

West Suffolk Council

Cabinet Decisions Notice

(Published: Thursday 10 November 2022)

The following decisions were taken by the Cabinet on Tuesday 8 November 2022 and, if not called in by councillors, will come into operation on Friday 18 November 2022. 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 Director (Human Resources, Governance and Regulatory) (e-mail: democratic.services@westsuffolk.gov.uk) **by 5.00 pm on Thursday 17 November 2022**. Should you have a query regarding any of the decisions taken, contact should be made with the named officer in the first instance, the relevant portfolio holder or via Democratic Services, West Suffolk Council, West Suffolk House, Western Way, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk, IP33 3YU.

Agenda item and report number	Declarations of interest	Decision(s) (including recommendations to Council)	Reason(s) for decision(s)	Other options considered and reasons for rejection	Contacts
Item 6 CAB/WS/22/056	In the interests of openness and transparency, Cllrs Drummond, Everitt and Roach declared that they were members of Suffolk County Council. All remained in	Land to the West of Mildenhall: Masterplan Resolved: That the West Mildenhall Masterplan, as contained in Appendix A to Report number: CAB/WS/22/056, be adopted as planning guidance.	While the principle of development was established at the point at which the site was allocated for development in the adopted Site Allocations Local Plan (2019), the purpose of a masterplan, which has been out for consultation, is to put in place a framework against which future planning applications can be assessed and provide a clear vision as to the nature of the development that will come	Policy SA4(a) of the Site Allocations Local Plan (SALP) 2019 states that the precise numbers and distribution of uses and access arrangements will be informed by a detailed	Portfolio holder: David Roach 01440 768966 Officer: Julie Baird Director (Planning and Growth) 01284 757613

Agenda item and report number	Declarations of interest	Decision(s) (including recommendations to Council)	Reason(s) for decision(s)	Other options considered and reasons for rejection	Contacts
	the meeting and voted on the item.		<p>forward to fulfil the policy allocation.</p> <p>Following a review of the consultation responses and updated masterplan officers identified three key areas where further engagement with Suffolk County Council, as the majority landowner, was necessary. These related to land ownership, the timing of the delivery of the five hectares of employment land required by the policy allocation; the highway impacts of the future development and the need for highway mitigation measures to be implemented.</p> <p>Having considered the views and actions of officers in respect of addressing the above issues, as detailed in Report number: CAB/WS/22/056, and the views of the local ward members and stakeholders, the Cabinet considers the</p>	<p>masterplan for the site. It goes on to state that applications for planning permission will only be determined once the masterplan for the whole site has been approved by the Local Planning Authority.</p> <p>In order to ensure that a comprehensive and policy compliant development comes forward on this allocated site it is necessary for a masterplan to be adopted as</p>	

Agenda item and report number	Declarations of interest	Decision(s) (including recommendations to Council)	Reason(s) for decision(s)	Other options considered and reasons for rejection	Contacts
			document provides a sound framework against which future planning applications can be assessed and has approved the adoption of the masterplan as planning guidance.	planning guidance, therefore other options regarding the potential development of the site have not been considered as part of this process.	
Item 7 CAB/WS/22/057	None	<p>Sunnica Energy Farm Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP): Written Representation</p> <p>Resolved: That:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Written Representation in connection with the Sunnica Energy Farm Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) proposals to be 	<p>A Written Representation (WR) is the most appropriate document for a local authority to set out its view on the application, i.e. whether or not it supports the application and its reasons.</p> <p>Section 2.3 of Report number: CAB/WS/22/057 summarises the views and concerns of the Council in response to the Sunnica Energy Farm NSIP proposals with the full WR attached as</p>	The Written Representation is one of the key documents prepared by the local authorities responsible for the area(s) in which the proposed development is located. The Examining Authority will take the	<p>Portfolio holder: David Roach 01440 768966</p> <p>Officer: Julie Baird Director (Planning and Growth) 01284 757613</p>

Agenda item and report number	Declarations of interest	Decision(s) (including recommendations to Council)	Reason(s) for decision(s)	Other options considered and reasons for rejection	Contacts
		<p>submitted to the Examining Authority (attached as Appendix 1 to Report number: CAB/WS/22/057), be endorsed.</p> <p>2. The Director (Planning and Growth), in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning, be authorised to make amendments to the Written Representation prior to its submission.</p> <p><i>(Due to ensuring the Written Representation is submitted by the required deadline of 11 November 2022, with the agreement of the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) Committee, the call-in procedure for this item has been suspended. The Chair of the O&S Committee was satisfied that the decision proposed was reasonable in all the circumstances and to it</i></p>	<p>Appendix 1.</p> <p>The Cabinet endorses the view that a Development Consent Order should not be granted in respect of the application for the development in its current form for the reasons provided in its WR.</p>	<p>contents of the Written Representation into account in its assessment of the application and its recommendation to the Secretary of State on whether Development Consent should be granted. If the Council do not submit a Written Representation the Examining Authority will not have the benefit of knowing that the Council does not support the proposed development in</p>	

Agenda item and report number	Declarations of interest	Decision(s) (including recommendations to Council)	Reason(s) for decision(s)	Other options considered and reasons for rejection	Contacts
		<i>being treated as a matter of urgency).</i>		its current form. Notwithstanding the above, the examination process is designed to thoroughly test the key issues that have arisen and the Council will have the opportunity to make its views known in other written and oral submissions.	
Item 8 CAB/WS/22/058	None	Street Lighting Resolved: That: 1. The results of the street lighting audit, be	Following an audit of street lighting in the district, which had resulted in different categorisations of engagement by parish and town councils depending on the circumstances within	While the council has no statutory obligation to maintain streetlights and is not required	Portfolio holder: Carol Bull 01953 681513 Officer: Alex Wilson

Agenda item and report number	Declarations of interest	Decision(s) (including recommendations to Council)	Reason(s) for decision(s)	Other options considered and reasons for rejection	Contacts
		<p>acknowledged.</p> <p>2. The issue of streetlight ownership be returned to as a part of the wider planned review of its relationship with town and parish councils in 2023, linking it to more holistic discussions around the management of the urban realm.</p> <p>3. The information gathered from the audit be shared with Suffolk County Council and officers be authorised to support parish and town councils in that dialogue.</p>	<p>their parishes regarding streetlight ownership, the Cabinet considers it prudent and acceptable to return to the issue of light ownership as a part of the wider planned review of its relationship with town and parish councils in 2023 across the entire district, linking it to more holistic discussions around the management of the urban realm.</p>	<p>to work with other local lighting authorities to review street lighting distribution and operation, it wishes to continue to support these important community facilities in the most efficient and appropriate manner for taxpayers across all three tiers of local government (also reflecting the proposed vision and guiding principles for the 2023 review of WSC's</p>	<p>Strategic Director 01284 757695</p>

Agenda item and report number	Declarations of interest	Decision(s) (including recommendations to Council)	Reason(s) for decision(s)	Other options considered and reasons for rejection	Contacts
				<p>relationship with town and parish councils).</p> <p>To take this work forward, the Cabinet wishes to engage with town and parish councils to gather information before forming proposals. Therefore, no alternative options have been considered at this stage.</p>	
<p>Item 9 CAB/WS/22/059</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural England Prosperity Fund</p> <p>Resolved: That:</p>	<p>On 26 July 2022, the Council approved and submitted its UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) investment plan to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and</p>	<p>West Suffolk Council could have taken an alternative approach to allocating Rural</p>	<p>Portfolio holders: John Griffiths 01284 757001</p> <p>Sarah</p>

Agenda item and report number	Declarations of interest	Decision(s) (including recommendations to Council)	Reason(s) for decision(s)	Other options considered and reasons for rejection	Contacts
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the implementation arrangements for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) Investment Plan (at Appendix A to Report number: CAB/WS/22/059), be approved, subject to funding being received from Government. 2. The West Suffolk Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF) investment allocations (at Appendix B to Report number: CAB/WS/22/059), be approved for submission to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). 3. It be agreed for officers to complete the full REPF Defra investment plan addendum template in line with the details contained in Report number: 	<p>Communities. The investment plan set out how West Suffolk proposed to spend its £1,943,467 against a selection of the Government's 41 'interventions'. The Cabinet is now supportive of the proposed plans for delivering the approved interventions in 2022-2023 and 2023-2024.</p> <p>The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has since announced a further fund, known as the Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF), or 'Rural Fund' as a top-up to UKSPF (covering the priorities of Communities and Place and Supporting Local Business only). West Suffolk's allocation is £753,701 (over the two years) and the funding can be used everywhere outside Bury St Edmunds.</p> <p>In a similar way to the</p>	<p>England Prosperity Fund funding, for example, allocating all the funding into grant pots for businesses and voluntary sector organisations. However, this would miss the opportunity to fund supporting infrastructure that can have a multiplier effect, supporting a wider range of businesses and communities.</p>	<p>Broughton 07929 305787</p> <p>Officer: Ian Gallin Chief Executive 01284 757001</p>

Agenda item and report number	Declarations of interest	Decision(s) (including recommendations to Council)	Reason(s) for decision(s)	Other options considered and reasons for rejection	Contacts
		<p>CAB/WS/22/059.</p> <p>4. Delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to make changes to the UKSPF implementation plans and the REPF investment plan addendum allocations, following input from the Local Partnership Group.</p> <p>5. Delegated authority be granted to the Portfolio Holder for Resources and Property to implement the approved REPF investment plan addendum once funding has been received from Defra, including implementing minor variations in the funding amounts for each intervention, in order to respond to changing circumstances over the lifetime of the Fund.</p>	<p>UKSPF, West Suffolk Council needs to submit to Government a plan for how the £753,701 will be allocated against a set of 'interventions'. As set out in Appendix B, the Cabinet agrees the proposed allocations aim to support West Suffolk's rural areas by building capacity and supporting the local economy and communities, in order to meet the Government's objectives contained in section 1.6 of Report number: CAB/WS/059.</p> <p>To ensure the process can continue in a timely manner, the Cabinet also agrees that certain matters should be resolved under delegated authority.</p>		

Agenda item and report number	Declarations of interest	Decision(s) (including recommendations to Council)	Reason(s) for decision(s)	Other options considered and reasons for rejection	Contacts
Item 10 CAB/WS/22/060	None	<p>West Suffolk Statement of Licensing Policy</p> <p>Recommended to Council (13 December 2022):</p> <p>That the revised West Suffolk Statement of Licensing Policy 2022 to 2027, as contained in Appendix B to Report number: CAB/WS/22/060, be adopted.</p>	<p>The Licensing Act 2002 requires a licensing authority to prepare and publish a statement of its licensing policy at least every five years. The policy must be kept under review during the five-year period and the licensing authority may make any revisions as it considers appropriate, such as those relating to feedback from the local community on whether the licensing objectives are being met, so it continues to be relevant and fit for purpose throughout the relevant time period.</p> <p>As set out in section 2 of Report number: CAB/WS/22/060, the proposed substantive changes to the Statement were minimal and they were primarily dictated by changes in guidance and legislation.</p> <p>Having noted the outcomes of the consultation on the</p>	<p>No alternative options have been considered because the council is statutorily obliged to publish a Statement of Licensing Policy, and to consult on that policy in a way that the council deems appropriate.</p>	<p>Portfolio holder: Andy Drummond 01638 751411</p> <p>Officer: Jen Eves Director (HR, Governance and Regulatory) 01284 757015</p>

Agenda item and report number	Declarations of interest	Decision(s) (including recommendations to Council)	Reason(s) for decision(s)	Other options considered and reasons for rejection	Contacts
			proposed revised policy, the Cabinet considers it acceptable to recommend adoption of the document to Council.		

Jennifer Eves
 Director (Human Resources, Governance and Regulatory)
 10 November 2022