AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee	**Overview and Scrutiny Board**
Date of Committee	**3rd March 2010**
Report Title	**Comprehensive Area Assessment - findings of Year 1 CAA and next steps**

Summary	The first CAA judgements were published in December 2009. This report brings together the CAA findings for Warwickshire, an overview of CAA findings at the national level and details of activity underway in Warwickshire to address areas for improvement.

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Would the recommendation decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? [please identify relevant plan/budget provision]	No.
Background papers	The individual judgments for organisations in Warwickshire can be found on the OnePlace Website: http://oneplace.direct.gov.uk/pages/default.aspx

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:-   Details to be specified

Other Committees	☐	
Local Member(s)	☐	
Other Elected Members	☐	Cllr Appleton...
Cabinet Member	☐	Cllr Farnell...........................
Chief Executive	☐	. ……………………………………
Legal	☐	Sarah Duxbury..
Finance	☐	....
Other Strategic Directors	☐	Monica Fogarty, David Carter ………….

District Councils	☐	....
Health Authority	☐	....
Police	☐	....
Other Bodies/Individuals	☐	Michelle McHugh, Ann Mawdsley

FINAL DECISION   YES/NO

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS: Details to be specified

Further consideration by this Committee	☐	....
To Council	☐	....
To Cabinet	☐	....
To an O & S Committee	☐	....
To an Area Committee	☐	....
Further Consultation	☐	....

Warwickshire
County Council

Overview and Scrutiny Board – 3rd March 2010

Comprehensive Area Assessment - Year 1 CAA findings and next steps

Report of the Assistant Chief Executive

Recommendation

The Overview and Scrutiny Board is recommended to:
o   Note the outcomes of the first CAA Area Assessment for Warwickshire and reflect this where appropriate in O&S Work Programmes,
o   Identify any issues arising from the CAA judgements for joint scrutiny,
o   Note the national allocation of green flags for possible sources of best practice.

1.0   Background

1.1   Comprehensive Area Assessment, or CAA, was introduced in April 2009 and examines how well councils and other public bodies are working together to meet the needs of the people they serve.

1.2   CAA is made up of two interconnected elements: an area assessment and individual organisational assessments, both of which are informed by a range of information including the National Indicator Set, additional locally collected performance information, the views of people that use local services and finding from inspection, regulation and audit.

   • **The Area Assessment** looks at how well local public services are delivering better results for local people across the whole area, focusing on agreed local priorities set out within the Warwickshire Sustainable Community Strategy, and how likely they are to improve in the future.

   • Each Council in Warwickshire and the Fire and Rescue Authority are also subject to an **Organisational Assessment**, which examines the performance and value for money of the organisation as well as how effectively they work with partners.

2.0   The Findings

2.1   Mary-Ann Bruce, then CAA Lead for Warwickshire presented the emerging findings of CAA to the Overview and Scrutiny Board at its meeting of the 4th November 2009. The overall picture for Warwickshire has changed little since this time and remains overall a positive one. It should also be noted that Gary Hammersley

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replaced Mary-Ann Bruce as CAA Lead for Warwickshire and will cover Coventry and Solihull as well as Warwickshire. This will enable the inspectorates to gain a greater knowledge of the increasing sub-regional element of partnership working in Warwickshire.

2.2   The first round of CAA judgements were published on the 9th December. CAA findings will be published annually and provide an annual snapshot of the quality of life in the area. The results are publicly available on a new website known as Oneplace. A briefing note was circulated to all Warwickshire Elected Members in December summarising the CAA Area Assessment judgement as well as the individual Organisational Assessment findings for all six local authorities as well as the Use of Resources findings for the Police and NHS Warwickshire. This can be accessed on the Warwickshire Web at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/caa

3.0   Area Assessment

3.1   The Area Assessment is not scored. Instead exceptional themes or areas of activity may be awarded either red or green flags. Green flags represent exceptional performance or outstanding improvement. Red flags are reported where there are significant concerns or risks.

3.2   The Area Assessment judgement uses the Warwickshire Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) as its basis and acknowledges that Warwickshire has a strong understanding of what its communities want which is in turn reflected in the SCS. The Area Assessment highlights the introduction of community forums as one way in which Warwickshire is improving the way its organisations listen to local residents.

3.3   Warwickshire has been awarded one red flag, as CAA has judged that without improved joint working practices between health agencies and other public bodies, in a climate of increasing pressure on public funds, the prospects for Warwickshire will be challenging.

4.0   Organisational Assessments

4.1   The effectiveness of councils and Fire and Rescue Authorities is assessed through Organisational Assessments, the findings of which inform and are informed by the Area Assessment. Each of the Councils in Warwickshire along with the Fire and Rescue Authority have received a scored judgement showing how well it delivers value for money in the Use of Resources and how well it manages its performance. The scores are combined to provide an overall score from 1 – 4 (where 1 equals poor performance and 4 equals excellent performance). Warwickshire Police and Warwickshire PCT are also assessed as part of the CAA framework and have received a Use of Resources score for 2009. The scores are set out in the table below with the headline messages for each of Warwickshire's organisations available on the Warwickshire Intranet.

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Organisation	Organisational Assessment score (Overall)	Use of Resources	Managing Performance
North Warwickshire Borough Council	**2 out of 4**	**2 out of 4** Managing Finances – 2 Governing the Business – 2 Managing resources 2	**2 out of 4**
Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council	**2 out of 4**	**2 out of 4** Managing Finances – 2 Governing the Business – 2 Managing resources 2	**2 out of 4**
Rugby Borough Council	2 out of 4	**2 out of 4** Managing Finances – 2 Governing the Business – 2 Managing resources 2	2 out of 4
Warwick District Council	**2 out of 4**	**2 out of 4** Managing Finances – 2 Governing the Business – 2 Managing resources 2	**2 out of 4**
Stratford District Council	**3 out of 4**	**2 out of 4** Managing Finances – 2 Governing the Business – 2 Managing resources 2	**3 out of 4**
Warwickshire County Council	**3 out of 4**	**3 out of 4** Managing Finances – 3 Governing the Business – 3 Managing resources 3	**3 out of 4**
Warwickshire Police	-	**3 out of 4** Managing Finances – 3 Governing the Business – 3 Managing resources 2	-
Warwickshire PCT	-	Managing Finances – 2 Governing the Business – 2 Managing resources 2	-

4.2 The Organisational Assessment element of the CAA for the County Council is also informed by the outcome of two assessments of local authority services for children and young people (Ofsted) and adult social care (Care Quality Commission).

4.3 The rating for children's services in Warwickshire County Council is that it performs well. The overall effectiveness of the large majority of inspected and regulated
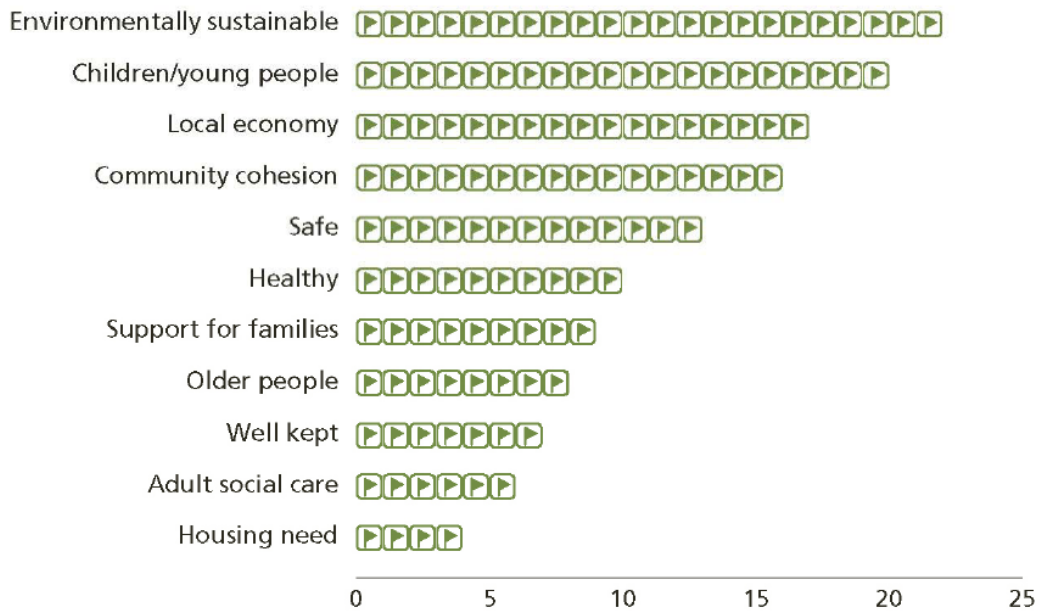
Warwickshire
County Council

services and settings in Warwickshire is good. The Local Authority Fostering Service was judged as outstanding in its most recent inspection. Performance against the very large majority of national indicators, including those for staying safe and enjoying and achieving is in line or better than in similar areas nationally. The report can be found on the Ofsted Website (http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/oxcare_providers/la_view/(leaid)/937) and the findings detailed in the report will be embedded within the Directorate Business Plan and the Warwickshire Children and Young People's Plan.

4.4   The CQC has now confirmed that for the performance year 2008/09 adult social care in Warwickshire is rated as "performing well". This judgement is extremely positive and although it falls in line with the 2 star rating that we received for 2007/08 the level of continued improvement and progress in relation to adult social care services in the County is highlighted through the specific judgements that have been made by the CQC in relation to the outcomes against which we are assessed. When compared to the results we received in our 2007/08 assessment we have improved in two of the seven areas, achieving our first excellent rating in relation to "making a positive contribution" and moving up from an adequate judgement for "freedom from discrimination or harassment" in 2007/08 to performing well in this area last year.   The Directorate has in place a clear and robust performance management framework to ensure the delivery of these improvement areas and will be providing regular updated to the CQC around progress in these and other areas to support future annual performance assessment judgements.

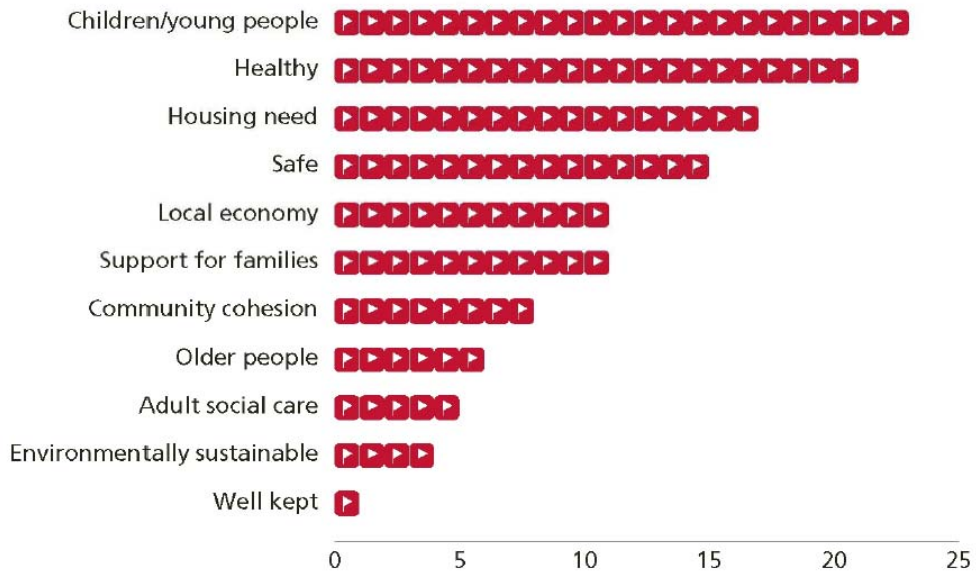**5.0   The National Picture – sharing best practice**

5.1   The CAA findings form an important part of developing evidence in the work of Overview and Scrutiny. Overview and Scrutiny will be able to draw on the outcomes of Warwickshire's various assessments to inform the development of the County's O&S Work Programme and the identification of areas for joint scrutiny. CAA also presents an enhanced opportunity to learn from other areas and organisations through the analysis of green and red flags.

5.2   In total, across all areas in England, 74 green flags have been issued. 25 of these flags relate to areas covered by County Councils. A total of 62 red flags have been issued, 15 of which relate to areas covered by County Councils.

5.3   The number of local authorities receiving the highest score under the organisational assessment of 4 – performing excellently, has dropped significantly when compared to the number who achieved the top score under the CPA framework. Only three County Councils have been awarded the top score of 4 for the Organisational Assessment.

5.4   The allocation of green flags, denoting exceptional performance, are useful sources of best practice from which we can learn. Figure 1 and 2 below shows the overall breakdown of green and red flags by theme. The table at Appendix A provides further breakdown of the green and red flags which O&S may wish to learn from.

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Figure 1: **The distribution of green flags across themes**

Theme	Count
Environmentally sustainable	22
Children/young people	18
Local economy	15
Community cohesion	13
Safe	11
Healthy	9
Support for families	8
Older people	7
Well kept	6
Adult social care	5
Housing need	4

Source: Audit Commission

Figure 2: **The distribution of red flags across themes**

Theme	Count
Children/young people	23
Healthy	21
Housing need	17
Safe	15
Local economy	11
Support for families	10
Community cohesion	7
Older people	6
Adult social care	5
Environmentally sustainable	4
Well kept	1

Source: Audit Commission

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6.0   Improvement Activity

6.1   Those areas for improvement highlighted through the CAA Area Assessment have now been incorporated within "Addressing Partnership Effectiveness – An Improvement Plan for Partnership Working in Warwickshire", which was endorsed by the PSB in September. Work has progressed on implementing the Plan including support from the West Midlands Regional Improvement and Efficiency Partnership. This plan will inform the work of the Partnership and will be monitored accordingly.

6.2   The Warwickshire Public Service Board has commissioned the Improvement and Development Agency (IDeA) to undertake a Peer Review of partnership working in Warwickshire. This will take place in the week commencing the 1st March 2010 and will focus upon relationships between local public services and how well partners are working together to deliver better outcomes for the people of Warwickshire. The outcomes of a recent 'Partnership Questionnaire' as well as the issues highlighted by the receipt of the 'red flag' will form the key evidence of the visit which will culminate in a set of recommendations upon which to build.

6.3   The specific improvement activity identified from Warwickshire County Council's Organisational Assessment will be brought together into our Corporate Improvement Programme. This will be just one part of the Corporate Improvement Programme that will inform, and be informed by the Corporate Business Plan.

7.0   Recommendation
The Overview and Scrutiny Board is recommended to:
o   Note the outcomes of the first CAA Area Assessment for Warwickshire and reflect this where appropriate in O&S Work Programmes,
o   Identify any issues arising from the CAA judgements for joint scrutiny,
o   Note the national allocation of green flags for possible sources of best practice.

Report of the Assistant Chief Executive
Monica Fogarty
3rd March 2010

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| CCN Member | Area Assessment | | | | Organisational Assessment | | | Children's Services | Adult Social Care | Fire Organisational Assessment* | | |
| | Green Flags | | Red Flags | | | | | | | | | |
	No.	Awarded For	No.	Awarded For	Overall	Managing Performance	Use of Resources			Overall	Managing Performance	Use of Resources
Buckinghamshire	0	n/a	0	n/a	3	3	3	3	3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cambridgeshire	1	• Waste partnership - reducing waste	0	n/a	3	3	3	3	3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Central Bedfordshire	0	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cheshire East	0	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cheshire West and Chester	0	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cornwall	1	• Improving skills and further education	2	• Safeguarding Children and Young People's wellbeing and children looked after by the council • Housing provision and quality	n/a	n/a	1	1	2	1	1	1
Cumbria	1	• Tackling worklessness in Barrow-in-Furness	0	n/a	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2
Derbyshire	1	• Reducing motorcycle accidents	0	n/a	3	3	2	3	3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Devon	2	• Domestic Violence • Working with local people to tackle climate change	0	n/a	3	3	3	2	3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dorset	1	• Engaging older people in Dorset to develop the services they need	1	• Housing quality and affordable housing	3	3	3	3	3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Durham	0	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	2	3	3	n/a	n/a	n/a
East Riding of Yorkshire	1	• Pooling resources to tackle local priorities	0	n/a	3	3	3	3	3	n/a	n/a	n/a
East Sussex	0	n/a	0	n/a	3	3	3	3	3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Essex	1	• Response to the recession	1	• Safeguarding Essex children	2	2	3	1	3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Gloucestershire	1	• Responding to major flooding	0	n/a	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

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| CCN Member | Area Assessment | | | | Organisational Assessment | | | Children's Services | Adult Social Care | Fire Organisational Assessment* | | |
| | Green Flags | | Red Flags | | Overall | Managing Performance | Use of Resources | | | Overall | Managing Performance | Use of Resources |
	No.	Awarded For	No.	Awarded For								
Hampshire	0	n/a	0	n/a	4	4	3	3	3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Herefordshire	0	n/a	0	n/a	2	3	2	3	3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Hertfordshire	0	n/a	1	• Planning for new housing	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3
Isle of Wight Council	0	n/a	0	n/a	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2
Kent	2	• Gateways • Improving skills to match Kent's growing economy	0	n/a	4	4	3	3	3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lancashire	1	• Improving the quality of life and maintaining independence for older people	1	• High death rates in deprived areas	3	3	3	2	4	n/a	n/a	n/a
Leicestershire	1	• Better value for money in road improvements	0	n/a	4	4	3	3	3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lincolnshire	0	n/a	1	• Providing the right homes for people who need them most	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	2
Norfolk	1	• Your Norfolk, your decision	0	n/a	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2
North Yorkshire	1	• Helping older and vulnerable people to keep their independence	0	n/a	3	3	3	3	4	n/a	n/a	n/a
Northamptonshire	1	• North Northamptonshire - Recovery and Rejuvenation	1	• Alcohol harm	2	3	2	2	3	2	2	2
Northumberland	0	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	2	3	3	3	3	2
Nottinghamshire	2	• Use of public transport • Access to services for older people	1	• Crime and community safety in the north of Nottinghamshire	3	3	2	2	4	n/a	n/a	n/a
Oxfordshire	0	n/a	0	n/a	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Shropshire	0	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	3	3	3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Somerset	1	• Promoting independence and better health for older people	1	• Working together to provide good quality, affordable homes	3	3	3	3	3	n/a	n/a	n/a

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| CCN Member | Area Assessment | | | | Organisational Assessment | | | Children's Services | Adult Social Care | Fire Organisational Assessment* | | |
| | Green Flags | | Red Flags | | Overall | Managing Performance | Use of Resources | | | Overall | Managing Performance | Use of Resources |
	No.	Awarded For	No.	Awarded For								
Staffordshire	0	n/a	0	n/a	3	3	3	3	3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Suffolk	3	• Developing Green technologies - wind and wave power • Coastal Protection in Bawdsey • Tackling street prostitution in Ipswich	2	• Rural economic inequality and lack of high value jobs • Learning and skills outcomes	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2
Surrey	0	n/a	0	n/a	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	2
Warwickshire	0	n/a	1	• Ensuring all organisations improve the success and wellbeing of the people of Warwickshire	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2
West Sussex	0	n/a	0	n/a	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2
Wiltshire	1	• Involving people in decisions that affect their local community	0	n/a	n/a	n/a		2	3	3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Worcestershire	1	• Reducing CO2 emissions, water use and addressing climate change	2	• Differences in quality of life in Redditch • Flood defences in Tenbury wells	3	3	3	2	3	n/a	n/a	n/a

*Scores included where the fire service is part of the county council.

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