



# Forest Heath District Council

## Cabinet Decisions Notice

(Published: Thursday 26 October 2017)

The following decisions were taken by the Cabinet on **Tuesday 24 October 2017** and, if not called in by Councillors, will come into operation on Friday 3 November 2017. This procedure does not however, apply to decisions that have been recommended to Council for a final decision (and which are also indicated within the decisions below). An executive decision may be called in, in accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rules contained within Part 4 of the Council's Constitution, by at least five Councillors submitting the required call-in request form to the Assistant Director (HR, Legal and Democratic Services) (e-mail: [democratic.services@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@westsuffolk.gov.uk)) by **5.00 pm on Thursday 2 November 2017**.

Should you have a query regarding any of the decisions taken, contact should be made with the named officer in the first instance, either on the telephone number listed against their name, or via email using the format [firstname.surname@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:firstname.surname@westsuffolk.gov.uk). Alternatively, you may also contact the relevant Portfolio Holder on the telephone number listed against their name, or via email using the format [firstname.surname@forest-heath.gov.uk](mailto:firstname.surname@forest-heath.gov.uk). Contact may also be made via Democratic Services, Forest Heath District Council, District Offices, College Heath Road, Mildenhall, Suffolk, IP28 7EY

Agenda Item and Report No.	Declarations of Interest/Dispensations Granted	Decision(s) (including recommendations to Council)	Reason(s) for Decision(s)	Other Options Considered and Reasons for Rejection	Contacts
Item No. 5 CAB/FH/17/047	None	<u>Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: 14 September 2017</u>  RESOLVED:  That the contents of Report No: CAB/FH/17/047, being the report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, be noted.	The report set out the decisions which had been made by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at their meeting on 14 September 2017.	The Overview and Scrutiny Committee had considered the options in detail at their meeting on 14 September 2017.	<u>Chairman of Committee:</u> Cllr Simon Cole 07974 443762  <u>Officer:</u> Christine Brain Democratic Services Officer (Scrutiny) 01638 719729

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Item No. 6 CAB/FH/17/048	None	<p><u>Report of the Anglia Revenues and Benefits Partnership Joint Committee: 26 September 2017</u></p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the contents of Report No: CAB/FH/17/048, being the report of the Anglia Revenues and Benefits Partnership Joint Committee, be noted.</p>	The report set out the decisions which had been made by the Anglia Revenues and Benefits Partnership Joint Committee at their meeting on 26 September 2017.	The Anglia Revenues and Benefits Partnership Joint Committee considered the options in detail at their meeting on 26 September 2017.	<p><u>Portfolio Holder:</u> Cllr Stephen Edwards 07904 389982</p> <p><u>Officer:</u> Jill Korwin Director 01284 757252</p>
Item No. 7 CAB/FH/17/049	None	<p><u>Report of the Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committee: 21 September 2017</u></p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the contents of Report No: CAB/FH/17/049, being the report of the Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committee, be noted.</p>	The report set out the decisions which had been made by the Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committee at their meeting on 21 September 2017.	The Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committee had considered the options in detail at their meeting on 21 September 2017.	<p><u>Chairman of Committee:</u> Cllr Louis Busuttil 01799 530325</p> <p><u>Officer:</u> Christine Brain Democratic Services Officer (Scrutiny) 01638 719729</p>

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Item No. 8 CAB/FH/17/050	None	<p><u>Recommendations of Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committee: 21 September 2017 - West Suffolk Local Code of Corporate Governance</u></p> <p>RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL: (20 December 2017)</p> <p>That, the West Suffolk Local Code of Corporate Governance, attached as Appendix A to Report No: PAS/FH/17/025, be approved.</p>	<p>In 2016, the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA)/Solace had updated their guidance, which strongly advocated the production of local Codes of Corporate Governance by local authorities so that they could review and account for their own individual arrangements to effectively discharge their functions and demonstrate their own compliance with good practice.</p> <p>In light of this, St Edmundsbury Borough and Forest Heath District Councils (the West Suffolk Councils) had taken the opportunity to review their Code which was last produced jointly in 2013.</p>	<p>Not to adopt a revised Code of Corporate Governance. However, it was last reviewed in 2013. The current document had been developed on behalf of both West Suffolk Councils to adopted in line with the CIPFA Code of Practice to ensure it was effective, transparent and relevant.</p>	<p><u>Portfolio Holder:</u> Cllr Stephen Edwards 01799 530325</p> <p><u>Officer:</u> Rachael Mann Assistant Director (Resources and Performance) 01638 719245</p>
Item No. 9 CAB/FH/17/051	None	<p><u>Report of the West Suffolk Joint Growth Steering Group: 9 October 2017</u></p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the contents of Report No: CAB/FH/17/051, being the report of the West Suffolk Joint Growth Steering Group, be noted.</p>	<p>The report set out the actions which had been recommended by the West Suffolk Joint Growth Steering Group at their meeting on 9 October 2017.</p>	<p>The West Suffolk Joint Growth Steering Group had considered the options in detail at their meeting on 9 October 2017.</p>	<p><u>Portfolio Holder:</u> Cllr Lance Stanbury 07970 947704</p> <p><u>Officer:</u> Julie Baird Assistant Director (Growth) 01284 757613</p>

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Item No. 10 CAB/FH/17/052	None	<p><u>First Year Review of Performance of the Council's Solar Farm and Future of its Wholly Owned Company Greenheath Energy Ltd</u></p> <p>RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL: (20 December 2017)</p> <p>That:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The first year review of performance of the Council's Solar Farm be noted.</li> <li>2. Forest Heath District Council, as the shareholder of Greenheath Energy Ltd, agree to the small company audit exemption being applied and the Council to give financial guarantee over Greenheath Energy Ltd.</li> <li>3. Forest Heath District Council, as the shareholder of Greenheath Energy Ltd, support the Directors to apply to strike off Greenheath Energy Ltd on their behalf.</li> </ol>	<p>In relation to the first year performance, overall, the site had outperformed the modelled performance data for this period. This had resulted in a net benefit of £308,000 (compared to a predicted £300,000 net benefit) to be reinvested into the delivery of much valued district wide services.</p> <p>As a standalone company, Greenheath Energy Ltd, would be subject to the small company exemption from an external audit, as whilst they had the intercompany asset balance, their turnover was less than £10m and they had less than 10 employees (they had no employees). Therefore, to allow Greenheath Energy to continue to be entitled to the small company audit exemption and in line with the Directors' proposals and having consulted with the Council's Section 151 Officer and Monitoring Officer, it was proposed that the Council, as the shareholder, agreed to the small company audit exemption being applied and</p>	<p>The Company could continue to be in existence, however, it was likely to remain dormant and would continue to demand support of its Directors and Officers through the filing of accounts, returns and inclusion in the Council's own Statement of Accounts.</p>	<p><u>Portfolio Holder:</u> Cllr Stephen Edwards 01799 530325</p> <p><u>Officer:</u> Rachael Mann Assistant Director (Resources and Performance) 01638 719245</p>

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			<p>the Council to give financial guarantee over Greenheath Energy Ltd and its liabilities.</p> <p>The solar farm now sat within the direct control of the Council, Greenheath Energy Ltd was not actively trading. Legal advice had been sought on the options for Greenheath Energy Ltd and, therefore, based on the advice received and the work undertaken to ensure that there were no residual liabilities sitting within the company, the Directors recommended that they applied to strike off the company on the shareholders' behalf, once the intercompany loan had been removed and any residual proceeds, assets or liabilities were transferred to the Council.</p>		
<p>Item No. 11 CAB/FH/17/053</p>	<p>None</p>	<p><u>Norfolk and Suffolk Economic Strategy</u></p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Norfolk and Suffolk Economic Strategy be endorsed, as contained in Appendix A to Report No:</li> </ol>	<p>The development of a new Norfolk and Suffolk Economic Strategy had been overseen by all local authorities Leaders, the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership (NALEP) Board, sector leaders and college and university leaders. It provided a clear and comprehensive framework for the next steps</p>	<p>The alternative option was to not endorse the document and to prepare an economic strategy for West Suffolk in isolation. It was considered that the development</p>	<p><u>Portfolio Holder:</u> Cllr Lance Stanbury 07970 947704</p> <p><u>Officer:</u> Andrea Mayley Service Manager</p>

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		<p>CAB/FH/17/053, as guidance to support the strategy for growth in West Suffolk.</p> <p>2. The next steps to the delivery of outcomes for West Suffolk communities be agreed, as set out in Section 3 of Report No: CAB/FH/17/053.</p>	<p>towards delivery.</p> <p>A range of implications for West Suffolk had been identified within the context of the Strategy and the West Suffolk councils would work with NALEP and a list of other partners to ensure that our communities benefitted from appropriate growth across the themes of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Digital connectivity</li> <li>- Skills and inclusion</li> <li>- Inward investment</li> <li>- Appropriate investment in road and rail</li> <li>- Sector development (to include advanced agriculture, food and drink; ICT tech and digital creative; visitor economy tourism and culture; and advanced manufacturing and engineering)</li> </ul>	<p>of the West Suffolk approach to economic development was best set in the context of the region. The partnership approach provided opportunities for collaboration and regional promotion that wouldn't be available if a West Suffolk strategy were prepared in isolation.</p>	<p>(Economic Development and Growth) 01284 757343</p>

Karen Points  
Assistant Director (HR, Legal and Democratic Services)  
26 October 2017