

West Suffolk Joint Growth Steering Group

Forest Heath & St Edmundsbury councils



West Suffolk
working together

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| Title: | Agenda | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Date: | Tuesday 28 March 2017 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Time: | 10.00 am | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Venue: | Conference Chamber (West) (F1R09) West Suffolk House Western Way Bury St Edmunds | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Full Members: | <p style="text-align: center;">Chairman David Bowman</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vice Chairman Alaric Pugh</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;"></td> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;"><u>Forest Heath District Council</u></td> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;"><u>St Edmundsbury Borough Council</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>Conservative Group Members (9)</u></td> <td>Chris Barker David Bowman Ruth Bowman Rona Burt</td> <td>Alaric Pugh David Roach Angela Rushen Peter Thompson Jim Thorndyke</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>UKIP Group Members (2)</u></td> <td>Reg Silvester</td> <td>John Burns</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>West Suffolk Independent Group Member (1)</u></td> <td>David Palmer</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> | | | | <u>Forest Heath District Council</u> | <u>St Edmundsbury Borough Council</u> | <u>Conservative Group Members (9)</u> | Chris Barker David Bowman Ruth Bowman Rona Burt | Alaric Pugh David Roach Angela Rushen Peter Thompson Jim Thorndyke | <u>UKIP Group Members (2)</u> | Reg Silvester | John Burns | <u>West Suffolk Independent Group Member (1)</u> | David Palmer | |
| | <u>Forest Heath District Council</u> | <u>St Edmundsbury Borough Council</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>Conservative Group Members (9)</u> | Chris Barker David Bowman Ruth Bowman Rona Burt | Alaric Pugh David Roach Angela Rushen Peter Thompson Jim Thorndyke | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>UKIP Group Members (2)</u> | Reg Silvester | John Burns | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>West Suffolk Independent Group Member (1)</u> | David Palmer | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Substitutes: | <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;"><u>Conservative Members (2)</u></td> <td style="width: 33%;">Colin Noble</td> <td style="width: 33%;">Sara Mildmay-White</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>West Suffolk Independent Member (1)</u></td> <td>Simon Cole</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> | | | <u>Conservative Members (2)</u> | Colin Noble | Sara Mildmay-White | <u>West Suffolk Independent Member (1)</u> | Simon Cole | | | | | | | |
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| <u>West Suffolk Independent Member (1)</u> | Simon Cole | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Interests – Declaration and Restriction on Participation: | Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest not entered in the Authority's register or local non pecuniary interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda (subject to the exception for sensitive information) and to leave the meeting prior to discussion and voting on an item in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Quorum: | Three Members from each Council | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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|---------------------------------|---|
| Committee administrator: | Sharon Turner Democratic Services Officer (Cabinet) Tel: 01638 719237 Email: sharon.turner@westsuffolk.gov.uk |
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Public Information

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|--|---|---|--|---|
| Venue: | Conference Chamber (West) (F1R09) West Suffolk House Western Way Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP33 3YU | Tel: 01638 719000 Email: democratic.services@westsuffolk.gov.uk Web: www.westsuffolk.gov.uk | | |
| Access to agenda and reports before the meeting: | Copies of the agenda and reports are open for public inspection at the following addresses: <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"> District Offices College Heath Road Mildenhall Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP28 7EY </td> <td style="width: 50%;"> West Suffolk House Western Way Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP33 3YU </td> </tr> </table> | | District Offices College Heath Road Mildenhall Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP28 7EY | West Suffolk House Western Way Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP33 3YU |
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| Attendance at meetings: | Both Forest Heath and St Edmundsbury Councils actively welcomes members of the public and the press to attend its meetings and holds as many of its meetings as possible in public. | | | |
| Public speaking: | There is no provision for members of the public to ask questions or make statements during the West Suffolk Joint Growth Steering Group meetings. | | | |
| Disabled access: | West Suffolk House has facilities for people with mobility impairments including a lift and wheelchair accessible WCs. However, in the event of an emergency, use of the lift is restricted for health and safety reasons. Visitor parking is at the car park at the front of the building and there are a number of accessible spaces. | | | |
| Induction loop: | An Induction loop is available for meetings held in the Conference Chamber. | | | |
| Recording of meetings: | The Council may record this meeting and permits members of the public and media to record or broadcast it as well (when the media and public are not lawfully excluded). Any member of the public who attends a meeting and objects to being filmed should advise the Committee Administrator who will instruct that they are not included in the filming. | | | |

Agenda

Procedural Matters

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Substitutes

3. Minutes

1 - 6

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 21 February 2017 (copy attached).

Part 1 - Public

4. Housing White Paper: 'Fixing our Broken Housing Market' (Presentation)

To receive a further update on the likely effect of the White Paper on the West Suffolk Councils

5. Britain's Industrial Strategy Green Paper (Presentation)

To receive a briefing on the Green Paper published by the Government on 23 January 2017. This Paper sets out the Government's plans and strategy for supporting Britain's industrial sectors, improving productivity, driving growth across the country and making British business more competitive. The Strategy is made up of 10 pillars which draw together in one place, a range of new and existing policy and related funding.

6. Monitoring Delivery of the West Suffolk Six Point Plan for Jobs and Growth (Presentation)

To receive a review of the delivery of the Plan

7. Suffolk Skills and Employment Programme (Presentation)

To receive an update following on from the presentation made by Judith Mobbs, Assistant Director Inclusion and Skills, Suffolk County Council, at the meeting of the Steering Group on 21 February 2017

8. Local Economic Partnerships: Strategic Economic Plan Reviews (Presentation)

To receive an update on the progress with these reviews

9. Work Programme 2017/2018

7 - 10

Report No: **JGG/JT/17/001**

10. Dates of Future Meetings

To note the dates of future meetings as follows (all to be held at 10.00 am):

Tuesday 6 June 2017 District Offices, Mildenhall

Tuesday 31 October 2017 West Suffolk House,
Bury St Edmunds

Tuesday 20 February 2017 District Offices, Mildenhall

Additional meetings of the Steering Group can also be arranged as and when deemed required.

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West Suffolk Joint Growth Steering Group



Minutes of a meeting of the **West Suffolk Joint Growth Steering Group** held on **Tuesday 21 February 2017** at **10.00 am** at the **Conference Chamber, West Suffolk House**, Western Way, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 3YU

Present: **Councillors**

Chairman David Bowman
Vice Chairman Alaric Pugh

Forest Heath District Council

Chris Barker
Ruth Bowman
Rona Burt
David Palmer
Reg Silvester

St Edmundsbury Borough Council

John Burns
Angela Rushen
David Roach
Peter Thompson
Jim Thorndyke

39. **Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

40. **Substitutes**

There were no substitutes present at the meeting.

41. **Minutes**

The minutes from the meeting held on 29 November 2016 were received and confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

42. **Suffolk Skills and Employment Programme - Update**

Judith Mobbs, Assistant Director Inclusion and Skills, Suffolk County Council, was in attendance to present her report (which had been circulated with the agenda papers) which highlighted the main developments within the Suffolk Skills and Employment Programme over recent months.

Members then asked questions of Judith in which responses were duly provided, which centred around the areas of:

- The processes in place for the development of the skills of young offenders.
- The available opportunities for young people in the west of the county, particularly within Haverhill.
- The effectiveness of the interface with businesses in developing skills of young people and the incentivisation to employ young people.
- The Programme needed to be more 'place specific'.

- The possibility of the development of a business plan for the establishment of a 'MyGo' service offer in the west of the county.
- The pace of some initiatives needed to be increased.
- The encouragement of higher skilled employment within West Suffolk, particularly within Brandon.

Judith also offered to come back to the Steering Group, in approximately two months time, with a position paper on the young people unemployment position within West Suffolk and to further explore the development of an offer for these young people.

It was

RESOLVED:

That:-

1. A paper be brought back to the next meeting of the Steering Group which covered the points which had been raised at this meeting, to see how some of the initiatives could be moved forward in West Suffolk.
2. Consideration also be given to the offer made by Judith in relation to coming back to the Steering Group, in approximately two months time, with a position paper on the young people unemployment position within West Suffolk and to further explore the development of an offer for these young people.

(Councillor Peter Thompson joined the meeting at 10.10 am, during the discussion of this item)

43. Housing White Paper: 'Fixing Our Broken Housing Market'

The Service Manager (Planning Strategy) presented this item which explained that on 7 February 2017, the Government had published the Housing White Paper: 'Fixing our Broken Housing Market'. The White Paper set out a broad range of improvements that the Government planned to introduce to help reform the housing market and increase the supply of new homes.

In order to implement the vision set out in the White Paper, the Government was consulting on a range of changes to planning policy and legislation needed to implement the proposals. Officers from Forest Heath and St Edmundsbury Councils were considering the strategic and operational impact of the proposals and would be responding to the consultation accordingly, which closed on 2 May 2017.

Alongside the White Paper, the Government had also published a number of responses to outstanding consultations and Select Committee reports. A new consultation on planning and affordable housing for build-to-rent had been published and the Government had also published the report submitted by the Community Infrastructure Review Group.

The briefing note, which had been circulated with the agenda papers, also provided an outline of the key objectives and actions from the White Paper.

Members then discussed the content of the briefing paper and asked questions of the Officer, in which responses were duly provided.

It was

RESOLVED:

That:-

1. A further paper be brought back to the Steering Group which outlined how the improvements proposed by the Housing White Paper to reform the housing market and increase the supply of new homes could directly affect Forest Heath and St Edmundsbury Councils.
2. As soon as was deemed appropriate, a Member Development Session also be arranged so that all Members could be briefed on the content of the Housing White Paper.

(Councillors Jim Thorndyke and Angela Rushen left the meeting at 11.35 am, during the discussion of this item)

44. Suffolk Planning and Infrastructure Framework (SPIF) - Update

The Service Manager (Economic Development and Growth) provided a presentation to the Steering Group on the work which was starting to be undertaken on the planning and delivering of economic growth in Suffolk.

The Officer particularly referred to the Strategic Planning and Infrastructure Framework (SPIF) which was the cross-county spatial framework to deliver the Suffolk economic vision for 2050. The SPIF would particularly focus on:

- Achieving the housing delivery targets put forward in Suffolk
- The scale, location and nature of economic and employment growth and what was needed to ensure that this growth happened
- The development of Ipswich as a driving force for the county's competitiveness and future prosperity
- An understanding of the impact that arose from different patterns of growth (eg congestion on transportation corridors) and the investment needed to mitigate these impacts.

The internal management and governance of the SPIF was via a client team, which consisted of one lead from each Suffolk authority and from county transport, with a project manager. Monthly updates were provided to the Suffolk Growth Programme Board (SGPB) (formerly the Suffolk Growth Group). Monthly updates were also provided to the SPIF Member Working Group, which was chaired by Councillor David Ellesmere, Leader of Ipswich Borough Council. The Suffolk Public Sector Leaders had also received reports in November 2016 and February 2017.

The Officer outlined the progress made on the development of the SPIF to-date, which included:

- engagement with private sector/LEP/businesses
- extensive programme of stakeholder meetings underway
- development of growth scenarios

- future launch of an on-line questionnaire
- continued engagement with local planning and economic development teams
- workshops to be held on Ipswich as a centre of growth and developer engagement

It was the intention for the SPIF to be finalised in late Spring 2017, with consideration also being given as to how the framework would then be formally adopted within the county.

Councillor Alaric Pugh also explained that as the work on the SPIF progressed, more information would be available and Members would also be engaged more widely.

With there being no decision required, the Steering Group **noted** the presentation.

45. **Bury St Edmunds Town Centre Masterplan - Update**

The Steering Group received a presentation on the forthcoming public engagement on the Bury St Edmunds Town Centre Masterplan.

The Masterplan was a project to shape the future of the Town Centre so that it worked for people. It was not just about ensuring that it continued to attract shoppers and visitors, but also that it was accessible and a place where people could live and work.

From 27 February to 21 April 2017, there would be a public engagement campaign to get people's views on what the issues and options were for the Town Centre. The Issues and Options covered the following eight objectives:

- Objective 1: Accommodating and supporting growth
- Objective 2: Maintaining a strong, historic heart for Bury St Edmunds
- Objective 3: Identifying an arc of opportunity
- Objective 4: Supporting thriving mixed-use neighbourhoods
- Objective 5: Providing welcoming gateways and approaches
- Objective 6: Encouraging vibrant, well-designed streets and spaces
- Objective 7: Managing and enabling accessibility for all
- Objective 8: Capitalising on green and blue spaces

The venues for the public engagement events had been confirmed so far as:

| | | |
|---------------|--------------|--------------------------------|
| 8 March 2017 | 8am to 3 pm | Bury St Edmunds Market |
| 8 March 2017 | 6pm to 8 pm | The Apex |
| 9 March 2017 | 10am to 5 pm | Tesco, Bury St Edmunds |
| 17 March 2017 | 10am to 5 pm | Sainsbury's, Bury St Edmunds |
| 24 March 2017 | 10am to 5 pm | Waitrose, Bury St Edmunds |
| 7 April 2017 | 10am to 5 pm | Bury St Edmunds Leisure Centre |
| 8 April 2017 | 8am to 3 pm | Bury St Edmunds Market |

The Issues and Options report and associated documents would also be available on the Council's website and hard copies/information leaflets would be made available at various locations in Bury St Edmunds. Councillor John Burns also requested for this information to also be made available at various

locations within Haverhill. Officers agreed to ensure that this was undertaken.

Once the engagement period had ended, analysis would then be undertaken to achieve a viable, realistic and deliverable Masterplan. A further draft Masterplan public engagement would then be undertaken in Summer 2017, so that the Plan could be finalised in Autumn 2017 and adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document in Winter 2017.

Councillor Alaric Pugh also explained that engagement would also be undertaken with neighbouring areas, including the Forest Heath District Council Members.

The Steering Group recognised the importance of the development and adoption of Masterplans and that this should be considered for the Forest Heath district, particularly for the towns of Brandon, Mildenhall and Newmarket.

With there being no decision required, the Steering Group **noted** the presentation.

46. Work Programme 2017/2018 - Update

The Service Manager (Economic Development and Growth) provided an update on the proposed items which were to be presented to the Steering Group during the period 2017/2018.

The Officer also confirmed that it was intended, at the next meeting, to include the proposed Work Programme for 2017/2018 for the consideration of the Steering Group.

With there being no decision required, the Steering Group **noted** the update.

47. Date of Next Meeting

The Service Manager (Economic Development and Growth) explained that due to the number of items due to be considered by the Steering Group, it was being proposed for an additional meeting to be held in March/April 2017, with a date and venue being notified as soon as possible.

With there being no decision required, the Steering Group **noted** the requirement for an additional meeting to be held in March/April 2017.

The Meeting concluded at 12.40 pm

Signed by:

Chairman

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West Suffolk Joint Growth Steering Group



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|---|--|---|
| Title of Report: | Work Programme 2017/2018 | |
| Report No: | JGG/JT/17/001 | |
| Report to and date: | West Suffolk Joint Growth Steering Group | 28 March 2017 |
| Chairman/ Vice Chairman of the Steering Group: | David Bowman Chairman Tel: 07711 593737 Email: david.bowman@forest-heath.gov.uk | Alaric Pugh Vice Chairman Tel: 07930 460899 Email: alaric.pugh@stedsbcc.gov.uk |
| Lead officer: | Andrea Mayley Service Manager (Economic Development and Growth) Tel: 01284 757343 Email: andrea.mayley@westsuffolk.gov.uk | |
| Purpose of report: | To update the Steering Group on the current status of its Work Programme for 2017/2018 as set out in Appendix 1. | |
| Recommendation: | It is <u>RECOMMENDED</u> that, Members note the current status of the work programme for 2017/2018, as set out in Appendix 1 to Report No: JGG/JT/17/000. | |
| Documents attached: | Appendix 1 – Work Programme 2017/2018 | |

1. Key issues and reasons for recommendation(s)

1.1 Work Programme 2017/2018

1.1.1 The West Suffolk Joint Growth Steering Group has a work programme for 2017/2018, whereby suggestions for consideration can be raised, and if accepted, timetabled to report to a future meeting.

1.1.2 The current position of the Work Programme for 2017/2018 is attached at Appendix 1 for information.

West Suffolk Joint Growth Steering Group

Work Programme 2017/2018

| Date of Meeting/ Topic | Lead Officer(s) / Member(s) | Details |
|--|---|---|
| Tue 6 June 2017 (Venue: (FHDC)) | | |
| Developer Relationships <i>(marketing opportunities, grant funding arrangements etc..)</i> | Acting Head of Planning Acting Head of Regulatory Services | To promote possible opportunities in this area |
| Assistant Director (Growth) | Cllr Alaric Pugh | To receive a presentation on the role as Assistant Director (Growth) |
| Destination Management Organisation (DMO) | Service Manager (Economic Development and Growth) Senior Growth Officer | To receive an update |
| Road Investment Strategy (RIS2) | Service Manager (Economic Development and Growth) Principal Growth Officer | To receive an update from Suffolk County Council Highways in relation to the feasibility work for the A11 (Fiveways), A14 junctions 37, 43, 44. |
| Transport Infrastructure for West Suffolk | Service Manager (Economic Development and Growth) Principal Growth Officer | General update on the requirements for West Suffolk |

| Date of Meeting/ Topic | Lead Officer(s)/Member(s) | Details |
|--|---|--|
| Tue 31 October 2017 (Venue: (SEBC)) | | |
| Cambridge to Norwich Technology Corridor | Service Manager (Economic Development and Growth) Principal Growth Officer | To receive an update on the project |
| Screen Suffolk | Service Manager (Economic Development and Growth) Senior Growth Officer | To receive an update |
| TechEast | Service Manager (Economic Development and Growth) Principal Growth Officer | To receive an update on progress, following presentation to Steering Group on 29 November 2016 |
| West Suffolk Local Plan <i>(may be delayed until February 2018, dependent upon FHDC Local Plan adoption)</i> | Service Manager (Planning Strategy) | To receive initial proposals for the production of a West Suffolk Local Plan |
| Haverhill Masterplan | Service Manager (Economic Development and Growth) Principal Growth Officer | To receive an update on the delivery of the Masterplan |

| Date of Meeting/ Topic | Lead Officer(s)/Member(s) | Details |
|--|--|---|
| Tue 20 February 2018 (Venue: (FHDC)) | | |
| West Suffolk Local Plan <i>(may be delayed from October 2017, dependent upon FHDC Local Plan adoption)</i> | Service Manager (Planning Strategy) | To receive initial proposals for the production of a West Suffolk Local Plan |
| RAF Mildenhall/ RAF Lakenheath | Service Manager (Planning Strategy) | To receive an update on progress |