

**West Suffolk Shadow Council**  
**West Suffolk Shadow Executive (Cabinet) Decisions Notice**  
**(Published: Thursday 20 September 2018)**



The following decisions were taken by the Shadow Executive (Cabinet) on **Tuesday 18 September 2018** and, if not called in by Councillors, will come into operation on Friday 28 September 2018. This procedure does not however, apply to decisions that have been recommended to Shadow Council for a final decision (and which are also indicated within the decisions below). A shadow executive decision may be called in, in accordance with the Shadow Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rules contained within Part 4 of the Shadow Council's Constitution, by any ten Councillors of the Shadow Council 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 27 September 2018.**

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 Shadow Executive Member on the telephone number listed against their name, or via email using the format [firstname.surname@stedsbc.gov.uk](mailto:firstname.surname@stedsbc.gov.uk) or [firstname.surname@forest-heath.gov.uk](mailto:firstname.surname@forest-heath.gov.uk) Contact may also be made via Democratic Services, West Suffolk House, Western Way, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk, IP33 3YU

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. 6 EXC/SA/18/009	None	<p><u>Recommendations of the Forest Heath and St Edmundsbury Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committees: 25 July 2018: Arrangements for Appointment of External Auditors for the West Suffolk Council and West Suffolk Shadow Authority</u></p> <p>RECOMMENDED TO SHADOW COUNCIL (25 September 2018):</p> <p><u>West Suffolk Council</u></p> <p>(1) Option 3, to 'opt-in' to the sector led body (Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited) for the</p>	<p>The new West Suffolk Council is required to confirm its external audit arrangements to appoint a local auditor to audit its accounts for 2019/2020. Forest Heath District and St Edmundsbury Borough Councils had previously in 2016, agreed to 'opt-in' to the Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA) audit arrangements; however, as these arrangements cannot transition across to West Suffolk Council, the Shadow Executive (Cabinets) has recommended to the Shadow Council that it is a sensible</p>	<p><u>West Suffolk Council</u></p> <p>Each of the three auditing arrangement options for West Suffolk Council (WSC) were considered by the Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committees (PASC), as detailed in Report Nos: PAS/SE/18/025 and PAS/FH/18/024; however, as recommended by the</p>	<p><u>Shadow Executive Members:</u>            Cllr Stephen Edwards (FHDC) 07904 389982</p> <p>Cllr Ian Houlder (SEBC) 07970 729435</p> <p><u>Officer:</u>            Greg Stevenson Service Manager (Finance and Resources)</p>

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		<p>independent appointment of the Council's External Auditor, beginning with responsibilities for the financial year 2019-2020, as set out in Report Nos: PAS/SE/18/025 and PAS/FH/18/024, be approved.</p> <p><u>West Suffolk Shadow Authority</u></p> <p>(2) Agreement be given for the External Audit of the West Suffolk Shadow Authority Accounts to be prepared under the Smaller Authority audit procedures, as set out in Attachment A of Report No: EXC/SA/18/009; and</p> <p>(3) approval be given for the S151 Officer to write to the Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments (SAAA) informing them that the West Suffolk Shadow Authority would like to be treated as 'opted in' to the smaller authorities scheme and as such the auditor would be PKF Littlejohn (the appointees for Suffolk).</p>	<p>approach to reaffirm the Councils' present commitment to option 3, which is to 'opt-in' to the PSAA arrangements.</p> <p>The Shadow Executive has also agreed to recommend to the Shadow Council, the proposed arrangements for auditing the accounts of the West Suffolk Shadow Authority (WSSA), which again, is considered to be a sensible approach. The WSSA meets the criteria of a 'smaller authority' and following consideration of alternative options, opting-in to the Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments scheme, would be the most cost-efficient route whilst also providing a well-established audit regime.</p>	<p>PASCs, the Cabinets have agreed that the existing arrangements remain acceptable for WSC.</p> <p><u>West Suffolk Shadow Authority</u></p> <p>Alternative options were considered and rejected, as detailed in Attachment A to Report No: EXC/SA/18/009, which in summary would result in higher fees or not being compliant with legislation.</p>	01284 757264
Item No. 7 EXC/SA/18/010	None	<p><u>Transfer of Joint Policies to West Suffolk Council</u></p> <p>RECOMMENDED TO SHADOW COUNCIL (25 September 2018):</p>	<p>Whilst the consequential Order will effectively enable the transfer the existing joint policies, frameworks and guidance of Forest Heath District and St Edmundsbury Borough Councils to West Suffolk</p>	<p>The Shadow Authority could adopt each individual policy in turn, but this would take considerable time, as</p>	<p><u>Shadow Executive Members:</u> Cllr Ruth Bowman (FHDC) 07966 373063</p>

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		<p>That:</p> <p>(1) the <u>existing suite of joint policies</u> adopted by Forest Heath District and St Edmundsbury Borough Councils be transferred to West Suffolk Council, as detailed in paragraph 1.1.3 of Report No: EXC/SA/18/010;</p> <p>(2) delegated authority be given to Officers, in consultation with relevant Portfolio Holders, to make necessary minor drafting changes to <u>existing policies</u> and then agree them for West Suffolk Council, as detailed in paragraph 1.1.4; and</p> <p>(3) delegated authority be given to Officers, in consultation with relevant Portfolio Holders, to make necessary minor drafting changes and then agree the <u>additional joint policies that are adopted</u> by Forest Heath District and St Edmundsbury Borough Councils between September 2018 and March 2019, as detailed in paragraph 1.1.4 and 1.1.5.</p>	<p>Council, best practice suggests that the Shadow Authority should proactively consider and confirm its support to the process being followed, as set out in the recommendations. The Shadow Executive (Cabinet) has agreed this is a sensible approach and has recommended the process to the Shadow Council accordingly.</p>	<p>the authority is required to ensure it gives due consideration to the policies, and is not necessary given the changes are technical or grammatical.</p>	<p>Cllr Carol Bull (SEBC) 07767 472419</p> <p><u>Officer:</u> Liz Barnard Service Manager (Corporate Policy) 01638 719454</p>

Jennifer Eves  
Assistant Director (Human Resources, Legal and Democratic Services)  
20 September 2018