



St Edmundsbury
BOROUGH COUNCIL

B195

Cabinet

15 September 2010

Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: 8 September 2010

At this meeting the Committee also considered a paper concerning the impact of heavy snow on the Borough (review of response of Borough Council to severe winter weather 2009/2010), and a separate report appears on this Cabinet agenda.

- 1. Annual Report on the Impact of the West Suffolk Local Strategic Partnership and Community Strategy**
 - 1.1 The Committee receives an annual report on the work of the West Suffolk Local Strategic Partnership (WSLSP) and its Community Strategy in September each year, followed by a six month update at its March meeting. The Committee is responsible for monitoring the Community Strategy and the development of the Partnership, and this annual report gave an update on the projects being run by the Partnership, and developments since the last report, including the recruitment of a new LSP Manager, and initial work to update the Community Strategy being accepted by the LSP Board.
 - 1.2 Members were pleased to welcome to the meeting representatives from AFC Sudbury and Young People Afloat, who made presentations to the Committee on the development of these projects. AFC Sudbury was the biggest voluntary organisation in Sudbury, with 253 young people on its register, plus another 40 who received free coaching. Young People Afloat had been in existence for 25 years, and had recently benefited from a grant from the LSP which enabled it to purchase 6 new boats, which had made a big impact on the project.
 - 1.3 The Committee was very impressed with the number of projects being undertaken, and the difference which the LSP funding made to them. The next allocations of Performance Reward Grant of £720,000 will shortly be considered by the LSP Board, and a report will be brought to the Committee as part of its six monthly update in March 2011.
- 2. Update on Section 106 matters in St Edmundsbury**
 - 2.1 Following a review of the Council's Section 106 approach in 2007, and updates received by the Committee in November 2008 and July 2010, Members had requested a further update on what funding had been received and how it had been used within the Borough.

- 2.2 The report provided a list of the Section 106 obligations that were currently being monitored, that related to planning permissions which had been implemented, so had become "live" obligations. The various schemes which initiated the original Section 106 requirement were also listed, as well as the variety of financial contributions that they had resulted in.
- 2.3 The report also confirmed that Section 106 financial contributions could only be put to the purpose for which they were originally sought, and not vired to any other purpose without the permission of the original parties and justification that the requirement met the original tests of relevant legislation.
- 2.4 Questions were raised on a number of the schemes in the report, and a discussion took place on rural bus services. The Committee wished to know how Suffolk County Council had spent Section 106 monies linked to public transport improvements, and suggested that this information be added to a report which Policy Development Committee was expecting regarding bus services to Clare, and copied to this Committee.

3. Work Programme

- 3.1 The Committee considered the current position of the 2010/2011 work programme, including an early indication of the topics expected at the Committee's next meeting on 17 November 2010.
- 3.2 A discussion took place under this item with regard to the Council's policy on carrying out works to trees. Members asked whether the procedures for planning and budgeting landscaping works should be investigated, and requested a review to be added to their work programme for this year.

4. Cabinet Forward Plan: September to December 2010

- 4.1 The Committee examined the Cabinet's Forward Plan of Key Decisions for the period September to December 2010, and discussed some of the expected reports, but did not request any involvement at this time.

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