Examples of this are provision of subsidised bus services, improvements to remote highway junctions, and traffic calming on existing roads around a development. Funding for remote infrastructure is currently secured through S106 agreements which may be with one or more developers for a particular piece of infrastructure. S106 agreements are therefore specific about what is being provided and when the money must be spent by. If funding is not spent by the end date of the agreement it may have to be returned to the developer.

4.5 Section 106 planning obligations must comply with the following three tests as set out in the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010:

1. Necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms.
2. Directly related to the development.
3. Fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development.

4.6   The Section 106 commonly secures sums of money, either individual contributions or pooled, to be spent by the County Council to carry out specific improvements. There is a certain element of risk here, if costs exceed the amount secured then the County Council will be responsible for the shortfall. To mitigate this, the County Council uses robust estimates for the value of the works being carried out which include contingency elements.

4.7   In future some funding for infrastructure and services remote from a development site could be secured through the Community Infrastructure Levy (CiL). Unlike S106 funding, the CiL collected from individual developers is not tied to specific infrastructure. Also whereas S106 funding tends only to be collected from development above a certain size, CiL may be collected from all development down to a single house.

4.8   CiL will be set by the Planning Authority; in Warwickshire this would be the District and Borough Councils. The level of CiL will be determined by factors such as commercial viability of development, infrastructure requirements, and the need to encourage development. The level of CiL is likely to vary across the County and could vary within District Council areas. CiL may be collected from all types and sizes of development.

4.9   A number of groups and organisations will be competing for the funds available through CiL. Therefore, S106 agreements will still be required for securing site specific improvements and funding.

5.0   Other Funding Sources

5.1   It may not always be commercially viable for new development to fund all of the transport infrastructure and services that are desirable. When this is the case the following may apply:

(1)   The County Council could object to the development on highway grounds and advise the planning authority not to grant planning permission. It is for the Planning Authority, or possibly a planning inspector following a public inquiry, to make the final decision in these circumstances.

(2)   The benefits of allowing the development to proceed despite a shortfall in transport provision may justify acceptance of the transport impacts e.g. to enable development of a brownfield site or an important employment development which may provide much needed jobs in an area.

(3)   The wider public benefits may justify investment of public funds either as permanently sunk funds or as temporary investment if the issue for the development is cash flow rather than long term value released by the development.

5.2   There are a number of potential public funding sources for capital investment but fewer options for revenue funding of public transport services. Examples of grant funding are:

(1)   European Regional Development Funding (ERDF) is available in parts of Warwickshire and may be available as match for enabling infrastructure in those areas.

(2)   Temporary competitive bid for grants may be available from time to time e.g. Regional Growth Fund (RGF)

(3)   Major scheme funding may be available e.g. NUCKLE.

(4)   Growing Places Fund. This is recently announced funding that is intended to help bring development forward where cash flow is the issue. The intention is that it is a revolving fund with repayment once cash flow is available from the development. The Coventry and Warwickshire LEP area has been given an indicative allocation of £8.52M.

5.3   For housing development, Government are offering funding through the New Homes Bonus, based on a fixed amount per new home built. Upper-tier Local Authorities receive 20% of this funding, but it is expected that our main revenue grant will be top sliced by a significantly higher amount to fund the scheme. Therefore, any funding we do receive will be needed to meet the resulting shortfall. The remaining 80% of the grant goes to the District Councils, but they could choose to make some of this funding available for essential infrastructure if appropriate. The amount of funding is, however, likely to be modest with many calls on it. For example, in Warwick District there may be 550 homes per year built and each will attract circa £1400 funding. Warwick District predicts that if 550 new homes per year are built they will be collecting about £2M per year by 2015-16.

5.4   The County Council could choose to borrow funding to help fund infrastructure using Tax Incremental Financing. Tax Increment Financing (TIF) allows local authorities to retain the increase of business rates in a tightly defined geographic area, (i.e. that above the existing baseline of business rates generated in the area). Local Authorities can then work with partners and stakeholders to borrow against this expected future growth in business rates in order to finance the development of the site (i.e. infrastructure works). Local authorities have not been able to undertake TIF schemes in the past, as new legislation is required to enable the retention of business rates. It is likely that the Government will only initially allow a limited number of TIF schemes across the country, and strong business plans will be required for the proposed schemes.

5.5   More widely, the Government are also legislating to fundamentally change the allocation of business rates, proposing that Local Authorities should keep a proportion of the growth in total business rates income across the whole of their area above a certain threshold. The current proposals published by Government are for 80% of any growth in business rate income to be retained by the District and Borough Councils, meaning that WCC will only retain 20% of any growth in business rates generated across Warwickshire. It must be highlighted that this is not new money – rather it replaces the existing funding received through redistributed business rates from a national pot. However, should local areas see significant and sustained business growth above the national average, then they are likely to see an increase in overall income.

This income would not be ring-fenced, and there is no guarantee that it would be spent on investment in infrastructure to support or facilitate economic growth. As the County Council will only retain a small proportion of any increase, it is unlikely that this will be sufficient on its own for additional transport and major infrastructure investment. More guidance and regulation on business rates retention is due to be published early in 2012.

6.0   Role of Members

6.1   Responsibility for the whole of the process for responding to consultation on planning applications and negotiation of funding and works agreements with developers is delegated to officers. Under the Council's Scheme of Delegation it is:

(1)   The Head of Sustainable Communities who has the power to respond on behalf of the County Council in relation to any proposal for development, made or determined by another body (Delegation 1).

(2)   The Strategic Director for Resources who has the power to enter agreements in relation to the execution of highway works or improvements or agreements regulating development or use of land under Sections 184 and 278 of the Highways Act 1980 and Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (Delegation 18).

6.2   However, for large developments such as the Mast Site in Rugby, significant discussion and consultation is carried out with Members to inform responses that will be made by officers under their delegated powers. For smaller developments, the practice is generally that Members are not consulted due to the mainly technical nature of the matters involved and their smaller impact. If officers judge that particular circumstances suggest consultation with a local member is advisable for a smaller development, this may be carried out.

6.3   If capital schemes arising from agreements described in paragraph 6.1(2) are to be implemented by the County Council, it is necessary for those schemes to be formally added to the Council's capital programme. This requires Cabinet approval before contracts are let. If capital funding for schemes is required in addition to developer funding, it would also require Cabinet or Council approval in accordance with Council Standing Orders.

6.4   As mentioned in paragraph 2.6 there is a Member Group connected to the Strategic Infrastructure Group. At present, this Member Group comprises Councillor Alan Cockburn, Councillor Richard Chattaway and Councillor Jerry Roodhouse. The Members Group provides direction for the Officers SIG Group with regards to infrastructure delivery for major development sites, especially when there are competing demands for a finite set of resources, and WCC need to prioritise their call on these resources to ensure developments are viable.

Background Papers
None.

Appendices
Appendix A – Strategic Infrastructure Group terms of reference
Appendix B – Securing the Infrastructure requirements for the Gateway Sustainable Urban Extension in Rugby

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Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee
9 February 2012

Terms of reference for the Strategic Infrastructure Group

Purpose

The Group will take a strategic view on the requirements for infrastructure and provide guidance on the County Councils priorities required to serve new developments.

Membership

Louise Wall - Head of Sustainable Communities, CO. (Chair)
Kushal Birla - Head of Customer Service, RE
Steve Smith - Head of Physical Assets, RE
Chris Egan - Project Manager, CO
John Betts - Head of Corporate Finance, RE
Caroline Sampson - Heritage & Cultural Services Manager, CO
Mark Gore - Head of Service - Learning and Achievement, PE
Roger Newham - County Transport Planner, CO
Neil Benison - Principal Highway Control Engineer, CO
Jasbir Kaur - Strategic Planning and Development Manager, CO
Ciaran Power - Planning Officer, CO (Clerk)

Responsibilities

The Group will have the following specific responsibilities:

(1)   Ensure that the views of the County Council are presented as a single response/co-ordination of views on major developments to the District and Borough Councils.

(2)   Follow through "One Council - one view" principles to identify priorities, resolve conflict on infrastructure between competing services and set out priorities of infrastructure for major developments.

(3)   Provide strategic (Countywide/joined up) guidance on new developments that the shape our services including issues such as:

- Co-location - To provide a lead on who, how, which services, costs, relating to major sites.
- Best fit (use of land and buildings) services for the locality i.e. relocation of some services.
- Provide guidance on Working with Partners and delivery mechanisms.

The Group will also provide a strategic policy lead on future keys areas of work and these include:

(1)   Community Infrastructure Levy/or its replacement - the Tariff.

(2)   The new duty on the County Council to undertake Infrastructure Planning for the County area.

(3)   The Group will keep under review the impact of any new emerging policies.

Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee
9 February 2012

Securing the Infrastructure requirements for the Gateway Sustainable Urban Extension in Rugby

As part of their Local Development Framework (LDF) Rugby Borough Council (RBC) identified two named sites to cater for the growth required in the plan period. These sites were two Sustainable Urban Extensions (SUE). The first was the Rugby Mast site to the east of Rugby and the second, to the north, was the Gateway Site.

This example is based on the Gateway SUE, S106 negotiations recently completed. However, this approach will be applied to the Mast site as well.

The Gateway SUE will provide 1300 new homes and 31 hectares of employment land.

The County Council's first contact with the Gateway site was through RBC's emerging Core Strategy. Using the Council's Strategic Highway model for the area, the following high level infrastructure requirements, for the Gateway site, were identified:

(1)   Provision of direct, frequent bus services between site, Rugby railway station and town centre £916,000 - £1m **Critical**

(2)   An improvement to M6 Junction 1 (A426) and the Central Park Drive roundabout £700,000 **Critical**

(3)   Provision of appropriate access to/from the site onto the A426 Leicester Road £250,000 **Critical**

(4)   Provision of a dedicated cycle link between the site, the railway station and the town centre £250,000 - £500,000 **Critical**

(5)   Provision of a comprehensive cycle network to link the residential and employment areas on the site with key facilities such as schools, health centres and food stores £250,000 **Critical**

(6)   Provision of School Buses £100,000 **Desirable**

Some of these can be delivered internally as part of the site and connections to the public highway, via Section 38 and S278 Agreements respectively. The remainder would be included as contributions via the S106 Agreements.

Also at this stage the Council looked at areas on the Highway Network which were affected by both the Gateway Site and the proposed Mast Site. This allows for

pooled contributions to be identified and secured in the agreement. The areas identified were as follows:

(1)   Russell Heim Way Gyratory – Signalisation £750,000 Critical

(2)   Improvements to town centre including new pedestrian crossings on Evreux Way; Church Street; Railway Terrace; Albert Street; Regent Place corridor and full pedestrianisation on part of North Street and surrounding Clock Tower £868,600 Desirable.

(3)   Improvements to the junctions along the A426 Leicester Road between M6 Junction 1 and the town centre, including Avon Mill roundabout Approximately £7m Critical.

As the application progressed through the Core Strategy process, Planning Applications were submitted for the site. This allowed the Council to look at the implications of the highway impact in more detail.

A more detailed and agreed highway model was used to assess the full impacts of the site. The impacts demonstrated in this modelling were compared to the existing situation and identified further areas of improvement. This exercise also looked at the phasing of the development and identified trigger points for the contributions to be made.

To date only the first phase of the development, 239 houses, has been granted planning permission, the associated agreements with this phase are as follows:

(1)   Southern Access to the site, 2 number Toucan Pedestrian Crossings and bus stops including shelters on the A426, secured via Section 278 Agreement.

(2)   Phase 1 of the internal Spine Road and estate layouts, secure via Section 38.

(3)   Section 106 Transport Contributions of over £850,000.

Internal consultations will continue as the remainder of the site comes forward, seeking to secure the identified highways and transportation requirements.

The process for securing S106 Transport Contributions for major schemes can be summarised as follows:

(1)   Strategic modelling used to identify high level infrastructure improvements

(2)   Detailed modelling confirms above and details site specific improvements.

(3)   Internal consultation with SIG, two way process, reporting to group outlining initial level of contributions being sought and direction into further areas to be examined.

(4)   Internal consultation with various WCC groups and teams, covering Public Transport, Rights of Way, Cycling, Safety etc.

(5)   External consultation carried out by the developers, with local groups including Town and Parish Councils, user specific groups such as cycling or rambling associations.

During this process representations are also made by individuals responding to the planning consultation either directly or through their local Members.

Using the above process and the detailed modelling work carried out as part of the Transport Assessment the County Council identified and secured, via highway works agreements and S106, appropriate transport and highways infrastructure, attempting to make planning applications acceptable in terms of highways, transport and sustainability.

Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee
9 February 2012

Task and Finish group for the
Street Lighting Energy Saving Project

Recommendation

To consider and comment on the report providing background for a Task And Finish Group scrutinising the Street Lighting Energy Saving project.

1.0 Key Issues

1.1 As part of the County Council savings plan, Street Lighting has been set a target of £500,000 to be saved from the annual electricity budget from financial year 2013/14. To achieve this saving part-night lighting is to be implemented throughout the County, affecting approximately 80% or 39,000, of the street lights owned and maintained by Warwickshire County Council.

1.2 To operate the lighting on a Part-Night basis a Central Management System (CMS) has been identified as the best solution and a budget of £1.64 million has been allocated over financial years 2011/12 and 2012/13 for the purchase and installation of the system.

1.3 As the project is to affect all residents of Warwickshire it is proposed to consult on the criteria we have used to identify the lights which are to remain lit all night.

2.0 Proposal

2.1 The formation of a Task and Finish Group will enable members to look at the Street Lighting Part-Night operation project.

2.2 Specific terms of reference for the group are to be decided. Some areas which could be considered would be;

(1) Timing of switching to part-night operation, either adopting a phased approach or all at once,
(2) The criteria used to identify the 80% of lights required to be switched to part-night operation to achieve the agreed financial savings,
(3) Review consultation proposals and results,
(4) Equitability of the project, in terms of its impact on the residents of Warwickshire.
(5) Benchmarking against other Local Authorities who are currently operating on a part-night basis or in the process of moving to part-night operation.

3.0 Timescales Associated with the decision/Next steps

3.1 In order to achieve the £500,000 saving in 2013/14, the switch to part-night operation needs to commence April 2013.

3.2 Forming the Task and Finish Group in February should allow sufficient time to consider the project before reporting the findings at the September 2012 Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Background Papers
None.

Appendices
None.

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Portfolio Holder	Councillor Peter Butlin	cllrbutlin@warwickshire.gov.uk

Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee
9 February 2012

Work Programme – 2012

Recommendation

That the Committee considers the draft work programme, amends as appropriate, and puts forwards any recommendations for Task & Finish Groups.

1.0 Draft Work Programme
The Committee's Work Programme is attached as Appendix A. 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.

2.0 Forward Plan
The following items related to the work of the Committee are currently in the forward plan.

Cabinet - 16/02/2012
(1) Rural Broadband Development Proposals and the Local Broadband Plan
(2) Waste Core Strategy 'Publication' Consultation / Minerals and Waste Development Scheme revision.

Cabinet - 15/03/2012
HS2 Report

County Council - 27/03/2012
(1) Coventry and Warwickshire Growing Places Fund
(2) HS2 – Formal Response

Cabinet - 24/05/2012
Capital Programme for Transport 2012/13

Background Papers
None.

Appendices
Appendix A – Draft Work Programme 2012

CLLR WHITEHOUSE
Chair of the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Shire Hall
Warwick

Communities O&S Work Programme 2012

| MEETING DATE | ITEM AND RESPONSIBLE OFFICER | OBJECTIVE OF SCRUTINY | Type of review | | | | Link to corporate priorities | | | | |
			Performance Management	Holding Executive to Account	Policy Review / Development	Overview	Ambition 1 Community and Customers	Ambition 2 Safety and Protection	Ambition 4 Enterprise, Transport and Tourism	Ambition 5 Environment and Housing	Ambition 7 Organisation
09 Feb 2012	Neighbourhood Policing Review (Martin McNevin)	To assess the impact of the changes to Neighbourhood Policing in Warwickshire.	✓		✓			Reduced levels of crime and anti-social behaviour.			
	Supporting Major Infrastructure (Roger Newham)	To scrutinise how WCC secures transport infrastructure to support major development.				✓			Improve accessibility and transport options within Warwickshire.		
	Street Lighting	Preliminary report to provide background and context for a task and finish group.			✓	✓					
12 April 2012	HS2 – WCC Strategy (Mandy Walker)	To scrutinise the strategy for mitigation of negative impacts and assess how to make the most of the benefits for Warwickshire.			✓					Maintain our natural environment for future generations.	
	Fire Control Centre Proposals (Gary Phillips)	To consider proposals for the new Fire Control Centre. (Date subject to change)			✓			Reduced number and severity of fires, and fire related injuries and deaths.			
	Bus Service Reductions – Impact on Local Communities (Kevin McGovern, Dan Green)	To scrutinise the impact of the changes to transport provision for service users and communities.		✓	✓		Customers are able to access services more effectively.		Improve accessibility and transport options within Warwickshire.		
13 June 2012	Road Safety (Estyn Williams)	To assess the impact of the changes to safety camera operation.		✓	✓			Warwickshire residents are safe on our roads.			
	Anti-Social Behavior (Mark Ryder)	To assess strategies in place to reduce ASB and the impact of changes to public service provision on ASB (e.g. changes to the Youth Service).		✓	✓			Reduced levels of harm caused by anti-social behaviour.			
	Fire and Rescue Service Improvement Plan - Update (Gary Phillips)	To scrutinise implementation of the improvement plan and assess the impact of fire station closures.	✓	✓				Reduced number and severity of fires, and fire related injuries and deaths.			Slim down the organisation and encourage innovation.
	Community Fire Safety - Update (Gary Phillips)	To scrutinise the effectiveness of Community Fire Safety. (possible Task and Finish Group)	✓		✓			Reduced number and severity of fires, and fire related injuries and deaths.			
19 Sept 2012	Concessionary Travel	To assess the impact of WCC taking over the concessionary travel scheme and the changes for service users.	✓		✓		Customers are able to access services more effectively.		Improve accessibility and transport options within Warwickshire.		
	Highways Contract (Andrew Savage)	To scrutinise the effectiveness of the current highways maintenance contract that WCC has with Belfour Beatty.	✓	✓				Proactively maintain the highways network to a safe standard, working with partners to do so.			Work with other public sector organisations to integrate services.
Items to be timetabled											
TBC	Waste Contract – New Technologies	To scrutinise the impact of the new waste technologies.	✓		✓					Reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill.	Work with other public sector organisations to

Communities O&S Work Programme 2012

MEETING DATE	ITEM AND RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	OBJECTIVE OF SCRUTINY	Type of review				Link to corporate priorities				
			Performance Management	Holding Executive to Account	Policy Review / Development	Overview	Ambition 1 Community and Customers	Ambition 2 Safety and Protection	Ambition 4 Enterprise, Transport and Tourism	Ambition 5 Environment and Housing	Ambition 7 Organisation
											integrate services.
TBC	Fire and Rescue – Strategic Alliance	To scrutinise the upcoming strategic alliance between Warwickshire and Northamptonshire Fire & Rescue Services.	✓		✓			Reduced number and severity of fires, and fire related injuries and deaths.			
TBC	Flood Risk Management	(Delegated power from the O&S Board) To scrutinise the strategies in place to manage flood risk in Warwickshire.	✓		✓						
TBC - (as issues arise)	Coventry & Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership	To scrutinise the work of the LEP as issues arise.	✓		✓				A thriving business community in Warwickshire.		Services are better-delivered locally to our residents and businesses across Warwickshire & the sub region.
TBC	Household Waste Recycling Centres – Review of Change to Hours of Operation	After 12 months – to review the change to the hours of operation at Household Waste Recycling Centres.	✓		✓		Customers are able to access services more effectively.			Reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill.	