

**Warwickshire County Council
Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report
2023 - 2024**

Introduction

Welcome to the Warwickshire County Council annual review of Overview and Scrutiny for 2023-24.

One of the key roles within our governance is that of scrutiny and challenge. As Councillors, we are responsible for ensuring we put our scarce resources to the best use possible and that we devise and deliver policies to the benefit of our residents, local businesses and service users. The Council has four Overview and Scrutiny Committees, and this report reflects on the main topics covered by each over the past year.

In March 2023, the Audit and Standards Committee reviewed the progress made on the implementation of the scrutiny review action plan. A workshop session was delivered to the Chairs and Vice Chairs of all four Committees in September 2023 to help refine the principles of the scrutiny review. A set of working principles was agreed to help shape scrutiny over the next twelve months and beyond.

In early 2024, each of the scrutiny Committees received a presentation, relevant to their remit, in relation to the 'Warwickshire Futures' exercise. This exercise looked at the themes and challenges that will influence both the Council and Warwickshire between now and 2040. All four Committees found the report to be informative and agreed that it would help all of them to systemically evaluate future trends and impacts on the Council and shape each Committee's work programme, not just in the immediate future but also, longer term.

A tailored report of the Sustainable Futures Strategy was presented to each Overview and Scrutiny Committees. The Strategy was an outline of the Council's commitment to addressing climate change and the biodiversity crisis. The strategic priorities include reducing carbon emissions to net zero by 2030 and supporting the entire county to achieve the same by 2050 or earlier. All Committees held robust discussions and comments were helpfully submitted to Cabinet for their consideration to support final approval of the Strategy.

The Scrutiny function can also identify need for learning and development. This year demonstrated an acute need around SEND awareness and the use of appropriate language. Membership changes resulted for the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee, along with the introduction of mandatory training for Members. As a result, development sessions are now planned, coproduced, and delivered with the SEND community.

In addition to the work programmes, Committees continue to receive additional information through briefing notes that allow them to keep a focus on subjects and projects within their remit. When required, briefing sessions are offered to ensure that all Members are kept up to date on topics they have reviewed or that they soon will be.

As we begin preparations for the County elections in 2025, I am conscious that this will be the last annual report reviewing scrutiny before those elections. I would like to thank all those involved in scrutiny since the 2021 elections for their dedication

and hard work. I am confident that each Committee will continue the good work evidenced in this report. The officers at the Council are dedicated to working alongside all Elected Members to ensure the very best for residents and businesses across the County.

Councillor Isobel Seccombe
Leader of Warwickshire County Council
May 2024

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Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

This Committee reviews and scrutinises the provision of public services in Warwickshire relating to adult social care services including social care to older people and people with disabilities, policies and services for safeguarding adults and any matter relating to the planning provision and operation of health services for adults and children in Warwickshire.

“Reflecting on my first year as Chair of this Overview and Scrutiny Committee, I would like to place on record my thanks to the Elected Members, officers and partners who have all contributed.

The summary below shows the considerable remit of this Committee and the range of Health and Social Care items it has considered over the reporting period. The Committee maintains excellent working relationships with its health partners and Healthwatch which enables an open dialogue of the key issues faced. This in turn means the Committee can do its best to address known challenges and to ensure the best possible services for Warwickshire’s residents.

Councillor Jo Barker
Chair of the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Officer Support and Partner involvement

Support for the Committee is now provided by the Executive Director for Social Care and Health and colleagues from her directorate. This followed a structural review implemented in January 2024, splitting the functions delivered through the former People Directorate. Officers attend every meeting, providing important updates to Members on Public Health and Social Care services. You will see more in the paragraphs that follow about the integration of services and valuable working relationships the Committee has with partners in the NHS and Healthwatch Warwickshire, essential to effective scrutiny of health and social care.

Health

In successive annual reports, there are references to the ongoing changes in the way Council and NHS services are delivered. Last year’s report referenced the launch of Integrated Care System (ICS) and this year Health and Care legislative changes came into force.

The Committee’s remit is to scrutinise the performance of local health commissioners and service providers. A key change in recent years is the integration of services and some Council staff now work in joint roles with the NHS. This will seek to drive service improvements and further the integration agenda. There are strong working arrangements with the Integrated Care Board (ICB) and a commitment from the ICB to engage with the Committee regularly, and especially

where service changes are proposed. New Government guidance has been issued on local authority health scrutiny, following the introduction of the Health and Care Act 2022. The key change is the removal of the health scrutiny Committee referral powers to the Secretary of State for major service reconfigurations. There is an expectation for local dialogue to seek resolution of any challenges, making the engagement with the ICB imperative.

Health services have featured extensively in the work programme during this year. Consideration was given to the South Warwickshire Community Hospital Review. The South Warwickshire University NHS Foundation Trust's Chief Executive reported on the options appraisal and responded to significant Member questioning. This had followed public addresses with residents raising concerns.

A joint update on GP Services and Primary Healthcare was provided by the ICB and the County Council's Infrastructure Planning Officer. The focus was on estates, covering the planning aspects and contributions from development, before looking at NHS primary care estates and the modelling of population and demand growth. Extensive questioning gave Members a detailed knowledge of the challenges faced. These included sufficiency of buildings and workforce, the financial shortfall from development contributions, the opportunities to strengthen existing joint working and earlier engagement with the planning process.

The Committee reviewed the draft Coventry and Warwickshire Palliative and End of Life Care Strategy, submitting feedback and supporting the strategy. The Committee also heard from the ICB on the mobilisation of the revised bladder service. Members of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee were invited for this item, which is within the remit of both Overview and Scrutiny Committees. There were a number of follow up areas in response to Member questions and a further update will be scheduled on the implementation of the new service.

Warwickshire's Director of Public Health provided an update on Covid and Flu. This reported the national and local data for both illnesses. Concerns were raised about the low uptake of flu vaccination of children aged 2-3 years, and those at primary and secondary school. There had been a reduction in uptake of Covid vaccinations too, but the NHS was doing all it could to encourage uptake of vaccinations. Arising from this item, two subsequent briefings were provided on Covid death data for Warwickshire and the rates of people experiencing long covid symptoms and whether vaccination reduced that risk.

Social Care

A new Adult Social Care Strategy is being prepared and the Committee considered this in its early development stages. Members submitted suggestions and questions and asked to be kept briefed as the strategy developed, proposing a round table discussion be held at an appropriate point in the strategy's preparation.

Another significant area concerned Care Quality Commission (CQC) Assurance and responsibilities under the Care Act. This combined presentation briefed Members on the preparation for a new assurance process by the CQC, replacing the previous inspection regime. A significant amount of preparatory work had taken place

including a peer review. Member questioning and discussion provided areas for further focus. The second part of this key item informed Members of the Council's responsibilities under the Care Act.

Performance Reports and Briefings

The Committee receives quarterly performance monitoring reports and reviews the annual customer services feedback relevant to the services within its remit. Members have access to a Power BI digital platform, which enables them to monitor frequently updated performance information between meetings. A dedicated briefing session was provided to help Members utilise Power BI effectively. Officers and partners provide briefing documents to add capacity and keep Members informed of service changes or to provide detailed feedback following requests at Committee. Recent examples are briefings on the closure of the Prescription Ordering Direct service, measurement of greenhouse gas emissions and Covid briefings. Regular updates from the ICB and Healthwatch are also circulated.

Work with Healthwatch Warwickshire and the Health and Wellbeing Board

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee works closely with Healthwatch Warwickshire, the voluntary organisation that provides the 'patient voice' and 'lived experience'. Healthwatch has an active role in shaping the Committee's work programme; it contributes to debate in meetings and updates the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on its own work areas.

The Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB), who is also the Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and Health attends every meeting with a regular 'question time' included on the agenda. She suggests areas within the remit of the HWBB for more focused scrutiny. Recently a joint briefing was held for Elected Members and partners from both the HWBB and this Committee on the CQC assurance process, ahead of its formal consideration by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Engagement with the Public and Elected Members

The public can address the Committee or submit questions. Every agenda includes items which enable Councillors to submit questions to the Portfolio Holder or to NHS colleagues. During this year, the NHS responded to questions about GP services for veterans, linked to the Armed Forces Covenant, and a member of the public sought the Committee's help, raising concerns for tenants of an independent living scheme about the mandatory charges being levied on tenants. The matter was considered, and a response provided. Public addresses were also submitted on The South Warwickshire Community Hospital Review.

Task and Finish Group (TFG) Reviews

The Committee commissioned a review of Menopause Services within Warwickshire which submitted its resultant report in April 2024. The report was endorsed by the Committee, including a number of recommendations made to the ICB, the wider Integrated Care System and the Council. Members acknowledged the significant

menopause support provided for Council staff and recommended that this knowledge should be shared with other employers. Improving communication is a key outcome from this review.

Key Organisations monitored by the Committee

Coventry and Warwickshire Integrated Care Board and Integrated Care System Provider Trusts: Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership Trust, George Eliot NHS Hospital Trust, South Warwickshire Foundation Trust, University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire, West Midlands Ambulance Service University NHS Foundation Trust.

Key partners that the Committee engages with as part of its remit

Coventry City Council (joint health scrutiny)
District and Borough Councils (co-opted representation)
Healthwatch Coventry
Healthwatch Warwickshire

Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

This Committee reviews and scrutinises the provision of public services in Warwickshire relating to education and skills, services for children, families and young people including schools, 16-19 years education, pre-school children, child protection, family support and social care, children with specific needs and the Youth Service.

“This has been my first year as Chair of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and I would like to personally thank everyone who has been involved – Elected Members, officers and external partners who have attended our meetings.

Over the last twelve months, the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee has welcomed two new co-optees who attend each meeting and who support the work we do. In addition, we introduced a new standing item to the agenda – an update from the Council’s Corporate Parenting Panel. The work done by the panel is important and it was felt that Elected Members, and especially those on the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee, should be made more aware of the work done in relation to children and young people in care. Their work and the work of this panel undeniably overlap.

The Committee has a wide remit; areas of focus over the last twelve months have included school admissions and attendance, targeted youth support and the new outdoor education strategy. Highlights of these topics, and others can be found below.”

Councillor Marian Humphreys
Chair of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee
May 2024

Work with the Corporate Parenting Panel

As part of each meeting, the Committee introduced an update from the Chair of the Corporate Parenting Panel (and Portfolio Holder for Children & Families). The new standing item will allow the Committee to keep up to date with the work that the panel does as well as the work done by officers supporting the Panel. The decision was taken so that all Elected Members, not just those on the Committee, would have access to the information and would be able to raise questions. The update has been welcomed and will continue to be a key part of the Committee’s work programme.

School Attendance and Admissions

Over the last twelve months, the Committee has received regular updates in relation to work around school attendance and admissions.

School Attendance

In April 2023, the Committee received a report in relation to school attendance and the significant interruption caused by the pandemic. The topic was identified as a high priority both for members of the Committee and officers. It was agreed that regular updates would be part of the Committee's work programme moving forward and in September 2023, the Committee received a second report from officers providing further analysis.

The Committee noted that the national figure in relation to school absence was increasing, but Warwickshire was narrowing that gap with a slower increase. The Committee learnt of a new delivery model that had come into force with the aim of monitoring school absence: although live data is not currently an option. Over 80 schools in Warwickshire (as of September 2023) had not signed up to the new delivery model but Council officers were working with them to address concerns and offer support to help them get on board.

The Committee was pleased with the information provided to them and gave their full support to all the work underway. It was agreed that this topic would be reviewed again when there was more data from the new delivery model.

School Admissions

The Committee welcomed the Head of Access to Education to the meeting held in September 2023. They were presented with a report highlighting the significant improvements made to the service following a robust review, which resulted in the creation of an improvement plan. It was noted that 77% of the actions had already been completed at the time of the September meeting.

The issues that the Committee had been made aware of in 2022, in relation to the admissions service, have been well documented and thanks was given to officers for addressing all issues. It was noted that the number of complaints has reduced by 72%.

The improvement plan was scheduled for completion in March 2024 and, working alongside officers, the Committee will look beyond March 2024 to ensure that future efforts continue the improvements already delivered.

School Attainment

The Committee requested an update in relation to school attainment for children and young people in Warwickshire schools following the disruption of Covid.

The Committee heard that the work of the Virtual School (supporting the educational needs of children and young people in care) was a part of the work undertaken as a key focus area.

A new Education Strategy is being developed which will build on the more collaborative way of working with schools which is underway and an

acknowledgement that gaps in early years learning are widening and require addressing.

The Committee thanked all officers involved with the work on school attendance, admissions and attainment and will continue to support them in any way that they can.

Outdoor Education Strategy

Following the introduction of Warwickshire's Outdoor Education and Learning Strategy in 2022, the Committee welcomed an update in February 2024.

- 43% of schools in the county have now engaged meaningfully with the strategy.
- 34% of the actions from the strategy have been completed and 38% of the actions are in progress.
- The service has been working with other services within the Council, such as libraries and county parks and as a result, improved offers can now be made to schools.

The Committee thanked the officers for an excellent report and commented that it was pleasing to see just how much progress had been made. Wanting to continue their support for the strategy, it was agreed that directing as many people as possible to the website would be invaluable in growing the number of schools the strategy is able to support.

Children and Family Centres

Over the last year, the Committee has received two reports in relation to Children and Family Centres. An independent review of the commissioned services was completed in January 2023, and two months later, the Committee received a report in relation to the findings, which identified strengths within the current service provision whilst also highlighting some areas where improvements could be made.

It was confirmed that while work across the service had led to improvement in certain performance areas, there were other areas where the service was not meeting their key performance indicators.

In April 2024, a second report was presented to the Committee. Members were pleased to note that performance had improved in all areas except one. Members learnt that officers were looking for a standardised approach to the services offered across the county while recognising that there are many differences in each area.

The Committee will continue to monitor this area of work but were pleased with all the progress that has been made to date.

SEND

The Committee received updates in relation to Warwickshire's SEND children and young people, including information on the current financial position and details of the expected future demand on the service. Whilst the debate on this topic at one meeting resulted in a challenging period for the Council and the need to rebuild relationships with SEND children and their families, the introduction of mandatory training for Members, coproduced and delivered with the SEND community, has been a positive development to aid Members' understanding of this important area.

Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

This Committee reviews and scrutinises the provision of public services in Warwickshire relating to community safety, trading standards, transport and highways, economic development and environment, adult learning, heritage, tourism, flood risk management and emergency planning.

My third year as Chair has seen the Committee continue to work alongside officers at the Council in closely scrutinising new projects and decisions made by the Council. There remains a strong focus on economic development, and each meeting includes an update in this area. The Committee has focused on the impact of the cost-of-living crisis and will continue to review how, and support improvements to the way in which, Council decisions affect residents and businesses across Warwickshire.

I would like to thank everyone who has been involved in the success of this Committee, from the Elected Members to each officer who provides reports and presentations. The highlights of the last twelve months can be found below.

Councillor Jeff Clarke
Chair of Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee
May 2024

Economic Development Updates

At each meeting, the Committee is provided with an economic development update that reports on all economic development activities within Warwickshire. This report covers the work carried out by Council officers and partners across various services, as well as any relevant news and information relevant to the Committee.

Members were advised in September 2023 of the launch of the Fair Chance programme. This provides practical advice to businesses on approaches to support workforce inclusivity and diversity. The Careers Hub was also launched in September 2023. It was transferred to Warwickshire County Council after the closure of the Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership. This supports schools and further education colleges with career advice.

The Committee is presented quarterly integrated performance reports where Members are asked to take note and comment on services specific to the remit of Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Members have access to the Power BI digital platform which allows them to monitor performance and get up to date information in between updates.

Highway Developments

In November 2023 the Committee was updated on the Delegated Budget Schemes - the update informed Members of the progress of specific schemes and likely completion dates. Members were also able to view itemised costs of items which would lead to more accurate costings.

In April 2024 an update on the Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) Policy, which was approved by Cabinet in September 2022 was provided to the Committee. This report considered whether the policy was meeting the aim set out of taking an evidence-based approach to VAS management in order to support road safety. It was agreed by Members that the policy was meeting the aims, although further scrutiny of the policy would be beneficial and therefore it was requested that an update be presented to the Committee in twelve months' time.

The Committee was provided with a report updating on EV Charging Infrastructure Progress in April 2024. This report is part of regular updates agreed following the recommendations of the task and finish group which presented its findings to the Committee in November 2022. The report covered an update on the Council's plan to deliver publicly accessible electric vehicle charge points throughout the county with the increasing number of electric and hybrid vehicles on the road. Members acknowledged the report and requested a further update in another twelve months.

Annual Infrastructure Funding Statement 2022 / 2023

Presented to the Committee in April 2024, this annual report detailed developer funds received, allocated and spent during the 2022/23 financial year. It included details of contributions under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding. The types of projects and infrastructure supported during 2022/23 could be broken down into the following categories: Community facilities, Education, Green infrastructure, Highways, Transport and Travel and Monitoring. Members engaged in discussions and acknowledged the helpful detail of the report.

Virtual Parking Permit Update

A Cabinet decision was made in October 2020 to move away from a paper parking permit system to a virtual one. In June 2023, an update was brought to the Committee on the progress of the Virtual Permit changes. Members were advised of delays that had impacted delivery, but that with those delays resolved, the virtual system was due to commence in July 2023. Members acknowledged the report and queried the application of the scheme to residents who may not be able to use the virtual system. Reassurances were given of telephony access for those who need it.

Customer Feedback 2022/23

In June 2023, the annual customer feedback report was brought to the Committee for consideration. In the period April 2022 – March 2023 there were 4335 contacts across all directorates, with 2000 of those being complaints. The Communities directorate, specific to the remit of this Committee, received 528 complaints, which was a decrease from previous years. The Committee was advised of a new customer service system which was being implemented in August 2023. It would record all contact with each resident and improve consistency as well the quality of the interactions.

Resources and Fire & Rescue Overview and Scrutiny Committee

This Committee reviews and scrutinises the Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service alongside the Council's budget, medium term financial plan, corporate business plan, planning and performance arrangements, finance, property, information technology, facilities management, workforce strategy and development, law and governance, libraries, customer service and communications.

I am pleased to present the annual report of the Resources and Fire & Rescue Overview and Scrutiny Committee. It has been another busy and interesting year, with a wide variety of topics for the Committee to consider.

I thank Andy Carswell, Democratic Services Officer and the rest of the Democratic Services team for their work supporting the Committee over the year, and I would also place on record my gratitude to the Vice Chair, Spokespersons, Officers and Chief Fire Officer, Ben Brook for their time and efforts over the past 12 months.

In these times when many of our residents are being affected by cost of living pressures, I know this Committee will work tirelessly in monitoring the work of the Council and effectively challenge the administration to continue to deliver best value.

Councillor Adrian Warwick
Chair of Resources and Fire & Rescue Overview and Scrutiny Committee
May 2024

Social Impact Fund Update

In June 2023, the Committee considered an update on the Social Impact Fund, which was implemented following agreement by Cabinet in October 2021 to help build stronger communities in areas that had experienced higher than average instances of Covid, and groups that had experienced increased rates of isolation, such as financial, social or health-related issues. A total of 21 projects had funding approved, out of 52 applications. Of those, 16 received capital funding which was required to be spent within 15 months of approval, and the remaining five received revenue funding that needed to be spent within 18 months. Applicants had also been signposted to up to 50 different potential alternative funding streams. Successful projects needed to align to at least one of the Council Plan outcomes, one of the core themes of the Voluntary and Community Sector Strategy, and the Community Powered Warwickshire approach.

The Social Fabric Fund was launched in July 2023, with the Committee considering the proposals prior to them going forward for approval by Cabinet. The implementation of the Funds has helped to embed the Community Powered approach and the prioritisation of delivery of outcomes associated with the levelling up/creating opportunities agenda. This was particularly important in the 22 Lower Super Output Areas that were in the 20 per cent most deprived nationally.

Cost of Living Support

In September 2023 the Committee considered the impact of the Council's approach to cost of living support. Approval of a fund for up to £1million from the Revenue Investment Fund to help support cost of living initiatives had been granted by Cabinet in October 2022. The Committee heard that as of August 2023, £730,000 had either been spent or committed to being spent. Sitting alongside the Revenue Investment Fund, an additional £1million from the Household Support Fund grant had been distributed through the Warwickshire Local Welfare Scheme. This provided direct support to vulnerable households around energy and water bills, food, and other related essentials. It was felt cost of living support needed to be put in place longer term as increasing costs were affecting individuals – either through increased mortgage costs, or rate increases caused by landlords' mortgage rates going up – and businesses, through higher operating costs. Grant applications from businesses had increased over the previous 12 months. Information was shared with colleagues from the district and borough Councils, along with the voluntary sector, to try and avoid duplications in service.

Members endorsed the continuing approach to addressing cost-of-living pressures for Warwickshire's residents.

Fire and Rescue Service – Resourcing to Risk

A public consultation on proposals to configure the resourcing of Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service in line with a risk-based approach was launched this year. A dedicated website gave details of public meetings, data sets used in the modelling process, and how to take part in the consultation. The proposals, if adopted, would see coverage of emergency equipment being allocated to the geographical areas where they were most likely to be needed, at times of greatest need and with greater resources being allocated to places where there was statistically more likely to be a major incident.

The proposals included the introduction of 'surge' teams to provide cover during evenings and periods of highest need. This proposal reflected the current concern that the availability of firefighters at some on-call fire stations was less than 50 per cent. Information on the surge teams and how they would work was provided at the meetings and workshops.

The Committee endorsed the proposal for the "Resourcing to Risk" approach to be subject to a public consultation process, recommending the wider circulation of documents so as to involve as many members of the public as possible. The Committee requested further scrutiny of the outcome of the public consultation, prior to the final recommendations being considered by Cabinet and Full Council as necessary.

Additionally, during the municipal year an inspection from His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) of Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service was undertaken. Members heard that two of the three causes for concern that had previously been identified had now been closed, and the number of

areas for improvement had reduced from 41 to 26. One notable area of good practice, relating to WFRS's degree apprentice scheme with Coventry University, had been identified and this could be shared with other fire and rescue services. Improvements to community risk management and the response to promoting equality, diversity and inclusion had been noted by HMICFRS.

The Committee gave a vote of thanks to the Chief Fire Officer and to Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service for the positive direction of travel that had been noted in the inspection report.

Library Performance and Membership

In December 2023 the Committee received a report on the performance and membership of the Library Service. There had been a 15 per cent increase in the digital use of libraries, and visitor numbers had now returned to pre-Covid levels. Libraries had also been used as warm hubs throughout the winter to help members of the public with the cost of living challenges. The Registration Service had been updated, so when a birth was registered the newborn child would automatically be issued with a library membership card.

Warwickshire's Library Service had succeeded in its bid to become a National Portfolio Organisation (NPO), which would enable access to extra funding through the Arts Council to provide additional activities, programme delivery and staff training. Other organisations with NPO status included the Royal Shakespeare Company and the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, and Warwickshire was the only library service in the West Midlands with this status as evidence had been provided on the additional activities and programmes delivered by the Warwickshire Library Service.

Libraries had been supplied with books for children with dyspraxia and autism, and group reading sessions were being encouraged. Steps have been taken to make libraries autism friendly and staff training had been given. Permission had been sought to apply for funding for a sensory friendly vehicle, which could be driven to where it was needed to support access to the Library Service for those children with additional needs.

Finance

The Committee received regular quarterly updates on the progress of the Treasury Management Strategy, with Members acknowledging and expressing their gratitude for the prudent approach officers were taking towards the Council's finances. Quarterly updates on performance were also received via the Integrated Performance Reports.

VCSE Sector Support Services Update

In December 2023 the Committee considered the progress being made by the Voluntary, Community, and Social Enterprise (VCSE) Sector commissioned services. Members were told all services were performing well against their outcomes in each service specification, in spite of a challenging landscape for the

community and voluntary sector due to rising costs. Members noted extensive stakeholder engagement, strong elements of coproduction with the voluntary sector, and aspects of community power and asset-based ways of working had all been demonstrated. How services would play their part in reacting to climate change had also been considered.

Overview and Scrutiny Committees – Membership

Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2023/2024

Councillors Jo Barker (Chair), John Holland (Vice-Chair), John Cooke, Tracey Drew, Marian Humphreys, Andy Jenns, Chris Mills, Kate Rolfe, Ian Shenton and Mandy Tromans

Co-opted District and Borough Council Members

Councillor Sandra Smith (North Warwickshire)
Councillor Colin Cape (Nuneaton and Bedworth)
Councillor Ish Mistry (Rugby)
Councillor David Johnston (Stratford-upon-Avon)
Councillor Pamela Redford (Warwick)

**Membership of the Committee has changed over the period covered by the report and the report is given by the current Chair, Councillor Jo Barker*

Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2023/2024

Councillors Marian Humphreys (Chair), Jerry Roodhouse (Vice-Chair), Barbara Brown, Justin Kerridge, Jill Simpson-Vince, Penny-Anne O'Donnell, Chris Mills, Parminder Singh Birdi, Piers Daniell and Tim Sinclair

Co-opted Members

Michael Cowland
Phil Johnson

**Membership of the Committee has changed over the period covered by the report.*

Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2023/2024

Councillors Jeff Clarke (Chair), Jonathan Chilvers (Vice-Chair), Sarah Feeney, Jenny Fradgley, Pete Gilbert, Dave Humphreys, Bhagwant Singh Pandher, Daren Pemberton, Mejar Singh and Andrew Wright.

Resources and Fire & Rescue Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2023/2024

Councillors Adrian Warwick (Chair), Parminder Singh Birdi (Vice-Chair), Sarah Boad, Piers Daniell, Sarah Feeney, Wallace Redford, Will Roberts, Tim Sinclair, Richard Spencer, and Robert Tromans.

**Membership of the Committee has changed over the period covered by the report.*

Getting Involved with Overview and Scrutiny

Listening to the views of Warwickshire's residents is a crucial part of the work conducted by Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

If you have any queries or questions about scrutiny, or want to suggest a topic for the Committee to look at, please contact the Democratic Services Team

⇒ Email us: democraticservices@warwickshire.gov.uk

⇒ Tweet us: [@WarksDemocracy](https://twitter.com/WarksDemocracy)

⇒ Watch us: warwickshire.public-i.tv

⇒ Call us: 01926 412113

You can keep up to date with the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Task & Finish groups and any other reviews or panels by visiting our website:

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/scrutiny

The Committees look at key developments and Council priorities, service performance and strategic issues. Queries on individual matters or cases can be raised with the appropriate service team directly.

Scrutiny Committee	Officer Contact
Adult Social Care and Health	Paul Spencer Senior Democratic Services Officer paulspencer@warwickshire.gov.uk
Children and Young People	Helen Barnsley Senior Democratic Services Officer helenbarnsley@warwickshire.gov.uk
Communities	Nic Conway Trainee Democratic Services Officer nicoleconway@warwickshire.gov.uk
Resources and Fire & Rescue	Andy Carswell Democratic Services Officer andrewcarswell@warwickshire.gov.uk