Warwick District Council
15 July 2026

This is a summary of decisions and not the formal minutes of the meeting of Warwick District Council. It is intended to give early notice of the decisions taken.

If you require further information about the meeting, please contact Committee Services on [01926] 456114.

Agenda

1. Apologies for Absence - These will be detailed in the minutes of the meeting.

2. Declarations of Interest - These will be detailed in the minutes of the meeting.

3. Communications and Announcements - These will be detailed in the minutes of the meeting.

4. Petitions – There were no petitions to consider.

5. Notices of Motion – There were no notices of motion to consider.

6. Leader and Portfolio Holders' Statements – There were no Leader and Portfolio Holders' Statements.

7. Questions to the Leader of the Council & Portfolio Holders – There were no Leader and Portfolio Holders' Statements.

Urgent Item – Dispensation for Councillors

The dispensation report was agreed.

8. South Warwickshire Local Plan – Joint Cabinet Recommendations

The decisions of Warwick District were:

(1) note the importance of a having sound, up-to-date local plan to prevent the uncoordinated delivery of potentially less favourable sites for development and maximise the delivery of infrastructure to support development, noting also the particular importance of this given that neither District can currently demonstrate a five-year supply of housing land; and

that the South Warwickshire Plan housing numbers have been imposed on both Councils by the Government who changed the rules and moved the housing requirements out of metropolitan areas and into the rural areas which are less able to cope with the significant numbers put forward; the Government has put developer profits ahead of people;

(2) note the background information relevant to this report contained in Appendix 8 including the importance of submitting a Local Plan to the Secretary of State by 31 December 2026 in light of new regulations that prevent Local Plans prepared under the legacy plan making system being submitted after that time.

(3) endorse the extensive work that has been undertaken by officers and Councillors to prepare the South Warwickshire Local Plan and the previous public consultations that have been undertaken on it.

(4) notes the schedule of changes that have been made to the South Warwickshire Local Plan as set out in Appendix 9, including following the recommendations from the last meeting of the Joint Cabinet Committee on 28 May 2026, which include:

a) the removal of green field allocations totalling over 3,700 homes from the plan;
b) the introduction of 3 key public transport corridors to increase developer contributions to improved public transport;
c) measures to make it easier to sensitively introduce energy efficiency measures like double glazing;
d) tightened requirements for safe basic infrastructure from first occupation of new houses; and
e) agreed expected affordable housing levels at a minimum of either 30% or 40% across South Warwickshire, as set out below.

(5) approve:

a) the Publication draft South Warwickshire Local Plan (Appendix 1) subject to an amendment to policy HO.3 to require that in zone 1, a minimum of 40% onsite affordable housing is provided with 50% on Green Belt sites and sites proposed to be released from the Green Belt through the SWLP, subject to viability, and that the approach for zone 2 sites also properly reflects government policy as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework;
b) the Publication draft policies map (Appendix 2);
c) Sustainability Appraisal report (Appendix 3);
d) Habitats Regulations Assessment (Appendix 4);
e) Schedule of responses to the Preferred Options public consultation (Appendix 5);
f) Equalities Impact Assessment (Appendix 6);
g) Effective Cooperation Compliance Statement (Appendix 7); and
h) the supporting evidence base (together the "proposed submission documents").

for a seven-week public consultation (period for representations) in accordance with Regulation 19 of the Town and County Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulation 2012, subject to the other Council also approving these documents.

(6) delegate authority to the Head of Place, Arts & Economy (Warwick District) and Head of South Warwickshire Local Plan (Stratford-on-Avon District), in consultation with the Leaders and relevant Portfolio Holders of both Councils, to make minor amendments and corrections as necessary to the proposed submission documents (including evidence base document). Also include a further check by officers to ensure "could, should and would" are correctly applied within the plan, to ensure it is as robust as possible, prior to the commencement of the public consultation.

(7) note that all the above recommendations require agreement from both Councils in order for the South Warwickshire Local Plan to progress to a Publication Regulation 19 consultation.

(8) note that once the Regulation 19 consultation has been undertaken, the opportunities for either Council to make changes to the South Warwickshire Local Plan are very limited.

(9) agree that, following the close of the Regulation 19 consultation, the response to the consultation will be reported to SWLPAG, the Overview & Scrutiny Committees at both Councils, Joint Cabinet Committee, and both Councils and that each Council will at that time be asked to approve the South Warwickshire Local Plan, and associated documents, for submission to the Secretary of State for examination.

(10) that clear success criteria for the communications plan for the reg 19 consultation be set out in advance.

(11) write to all MP's representing the area to ask them to meet, cross-party, with Ministers, to request early government investment to help Warwick District Council work alongside Stratford-on-Avon District Council to achieve its aims.

9. Common Seal - The affixing of the Common Seal of the Council was approved