

County Council

Date: Tuesday 25 May 2021
Time: 10.00 am
Venue: Council Chamber, Shire Hall, Warwick

Membership

Councillor Peter Gilbert, Councillor Jo Barker, Councillor Richard Baxter-Payne, Councillor Brett Beetham, Councillor Margaret Bell, Councillor Parminder Singh Birdi, Councillor Sarah Boad, Councillor Barbara Brown, Councillor Peter Butlin, Councillor Jonathan Chilvers, Councillor Jeff Clarke, Councillor John Cooke, Councillor Andy Crump, Councillor Yousef Dahmash, Councillor Piers Daniell, Councillor Jackie D'Arcy, Councillor Tracey Drew, Councillor Judy Falp, Councillor Jenny Fradgley, Councillor Sarah Feeney, Councillor Bill Gifford, Councillor Clare Golby, Councillor Brian Hammersley, Councillor John Holland, Councillor John Horner, Councillor Dave Humphreys, Councillor Marian Humphreys, Councillor Andy Jenns, Councillor Kam Kaur, Councillor Jack Kennaugh, Councillor Justin Kerridge, Councillor Christopher Kettle, Councillor Sue Markham, Councillor Jan Matecki, Councillor Sarah Millar, Councillor Chris Mills, Councillor Jeff Morgan, Councillor Penny-Anne O'Donnell, Councillor Bhagwant Singh Pandher, Councillor Daren Pemberton, Councillor Caroline Phillips, Councillor Wallace Redford, Councillor Howard Roberts, Councillor Will Roberts, Councillor Kate Rolfe, Councillor Jerry Roodhouse, Councillor Isobel Seccombe OBE, Councillor Jill Simpson-Vince, Councillor Tim Sinclair, Councillor Mejar Singh, Councillor Richard Spencer, Councillor Heather Timms, Councillor Mandy Tromans, Councillor Robert Tromans, Councillor Martin Watson, Councillor Adrian Warwick and Councillor Andrew Wright

Items on the agenda: -

1. **Election of Chair of Council**

To elect a Chair for the ensuing municipal year. The Chair to make a declaration of acceptance of office.

2. **Election of Vice Chair of Council**

To elect a Vice Chair for the ensuing municipal year. The Vice Chair to make a declaration of acceptance of office.

3. General

(1) Apologies for Absence

(2) Members' Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

(3) Minutes of the previous meeting

To consider and agree the minutes of the 16 March 2021 meeting of Council.

5 - 24

(4) Chair's announcements

4. County Returning Officer's Return of Persons Elected on 6 May 2021

25 - 28

The Chief Executive to submit the return of persons elected as county councillors at the election of 6 May 2021.

5. Appointment of the Leader of the Council

To appoint the Leader of the Council

6. Appointments to Committees and Other Bodies

29 - 40

To agree the membership of the council's committees and other bodies.

7. Any Other items of Urgent Business

To consider any other items that the Chair considers are urgent.

Monica Fogarty
Chief Executive
Warwickshire County Council
Shire Hall, Warwick

Meetings on Rising of Council

Please note that the following will meet from 1.50pm (or on the rising of Council if later) for the Leader to confirm the appointment of Cabinet, the Committees to elect their Chairs and Vice Chairs and for confirmation of appointment of bodies.

These will take place in the order shown:

1. The Leader
2. Staff and Pensions Committee
3. Pension Fund Investment Sub-Committee
4. Regulatory Committee
5. Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee
6. Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee
7. Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee
8. Resources and Fire & Rescue Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Following these meetings there will be a meeting of the Dispensations Sub-Committee.

To download papers for this meeting scan here with your camera



Disclaimers

Webcasting and permission to be filmed

Please note that this meeting will be filmed for live broadcast on the internet and can be viewed on line at warwickshire.public-i.tv. Generally, the public gallery is not filmed, but by entering the meeting room and using the public seating area you are consenting to being filmed. All recording will be undertaken in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders.

Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Members are required to register their disclosable pecuniary interests within 28 days of their election of appointment to the Council. Any changes to matters registered or new matters that require to be registered must be notified to the Monitoring Officer as soon as practicable after they arise.

A member attending a meeting where a matter arises in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest must (unless they have a dispensation):

- Declare the interest if they have not already registered it
- Not participate in any discussion or vote
- Leave the meeting room until the matter has been dealt with
- Give written notice of any unregistered interest to the Monitoring Officer within 28 days of the meeting

Non-pecuniary interests relevant to the agenda should be declared at the commencement of the meeting.

The public reports referred to are available on the Warwickshire Web
<https://democracy.warwickshire.gov.uk/uuCoverPage.aspx?bcr=1>

County Council

Tuesday 16 March 2021

Minutes

Attendance

Committee Members

Councillor Alan Cockburn (Chair), Councillor Peter Gilbert (Vice-Chair), Councillor Helen Adkins, Councillor Jo Barker, Councillor Margaret Bell, Councillor Parminder Singh Birdi, Councillor Sarah Boad, Councillor Mike Brain, Councillor Peter Butlin, Councillor Les Caborn, Councillor Mark Cargill, Councillor Jonathan Chilvers, Councillor Jeff Clarke, Councillor John Cooke, Councillor Andy Crump, Councillor Yousef Dahmash, Councillor Corinne Davies, Councillor Nicola Davies, Councillor Neil Dirveiks, Councillor Judy Falp, Councillor Jenny Fradgley, Councillor Bill Gifford, Councillor Daniel Gissane, Councillor Clare Golby, Councillor Seb Gran, Councillor Colin Hayfield, Councillor John Holland, Councillor John Horner, Councillor Andy Jenns, Councillor Kam Kaur, Councillor Keith Kondakor, Councillor Jeff Morgan, Councillor Maggie O'Rourke, Councillor Bhagwant Singh Pandher, Councillor Anne Parry, Councillor Dave Parsons, Councillor Caroline Phillips, Councillor Wallace Redford, Councillor David Reilly, Councillor Clive Rickhards, Councillor Howard Roberts, Councillor Kate Rolfe, Councillor Jerry Roodhouse, Councillor Andy Sargeant, Councillor Isobel Seccombe OBE, Councillor Dave Shilton, Councillor Jill Simpson-Vince, Councillor Dominic Skinner, Councillor Heather Timms, Councillor Adrian Warwick, Councillor Alan Webb, Councillor Chris Williams, Councillor Pam Williams and Councillor Andrew Wright

Others Present

1. General

(1) Apologies for Absence

Councillor Seb Gran had extended his apologies stating that he would be late to join the meeting.

(2) Members' Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-pecuniary Interests

No declarations on interest were made.

(3) Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting of Council held on 8 February 2021 were agreed as an accurate record to be signed by the Chair.

(4) Chair's announcements

1) Retirement of Jane Pollard, Legal Service Manager

Councillor Alan Cockburn (Chair of Council) announced the forthcoming retirement of Jane Pollard. He read out the following statement.

“Jane Pollard, Legal Service Manager, who many of you will know from her many years of committed service to the Council in roles within Legal and Scrutiny is retiring at the end of March.

Jane has been with the Council for 39 years and 3 months. Jane trained as a solicitor with the Council and went on to hold many roles including as a solicitor, managing the scrutiny function and as Legal Service Manager for the Corporate and Commercial Legal teams. Jane has practiced in many areas of law, as diverse as prosecutions, governance and child safeguarding.

When she started at the Council, women were not permitted to wear trousers, textbooks on practicing law still sounded surprised that women had joined the profession, and the legal team would have tea and biscuits at 3pm in the County Solicitor’s office, with the fire lit on a cold day.

The Council and the legal profession have changed significantly during this time, but Jane has remained a constant. Jane is a force of nature who knows more about the workings of local government and the legislation that underpins it than the authors of Cross on Local Government Law and the Encyclopaedia of Local Government Law combined. She also has a razor-sharp commercial acumen and an ability to cut through the weeds to find the real issues. She has given the benefit of her wisdom and training to many colleagues during her time with the Council and has ensured that we have an excellent group in place to pick up where she leaves off.

She will be a tremendous loss to the Council but whilst we will miss her greatly; we wish her a long and very happy retirement”.

Members joined to wish Jane Pollard a happy retirement.

Councillor Izzi Seccombe (Leader of the Council) stated that when Jane made a decision or offered advice you knew that it was sound. She was thanked for her help and guidance over the years (and for her Victoria sponge cakes).

Councillor Jerry Roodhouse (Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group) thanked Jane for her support over the years and for her guidance when she thought the constitution was not being adhered to. She had been a great asset to the council and to the people of Warwickshire.

Councillor Dave Parsons (Deputy Leader of the Labour Group) echoed the previous comments adding that when Jane provided advice it was given in a way that was clear and concise. She also displayed a great sense of humour.

Councillor Judy Falp stated that she had known Jane for many years. They had shared many experiences and she would be missed by the County Council and the district and borough councils.

2. Retiring County Councillors

Councillor Alan Cockburn noted that a number of serving councillors will not be standing in the May 2021 local elections. He invited any retiring members to say a few words.

Councillor Colin Hayfield stated that he had served 20 years on the council with 16 years on Cabinet. When he joined the county having served on a borough council it was like moving from junior to secondary school. The council provided a kind and friendly political arena and is staffed by kind and professional officers. He had undertaken various roles but as an archaeologist and historian he was happiest when he held the portfolio for museums and records. He stated that he will miss the camaraderie of the council but will not miss the traffic getting to Shire Hall. The new council, he concluded, will have many post-Covid challenges to face especially in the world of education.

Councillor Les Caborn had become involved in local politics in 1980. He moved to Warwickshire in 1986 and had served on Warwick District Council for 24 years. He had always tried to make a difference especially in rural areas. Now was the time to step aside and spend more time with his wife.

Councillor Alan Webb joined Rugby Borough Council in 1984. During his time there he served as Mayor and Leader of the Council. He was elected, along with his wife Mary, to Warwickshire County Council in 2013. His time in politics had been marked by the loss of some good friends. He closed by stating that unitarisation would place a greater burden on fewer shoulders.

Having been a County Councillor for 20 years Councillor Dave Shilton expressed his disappointment at not being selected to stand in the 2021 election. He had worked hard for Kenilworth and served on many committees with a view to making a difference to people's lives. He thanked officers with whom he had worked.

Councillor Mark Cargill thanked officers for their support during his term of office. He recognised that it is important to work in the interest of residents. The County Council is well run and professional. He would continue to serve the district and town councils in his area but felt that he wished to spend more time with his family.

Councillor Mike Brain joined the parish council in Long Marston in 2001. In 2002 he was asked to stand on Stratford District Council and did so for 19 years. He joined the County Council in 2013. Officers were thanked for their support to him. Also thanked was Councillor Wallace Redford who has always been there to help him. Finally, Councillor Brain remembered Councillor Bill Olnier who was a "true gentleman".

Councillor Alan Cockburn had served on the County Council for 20 years. In that time, he had been on a range of bodies including Cabinet. He considered that the County Council is well run and thanks to a degree of prudence, well financed.

Councillor Izzi Seccombe closed off this section by stating that the Council is made up of friends as well as colleagues. Politics happen, she said, but friendships run very deep. She thanked all those members who are retiring in May and remembered those Councillors who had passed on namely Bill Olnier, Richard Chattaway and Bob Stevens. Councillor Seccombe particularly thanked Councillor Les Caborn and Councillor Colin Hayfield both of whom will be leaving the Cabinet. She thanked Councillor Cockburn for his work as Chair of Council at a very difficult time. Finally she thanked Councillor Brain for his friendship over the years.

(5) Petitions

The Chair welcomed Mr Philip Stickley to the Council meeting. Mr Stickley had organised a petition against the proposed closure of the council's outdoor education centre in North Wales, Marle Hall. The petition had attracted almost 7000 signatures.

Mr Stickley explained that he had been a teacher in Warwickshire schools for 20 years and for 15 years had taken groups of young people to Marle Hall. His work now continues with an outdoor education charity. Mr Stickley stated:

- Young people in the UK are currently at the centre of an obesity and mental health crisis. One-third of young people are overweight or obese. One in ten have mental health problems.
- The current Pandemic has exacerbated the problems.
- Outdoor education plays an important part in helping to maintain wellbeing in youngsters.
- The council has an important role is helping to secure young people's wellbeing.
- The 2016 Nature Connections report identified benefits of outdoor education including health, the development of social skills, team working, improved behaviour and a greater understanding of nature.
- Outdoor education should be provided in settings such as Snowdonia. Some providers deliver their services in an enclosure which is a poor substitute.
- The staff at Marle Hall are experienced experts in walking, climbing, canoeing etc. Some other providers use gap-year students to deliver classes. This is not ideal as they often lack the experience they need.
- Outdoor education can be transformational. Parents are often amazed at the difference in their children when they return from their outing.
- Marle Hall is not run down. It carries fifty years of history with it having provided breaks for Warwickshire children since 1971.
- If Marle Hall is allowed to close it will be impossible to reproduce.
- Any proceeds from the sale of Marle Hall will be lost in general reserves.

Councillor Colin Hayfield (Portfolio Holder for Education and Learning) thanked Mr Stickley for the petition adding that he knows Marle Hall well and that the council recognises the value of outdoor education. Council was informed that no final decision has been made regarding the future of Marle Hall. All options will be considered.

(6) Public Speaking

There were no public speakers registered.

2. Warwickshire's Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-26

Councillor Les Caborn introduced the published report, explaining that the strategy provides a high level plan aimed at reducing inequalities and improving the health of citizens. The refresh has taken full account of the challenges presented by the Covid-19 Pandemic and has made use of the countywide Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. Councillor Les Caborn added that whilst people's health in Warwickshire is generally better than the national average there remain variations across the county. One in four adults will experience some form of mental health problem in their life and to help address this additional funding is to be provided. Health improvements can take a long time to be realised. For example, smoking cessation programmes have been successful but have taken 25 years to reach the stage they have. Prevention needs to be prioritised as does the need to make communities stronger. The Health and Wellbeing Board and Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee will monitor the delivery of the strategy.

Councillor Wallace Redford seconded the motion and reserved the right to speak.

Councillor John Holland agreed that mental health should be a high priority. It is difficult to move forward when cuts are being made to budgets. Children, he added, have suffered during the Pandemic as have people of working age. The key to successful service delivery is joint working especially with the district and borough councils.

Councillor Jerry Roodhouse commended the document noting that it had been developed jointly with partners. He did not agree with the JSNA boundaries. Poverty and mental health, he concluded, are major challenges facing communities.

Councillor Nicola Davies commented that it is important not to overlook personal safety. Women need to be able to access open space and exercise opportunities in a safe way.

Councillor Johnathan Chilvers (Leader of the Green Group) questioned the ability to deliver the strategy at a time that cuts are being made to budgets.

Councillor Jo Barker stated that it had been a pleasure helping to develop the strategy. She suggested that health and wellbeing should be factored into every policy decision the council makes.

Councillor Neil Dirveiks welcomed the report but questioned why it did not contain any SMART targets. He asked if these were to follow.

Councillor Dave Parsons agreed that the document should include a series of targets that could be used to provide an indication of success. He was concerned over the continuing situation regarding inequalities and suggested that closer work with the district and borough councils could assist in relieving this. A study by Cardiff University was cited. In it the relationship between property rentals and in-work poverty was recognised.

Councillor Helen Adkins (Leader of the Labour Group) agreed that the strategy requires targets. She also echoed previous comments regarding the impact of budget cuts on services. Austerity she said, has had a serious impact on people's health and whilst the strategy is welcome it has been a long time in development.

Councillor Keith Kondakor agreed with comments over the length of time it takes to realise improvements in people's health. That more people are walking and cycling was commended but there remains a need to provide the infrastructure to support this. Health and wellbeing should be at the forefront of everything the council does. This has not been the case with the Transforming Nuneaton scheme.

Councillor Maggie O'Rourke explained that there is a common misconception that health and wellbeing is only about health. The factors that impact on wellbeing include transport, education etc. The challenges faced in Warwickshire are spread across the whole of the county. The two-tier system of governance only places barriers in the way of efforts to improve health and wellbeing.

Councillor Izzi Seccombe welcomed the strategy. She noted that the document will be supported by a delivery plan which will set out targets. The impact of strategies such as the one before Council is significant. For example, the life expectancy gap between the north and south of Warwickshire used to be 12 years. This is now down to 4 years. Changes in lifestyle and life expectancy can take many years to realise. For example, the health impacts of the mining industry in north Warwickshire are still apparent. Councillor Seccombe agreed that personal safety is paramount. The strategy is not just about health and wellbeing. It is about peoples' lives.

Councillor Wallace Redford, the seconder of the motion did not feel that the strategy was lacking in any way. Its priorities are clear.

Councillor Les Caborn thanked members for their comments. He noted that by working smarter more can be achieved for the same amount. The JSNA he added, is not a fixed document. It is constantly evolving. He agreed that personal safety is of great importance and drew council's attention to the engagement by the Police and Crime Commissioner in the production of the strategy. Councillor Jo Barker was thanked for the assistance she had given to the production of the document. Finally, Councillor Caborn confirmed that targets will be set and published.

A vote was held.

Resolved:

That Council approves the Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-26.

3. Warwickshire's Director of Public Health Annual Report 2020/21

Councillor Les Caborn introduced this item thanking the Director of Public Health, Shade Agboola, and her team for their hard work over the last year. He commended the report adding that it is part of a suite of documents along with the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the Covid-19 Recovery Plan. The use of case studies in the report was welcomed as was the focus on certain key areas such as self-harm, obesity, alcohol consumption and dementia. The role of the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee was recognised as was the importance of working in partnership.

Councillor Margaret Bell seconded the motion and reserved the right to speak.

Councillor Keith Kondakor welcomed the report adding that attention should be paid not just to the homeless but also to those living in substandard accommodation. Mortality rates in Nuneaton and Bedworth remain very high. The causes of this phenomenon are well known. The Pandemic has not helped. Lockdown has led to weight increases and in many cases a general reduction in activity. Councillor Kondakor concluded by stating that it is important to deliver on reports such as the one before council. However, in order to do this it is important to have the funds.

Councillor Jill Simpson-Vince thanked the Public Health team, for their hard work. That they were able to produce an annual report as well as dealing with the Pandemic was remarkable. This view was echoed by Councillor Clare Golby.

Council agreed that the report should be included as part of the welcome pack for new members following the May 2021 elections.

Councillor Helen Adkins stated that the incidence of many serious health conditions including bowel cancer, diabetes, depression and self-harm made for harrowing reading. Austerity leads to health inequality she added. There is a need to invest in education, accommodation, employment opportunities and efforts to reduce child poverty. By reducing budgets people's lives have been jeopardised. These views were echoed by Councillor Dave Parsons who further commended the report.

Councillor Kam Kaur (Portfolio Holder for Customer and Transformation) challenged the view that reductions in funding had had an impact on life expectancy. She stated that the Transformation Programme had enabled the council to continue to deliver good quality services even allowing for reductions in funding. Further, it had enabled the council to invest in the future.

Councillor Margaret Bell, who had seconded the motion, thanked the Director of Public Health for her report. The extensive use of data allows practitioners to see where resources should be targeted. It has shown the impact of the Pandemic and of the resulting lockdowns. Councillor Bell called for the development of a health inequalities action plan. In addition, any communications need to be tailored to meet the needs of the communities they are aimed at. Prevention is very important as is the need to signpost people to services. Portfolio Holder meetings have been very useful and need to continue she concluded.

In closing, Councillor Caborn stated that a new homelessness action plan is to be created. He also stated that there will be a health dashboard on the Power BI. Finally, it was noted that acute providers such as the South Warwickshire Foundation Trust have acknowledged the need to take full account of the Director of Public Health's report when planning their own services.

A vote was held.

50 votes for the recommendation
0 votes against the recommendation
0 abstentions

Resolved:

That Council supports the Director of Public Health Annual Report 2020/21

4. Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service Integrated Risk Management Plan 2020 - 2025

Councillor Andy Crump introduced the report, reminding council that the IRMP had been considered by Cabinet and the Resources and Fire and Rescue Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Council was informed that there is a statutory duty to produce an IRMP which ensures that the service makes the best use of people, resources and equipment in a well managed and risk assessed way.

Councillor Adrian Warwick seconded the motion and reserved the right to speak.

Councillor Sarah Boad (Deputy Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group) stressed the need for members to read and understand the IRMP. Regarding the responses to the consultation that had been undertaken Councillor Boad noted that 22% of respondents had objected to a proposal that the workforce of the Fire and Rescue Service should reflect the communities it serves. This was regrettable and surprising. The service has a good record regarding diversity, and it continues to work with communities to ensure that it recruits the correct people for the job.

Councillor Maggie O'Rourke agreed with Councillor Boad's comments adding that it is important to challenge peoples' prejudices. Having been the Labour Group Spokesperson on Fire and Rescue for a number of years she commended the service for its response during the pandemic and its support to the communities it serves.

Councillor Mark Cargill expressed his support for the Fire and Rescue Service and in particular for the staff at Alcester fire station. He had seen a mention on social media of a proposal to close Stratford fire station and sought clarification on the matter.

Councillor John Cooke commented on the size of the document pack and commended the service for its work during the Pandemic.

Councillor Keith Kondakor observed that the motorway system in Warwickshire places a major burden onto the service. He had heard that Bedworth fire station was set to lose an appliance and sought clarification on this. The service has done good work around fire prevention but there is a danger of it being stretched too thin he said.

Councillor Wallace Redford commended the report adding that the service is now firmly embedded in the community.

Councillor Adrian Warwick, who seconded the motion commended the service for its work around the Pandemic. The document before council set out priorities but it is important to appreciate that they are part of an evolving picture. He agreed with the concerns expressed around diversity but suggested that it is important to focus on the positives around the consultation. The technical ability of the service and its ethos are of importance. Finally, Councillor Warwick thanked the Resources and Fire & Rescue Overview and Scrutiny Committee for its work.

In closing Councillor Andy Crump acknowledged the contributions made by Councillors Boad and O'Rourke to the development of the Fire and Rescue Service. He agreed with comments made around diversity. The work of the Chief Fire Officer and his team was commended. Regarding the future of Stratford fire station Councillor Crump offered to brief Councillor Cargill on this at a later date. Responding to Councillor Kondakor's concerns over the appliance at Bedworth Councillor Crump stated that members should not always believe what they hear in their constituency. Any proposals for changes will be the subject of discussion with local members. Appliances need to be in the right place and the decisions around this will be based on evidence.

A vote was held.

49 votes for the recommendations

1 vote (Councillor Keith Kondakor) against the recommendations

0 abstentions

Resolved:

That Council:

1. Notes the outcome of the eight-week Draft Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) 2020-2025 consultation process.
2. Approves the IRMP 2020 - 2025 and the proposals therein.
 - **Proposal 1** - Ensure our workforce and ethos reflect the diverse communities we serve
 - **Proposal 2** - Assess our capabilities to improve our ways of working in response to any future pandemics
 - **Proposal 3** - Assess our overall resource capacity to ensure our personnel and physical assets are in the right place and at the right time to deliver our statutory duties
 - **Proposal 4** - Develop further opportunities to support the wider community health outcomes and help to protect Social Care and the NHS
 - **Proposal 5** - Implement digital solutions to enhance our service delivery
3. Authorises the Cabinet to approve the annual action plans to deliver the IRMP.

5. Appointment of Independent Persons

Councillor Izzi Seccombe proposed the motion and was moved by Councillor Peter Butlin. The importance of the independent persons was emphasised by Councillor Seccombe.

A vote was held.

53 votes for the recommendation

1 vote against the recommendation

0 abstentions

Resolved:

Council extends the term of office of the following independent persons until 19th October 2021

Mr David Stone
Mr Garth Murphy
Ms Maureen O'Sullivan
Mr Ray Tomkinson
Mr Howard Darling
Ms Mumtaz Goolam

6. Notices of Motion

Motion 1 - Family Support Workers

Councillor Caroline Phillips proposed the following motion.

"It has been reported to local councillors that a significant decline has occurred in the number of families accessing the aid of the Family Support Workers by as much as 30-40% in some settings in Warwickshire

In support of its commitment to the Family Support Worker service, this Council asks the Strategic Director for People to investigate the reasons why there has been a sharp decline in access figures and to report the outcome of the investigation to the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee".

The motion was seconded by Councillor Corinne Davies who reserved her right to speak.

In support of her motion Councillor Phillips stated that Family Support Workers were now only available at children's centres for 16 hours a week. This was down from a maximum of 90 hours a week. The Family Support Workers are at the front line of support for incidents of domestic abuse. Their presence can help prevent problems turning into crises.

Amendment

Councillor Jeff Morgan tabled the following amendment.

"Regarding the concerns raised with some local councillors and to maintain the high number of families accessing the aid of the Family Support workers across the county, this Council will maintain its commitment to the Family Support Workers' service and will continue to work with providers to ensure effective service delivery to those most in need and asks that the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee keeps the Family Support Workers' service under review as part of its on-going performance monitoring".

The amendment was seconded by Councillor Pam Williams who reserved her right to speak.

Councillor Jeff Morgan stated that he could not accept the Labour Group motion as it was inaccurate. Across Warwickshire access to Family Support Workers is very high.

Debate

Councillor Dave Parsons suggested that the evidence is very clear. The Labour Group motion asks the council to investigate the circumstances behind a reported decline. Councillor Helen Adkins questioned why there appeared to be an effort to make it appear that there was no issue to investigate. Issues, she said, should not be brushed under the carpet.

Councillor Bill Gifford questioned whether the Conservative amendment could be regarded as such. The Labour motion was not unreasonable in his view.

Councillor Keith Kondakor supported the Labour motion adding that if Councillor Caroline Phillips had heard of a decline in access to services then the circumstances should be investigated. No criticism was being levelled at the service.

Councillor Pam Williams, the seconder of the amendment, stated that she has witnessed an increase in services provided by Family Support Workers. She suggested that with Covid recovery it may be a good time to review the service. No such review has been undertaken since 2007.

Councillor Corinne Davies, the seconder of the original motion, informed council that it can be difficult to contact Family Support Workers. Forms have to be completed or the council phoned. For some people this makes access difficult.

Councillor Jeff Morgan, the proposer of the amendment, reminded council that the reason behind the amendment was to contest the claim that service delivery by Family Support Workers had declined. If there are issues at some centres, then these need to be flagged up separately. He suggested that the Pandemic may have led to a drop in foot fall but a drop in attendance does not necessarily mean that services have been reduced in quantity. The Family Support Line can be used to access Family Support Workers. Their role has changed during the Pandemic. For example, they have not been involved in stay and play sessions.

Councillor Caroline Phillips, the proposer of the motion, noted that the figures on which the motion is based are for pre-pandemic levels of support. Telephone discussions and signposting are not good enough she added. Councillor Phillips closed by stating that family break down and debt contribute to ill health. There has been a decline to access to services in some areas and this should be explored.

Vote

A vote was held on the Conservative amendment.

Votes for the amendment 34
Votes against the amendment 19
Abstentions 0

The Conservative amendment thus became the substantive motion that was duly voted on.

Votes for the substantive motion 34
Votes against the substantive motion 17
Abstentions 0

Resolved:

“Regarding the concerns raised with some local councillors and to maintain the high number of families accessing the aid of the Family Support workers across the county, this Council will maintain its commitment to the Family Support Workers’ service and will continue to work with providers to ensure effective service delivery to those most in need and asks that the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee keeps the Family Support Workers’ service under review as part of its on-going performance monitoring”.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12.55

The meeting re-convened at 13.45

Motion 2 – Health Centres

Councillor Keith Kondakor moved the following motion.

“This council recognises the massive contribution health centres have played during the Covid pandemic. However, some areas are currently underserved with difficulty in finding suitable locations for blood tests, blood donations, vaccinations and other services. New health centres can reduce health inequalities as well as providing employment and footfall to our town centres.

Therefore, this Council,

1. Will seek with partners to identify resources to progress the development of a strategic business case for the planned provision of the health services within the Transforming Nuneaton project.
2. Requests the Adult Social Care and Health OSC to review the way in which the County Council can support, and the opportunities for, the inclusion of accessible town and village health centres as part of future regeneration projects across the county by September 2021”.

In proposing the motion Councillor Keith Kondakor stated that the Transforming Nuneaton initiative should have included early provision for a town centre health facility. Council was informed that there are currently very long delays for blood tests in Nuneaton. It is possible to secure a test in Polesworth within 24 hours, but it is not easy to travel to Polesworth. The situation with an absence of health centres in towns is repeated elsewhere. A health centre can assist in increasing foot fall in town centres producing a good return for relatively little outlay.

Councillor Jonathan Chilvers seconded the motion and reserved his right to speak.

Amendment

Councillor Les Caborn moved the following amendment.

“This council recognises the massive contribution health centres have played during the Covid pandemic. However, some areas are currently underserved with difficulty in finding suitable locations for blood tests, blood donations, vaccinations and other services. New health centres can reduce health inequalities as well as providing employment and footfall to our town centres.

Therefore, this council:

1. Will seek with partners to shape future requirements for Health Facilities across the County and work with providers to deliver the same.
2. Requests the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to review and make recommendations about the provision of Health Centres within Warwickshire.
3. Asks the Clinical Commissioning Group to share with the Council its work on the provision of health facilities across the County”.

In presenting the amendment Councillor Les Caborn stated that this was not in opposition to the motion moved by Councillor Keith Kondakor; rather it aimed to be more realistic. He agreed that the situation in towns other than Nuneaton should be reviewed but added that there is a need to be realistic in our ambitions. A review would very resource intensive and it would be necessary to understand what the CCGs intentions were and what they felt could be achieved.

Councillor Clare Golby seconded the amendment and reserved the right to speak.

Debate

Councillor Dave Parsons expressed his support for the Green Group motion as did Councillor Helen Adkins.

Councillor Caroline Phillips supported the Green Group motion adding that with its high population density Nuneaton is well suited to have a health centre.

Councillor Bill Gifford supported the amendment stating that it served to enhance the original motion. He had hoped that it would be taken as a friendly amendment a view shared by Councillor Jeff Clarke.

Councillor Izzi Seccombe assured council that the purpose of the amendment was to be of assistance. She considered that health professionals had not provided adequate input into the Local Plans as they were evolving. It is not possible to instruct health commissioners and providers to take a particular action. It is important to work with them and provide the evidence they need to make their own decisions.

Councillor Clare Golby who seconded the amendment, reminded council that there is a plan to develop a health centre in the middle of Nuneaton. She stated that blood testing at the George Eliot Hospital in Nuneaton has been impacted on by the Pandemic. The amendment makes the motion more relevant to the whole county and the council’s partners.

Councillor Jonathan Chilvers, who seconded the original motion, recognising that there is a proposal for a health centre in Nuneaton considered that now is the time for the council to take a lead to move matters forwards. He was satisfied with points 2 and 3 in the amendment but consider the council should recognise its responsibility to mover matters on.

Councillor Les Caborn who proposed the amendment noted that the council is already putting funds into the Nuneaton project. The George Eliot Hospital is expanding and performing well. The council has no control over its health partners. It has to work with them. Pharmacies are looking to assist with blood tests and efforts are being made to ensure that health partners have more input into Local Plan development in the future. Building a health centre can take up to six years he concluded.

Councillor Keith Kondakor who proposed the original motion expressed his concern over the deletion of reference to a health centre in Nuneaton. It takes too long to build health centres and in the meantime, there is a shortage of rooms for blood tests etc.

Vote

A vote was held on the Conservative Group amendment.

Votes for the amendment 35
Votes against the amendment 9
Abstentions 1

The Conservative amendment thus became the substantive motion that was duly voted on.

Votes for the substantive motion 42
Votes against the substantive motion 4
Abstentions 5

Resolved:

This council recognises the massive contribution health centres have played during the Covid pandemic. However, some areas are currently underserved with difficulty in finding suitable locations for blood tests, blood donations, vaccinations and other services. New health centres can reduce health inequalities as well as providing employment and footfall to our town centres.

Therefore, this council:

1. Will seek with partners to shape future requirements for Health Facilities across the County and work with providers to deliver the same.
2. Requests the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to review and make recommendations about the provision of Health Centres within Warwickshire.
3. Asks the Clinical Commissioning Group to share with the Council its work on the provision of health facilities across the County.

7. Member Question Time (Standing Order 7)

A series of questions were asked by members.

1) Question to Councillor Butlin from Councillor Kondakor – Warwickshire Property and Development Company

The Warwickshire Property development company business case assumes a strong and consistent rise in house prices that is well above the general rate of inflation for every single year. That business case will have been done a considerable time ago before we had any significant impact of the multiple waves of Covid and the massive reduction in trade with the EU.

Will this council undertake a full remodelling of the business case using realistic estimates this summer once these impacts can properly be assessed but before major commitments are made to the Warwickshire Property Development Company, yes or no?

Answer

Councillor Butlin stated, “Whilst I hear the point Cllr Kondakor makes, no, we do not intend to undertake any remodelling of the business case at this time. The business case has had the benefit of input from external professional advisors and has also been the subject of sensitivity analysis. Any further remodelling would significantly delay getting the company up and running and operational at a time that we now need to press forward with recovery. There is also a risk that any remodelling exercise we undertake now could itself be out of date within a relatively short space of time.

Instead, there will be an annual review and update of the business plan and in our role as shareholder we will be expecting the company to closely review and monitor key house price information and wider economic conditions as they bring forward individual sites for development. In addition, for each individual site, a detailed scheme development plan will be brought forward to Cabinet for consideration which will enable costs, pricing and market conditions to be considered at the right time - before any building work starts on site but not too far in advance. This is critical given the business plan covers a period of more than 20 years.

The Council's Medium-Term Financial Strategy has taken a prudent view on the possible numbers it included from the business case and has also established a specific reserve to manage any short-term volatility in returns.

These are very uncertain times, and the Council has rightly put in place a robust way to both test and regularly monitor the business case and its delivery, to cover both uncertain and more normal times which we expect to see over the lifetime of the property company. We are committed to taking action which supports Warwickshire’s economy by utilising our surplus land and supporting and working with business in creating jobs and homes for our residents. We will work with our public sector partners, utilise our collaboration pilot with Homes England and work with the private sector. We are confident that this will support the economic recovery and have already put in place robust and timely review arrangements to ensure delivery by the company.

In response Councillor Kondakor asked by what percentage house prices would have to fall before a review would be triggered?

Councillor Butlin assured council that house building is very buoyant. The market is strong. However, before any development commences the state of the market will be re-assessed.

2) Question to Councillor Crump from Councillor Falp – Safeguarding of Women

Councillor Falp asked that in response to the death of Sarah Everard in London, what is the council doing to safeguard women.

Answer

Councillor Crump stated that he had been shocked at the death of Sarah Everard. The matter was set to be discussed at the Community Safety Partnership Board. The council supports a number of bodies including the Violence Against Women and Girls Board. This has a sub- group that looks at emerging trends in matters such as domestic violence and women's refuges. Councillor Crump added that in a recent community safety survey 89% of respondents had stated that they were not concerned of being attacked by a stranger.

3) Question to Councillor Clarke from Councillor Chilvers – A46 Link Road Scheme

Do you agree with me that given COVID, the huge expense, the Climate Emergency and the motion raising serious concerns recently passed by Warwick District Council that all further work on the A46 Link Road scheme should be stopped whilst a full re-evaluation of the initial assumptions made is conducted?

Answer

Councillor Clarke responded that he does not agree with Councillor Chilvers. A recent survey on the project had attracted over 500 responses. Various comments had been made and these were being analysed. Once the results have been collated, so further consideration will be given to the scheme.

In response to a supplementary question from Councillor Chilvers Councillor Clarke agreed that the project is exciting and will open up new opportunities for service delivery on the area.

4) Question to Councillor Clarke from Councillor Chilvers – Leamington Town Centre

Warwick District Council have recently been awarded £10m of the £15m applied for from the future High Streets Fund for Leamington Town Centre. Part of the initial bid was connecting walking and cycling routes that would considerably improve access to the Town Centre and improve air quality. Would the portfolio holder be concerned if these vital elements were lost because the full amount of funding wasn't received?

Answer

Councillor Clarke responded stating that he was pleased that Warwick District Council had received £10m adding that funding will be subject to future review. The allocation is lower than the original bid, but the district council is amending its plans accordingly. There is a lot of money being invested in cycle routes with an objective of creating an east to west route across the town centre.

Councillor Chilvers asked for details of the scaling back of the scheme. Councillor Clarke stated that he will provide this information when he receives it.

5) Question to Councillor Clarke from Councillor Phillips – Part Night Streetlighting

Councillor Phillips asked whether, following the murder of Sarah Everard, a review will be undertaken into part night street lighting.

Answer

Councillor Clarke responded stated that of the 50k streetlights in Warwickshire 35% remain on all night and 65% operate on a part night basis. Since part night lighting was introduced energy bills have been reduced by 57%. The situation is constantly monitored. Lights are left on all night at certain road junctions or where there are considered to be other hazards. There has been no increase in crime reported since the introduction of the scheme and there are no plans to undertake a review of the arrangements.

In response Councillor Phillips suggested that a review is required and asked that one be undertaken by the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

6) Question to Councillor Caborn from Councillor Jenns – Covid-19 Vaccination

Councillor Jenns commented on the success of the Covid-19 vaccination programme in Warwickshire and asked that a letter be sent from the council thanking those involved.

Answer

Councillor Caborn agreed to this adding that he would also write to Nadhim Zahawi MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for COVID-19 Vaccine Deployment to thank him. The letter will be signed by the Leader.

7) Councillor Cargill to Councillor Crump – Stratford Fire Station

Councillor Cargill noted that comments in social media have suggested that there are plans to close Stratford Fire Station. He asked if this is the case.

Answer

Councillor Crump, having paid tribute to the crew at Henley in Arden Fire Station which is now operating on a 24/7 basis stated that there are no plans to close Stratford Fire Station.

8) Councillor Seb Gran to Councillor Seccombe – Regeneration of Bedworth

Councillor Gran requested renewed commitment from the Leader of the Council to the regeneration of Bedworth.

Answer

Councillor Seccombe stated that she is happy to support any plans for the regeneration of the town. Transforming Bedworth is gaining traction, but a plan needs to be developed on which any funding bids can be based.

9) Councillor Golby to Councillor Seccombe – West Midlands Combined Authority

Councillor Golby asked the Leader whether she could provide any information on reports of increasing pressure for the council to become full members of the West Midlands Combined Authority.

Answer

Councillor Seccombe explained that as a non-constituent member of the Combined Authority the council pays £25K per annum. Were it to be a full member it would be required to pay £650k. By joining the Combined Authority the council would need to relinquish control over transport and highways budgets as well as that for adult learning. For these reasons there is no desire at this stage to become full members of the Combined Authority.

10) Councillor Fradgley to Councillor Clarke – Rail Services at Kenilworth Station

Councillor Fradgley asked what efforts are being made to secure the resumption of services to and from Kenilworth station.

Answer

Councillor Clarke stated that discussions have been held with West Midlands Railways over the matter. The rail operating company has explained that the Covid-19 pandemic has had an impact on staff. There is only a small cohort of staff with the knowledge that enables them to operate trains into Kenilworth. However, many staff have been absent owing to sickness or the need to shield. It is hoped that as the situation eases so the company will be able to reintroduce services.

Any future issues around punctuality will be a matter for the DfT and the Franchise Regulator.

Councillor Seccombe stressed that the council, having worked hard to see the station in Kenilworth rebuilt, will now push hard to get services reinstated.

11) Councillor Kondakor to Councillor Clarke – Nuneaton Station

Councillor Kondakor noted that whilst there are road schemes proposed for Nuneaton, he would prefer to see a new entrance installed at Nuneaton station. In addition, he would like to see Chiltern Railways operate services from Nuneaton to Leamington via Kenilworth.

Answer

Councillor Clarke stated that the council has no control over developments at Nuneaton station. Nevertheless, the council is working with the rail operators in an attempt to get a new entrance installed.

Regarding the transfer of services to Chiltern Railways, this is not something the council can have any direct influence over. It can only respond to consultations when franchises are set to be renewed.

12) Councillor Rolfe to Councillor Seccombe

Councillor Rolfe asked whether the widespread deployment of LEDs in streetlights that can be easily controlled would enable discussions between communities and the council over which can be left on overnight.

Answer

Councillor Seccombe observed that the murder of Sarah Everard had prompted a series of comments at the council meeting. Personal safety is paramount, but a sense of proportion should be maintained. Streetlighting was not a factor in the death of Sarah Everard. Her death was a very rare incident with men four times more likely to be attacked on the street than women. If streetlights are to be left on all night, this will carry a financial cost that will be required to be met from budgets for other services. People should feel safe on their street and efforts should be made to ensure that.

8. Any Other items of Urgent Business

There were no other items of business.

The meeting rose at 3.19 pm

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Chair

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Council**25 May 2021****County Returning Officer's Return of Persons Elected
on 6 May 2021**

Area	Division	Surname	First name	Party
Stratford-on-Avon	Shipston	Barker	Jo	Conservative
Nuneaton & Bedworth	Attleborough	Baxter-Payne	Richard John	Conservative
Nuneaton & Bedworth	Camp Hill	Beetham	Brett Bryan	Conservative
North Warwickshire	Hartshill & Mancetter	Bell	Margaret	Conservative
Warwick	Leamington North	Boad	Sarah Elizabeth	Liberal Democrats
Rugby	New Bilton & Overslade	Brown	Barbara Anne	Labour
Rugby	Admirals & Cawston	Butlin	Peter James	Conservative
Warwick	Leamington Brunswick	Chilvers	Jonathan David	Green
Nuneaton & Bedworth	Nuneaton East	Clarke	Jeffrey Stephen	Conservative
Warwick	Lapworth & West Kenilworth	Cooke	John Anthony	Conservative
Stratford-on-Avon	Southam, Stockton & Napton	Crump	Andy	Conservative
Rugby	Hillmorton	Dahmash	Yousef	Conservative
Stratford-on-Avon	Alcester	Daniell	Piers Oliver	Conservative
Warwick	Warwick North	D'Arcy	Jackie	Labour
Warwick	Kenilworth Park Hill	Drew	Tracey Jane	Green
Warwick	Whitnash	Falp	Judy	Whitnash Residents Association
Rugby	Benn	Feeney	Sarah Yvonne Elizabeth	Labour
Stratford-on-Avon	Stratford West	Fradgley	Jennifer Elizabeth Mary	Liberal Democrats

Warwick	Leamington Milverton	Gifford	Bill	Liberal Democrats
Nuneaton & Bedworth	Bedworth West	Gilbert	Pete	Conservative
Nuneaton & Bedworth	Arbury	Golby	Clare	Conservative
Nuneaton & Bedworth	Bedworth Central	Hammersley	Brian Kevin	Conservative
Warwick	Warwick West	Holland	John Richard	Labour
Stratford-on-Avon	Arden	Horner	John Nicholas	Conservative
North Warwickshire	Coleshill South & Arley	Humphreys	Dave	Conservative
North Warwickshire	Polesworth	Humphreys	Marian	Conservative
North Warwickshire	Kingsbury	Jenns	Andy	Conservative
Rugby	Bilton & Hillside	Kaur	Kam	Conservative
Nuneaton & Bedworth	Stockingford	Kennaugh	Jack Alan Charlie	Conservative
Stratford-on-Avon	Studley	Kerridge	Justin Anthony Lee	Conservative
Stratford-on-Avon	Feldon	Kettle	Christopher John Michael	Conservative
Nuneaton & Bedworth	Bedworth North	Markham	Sue	Conservative
Warwick	Budbrooke & Bishop's Tachbrook	Matecki	Jan Baltazy	Conservative
Warwick	Leamington Clarendon	Millar	Sarah	Labour
Stratford-on-Avon	Kineton & Red Horse	Mills	Chris	Conservative
Nuneaton & Bedworth	Bulkington & Whitestone	Morgan	Jeff	Conservative
Stratford-on-Avon	Wellesbourne	O'Donnell	Penny-Anne	Conservative
Stratford-on-Avon	Bidford & Welford	Pemberton	Daren Philip Franz	Conservative
Nuneaton & Bedworth	Nuneaton Abbey	Phillips	Caroline Suzanne	Labour
Warwick	Cubbington & Leek Wootton	Redford	Wallace	Conservative
Rugby	Dunsmore & Leam Valley	Roberts	Howard David	Conservative
Warwick	Leamington Willes	Roberts	Will	Green
Stratford-on-Avon	Stratford South	Rolfe	Kate	Liberal Democrats

Rugby	Eastlands	Roodhouse	Jerry	Liberal Democrats
Stratford-on-Avon	Stour & the Vale	Seccombe	Izzi	Conservative
Rugby	Brownsover & Coton Park	Simpson-Vince	Jill Beverley	Conservative
Stratford-on-Avon	Stratford North	Sinclair	Tim	Conservative
North Warwickshire	Atherstone	Singh	Mejar	Conservative
Warwick	Warwick South	Singh Birdi	Parminder	Conservative
Nuneaton & Bedworth	Bedworth East	Singh Pandher	Bhagwant	Conservative
Warwick	Kenilworth St John's	Spencer	Richard John	Conservative
Rugby	Earl Craven	Timms	Heather Mary	Conservative
Nuneaton & Bedworth	Galley Common	Tromans	Mandy	Conservative
Nuneaton & Bedworth	Weddington	Tromans	Robert David	Conservative
Rugby	Fosse	Warwick	Adrian David	Conservative
North Warwickshire	Coleshill North & Water Orton	Watson	Martin Lee	Conservative
North Warwickshire	Baddesley & Dordon	Wright	Andy	Conservative

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County Council

25 May 2021

Appointments to Committees and Other Bodies

Recommendations:

- (1) That Council confirms the Committee structure and delegations of non-executive functions to member bodies as set out in the Constitution (subject to any amendments proposed and agreed at this meeting):
- (2) That Council agrees the appointment of members to the Committees and other bodies as set out in the appendix (subject to any amendments).
- (3) That Council confirms the delegations of non-executive functions to officers as set out in the Constitution.
- (4) That the Council agrees an amendment to the Constitution as it applies to the Health and Wellbeing Board consequent upon the merger of the three Clinical Commissioning Groups into a single body covering Warwickshire such that there will be a single CCG appointment moving forward.
- (5) That the Council authorises the Strategic Director for Resources to make such amendments to the Council's Constitution as may be required as a consequence of any changes agreed by Council together with any minor amendments necessitated by changes to any roles and titles referred to in the Constitution and to ensure accuracy and compliance with legislation and the Council's prior decisions.
- (6) That the Council authorises the Chief Executive to agree the final appointments to the Police and Crime Panel in consultation with Group Leaders as she considers to be necessary to meet the requirements of geographical and political proportionality required and to work with District and Borough representatives to achieve that end.
- (7) That the Council authorises the Strategic Director for Resources to appoint an Independent Remuneration Panel to commence a review the Member Allowances Scheme

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Article 5 of the County Council's Constitution requires, as a minimum, the establishment of the following bodies:

Cabinet
Overview and Scrutiny Committee (at least one)
Audit and Standards Committee
Regulatory Committee
Staff and Pensions Committee

- 1.2 The Cabinet is appointed by the Leader of the Council (who is appointed at this Council Annual Meeting for a 4-year period and is automatically a member and Chair of Cabinet). A maximum of nine other members may be appointed to the Cabinet and their appointment and portfolios are matters for the Leader. The Leader must also appoint a Deputy Leader from the Cabinet members. The Leader will confirm the appointment of the Cabinet at a Leader Decision Making Session and any changes in the delegations to portfolio holders and support (non-decision making) roles for additional members.

The agenda for the Leader Decision Making session will be circulated to all members for information.

- 1.3 Committees are appointed by the County Council. These are currently (as mentioned above) the Audit and Standards Committee, Regulatory Committee, Staff and Pensions Committee and the four Overview and Scrutiny Committees:

Adult Social Care and Health
Children and Young People
Communities
Resources and Fire & Rescue

This report seeks the Council's confirmation (or amendment) to the current structure, taking account of the rules set out in the following section, and appointments of members to those seats. (The remit of each Committee is set out in the Council's Constitution and available on the Council's website).

- 1.4 Section 3 of this report also seeks confirmation of membership on a number of other member bodies which fall within the responsibility of Council to appoint, including appointments to some strategic external organisations.
- 1.5 Sub-Committees are appointed by their parent Committee. The Pension Fund Investment Sub-Committee is appointed by the Staff and Pensions Committee (which will meet on the rising of this meeting of full Council).
- 1.6 The Chairs and Vice Chairs of all Committees will also be appointed at a meeting of each Committee immediately following this Council meeting, other than the Chair of the Audit and Standards Committee which has an independent chair (Mr John Bridgeman) and the Council is invited to confirm his appointment.
- 1.7 The Dispensations Sub-Committee is arranged from time to time by the Strategic Director for Resources as required drawn from membership of the

Audit and Standards Committee. A meeting of the Dispensations Sub-Committee will meet subsequently to confirm existing dispensations for a four year period.

- 1.8 A review into the operation of Scrutiny has recently been undertaken. Proposals will be brought forward to Council shortly taking into account the outcome of that review.

2.0 Allocation of seats between political groups

- 2.1 The composition of the Council is 42 Conservative Group; 6 Labour Group; 5 Liberal Democrat Group; 3 Green Group; 1 Whitnash Residents Association.

- 2.2 The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires that appointments to committees and sub-committees must achieve political balance in their membership. (There are exceptions to this notably for geographically based committees on which all local members sit).

- 2.3 The other ground rules are:

Committees: the aggregate allocation of all committee seats must be proportional to the party groups' overall membership on the Council. Within those allocations each individual committee must be split as close to the overall proportions as possible.

Sub-committees: the sub-committee is split proportionally – there is no aggregation.

Panels, Working groups: the political balance rules do not apply but the Council has applied the proportionality rule as a matter of good practice.

- 2.3 The overall rules can be set aside in favour of local arrangements provided this is agreed by the Council with no-one voting against it.
- 2.4 The allocation to committees agreed at the Annual meeting in 2020 is set out below and the Council is invited to confirm the allocation of seats for 2021/22 and make/ confirm membership (completing the tables in the appendix to this report).
- 2.5 Group Leaders are also invited to identify their Group Spokespersons and allocation of Special Responsibility Allowances to their spokespersons. The table below shows the 2020/21 distribution of seats, the political balance entitlement and the change required to bring back into political balance.

Committees	Con	Lab	LD	GR	WRA	Ind Con	Ind Con	Ind Lab	Vac	Vac	Total
Audit & Standards Committee (6)	3	1	1							1	6
Regulatory Committee (12)	7	2	2						1		12
Staff & Pensions Committee (6)	4	1	1								6
Adult Social Care & Health (10)	6	1	2	1							10
Children and Young People (10)	6	1	1	1			1				10
Communities (10)	6	1	1	1		1					10
Resources and Fire & Rescue (10)	6	1	1		1			1			10
2020 Distribution total	38	8	9	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	64
Change	+9	-1	-3	0	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	
Political Balance Entitlement 2021	47	7	6	3	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	64

3.0 Appointments required to be made/confirmed by Council

The Council is invited to confirm appointments to the committees and bodies set out in the Appendix

3.1 Audit and Standards Committee

The membership of the Audit and Standards Committee is comprised of 6 elected members and two co-opted (independent) members. There is currently a vacancy for one independent member. A recruitment process was commenced last year to appoint a replacement independent member but has so far been unsuccessful. The Committee is chaired by Mr John Bridgeman, one of the independent members. The Council is invited to confirm the appointment of Mr John Bridgeman as the Chair of the Committee.

3.2 Health and Wellbeing Board

The Health and Wellbeing Board is a committee of the Council but the rules regarding proportionality do not apply to the Board which has a mixed membership of councillor and non-councillor (including statutory officer) appointments. The membership is four county councillors which to date has included the Cabinet Portfolio Holders with responsibility for adult social care and health and for children's services plus the Leader of the Council. The Council also appoints the Chair of the Board.

The past chair of the Board was Cllr Les Caborn as the Portfolio Holder with responsibility for adult social care and health. Due to Councillor Caborn's retirement a new chair is required. The Council is invited to confirm the appointment of the Chair of the Health and Well-being Board as provided for in the Appendix.

Members are also asked to note and approve a change to the constitution of the County Council as regards the membership of the Board. Following the merger of the Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) into a single body covering Warwickshire there will now be a single CCG representative to the Board and the Council's Constitution will be amended accordingly. The CCG will be invited to confirm its representative following the Council meeting.

3.3 Coventry and Warwickshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The Council on 18 July 2017 agreed to the establishment of the Coventry and Warwickshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Warwickshire County Council and Coventry City Council each has five seats and appointments by each authority reflects the political balance of that authority.

Applying political balance to the Council's allocated seats for 2021/22 would result in allocation of 4 Conservative seats and 1 Labour seat

3.4 Corporate Parenting Panel

The Council approved a new Corporate Parenting Policy in September 2017. The membership of the Panel now includes the Cabinet Portfolio Holder with responsibility for children's services as Chair, plus five other members.

The Council is invited to confirm the membership of the Panel and the Portfolio Holder with responsibility for children's services as the Chair.

3.5 Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education

This is a statutory body that advises the Cabinet on religious worship and religious education within schools. The membership includes representatives of religious denominations and teacher representatives. The County Council membership is five councillors. There is no statutory requirement for political proportionality.

3.6 Warwickshire Waste Partnership

The Waste Partnership comprises five County Councillors and a councillor from each of the five District and Borough Councils. It operates under a Memorandum of Understanding and the Chair is appointed by the Partnership.

3.7 Local Pension Board and Fire & Rescue Pension Board

The terms of reference for these two statutory boards specify that the tenure of membership is a rolling three year term, subject to a maximum of 9 years in total. Each has an independent Chair also appointed for a three-year term. If a member resigns during their term of office the replacement is appointed for three years. Confirmation of re-appointments is for the Scheme Manager (the County Council as the administering authority).

The County Council is also asked to confirm that the Employer representatives on the Fire & Rescue Board should be either members or officers of the Council.

The term of office of several members is due to expire during 2021 and Council is requested to confirm the re-appointment of those board members for a period of three years to ensure the boards remain quorate

LGPS Local Pension Board	End of term of office following this appointment
Councillor Parminder Singh Birdi (WCC Employer Rep) Keith Bray (Independent Chair) Keith Francis (Employer Rep) Alan Kidner (Employee Rep)	May 2024
Fire & Rescue Local Pension Board	End of term of office
Sian Marsh (Employee Rep) (FBU) – from July 2021	July 2024
Tony Morgan (Employee Rep) (Retained Firefighters Union) – from July 2021	July 2024
Paul Morley (Employee Rep) (fire Officers Association) – from July 2021	July 2024
Barnaby Briggs (Employers Rep) – May 2021	May 2024
Caroline Jones (Employers Rep) – May 2021	May 2024

There is a vacancy for a Councillor as WCC Employer Rep on the Fire and Rescue Local Pension Board and the Local Pension Board, and Council is asked to confirm the appointments set out in the Appendix

3.8 The Police and Crime Panel

Police and Crime Panels are joint committees of the principal authorities in a police area, which in Warwickshire means the County Council and the five district /borough councils.

The Chair is appointed by the Panel. The Panel at its first meeting will elect a Chair in the usual way.

The composition of the panel must meet the principle of 'fair representation'. This means that each council within the police area must have at least one member. The composition should also take account of, as far as practical of both political and geographical proportionality. This means the Councillor members, when taken together, should represent all parts of the police area and also represent the political make-up of the relevant authorities when taken together. Due to this requirement and the dates of annual meetings at the other district and borough authorities, Council is asked to delegate to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Group Leaders as she considers to be necessary confirmation of the final make up and appointments to the Panel in advance of its first meeting. The final membership will be confirmed to all Councillors once agreed.

3.9 Joint Negotiating Bodies

The Council has two Joint Negotiating Bodies one for staff and one for teachers. Each has four elected members appointed, (two appointments are made by the Leader and two appointments are made by the Council).

3.10 Appointment to strategic external bodies

There is also a need for Council to confirm its appointments to key strategic bodies, namely the Local Government Association, County Councils Network, Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership. The Council is invited to appoint to these (see recommendation 8 in the appendix to this report).

4.0 **Appointments to other external bodies**

There are some appointments to external bodies that are made by the Leader and which the Leader will confirm at a Leader decision making session.

5.0 **Members Allowances Scheme**

An Independent Remuneration Panel undertook a review of the Council's Member Allowances Scheme in 2017. The Panel's report on its findings was considered at the Council meeting on 20 March 2018 and a number of changes were agreed to the Scheme.

In line with our usual 4 yearly review of the Scheme it is considered appropriate to commence a review of the Member Allowances Scheme. It is proposed that this commences with the appointment of an Independent Remuneration Panel to undertake the review with proposals finalised for consideration by Council during the financial year 2021/22.

6.0 Schemes of Delegation

The Council's Constitution sets out the delegation of powers to member bodies. The Council is invited to confirm these as they relate to non-executive functions - except in so far as they may be inconsistent with any changes to the arrangements made for the member bodies set out above.

The Council is also invited to confirm the delegation of non-executive functions to officers as set out in the Constitution.

Background Information

None

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Appendix

Recommendations

1. That the Council confirms the Committee structure and delegations of non-executive functions to member bodies and officers as set out in the Constitution
2. That the number of places on Council Committees be as follows

3.	Committees	Con	Lab	LD	GR	WRA	Total
	Audit & Standards Committee (6)						
	Regulatory Committee (12)						
	Staff & Pensions Committee (6)						
	Adult Social Care & Health (10)						
	Children and Young People (10)						
	Communities (10)						
	Resources and Fire & Rescue (10)						
	Political Balance Entitlement 2021	47	7	6	3	1	

That the Council appoints the committees and membership:

Opposition Group Spokespersons are indicated for Overview and Scrutiny Committees (Sp)

Committees	Con	Lab	LD	Green	WRA/Ind Vacancy	Total
Audit & Standards Committee (6 +2 co-optees) J Bridgeman * +Vacancy						6
Regulatory Committee						12
Staff and Pensions Committee						6

Committees	Con	Labour	Liberal Democrat	Green	WRA	
Adult Social Care & Health OSC						10
Children & Young People OSC						10
Communities OSC						10
Resources and Fire & Rescue OSC						10
Joint Staff Negotiating Body (2)*Leader appt 2	*					
Joint Teachers Negotiating Body 2 *Leader appt 2	*					
Pension Fund Sub-Committee *appointments are made by Staff and Pensions Committee						
Pool of Members to sit on the Appointments Sub-Committees and Staff Appeals Sub-Committees.						

4. That John Bridgeman be confirmed as the Chair of the Audit and Standards Committee.

5. (a) That the Council confirms/amends membership to the following bodies:

	Conservative	Labour	Liberal Democrat
Health and Wellbeing Board (4)			
Joint Coventry & Warwickshire Health OSC (5)			
Corporate Parenting Panel (6)			
Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) (5)			
Warwickshire Waste Partnership (5)			

5 (b) That [] is appointed as the Chair of the Health and Well-being Board;

(c) That the Council agrees an amendment to the Constitution as it applies to the Health and Wellbeing Board consequent upon the merger of the three Clinical Commissioning

Groups into a single body covering Warwickshire such that there will be a single CCG appointment moving forward.

(d) That the Portfolio Holder with responsibility for children’s services is appointed as the Chair of the Corporate Parenting Panel.

6. (a) That the following be appointed to the LGPS Local Pension Board and Fire & Rescue Local Pension Board for a three-year term:

<i>LGPS Local Pension Board</i>	<i>End of term of office</i>

<i>Fire & Rescue Local Pension Board</i>	<i>End of term of office</i>

(b) That the Council confirms that the Employer Representatives on the Fire and Rescue Local Pension Board should be members or officers of the Warwickshire County Council

7. That the Council authorises the Chief Executive to agree the final appointments to the Police and Crime Panel in consultation with Group Leaders as she considers to be necessary to meet the requirements of geographical and political proportionality required and to work with District and Borough representatives to achieve that end.

8. That the Council confirms/appoints to the following external bodies

	Conservative	Labour	Liberal Democrat
LEP (1)			
LGA (4)			
CCN (4)			
LGA Fire Commission			

9. That Council confirms the delegations of non-executive functions to officers as set out in the Constitution.

10. That the Council authorises the Strategic Director Resources to make such amendments to the Council’s Constitution as may be required as a consequence of any changes agreed by Council together with any minor amendments necessitated by changes to roles and titles and to ensure accuracy and compliance with legislation and the Council’s prior decisions.

11. That the Council authorises the Strategic Director for Resources to appoint an Independent Remuneration Panel to commence a review the Member Allowances Scheme

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