Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 17 December 2025 at the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa, at 6.00pm.

Present: Councillors Milton (Chair), Armstrong, Barton, Day, Dray, Harrison, Knight, Kohler, Luckhurst, Payne, and P Wightman.

Also Present: Councillors Falp, Davison, King, Sinnott.

Officers: Darren Knight – Deputy Chief Executive, Sophie Barbalau Principal Committee Services Officer, Zoe Court – Head of Neighbourhood Services, Phil Clarke – Head of Place, Arts and Economy, and Stephen Stray – South Warwickshire Local Plan Team Leader.

58. **Apologies and Substitutes**

There were no apologies for absence or substitutes.

59. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest made.

60. **Joint Cabinet Agenda (Non-Confidential items and reports) – Thursday 18 December 2025**

The Committee considered the following non-confidential item, which would be discussed at the meeting of the Joint Cabinet:

Item – 5 - Warwickshire Local Plan – Revised Timetable

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee highlighted the significant risk that the Local Plan presented to both Warwick District and Stratford-on-Avon District Councils. They requested that officers look at creative ways (including the use of AI) to mitigate potential delays to timescales whilst maintaining quality and placed emphasis on the importance of 'active travel'. The Committee encouraged the political leadership of the Councils to be active in lobbying government ministers for flexibility to ensure that this process can be successfully delivered.

61. **Work Programme, Forward Plan, & Comments from Cabinet**

The Committee considered a report from Governance Services which informed Members of Overview & Scrutiny Committee of the Committee's work programme for 2025-2026, attached as Appendix 1 to the report, and sought confirmation of approach of a number of areas in respect of that work plan.

Resolved that the work programme attached at Appendix 1 to the report, be noted.

62. **Cabinet Agenda (Non-Confidential items and reports) – Thursday 18 December 2025**

The Committee considered the following non-confidential item, which would be discussed at the meeting of the Cabinet:

Item 5 – Sports & Leisure Team Resources and Grants

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee explored the concerns that Members had regarding changes to the scheme and encouraged officers to bring a report back to the Committee in 12 months' time to provide updated figures on funding delivered within the District.

63. **Public & Press**

The public and press were not excluded from the meeting as the Committee did not need to consider the confidential appendix that was listed on the agenda.

64. **Confidential Appendix to item 3 – South Warwickshire Local Plan _ Revised Timetable**

The confidential appendix was not considered.

(The meeting ended at 7.26pm.)

CHAIR
3 February 2025