

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

16 July 2025

Present: Councillor D Wright in the Chair

Councillors Barnett, Bell, Clews, Hayfield, Jackson, Reilly, Ridley, Simpson, Symonds and Whapples.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Ririe, Councillor Stuart (Substitute Councillor Whapples), Councillor M Watson (Substitute Councillor Hayfield) and S Watson.

14 Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interest

None were declared at the meeting.

15 Minutes of the Executive Board held on 10 June 2025

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 10 June 2025, copies having been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

16 Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman Annual Review 2024/25

The Chief Executive informed the Board about the results of the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman Annual Review 2024/25 and highlighted the number of complaints and enquiries considered by the Ombudsman relating to the Council and the outcome of their determinations. Contextual information about the compliments and complaints received via the Council's corporate Compliments and Complaints Procedure were also given.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

17 Transformation Team Update

The Head of Corporate Services provided Members with an annual report of the work that the Transformation team was undertaking.

Resolved:

- a That the report is acknowledged and noted; and**
- b That individual Boards be supplied with the information contained in the report of the Head of Corporate Services, relating to their areas of responsibility.**

18 Local Government Reorganisation and English Devolution

The Chief Executive provided further information to Members on the two options submitted to the Government in the Interim Plan for Local Government Reorganisation. Members were asked to identify a preferred option for further development and consultation ahead of a final submission in November.

Resolved:

- a That the Deloitte report assessing each option against the Government's criteria, the PeopleToo report on Adult Social Care and Children's Social Care options, the Government's response to the Council's Interim Plan and the letter from the West Midlands Combined Authority regarding Warwickshire's Strategic Authority options be noted;**
- b That the preferred option for Local Government Reorganisation, including the Strategic Authority options, is Option 2 – two-unitary model, as set out in Appendix 3 to the report of the Chief Executive;**
- c That Option 2 will be the subject of public and stakeholder consultation as set out in the report of the Chief Executive; and**
- d That the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and other Group Leaders, be given delegated authority to take such further steps in the preparation of the final submission to Government as are necessary.**

19 Whistleblowing Policy

The Head of Legal Services sought approval for the Whistleblowing Policy.

Resolved:

That the Policy be updated with the revisions suggested by Members and it be brought back to a future meeting of the Board for approval.

20 Minutes of the Safer Communities Sub-Committee held on 30 June 2025

The minutes of the Safer Communities Sub-Committee held on 30 June 2025, were received and noted.

21 Exclusion of the Public and Press

Resolved:

That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business, on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by Schedule 12A to the Act.

22 Staffing Matter

The Chief Executive sought approval for a staffing matter.

Resolved:

That the recommendations set out in the report of the Chief Executive, together with the additional recommendation (c) be approved.

23 Exempt extract of the Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Board held on 10 June 2025.

The exempt extract of the Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Board held on 10 June 2025, copies having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

D Wright
CHAIRMAN