

Overview and Scrutiny Committee



Title	Agenda																							
Date	Thursday 21 September 2023																							
Time	5.00 pm																							
Venue	Conference Chamber West Suffolk House Western Way Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP33 3YU																							
Full Members	<div>Chair Sarah Broughton</div> <div>Vice Chair Marion Rushbrook</div> <table><tr><td rowspan="4">Conservative Group (7)</td><td>Sarah Broughton</td><td>Marion Rushbrook</td></tr><tr><td>Susan Glossop</td><td>Andrew Smith</td></tr><tr><td>Beccy Hopfensperger</td><td>Andrew Speed</td></tr><tr><td>Birgitte Mager</td><td></td></tr><tr><td rowspan="2">Independents (4)</td><td>Tony Brown</td><td>Aaron Luccarini</td></tr><tr><td>Dawn Dicker</td><td>Don Waldron</td></tr><tr><td rowspan="3">Progressive Alliance Grouping (5)</td><td>Luke Halpin</td><td>Julia Wakelam</td></tr><tr><td>Rowena Lindberg</td><td>Kevin Yarrow</td></tr><tr><td>Andrew Martin</td><td></td></tr></table>			Conservative Group (7)	Sarah Broughton	Marion Rushbrook	Susan Glossop	Andrew Smith	Beccy Hopfensperger	Andrew Speed	Birgitte Mager		Independents (4)	Tony Brown	Aaron Luccarini	Dawn Dicker	Don Waldron	Progressive Alliance Grouping (5)	Luke Halpin	Julia Wakelam	Rowena Lindberg	Kevin Yarrow	Andrew Martin	
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Substitutes	<table><tr><td rowspan="2">Conservative Group (4)</td><td>Ian Houlder</td><td>Sara Mildmay-White</td></tr><tr><td>Margaret Marks</td><td>Joanna Rayner</td></tr><tr><td rowspan="2">Independents (2)</td><td>Michael Anderson</td><td>Tracy Whitehand</td></tr><tr><td>Pat Hanlon</td><td>Sue Perry</td></tr><tr><td rowspan="2">Progressive Alliance Grouping (2)</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td></tr></table>			Conservative Group (4)	Ian Houlder	Sara Mildmay-White	Margaret Marks	Joanna Rayner	Independents (2)	Michael Anderson	Tracy Whitehand	Pat Hanlon	Sue Perry	Progressive Alliance Grouping (2)										
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Interests – declaration and restriction on participation	Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest, other registerable or non-registerable interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda, no later than when that item is reached and, when appropriate, to leave the meeting prior to discussion and voting on the item.																							
Quorum	Six Members																							
Committee administrator	Christine Brain Democratic Services Officer (Scrutiny) Telephone 01638 719729 Email democratic.services@westsuffolk.gov.uk																							

Public information



Venue	Conference Chamber West Suffolk House Western Way Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP33 3YU
Contact information	Telephone: 01638 719729 Email: democratic.services@westsuffolk.gov.uk Website: www.westsuffolk.gov.uk
Access to agenda and reports before the meeting	The agenda and reports will be available to view at least five clear days before the meeting on our website.
Attendance at meetings	<p>This meeting is being held in person in order to comply with the Local Government Act 1972.</p> <p>Measures have been applied to ensure the health and safety for all persons present at meetings.</p> <p>We may also be required to restrict the number of members of the public able to attend in accordance with the room capacity.</p> <p>If you consider it necessary for you to attend, please let Democratic Services know in advance of the meeting so they can endeavour to accommodate you and advise you of the necessary health and safety precautions that apply to the meeting. For further information about the venue, please visit http://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/contact-us-cfm</p>
Public participation	<p>Members of the public who live or work in the district are welcome to speak and may ask one question or make a statement of not more than three minutes duration relating to items to be discussed in Part 1 of the agenda only.</p> <p>If a question is asked and answered within three minutes, the person who asked the question may ask a supplementary question that arises from the reply.</p> <p>The Constitution allows that a person who wishes to speak must register at least 15 minutes before the time the meeting is scheduled to start.</p> <p>There is an overall time limit of 15 minutes for public speaking, which may be extended at the Chair's discretion.</p>
Accessibility	If you have any difficulties in accessing the meeting, the agenda and accompanying reports, including for reasons of a disability or a protected characteristic, please contact Democratic Services at the earliest opportunity using the contact details provided above in order that we may assist you.

Recording of meetings	<p>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).</p> <p>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.</p>
Personal information	<p>Any personal information processed by West Suffolk Council arising from a request to speak at a public meeting under the Localism Act 2011, will be protected in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018. For more information on how we do this and your rights in regards to your personal information and how to access it, visit our website: https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/Council/Data_and_information/howweuseinformation.cfm or call Customer Services: 01284 763233 and ask to speak to the Information Governance Officer.</p>

Agenda

Procedural matters

1. Substitutes

Any member who is substituting for another member should so indicate, together with the name of the relevant absent member.

2. Apologies for absence

3. Minutes

1 - 4

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 20 July 2023 (copy attached).

4. Declarations of interest

Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest, other registerable or non-registerable interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda, **no later than when that item is reached** and, when appropriate, to leave the meeting prior to discussion and voting on the item.

5. Announcements from the Chair regarding responses from the Cabinet to reports of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Part 1 – public

6. Public participation

Members of the public who live or work in the district are welcome to speak and may ask one question or make a statement of not more than three minutes duration relating to items to be discussed in Part 1 of the agenda only.

If a question is asked and answered within three minutes, the person who asked the question may ask a supplementary question that arises from the reply.

There is an overall limit of 15 minutes for public speaking, which may be extended at the Chair's discretion.

- | | | |
|------------|--|----------------|
| 7. | Western Suffolk Community Safety Partnership Monitoring Report (April 2022 to March 2023) | 5 - 16 |
| | Report number: OAS/WS/23/012 | |
| | Council Davis from Babergh District Council will be attending to present the report as the Chair at the time of the reporting period. | |
| | Richard Baldwin from Suffolk County Council will also be attending to provide support in terms of the County overview of community safety. | |
| 8. | Modern Slavery Update | 17 - 26 |
| | Report number: OAS/WS/23/013 | |
| 9. | CCTV at West Suffolk Council | |
| | A presentation will be given by the Cabinet Member for Operations, which will provide an overview of the council's CCTV service, including the services provided, staffing, costs and income, incidents, arrests and equipment, (including Hikvision cameras). | |
| 10. | Suffolk County Council Health Scrutiny Committee - 12 July 2023 | 27 - 34 |
| | Report number: OAS/WS/23/014 | |
| | Report to be presented by the Council's appointed representatives on the Health Scrutiny Committee. | |
| 11. | Suffolk County Council: Police and Crime Panel - 14 July 2023 | 35 - 38 |
| | Report number: OAS/WS/23/015 | |
| | Report to be presented by the Council's appointed representatives on the Police and Crime Panel. | |
| 12. | Cabinet Decisions Plan: 1 September 2023 to 31 May 2024 | 39 - 58 |
| | Report number: OAS/WS/23/016 | |
| 13. | Work programme update | 59 - 64 |
| | Report number: OAS/WS/23/017 | |

Part 2 – exempt

None

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Overview and Scrutiny Committee



Minutes of a meeting of the **Overview and Scrutiny Committee** held on **Thursday 20 July 2023** at **5.00 pm** in the **Conference Chamber, West Suffolk House**, Western Way, Bury St Edmunds IP33 3YU

Present **Councillors**

Chair Sarah Broughton
Vice Chair Marion Rushbrook

Tony Brown	Birgitte Mager
Dawn Dicker	Andrew Martin
Susan Glossop	Andrew Smith
Luke Halpin	Don Waldron
Beccy Hopfensperger	Julia Wakelam
Rowena Lindberg	Kevin Yarrow

226. **Substitutes**

No substitutions were declared.

227. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Aaron Luccarini.

Councillor Andrew Speed was also unable to attend the meeting.

228. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 June 2023 were confirmed as correct record and signed by the Chair.

229. **Declarations of interest**

Members' declarations of interest are recorded under the item to which the declaration relates.

230. **Announcements from the Chair regarding responses from the Cabinet to reports of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

The Chair informed members she attended Cabinet on 18 July 2023 and presented the Committee's report from its meeting held on 15 June 2023. As per the minutes confirmed above, the Chair updated Cabinet on the Committee's consideration of the Suffolk County Council Health Scrutiny meeting held on 19 April 2023; the appointments made to the Suffolk County Council Health Scrutiny Committee for the term of the 2023 to 2027

administration and the Committee's forward work programme, which were noted by Cabinet.

231. **Public participation**

There were no members of the public in attendance on this occasion.

232. **Cabinet Decisions Plan: 1 July 2023 to 31 May 2024**

The Committee received report number: OAS/WS/23/010, which informed members on forthcoming decisions to be considered by the Cabinet for the period 1 July 2023 to 31 May 2024.

The Committee considered the Decisions Plan and did not request any further information on items contained in the Plan.

There being no decision required, the Committee **noted** the contents of the 1 July 2023 to 31 May 2024 Decisions Plan.

233. **Work programme update and Suggestions for Scrutiny**

[Councillor Luke Halpin arrived at 5.08pm during the consideration of this item and prior to the vote being taken].

The Committee received report number: OAS/WS/23/011, which updated members on the current status of its rolling work programme of items for scrutiny during 2020-2021 (Appendix 1).

Attached at Appendix 2 was the scoping document and key lines of enquiry document for the Abbeycroft Leisure Strategic Partnership Review and terms of reference at Appendix 3.

Also attached at Appendices 4 to 6 were the work programme suggestion form, scoping document and key lines of enquiry document and terms of reference for the Infrastructure and Transport review.

The Committee considered and **noted** the current states of its rolling work programme and requested an update report on the Council's approach to Modern-Day Slavery to be presented to the Committee at its September 2023 meeting. The previous administration had agreed to set up a Modern-Day Slavery Working Group in November 2020 following the government's announcement in September 2020 on new guidance, which the government had yet to legislate.

The Committee then considered in detail the proposed Transport and Infrastructure Review and asked questions to which responses were provided. In particular discussions were held on public transport and electric vehicles. As part of the discussions, the Committee suggested broadband provision should be included as a utility service in Appendix 5 under "views from external expert advisors" which officers agreed to include.

The Committee considered the proposed Abbeycroft Leisure Strategic Review and did not make any amendments to the terms of reference or scoping document.

Nominations were then sort for the Abbeycroft Leisure Strategic Review and the Transport and Infrastructure Review Task and Finish Groups.

The Chair informed the Committee that she was concerned about a recent Panorama programme on CCTV cameras which had raised data security issues with the Chinese made equipment (Hikvision), whereby a number of councils who had this brand were now replacing them. She suggested inviting the Cabinet Member for Operations, Councillor David Taylor to the Committee's September 2023 meeting to find out whether the Council had any Hikvision CCTV equipment; if so whether they were being replaced; where the servers stored the data; and to provide a general overview of the Council's CCTV system.

It was then proposed by Councillor Andrew Smith, duly seconded by Councillor Julia Wakelam, and with the vote being unanimous:

RESOLVED, That

- 1) The Abbeycroft Leisure Strategic Partnership Review be included into the Committee's forward work programme for 2023 to 2024.**
- 2) The scoping document and key lines of enquiry document for the Abbeycroft Leisure Strategic Partnership Review be approved.**
- 3) The terms of reference for the Abbeycroft Leisure Strategic Partnership Review be approved, and**
 - Councillor Sarah Broughton;**
 - Councillor Rowena Lindberg;**
 - Councillor Marion Rushbrook be appointed to sit on the Task and Finish Group.**

Note: The Chair agreed to email non- scrutiny councillors following the meeting to seek two volunteers who would be interested in sitting on the Task and Finish Group.
- 4) The Transport and Infrastructure Review be included into the Committee's forward work programme for 2023 to 2024.**
- 5) The scoping document and key lines of enquiry document for the Transport and Infrastructure Review be approved.**
- 6) The terms of reference for the Transport and Infrastructure Review be approved, and**
 - Councillor Sarah Broughton;**
 - Councillor Beccy Hopfensperger;**

- **Councillor Birgitte Mager;**
- **Councillor Andrew Smith**
- **Councillor Don Waldron**
- **Councillor Julia Wakelam;**
- **Councillor Kevin Yarrow be appointed to sit on the Task and Finish Group.**

7) The Committee invites Councillor David Taylor, Cabinet Member for Operations to its September 2023 meeting to provide information on the Council's CCTV system and the Chinese made Hikvision.

8) The Committee receives an update on the Council's approach to Modern Day Slavery at its September 2023 meeting.

The meeting concluded at 5.25 pm

Signed by:

Chair

Western Suffolk Community Safety Partnership Monitoring Report (April 2022 to March 2023)

Report number:	OAS/WS/23/012	
Report to and date(s):	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	21 September 2023
Cabinet member:	Councillor Donna Higgins Cabinet Member for Families and Communities Tel: 01284 769000 Email: donna.higgins@westsuffolk.gov.uk	
Lead officer:	Davina Howes Director (Families and Communities) Tel: 01284 757070 Email: Davina.howes@westsuffolk.gov.uk	

Decisions Plan: This item is not included in the Decisions Plan.

Wards impacted: All West Suffolk Council wards.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

1. Consider and discuss the information outlined in the report.

1. Background

- 1.1 Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) were introduced in 1998 under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and amended by the Police Reform Act 2002. A CSP is a statutory body comprising of the following partner organisations: police, local authorities, probation, health and fire and rescue services. Representatives from Youth Justice Service; registered social landlords and education have been co-opted to the partnership.
- 1.2 The Western Suffolk CSP covers West Suffolk Council, Babergh and Mid Suffolk council areas.
- 1.3 Over the past year the Western Suffolk Community Safety Partnership (WSCSP) has continued to meet and discharge its statutory duties by:
 - a) Carrying out an assessment of crime and disorder in the area;
 - b) Delivering a three-year plan and action plan to reflect the priorities of the partnership; and
 - c) Undertaking Domestic Homicide Reviews.
- 1.4 The WSCSP action plan is reviewed throughout the year and where appropriate is updated to reflect emerging issues and trends.
- 1.5 Based on the outcomes of the partnership discussions the following priorities remained as a focus for the WSCSP:
 - a. **Criminal Exploitation:** encompassing all types of exploitation including county lines. Workstreams include raising awareness, dedicated training programmes for each area, safeguarding vulnerable adults, supporting victims and young people being criminally exploited.
 - b. **Violence against women and girls:** This priority includes actions to address domestic abuse, sexual violence and sexual exploitation (links closely with criminal exploitation priority).
 - c. **Modern Slavery:** including support for victims, training and awareness programmes and awareness of reporting mechanisms including the National Referral Mechanism (NRM).
 - d. **Hate Crime:** including support for victims, working with partners to raise awareness and build confidence in communities to report incidents.
 - e. **Prevent:** as part of the Government's CONTEST strategy to counter terrorism "prevent" aims to raise awareness within communities and places a statutory responsibility on local authorities to provide a training programme for staff and communities on counter terrorism and stop people being drawn in and ensure they are given support and advice at an early stage.

- f. **Anti-Social Behaviour:** This priority links to the national Anti-Social Behaviour Action Plan and includes working with partners to address anti-social behaviour, undertaking community triggers and working with victims, and raising awareness of the impacts of anti-social behaviour and how to report.

- 1.6 As part of the annual review of the action plan and identifying emerging issues it was also agreed to adopt Fraud as a priority for 2022-2023.
- 1.7 Section two of this report provides more detail of the progress made to address these priorities.

2. **Update on the work streams of the Western Suffolk Community Safety Partnership**

2.1 **Criminal Exploitation**

- 2.1.1 Over the past 12 months the WSCSP has continued to work with partners to address the wider issues of criminal exploitation as well as monitoring county lines activity.
- 2.1.2 County lines activity underpins serious and organised crime, which results in links to other criminal activity such as child and adult criminal exploitation, trafficking and modern slavery.
- 2.1.3 County lines are operating in Suffolk and the number of lines varies at any given time, but it should be noted that in West Suffolk there is not currently an identified issues with urban street gangs (USG) but there are emerging gang culture behaviours seen within the cohort of young people who are involved, or on the periphery of being involved in county lines.
- 2.1.4 In Suffolk we have a system wide work programme funded by Suffolk Public Sector Leaders to tackle criminal exploitation. This work is overseen by the Criminal Exploitation Steering Group. The WSCSP works closely with partners on two of the funded projects:
 - a) Criminal Exploitation Hubs
 - b) Multi-Agency Criminal Exploitation Panels.
- 2.1.5 **Criminal Exploitation Hubs:** based throughout Suffolk and overseen by Suffolk Youth Justice Team, the hubs are funded to work with key partners, voluntary groups, communities, young people and families to support, disrupt and protect young people and communities at risk of exploitation.

- 2.1.6 The team adopts a targeted outreach approach, which allows youth workers the flexibility to work directly with young people in their communities, ensuring engagement is undertaken in a safe and familiar environment. These areas are identified through both partner and community led intelligence. West Suffolk Council works closely with the team to ensure local information is shared as well as identifying opportunities for joint working including Skate Jams, community events and sign posting to community groups.
- 2.1.7 **Multi-Agency Criminal Exploitation Panels (MACE):** Monthly meetings with the purpose of identifying and disrupting perpetrators of exploitation against young people in West Suffolk. The panel meet to discuss individuals and areas of concern and put in place actions to disrupt exploitation.
- 2.1.8 WSCSP continues to work closely with Suffolk County Council to provide a more in-depth training and awareness programme in relation to criminal exploitation. Countywide training offered to staff and partners have included Criminal Exploitation Refresher Workshops and "Places Spaces Faces" Contextual Safeguarding training.
- 2.1.9 Alongside the countywide training programme West Suffolk Council trained officers have delivered awareness sessions. one session has taken place for staff, engaging with 15 officers and two sessions has taken place within a school setting engaging with 20 staff members.
- 2.1.10 These training sessions are available throughout the year and will continue as part of the WSCSP commitment to raising awareness amongst staff, partners and communities.
- 2.1.11 As part of Criminal Exploitation #Lookcloser Week partners across Suffolk were present in railway stations as part of a wider collaboration with Greater Anglia, British Transport Police, The Railway Children and Missing People with the aim to raise awareness of Child Exploitation, missing children and modern slavery. This dedicated operation engaged with members of the public, taxi drivers and station staff.

2.2 **Violence Against Women and Girls**

- 2.2.1 The Suffolk Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy and action plan sets out key objectives for Suffolk from 2022 – 2025, this strategy has been co-produced with victims, practitioners and partners and focusses on the following themes:
 - a) Prevention
 - b) Supporting victims

- c) Pursuing perpetrators
- d) Strengthening the system

2.2.2 The WSCSP collaborates on several projects that support victims of domestic abuse in West Suffolk and residents are able to access specialist support that is commissioned countywide through Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner, as well as local support services.

2.2.3 The following services are commissioned through Suffolk County Council and the Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner:

- a. Anglia Care Trust Domestic Abuse Outreach service: providing support for victims of domestic abuse, working with individuals to build resilience and reduce the risks to them. Working with survivors to access suitable services and offer financial advice. Anglia Care Trust also operate the Suffolk 24/7 Domestic Abuse Helpline for anyone with concerns, including victims, friends, family members and professionals.
- b. Bury St Edmunds Women's Aid: providers of refuge and support for women and children experiencing domestic abuse. As well as providing living accommodation a range of community services, freedom programmes, courses and counselling for women and children.
- c. Norfolk and Suffolk Victim Care: providing emotional and practical support to anyone affected by crime.
- d. Leeway Independent Domestic Violence Advisory (IDVA) service: providing support and help to those identified as high risk of domestic abuse.
- e. Survivors in Transition: providing support to men and women who have experienced sexual abuse, exploitation, or violence in childhood.
- f. Restitute: providing assistance to families of those supporting victims of sexual abuse or violent crime.
- g. Suffolk Rape Crisis: providing trauma informed support to women and girls affected in any way by sexual violence.
- h. Brave Futures (formerly Fresh Start New Beginnings): providing specialist support for young people who have experience sexual abuse or violence.
- i. The Ferns Sexual Assault Referral Centre: specialist centre for victims of rape and sexual assault regardless of whether they have reported it as a crime.

- j. Three-year funded scheme from Ministry of Justice grant for dedicated emotional and practical support services for victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence and providing additional IDVAs and dedicated Independent Sexual Violence Adviser (ISVA).
 - k. Domestic Abuse Link Worker within West Suffolk Council Housing team: a dedicated point of contact to support victims and encourage disclosure whilst seeking support for housing needs.
- 2.2.4 Domestic Abuse Champion Network continues to grow, providing a programme of training for champions within our communities. At the end of March 2023, 1,250 champions are now trained across Suffolk.
- 2.2.5 West Suffolk Council have eight members of staff trained as champions who provide support to staff in relation to domestic abuse and respond to disclosure of abuse to ensure individuals have the right tools to stay safe and get the right support.
- 2.2.6 The White Ribbon Campaign 2022 was 16 days of action with a national campaign encouraging people to come together and start playing as a team to end violence against women and girls, launching at the start of the men's football world cup.
- 2.2.7 Suffolk also supported the first Child to Parent Abuse awareness day, including social media campaigns and webinars for staff to raise awareness of this type of abuse.
- 2.2.8 Specialist Refuge Satellite Accommodation remains in place across the partnership area and provides a range of accommodation across Suffolk for people who are unable to access communal refuge due to complex needs.
- 2.2.9 Suffolk partners continue to provide Target Hardening across the county, a scheme for victims identified as high risk. This scheme ensures the victim can remain as safe as possible within their own home. Between April 2022 to March 2023 five properties have been supported in West Suffolk with interventions such as door locks, window bolts, personal alarms as well as adaptations to properties to ensure safety is increased.
- 2.2.10 The West Suffolk Domestic Abuse Partnership continues to meet on a quarterly basis, bringing together both statutory and voluntary practitioners working within the area of domestic abuse. The partnership provides an opportunity for all to meet, network, share best practice and support local projects such as campaigns, freedom programmes, education support and local awareness raising.

2.3 Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs)

- 2.3.1 Undertaking Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR) is a responsibility of the CSP. A DHR is triggered when the death of a person aged 16 or over has, or appears to have, resulted from violence, abuse or neglect by a relative, household member or someone with whom they have been in an intimate relationship.
- 2.3.2 There are currently two DHRs being undertaken in West Suffolk. A death in 2020 within West Suffolk triggered a DHR and subsequently an action plan and review has been completed. The review is currently with the Home Office for consideration and once notification has been received by the partnership the review will be published. A death in 2021 within West Suffolk triggered a DHR. The review is currently being drafted, the delay in completing the review and action plan occurred due to court case and inquest into the death. Any recommendations put forward will be considered by the WSCSP at a later date.

2.4 Modern Slavery

- 2.4.1 The Suffolk Modern Slavery Network continues to meet to share best practice across Suffolk as well as share data, information and develop countywide training programmes and awareness raising campaigns.
- 2.4.2 Through the council's safeguarding training module, modern slavery is detailed in terms of raising awareness of the National Referral Form. West Suffolk Council has also commissioned an e-learning module which staff have to complete as part of induction and then on a biannual basis.
- 2.4.3 In October 2022 Suffolk County Council launched a partnership training package available to all partners across Suffolk. This training package defines modern slavery, how to spot the signs and how to make a referral, along with specific case studies and short webinars to continue professional development.
- 2.4.4 Suffolk Modern Slavery Awareness Week took place in June 2022 and the focus of this year's campaign was labour exploitation and sexual exploitation.
- 2.4.5 As part of the week a social media campaign was launched and encouraging communities to seek support for concerns and adopted the #SuffolkLooksCloser campaign.

2.5 **Hate Crime**

2.5.1 A hate crime is defined as any criminal offence which is perceived, by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice based on a person's actual or perceived:

- a. Race
- b. Religion or belief
- c. Physical or sensory disability
- d. Learning disability or mental health
- e. Age
- f. Gender
- g. Sexual orientation
- h. Gender identity

2.5.2 The National Hate Crime Awareness week was held in October 2022 and the council supported the countywide campaign through social media channels and reassurance visits to specific business who have suffered repeat incidences of hate crime. A new publicity campaign was launched to encourage reporting and strengthen zero tolerance to hate crime.

2.5.3 In October 2021 the Third Annual HOPE Awards were launched. This initiative was again open to all young persons between the age of 11 and 18. The awards were created to celebrate the contribution young people make in Suffolk and formally recognise the outstanding achievements they make to the community. As in previous years there were four categories including: diversity; respect and kindness; teamwork and determination.

2.5.4 Suffolk received a total of 18 applications with 59 young people nominated. There were three applications from West Suffolk

2.6 **Prevent**

2.6.1 West Suffolk Council continues to execute its statutory duty to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and to consider local threat levels.

2.6.2 West Suffolk Council play an active part in the Suffolk PREVENT Delivery Group which brings together partners to acquit that duty which include, local authorities, prisons, probation, education, health sector and police.

2.6.3 In order to meet the Prevent Duty there is a requirement to ensure that staff have a good understanding of Prevent, are trained to recognise vulnerability to being drawn into terrorism and are aware of available programmes to deal with this issue, including referrals to

Channel. This training is provided through Prevent trained officers and council staff can access throughout the year. In total 43 members of staff completed this course between April 2022 and March 2023

- 2.6.4 In addition to the Prevent statutory training, West Suffolk Council provide staff with an essential Prevent e-learning module, providing ongoing awareness in relation to Prevent duty. This module is completed by all staff on a biennial basis.
- 2.6.5 On behalf of the network Suffolk County Council, together with Norfolk CSP were successful in applying for funding from the Home Office Preventing Radicalisation funding. Shout Out UK were commissioned to run three parenting online radicalisation and extremism courses, aimed at parents and carers. In total 84 parents and carers from across Suffolk attended the sessions.
- 2.6.6 In addition to the three courses, Suffolk also held an Online Radicalisation and Extremism Conference in March with over 110 staff from across Suffolk in attendance.

2.7 **Anti-Social Behaviour**

- 2.7.1 Preventing and responding to anti-social behaviour (ASB) remains a priority to both the WSCSP and the council. Council staff continue to chair and support monthly forums which bring together a number of organisations to co-ordinate responses to reports of high risk ASB in communities across West Suffolk. The council continues to support the Anti-Social Behaviour Case Review process. This process provides victims of ongoing anti-social behaviour a right to request a review of their case and bring agencies together to ensure a joined up approach is taken to provide a solution. [Antisocial behaviour \(ASB\) case review \(westsuffolk.gov.uk\)](https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/antisocial-behaviour-case-review)
- 2.7.2 West Suffolk Council is a partner on the Suffolk Anti-Social Behaviour Steering Group, meeting on a quarterly basis to keep updated with new legislation, share best practice and co-ordinate awareness raising and campaign materials.
- 2.7.3 In October 2022 the Home Office developed and launched a set of principles which seek to describe a consistent approach to understanding and address anti-social behaviour in local communities. The steering group adopted these principles as a guide to deliver the best outcome to victims of ASB.
- 2.7.4 The principles in full along with further information can be found: [Antisocial behaviour \(ASB\) principles \(westsuffolk.gov.uk\)](https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/antisocial-behaviour-principles)

2.8 Fraud

- 2.8.1 The priority of fraud was identified through the strategic assessment conducted in March 2022 and was formally adopted as a priority by the Safer Stronger Communities Board in June 2022, WSCSP reviewed the current action plan and adopted fraud as a priority in July 2022.
- 2.8.2 The main focus of this priority is increasing resilience in communities and business, victim support and investigation. Suffolk Trading Standards has agreed to lead on this priority and has established the Suffolk Anti-Fraud Partnership which will work with a number of partners and formulate an action plan to support the work.

2.9 Serious Violence Duty

- 2.9.1 The Serious Violence Duty introduced through the Police Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 placed a legal duty on specific organisations across health, justice, local authorities, policing, fire and rescue to work together to understand, prevent and reduce serious violence.
- 2.9.2 The new duty came into effect on 31 January 2023 and to ensure the duty is met, a Serious Violence Duty Steering Group was established in October 2022. The steering group have until 31 January 2024 to conduct a strategic needs assessment and publish an action plan. This work is underway and reported back to the WSCSP on a quarterly basis.

3. Alternative options that have been considered

- 3.1 None

4. Consultation and engagement undertaken

- 4.1 The annual monitoring report draws on information from all partner agencies in relation to community safety issues. Due to the sensitivity, some information remains restricted.

5. Risks associated with the proposals

- 5.1 There are high to medium risks to our communities around any reduction in partnership working, including appropriate information sharing in relation to community safety. This may arise due to loss of resources, return to silo working practices and non-engagement of partners. This can be mitigated by continued commitment of the

council to support partnership working and, to embed this into all areas of West Suffolk Council's activities.

6. Implications arising from the proposals

- 6.1 Financial: None.
- 6.2 Legal compliance: Community Safety Partnerships are statutory bodies required to carry out a number of duties. Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act requires local authorities to consider crime and disorder in all their functions.
- 6.3 Personal data processing: Information sharing protocols are in place. In addition, information can be legally shared if it is shared in order to prevent or detect crime.
- 6.4 Equalities: The WSCSP focusses on those who are impacted by crime and particular types of crime such as Hate Crime. Equality issues are taken into consideration as part of the annual monitoring and agreeing the action plan. Where required and appropriate Equality Impact Assessments are undertaken by the lead partner.
- 6.5 Crime and disorder: addressed in the main body of the report.
- 6.6 Safeguarding: addressed in the main body of the report.
- 6.7 Environment or sustainability: None
- 6.8 HR or staffing: None
- 6.9 Changes to existing policies: None
- 6.10 External organisations (such as businesses, community groups): Community Safety Partnerships are statutory bodies with prescribed statutory powers who are required to be part of the partnership.

7. Appendices referenced in this report

- 7.1 None

8. Background documents associated with this report

- 8.1 The Suffolk Police and Crime Plan 2022-2025 published by Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner. This plan is required to reflect the priorities in the Western Suffolk Community Safety Partnership Plan. This plan is published on the Suffolk PCC Website: [Police & Crime Plan - Suffolk PCC \(suffolk-pcc.gov.uk\)](https://suffolk-pcc.gov.uk)
- 8.2 Serious Violence Duty: [Serious Violence Duty - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)
- 8.3 Western Suffolk Community Safety Partnership Action Plan: [Community safety \(westsuffolk.gov.uk\)](https://westsuffolk.gov.uk)
- 8.4 Suffolk Violence against women and girls strategy: [suffolk-violence-against-women-and-girls-strategy-2022-25](#)

Modern Slavery Update

Report number:	OAS/WS/22/013	
Report to and date(s):	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	21 September 2023
Cabinet member:	<p>Councillor Donna Higgins Cabinet Member for Families and Communities Tel: 01284 769000 Email: donna.higgins@westsuffolk.gov.uk</p>	
Lead officer:	<p>Jennifer Eves, Director (HR, Governance and Regulatory) Tel: 01284 757015 Email: jennifer.eves@westsuffolk.gov.uk</p> <p>Davina Howes, Director (Families and Communities) Tel: 01284 757070 Email: davina.howes@westsuffolk.gov.uk</p>	

Decisions Plan: This item is not included in the Decisions Plan.

Wards impacted: ALL

Recommendation: It is recommended that Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- Note the content of this report.**
- Note the actions that are in progress to achieve the standards as outlined by the LGA in 2023.**

1. Background

- 1.1 At its meeting in July 2023, Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee requested an update on the council's actions towards meeting its Modern Slavery duties.
- 1.2 Modern Slavery had been included as an item on the Committee's forward work programme since November 2020. The item had not been considered in that time due to the fact that local authorities are awaiting further guidance from central government relating to the preparation and publication of Modern Slavery Statements.
- 1.3 In September 2020, the Home Office announced that changes would be made to strengthen the Modern Slavery Act 2015, including new reporting requirements for Modern Slavery statements ([New tough measures to tackle modern slavery in supply chains - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-tough-measures-to-tackle-modern-slavery-in-supply-chains)). As of August 2023, this guidance has not been published. Organisations are therefore being advised by government to continue to report under the current requirements [Publish an annual modern slavery statement - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/publish-an-annual-modern-slavery-statement)
- 1.4 With the above in mind, and subject to future government guidance, the Council's published statement is set out as stated in February 2021 [Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement \(westsuffolk.gov.uk\)](https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/modern-slavery-and-human-trafficking-statement).
- 1.5 To support councils to meet their duties, in early 2023 the Local Government Association (LGA) published guidance and a matrix which sets out the ideal standards in local authority modern slavery provision. This report provides an assessment of how the council measures up against these standards. It should be noted that the LGA guidance is written to support unitary and upper tier authorities, as well as districts, so in some instances Suffolk County Council is the more appropriate lead authority, with support from West Suffolk.

2. Modern Slavery – assessment against the LGA guidance and matrix

- 2.1 The LGA Modern Slavery Guidance sets out best practice standards with regards to local authority modern slavery provision. Specifically, it highlights the importance of a 'public health' approach to modern slavery – which highlights in particular the need for:
 - a. a multi-agency approach - meaning councils should work alongside the police, fire and rescue services, VCS organisations, local businesses and health services, as well as national government, to raise awareness of and prevent modern slavery;

- b. a data led approach; and
- c. a prevention focused approach, which in turn has three tiers of prevention:
 - primary prevention, which seeks to prevent modern slavery from happening in the first place;
 - secondary prevention, which requires authorities to intervene early when the problem starts to prevent it from becoming established; and
 - tertiary prevention, which makes sure an ongoing problem is well managed to avoid it becoming a crisis and to reduce its harmful consequences.

2.2 The matrix provides a framework for councils to assess current progress and plan future activity on modern slavery – this is set out in four levels: basic first steps, early progress, substantial progress and mature. This is set into two sections:

- a. How the council manages modern slavery work, with the themes:
 - a. Leadership
 - b. Resources and capacity.
- b. Council activity, with the themes:
 - Identifying and supporting adult victims
 - Identifying and supporting child victims
 - Identifying and supporting child victims
 - Disruption and prevention
 - Procurement and commissioning.

2.3 A high-level assessment on how West Suffolk measures up in terms of its activities and signposting for Suffolk County Council activities has been undertaken against the broad framework laid out by the matrix. The outcomes of this assessment are set out in **Appendix A** to this report.

2.4 In summary, this assessment finds that the council is working to or above the standards expected, with particular progress in governance, cross-council coordination and partnership working. Actions to ensure continued improvement include:

- Develop an evaluation process for the West Suffolk Council training and ensure that the programme continues to be updated with new guidance as required.
- To try and gain a clear understanding of the impact and effectiveness of staff training and awareness of Modern-Day Slavery amongst staff.

- To use internal communications to increase awareness of pathways for referrals and reporting concerns through the national referral mechanism (NRM) or MASH (Multi-agency safeguarding hub).

3. Alternative options that have been considered

- 3.1 None - update requested by Committee.
- 3.2 The council has proactively assessed its progress against the LGA guidance and liaised with partners as appropriate. The council will continue to monitor any changes to government guidance and legislation to ensure that it continues to meet its statutory and best practice guidance.

4. Consultation and engagement undertaken

- 4.1 Staff from different departments have been engaged in the development of the council's approach to Modern Slavery and consultation has been undertaken with partners such as the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and Suffolk County Council.

5. Risks associated with the proposals

- 5.1 None – will be kept under review in light of any changes to statutory and or best practice requirements.

6. Implications arising from the proposals

- 6.1 Financial – None under existing guidance.
- 6.2 Legal compliance – ensuring compliance with statutory duties.
- 6.3 Personal data processing – ensuring that any enforcement or reporting action is undertaken with due regard to GDPR.
- 6.4 Equalities – supports the council to meet its statutory equality duties.
- 6.5 Crime and disorder – supports the council to meet its statutory community safety duties.
- 6.6 Safeguarding – linked with the council's approach to safeguarding (as set out in the self-assessment in **Appendix A**.
- 6.7 Environment or sustainability – None.
- 6.8 HR or staffing – None – current requirements met within existing resources (subject to review).
- 6.9 Changes to existing policies – None at this stage, subject to review in light of changing reporting requirements.

- 6.10 External organisations (such as businesses, community groups) – activity is undertaken in partnership with other organisations in line with the self-assessment in **Appendix A**.

7. Appendices referenced in this report

- 7.1 Appendix A – West Suffolk Council LGA self-assessment and matrix.

8. Background documents associated with this report

- 8.1 West Suffolk Council Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement [Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement \(westsuffolk.gov.uk\)](https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/modern-slavery-and-human-trafficking-statement)

Appendix A

West Suffolk Council LGA Modern Slavery Assessment

Progress level:

1. Basic – Some consideration of modern slavery issues, but processes underdeveloped.
2. Early progress – Modern slavery processes established or in the process of being established, regular oversight and some awareness.
3. Substantial progress – Modern slavery processes refined as practice develops, clearly understood and joined up mechanisms.
4. Mature – Modern slavery is embedded across teams; oversight is established, and scrutiny is regular.
0. Not lead authority – West Suffolk Council is not the responsible authority for this area or action.

Theme	Key Element	Progress level	Current position or status
Leadership	Strategy and planning	3. Substantial progress	Statement has been agreed since 2021 and it is fully joined up with other relevant council policies, such as Safeguarding and Procurement. There is a shared understanding of modern slavery terminology across the council and training and awareness programmes are established. Modern slavery is also part of annual strategic assessments to ensure monitoring and evaluation.
	Governance	4. Mature	Modern slavery is embedded into work of relevant portfolio holders and subject to routine oversight by partnership boards
	Councillor engagement	3. Substantial progress	No mandatory training undertaken by Councillors. However, a review of the councillor training package is underway – new councillor training planned following local elections – and modern slavery sits within the Families and Communities portfolio. Modern slavery is included in the annual Community Safety Partnership (CSP) report to Overview and Scrutiny Committee each year.
Resources and capacity	Funding and staffing	In between 2 and 3	While there is no specific funding available, with modern slavery work undertaken by staff as part of their existing roles, there are opportunities to apply for funding through CSP, Police and Crime Commissioner and external funding opportunities – for example the WSCSP recently funded a Modern Slavery initiative (GO Bags).

Theme	Key Element	Progress level	Current position or status
Page 23			Modern slavery sits within the Families and Communities Team, with one officer dedicated to supporting this work. The council also works closely with the police's dedicated Team and link in with them for joint visits and enforcement for example recent licensing visits to car washes.
	Cross-council coordination	3.Substantial progress	Council lead officer for modern slavery appointed and known across teams. Council's lead officer sits on the council's Tactical Enforcement Group (chaired by Andy Newman) that looks at all types of enforcement and can raise concerns or issues there.
	Training and awareness	3. Substantial progress	Training approaches are increasingly consistent, tailored and specific to the council, covering: basic awareness and indicators; understanding of National Referral Mechanism (NRM) process, and pre and post NRM challenges; NRM referrals; trauma informed practice; Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) or cultural competence, and council processes. Training appropriately distinguishes between child and adult victims of modern slavery. However, there is no assessment on modern slavery training effectiveness – this is hard to measure, but it could be linked to the volume of referrals made by staff, as this would suggest that there is increased awareness. Area for future action: develop an evaluation process for the WSC training – and ensure the training continues to be fully up to date with new guidance as required. Engaging with SCC training for bite size refresher training for key roles in between the mandatory 2 yearly i-learn package.
	Data and intelligence	0. Not lead authority	Dataset held by appropriate designated officer. However, the council does not lead on the data collection and mapping, as this is done through the countywide group as well as attendance at tasking meetings and annual strategic assessments (therefore reflected in local joint strategic needs assessments).
	Partnership working	3.Substantial progress	Processes and pathways being developed with range of partner organisations not just statutory agencies: police, health, Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS), Modern Slavery Victim Care Contact (MSVCC) or anti-trafficking sector, community groups; Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority (GLAA) or HM Revenue and Customs nationally.

Theme	Key Element	Progress level	Current position or status
			Coordinated activity between council lead officers with links into modern slavery network, countywide strategy and action plan and wider council working group. Regular evaluation and impact monitoring of modern slavery activity is systematically embedded to inform ongoing development of strategy and action plan – coordinated by Community Safety Partnership.
	Monitoring and evaluation	2.Early progress	Modern slavery training is mandatory. Monitoring approaches are being developed – but as this is an e-learning package, it is not subject to a specific evaluation form (as with all other e-learning training). Clear referral pathways are part of the training. Reminders of our duty are included in other statutory training, such as safeguarding. Currently record numbers of completed training and number of referrals completed.
Identifying and supporting adult victims	Service design	0. Not lead authority	The council has not designed services around support for adult victims - we are a referral partner; however, victim support is provided predominantly externally through Migrant Help for Eastern Region MS Victim Care Contract (commissioned by The Salvation Army and then sub commissioned to Migrant Help).
	Multi-agency working	2.Early progress	Work with Unseen to provide additional training and support. Established partnerships around NRM mass referrals.
	Referral pathways	2-3	There are two internal pathways agreed (NRM and MASH). We need to ensure that regular reminders are made to staff of these pathways intermittently.
Identifying and supporting child victims	Service design	0. Not lead authority	While children's safety is reflected in safeguarding and procurement, this is predominantly an external service (through SCC).
	Multi-agency working	3. Substantial Progress	Council brought into reactive partnership or Multi Disciplinary Teams (MDT) and Multi Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) meetings. Modern Slavery is included in safeguarding processes and arrangements – safeguarding partners included in MACE, MDT's and countywide groups.
	Referral pathways	2-3	There is a dedicated referral process with confirmed pathways, but they are transitional or adaptable and able to affect change rapidly.

Theme	Key Element	Progress level	Current position or status
Disruption and prevention	Awareness and overall approach to disruption and prevention	2-3	Modern slavery is a priority area, but this is an area that needs ongoing focus to ensure that the awareness is retained.
	Operational disruption activity and partnership working	3.Substantial progress	GLAA is on the modern slavery county network group. A few initiatives for victim support – for example, “go bag” initiatives. Extensive work with partners and officer works with internal enforcement group.
	Preventative activity	0. Not lead authority	Council works with Suffolk County Council in collating awareness raising in different languages -specifically for Ukrainians; part of the modern slavery awareness-raising week every year.
Procurement and commissioning	Training and awareness raising	0-1	Some limited awareness amongst staff about procurement and commissioning processes. No specific training provided for procurement staff, but this is covered in the generic MDS training that all staff undertake every 2 years. Safeguarding training is also provided – this has a modern slavery element.
	Policies and procedures	2-3	Modern slavery considerations introduced into procurement: contract selection, contract management and Key Performance Indicators, remediation plans in place. Safeguarding issues are fully embedded in procurement.
	Supply chain mapping and activity	3.Substantial progress	Supply chain mapping of safeguarding issues, including modern slavery, undertaken at strategic level allocating resources and extra due diligence to high-risk sectors, goods and services and countries identified in the process.

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Suffolk County Council: Health Scrutiny Committee (12 July 2023)

Report number:	OAS/WS/23/014	
Report to and date(s):	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	21 September 2023
West Suffolk Council Member on the Health Scrutiny Committee:	Councillor Andrew Martin Telephone: 01440 423193 Email: andrew.martin@westsuffolk.gov.uk	

Decisions Plan: This item is not included in the decisions plan.

Wards impacted: Not applicable.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

1. Notes the report produced by Councillor Andrew Martin, attached as Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 to this report.

1. Context to this report

1.1 Suffolk County Council: Health Scrutiny Committee

- 1.1.1 Councillor Andrew Martin, the Council's appointed representative on the Suffolk County Council Health Scrutiny Committee has prepared a report, attached as **Appendix 1** and **Appendix 2** from the meeting held on 12 July 2023.

2. Proposals within this report

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to note the report prepared by Councillor Andrew Martin.

3. Alternative options that have been considered

- 3.1 None.

4. Consultation and engagement undertaken

- 4.1 None.

5. Risks associated with the proposals

- 5.1 None.

6. Appendices referenced in this report

- 6.1 **Appendix 1** – Report from Councillor Andrew Martin – Mental Health Services Provision
- 6.2 **Appendix 2** – Report from Councillor Andrew Martin – Dentistry Provision

7. Background documents associated with this report

- 7.1 Health Scrutiny Committee Agenda:
[Health Scrutiny Committee Agenda - 12 July 2023](#)
- 7.2 Suffolk County Council Health Scrutiny Web page:
[Health Scrutiny Committee - Web Page](#)

Suffolk County Council Health Scrutiny Committee Meeting held on 12 July 2023

**NORFOLK AND SUFFOLK FOUNDATION NHS TRUST (NSFT)
MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROVISION**

The Health Scrutiny committee met executives from the NSFT to review progress on the delivery of mental health services in Suffolk, since the Trust last met the committee in October 2022.

The Care quality commission (CQC) the national health service regulator inspected NSFT in September and October 2022 and published its most recent report in to NSFT on the 22 February 2023. The background to these inspections, is that the CQC previously inspected the Trust in November and December 2021 and downgraded its rating from requires improvement to inadequate. NSFT is currently within the NHS recovery support programme (RSP), which was formerly known as special measures. Those Trusts within the programme receive focused, intensive mandated support from the NHS to aid sustained improvement.

The most recent CQC report published in February 2023 has resulted in the Trust moving from inadequate to requires improvement. The CQC note in its report that the Trust has moved at pace to make the necessary changes and significant improvements could be seen at all levels of the Trust.

There are currently no Section 29a warning notices issued to the Trust. These notices are legally enforceable notices which are issued by the CQC requiring Trusts to make improvements within a binding timeframe, however the CQC continues to monitor NSFT progress with unresolved identified issues utilising requirement notices.

The link for the CQC press release for its most recent inspection is attached. The full report can also be accessed via this web page.

<https://www.cqc.org.uk/press-release/cqc-finds-improvement-norfolk-and-suffolk-nhs-foundation-trust-more-progress-needed>

The Trust took a recommendation from the committee that it should continue to develop its work in improving retention of staff as workforce data showed that clinical staff with less than two years' service were leaving at a comparatively disproportionate rate when compared to other staff groups.

The Trust also accepted a recommendation from the Committee that it should increase its collaborative work with external providers such as the County Council and voluntary community and faith sectors to improve the services provided to residents and in particular work to find alternatives to inpatient admission for children and young people. Additionally, the Trust should identify where delays in discharge from inpatient facilities are due to the lack of social housing provision.

The Trust will again meet with the committee as part of its forward work plan and provide appropriate updates.

Cllr Andrew Martin

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Suffolk County Council Health Scrutiny Committee Meeting held on 12 July 2023

NHS DENTISTRY PROVISION

The committee was attended by members of the Suffolk and Northeast Essex Integrated Care Board (SNEE ICB) Executive.

Suffolk finds itself in a very similar position to many other local authority areas with lack of access to NHS Dentistry for both routine and emergency treatment.

Access to dentistry at a young age reinforces positive dental behaviour and reduces the possibility of poor oral health in later life. Access to routine NHS dentistry for children has been equally negatively affected as adult access to NHS dentistry.

It is widely acknowledged that patients have taken extreme actions to deal with emergency dental problems, such as DIY tooth extraction, this has been highlighted by campaign groups such as toothless in Suffolk, toothless in England and on regional news providers. These DIY interventions leave the individual susceptible to immediate and long-term health complications and place an additional pressure on both primary care (GP surgeries and GP out of hours providers, 111 service) and acute service providers though increased A&E attendances.

ACTIVITY IN SUFFOLK

In 2021/22, 224300 NHS dental treatments were delivered, the pre pandemic figure was 594000 treatments, this represents a 60% reduction. Post Covid only 37.6% of the population within Suffolk accessed a dentist within the previous two years, the pre covid figure was 52.4%. 31% of Suffolks population attempted to get a dental appointment within the last two years, this is 9 % above the figure for the rest of England.

Research indicates that lack of NHS dental access, disproportionately affects the most vulnerable and socially disadvantaged in society, including looked after children, those in residential care homes the homeless and those in temporary accommodation.

WORK IN SUFFOLK

The Suffolk and Northeast Essex Integrated Care Board (SNEE ICB) took over responsibility for the commissioning of NHS dentistry from NHS England in April 2023. The ICB is currently undertaking a short-term commissioning plan which is reviewing the provision of routine and emergency care within its area of operation. Whilst this review is underway, they continue to scope out further opportunities to increase both routine and urgent care provision.

The ICB panel reiterated that their immediate priority is to stabilise the provision of NHS dentistry within the county, particularly prioritising the most vulnerable and socially disadvantaged, subsequently they will work to address general access population groups access.

The ICBs intention is to provide 16 additional dental chairs across the county within an 18–24 month timescale. Their medium to long term plan for improvement is heavily reliant on the success of a new dental contract which will be introduced to run alongside the existing 2006 national dental contract. Nationally many Dentists have criticised the 2006 contract, which they state has led to a situation where the NHS dentistry services they provide are more costly than the remuneration they receive. This has subsequently led to a situation where Dentists have handed back their NHS dental contracts and no longer undertake NHS treatment at all. This has occurred within Suffolk as well as nationally.

The new NHS contract is based on a sessional approach, which the ICB believes will lead to a much fairer form of remuneration for NHS dentistry and an overall more attractive proposition to Dentists to undertake NHS work. They believe that this should subsequently lead to better staff retention and therefore an enhanced provision of both routine and urgent dental care within the county.

EDUCATION

Partnership working with the University of Suffolk (UOS) is now underway, where joint funding from Health Education England and the NHS will see the development of a new centre for dental development (DCC), which will be based at the UOS Ipswich campus. The DCC will offer a range of educational courses across the whole dental workforce, which the ICB envisage will provide qualified clinicians to work within this locality. The nearest dental school is in east London. However, it must be noted that any benefits from this plan are only likely to be seen within the medium to long term (2 to 3 years). Included within the DCC contract is the provision of a dental treatment centre at the Ipswich campus which will provide NHS dental treatment to the local Ipswich population. A criteria has been developed by the ICB which will identify which patient groups the centre will be accessible to. The Committee has asked the ICB to look into the feasibility of establishing a similar DCC within West Suffolk, which they accepted as a recommendation, however partner education providers would need to be present in this area for a centre to be established.

SUMMARY

The responsibility to provide NHS dentistry was given to SNEE ICB in April 2023.

There are a number of both national organisational and funding issues that have arisen over a number of years, which have led to a significant reduction in access to NHS dentists for the population of Suffolk.

The ICB are working at pace to try and identify solutions to the many problems that exist within this sector. However, the presence of the national contract and the ongoing issues that exist within it, are likely to exacerbate an already undesirable situation and that in the short term despite the efforts of the ICB, we are unlikely to see significant improvements in NHS dentistry provision within the county.

The SNEE ICB will provide SCC Health Scrutiny Committee with ongoing information bulletins on work undertaken relating to Dentistry and will also attend the committee meeting at a future date as part of the committees forward work plan.

For those members who would like more information on this subject matter please Follow this link.

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/the-council-and-its-committees/committees/health-scrutiny-committee>

Cllr Andrew Martin

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Suffolk County Council: Suffolk Police and Crime Panel (14 July 2023)

Report number:	OAS/WS/23/015	
Report to and date(s):	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	21 September 2023
West Suffolk Council Full Member's on the Suffolk Police and Crime Panel:	<p>Councillor Mike Chester Telephone: 01284 850000 Email: mike.chester@westsuffolk.gov.uk</p> <p>Councillor Diane Hind Telephone: 01284 706542 Email: diane.hind@westsuffolk.gov.uk</p>	
West Suffolk Council Substitute Member's on the Suffolk Police and Crime Panel:	<p>Councillor Carol Bull Telephone: 01953 681513 Email: carol.bull@westsuffolk.gov.uk</p> <p>Councillor David Smith (Substitute) Telephone: 07796 245093 Email: david.smith@westsuffolk.gov.uk</p>	

Decisions Plan: This item is not included in the decisions plan.

Wards impacted: Not applicable.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

1. Notes the report attached as Appendix 1 to this report, and makes comments, as appropriate, for the Suffolk Police and Crime Panel's consideration.

1. Context to this report

1.1 Suffolk County Council: Suffolk Police and Crime Panel

- 1.1.1 Councillor Mike Chester, one of the Council's appointed representative on the Suffolk Police and Crime Panel attended the meeting held on 14 July 2023 along with Councillor David Smith (substituting for Councillor Diane Hind).
- 1.1.2 Attached at **Appendix 1** is the report prepared by the Suffolk County Council Senior Democratic Services Officer.

2. Proposals within this report

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to consider the attached **Appendix 1** and to ask questions of the appointed representatives on the meeting, and to feedback any comments, as appropriate, to the Suffolk Police and Crime Panel.

3. Alternative options that have been considered

- 3.1 None.

4. Consultation and engagement undertaken

- 4.1 None.

5. Risks associated with the proposals

- 5.1 None.

6. Appendices referenced in this report

- 6.1 **Appendix 1** – Report from the Suffolk Police and Crime Panel held on 14 July 2023

7. Background documents associated with this report

- 7.1 Suffolk County Council Webpage:
[Suffolk Police and Crime Panel - Suffolk County Council](#)
- 7.2 Suffolk Police and Crime Panel Agenda Pack:
[Agenda - Police and Crime Panel - 14 July 2023](#)
- 7.3 Suffolk Police and Crime Panel: [Annual Report for 2022/23](#)

Suffolk Police and Crime Panel

Information for inclusion in District and Borough Councils' Outside Bodies reports

Background

The Suffolk Police and Crime Panel is responsible for supporting and challenging the Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) in the delivery of his functions. It is a joint committee, established under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

The Panel has the following statutory functions, as set out in the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011:

- Reviewing the PCC's [Police and Crime Plan](#);
- Reviewing the PCC's 2021-2022 [Annual Report](#);
- Carrying out confirmation hearings for certain senior appointments in the PCC's office;
- Carrying out confirmation hearings for the Chief Constable;
- Handling non-criminal complaints about the PCC; and
- Supporting and scrutinising the effective exercise of the functions of the PCC.

The Panel comprises elected members of local authorities across Suffolk working alongside two independent co-opted members. Together the Panel members should reflect the breadth of communities in Suffolk. The Police and Crime Panel has 13 members in total, comprising:

- Four County Councillors;
- Seven representatives from the District and Borough Councils in Suffolk; and
- Two independent co-opted members

The Panel is politically balanced, with the 11 local authority councillor representatives appointed to achieve political proportionality across Suffolk.

Meetings

The Panel holds 4 formal meetings per year, in January, March, July and October, plus additional meetings as required, for example to consider the appointment of the Chief Constable or to carry out confirmation hearings for senior officers in the PCC's office.

All formal meetings are held in Endeavour House, Ipswich. Members of the Panel also meet online to set the key lines of enquiry for each meeting, and for pre-meetings.

Latest Meeting

The Panel last met on 14 July 2023 where it elected a new Chair and Vice Chair for the year.

Following the May 2023 elections there has been some turnover on the Panel, with 7 new members joining.

The Panel scrutinised the effective exercise of the PCC's functions by reviewing actions he had taken under Objective 4 of his Police and Crime Plan 2022-25:

- "Work in partnership to improve criminal justice outcomes and enhance community safety".

Members questioned the PCC on his function to deliver community safety and crime reduction, including exploring work undertaken to improve the support available to victims, witnesses and offenders, and grants to organisations which support victims of crime.

The Panel also reviewed its own [Annual Report for 2022/23](#), and approved it for publication.

Cabinet Decisions Plan: 1 September 2023 to 31 May 2024

Report number:	OAS/WS/23/016	
Report to and date(s):	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	21 September 2023
Cabinet member:	Councillor Cliff Waterman (Leader) Tel: 01284 757001 Email: cliff.waterman@westsuffolk.gov.uk	
Lead officer:	Christine Brain Democratic Services Officer (Scrutiny) Tel: 01638 719729 Email: christine.brain@westsuffolk.gov.uk	

Decisions Plan: This report refers to items which are listed in the Cabinet's Decisions Plan.

Wards impacted: All wards.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- 1. Peruses the Decisions Plan for items on which they would like to receive further information on, or which they feel might benefit from the Committee's involvement during the coming year: or**
- 2. Notes the contents of the report.**

1. Context to this report

1.1 Holding the Cabinet to Account

1.2 Part of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's role is to hold the Cabinet to account for the discharge of its functions (*paragraph 7.2.5 of [Article 7 of the Constitution](#)*). The principal elements by which it will do this is as follows:

- (a) Scrutinising decisions which the Cabinet is planning to take, as set out in the Decisions Plan, or of which proper notice is given (*including decisions referred to it in accordance with paragraph 6.6.2 of Article 6 of the Constitution*).
- (b) Scrutinising decisions of the Cabinet and individual Portfolio Holders before they are implemented and if necessary, using the "call-in" mechanism to require the decision taker to reconsider the earlier decision.
- (c) Scrutinising decisions of the Cabinet or Portfolio Holders after they have been implemented as part of a wider review.

2. Proposals within this report

2.1 Attached as **Appendix 1** is the most recently published version of the Decisions Plan to be considered by Cabinet for the period 1 September 2023 to 31 May 2024.

2.2 Members are invited to peruse the Decisions Plan for items on which they would like to receive further information on, or which they feel might benefit from the Committee's involvement during the coming year.

2.3 Members are asked to note that the Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committee, in most instances will receive reports on Financial, Audit and Governance related items published in the Decisions Plan.

3. Alternative options that have been considered

3.1 Not applicable.

4. Consultation and engagement undertaken

4.1 Not applicable.

5. Risks associated with the proposals

5.1 Not applicable.

6. Appendices referenced in this report

6.1 **Appendix 1** – Decisions Plan: 1 September 2023 to 31 May 2024

7. Background documents associated with this report

7.1 Not applicable.

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Decisions Plan

Key Decisions and other executive decisions to be considered

Date: 1 September 2023 to 31 May 2024

Publication Date: 18 August 2023

The following plan shows both the key decisions and other decisions/matters taken in private, that the Cabinet, portfolio holders, joint committees or officers under delegated authority, are intending to take up to 31 May 2024. This table is updated on a monthly rolling basis and provides at least 28 clear days' notice of the consideration of any key decisions and of the taking of any items in private.

Executive decisions are taken at public meetings of the Cabinet and by other bodies/individuals provided with executive decision-making powers. Some decisions and items may be taken in private during the parts of the meeting at which the public may be excluded, when it is likely that confidential or exempt information may be disclosed. This is indicated on the relevant meeting agenda and in the 'Reason for taking the item in private' column relevant to each item detailed on the plan.

Members of the public may wish to:

- make enquiries in respect of any of the intended decisions listed below; or
- receive copies of any of the documents in the public domain listed below; or
- receive copies of any other documents in the public domain relevant to those matters listed below which may be submitted to the decision taker; or
- make representations in relation to why meetings to consider the listed items intended for consideration in private should be open to the public.

In all instances, 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 or via West Suffolk Council, West Suffolk House, Western Way, Bury St Edmunds IP33 3YU.

Expected decision date	Subject and purpose of decision	Reason for taking item in private (see Note 1 for relevant exempt paragraphs)	Decision (D), Key Decision (KD) or Rec (R) to Council on date (see Note 2 for Key Decision definitions)	Decision taker (see Note 3 for membership)	Portfolio holder contact details	Lead officer contact details	Documents to be submitted
19/09/23 New Item Page 44	Public Space Protection Orders and Dog Exclusion Zones The Cabinet will be asked to consider the outcome of a review that has been undertaken on Public Space Protection Orders and Dog Exclusion Zones within the district.	Not applicable	(D)	Cabinet	Donna Higgins Families and Communities Ian Shipp Leisure	Davina Howes Director (Families and Communities) 01284 757070 Mark Walsh Director (Operations) 01284 757300	Report to Cabinet.
19/09/23 New Item	Cumulative Impact Assessment (CIA) Area Review: Bury St Edmunds and Newmarket CIA areas are a licensing tool which encourages applicants who are applying for a new premises license or longer licensing hours in	Not applicable	(D)	Cabinet	Gerald Kelly Governance and Regulatory 07968 396389	Jen Eves Director (HR, Governance and Regulatory) 01284 757015 Christian Moore Food, Safety and Licensing	Report to Cabinet.

Expected decision date	Subject and purpose of decision	Reason for taking item in private (see Note 1 for relevant exempt paragraphs)	Decision (D), Key Decision (KD) or Rec (R) to Council on date (see Note 2 for Key Decision definitions)	Decision taker (see Note 3 for membership)	Portfolio holder contact details	Lead officer contact details	Documents to be submitted
Page 45	a designated area, to address how they will ensure it does not lead to increased issues of anti-social behaviour, crime and impact on public health. New regulations that came into force under Section 141 of the Policing and Crime Act, mean that any further renewal of the CIAs in Bury St Edmunds and Newmarket, must be justified by evidence of its effectiveness. The Cabinet will be asked to consider the outcomes of the review and consultation on this matter. The review must be completed by the end					Manager 01284 757042	

Expected decision date	Subject and purpose of decision	Reason for taking item in private (see Note 1 for relevant exempt paragraphs)	Decision (D), Key Decision (KD) or Rec (R) to Council on date (see Note 2 for Key Decision definitions)	Decision taker (see Note 3 for membership)	Portfolio holder contact details	Lead officer contact details	Documents to be submitted
	of 2023 and without strong evidence to renew, the CIAs will expire.						
19/09/23 Page 46	Annual Treasury Management and Financial Resilience Report (2022 to 2023) The Cabinet will be asked to consider the recommendations of the Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committee regarding seeking approval for the Annual Treasury Management and Financial Resilience Report for 2022 to 2023.	Not applicable	(R) – Council 26/09/23	Cabinet/ Council	Diane Hind Resources 01284 706542	Rachael Mann Director (Resources and Property) 01638 719245	Recommendations of the Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committee to Cabinet and Council.

Expected decision date	Subject and purpose of decision	Reason for taking item in private (see Note 1 for relevant exempt paragraphs)	Decision (D), Key Decision (KD) or Rec (R) to Council on date (see Note 2 for Key Decision definitions)	Decision taker (see Note 3 for membership)	Portfolio holder contact details	Lead officer contact details	Documents to be submitted
19/09/23 Page 47	Treasury Management Report – June 2023 The Cabinet will be asked to consider the recommendations of the Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committee regarding seeking approval for the financial resilience activities between 1 April 2023 and 30 June 2023.	Not applicable	(R) – Council 26/09/23	Cabinet/ Council	Diane Hind Resources 01284 706542	Rachael Mann Director (Resources and Property) 01638 719245	Recommendations of the Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committee to Cabinet and Council.
19/09/23	Revenues Collection Performance and Write Offs The Cabinet will be asked to consider writing-off outstanding debts, as detailed in the exempt appendices.	Exempt appendices: paragraphs 1 and 2	(KD) (a)	Cabinet	Diane Hind Resources 01284 706542	Rachael Mann Director (Resources and Property) 01638 719245	Report to Cabinet with exempt appendices attached.

Expected decision date	Subject and purpose of decision	Reason for taking item in private (see Note 1 for relevant exempt paragraphs)	Decision (D), Key Decision (KD) or Rec (R) to Council on date (see Note 2 for Key Decision definitions)	Decision taker (see Note 3 for membership)	Portfolio holder contact details	Lead officer contact details	Documents to be submitted
05/12/23 Page 48	Council Tax Base for Tax Setting Purposes 2024 to 2025 The Cabinet will be asked to recommend to Council the basis of the formal calculation for the Council Tax Base for West Suffolk Council for the financial year 2024 to 2025.	Not applicable	(R) – Council 19/12/23	Cabinet/ Council	Diane Hind Resources 01284 706542	Rachael Mann Director (Resources and Property) 01638 719245	Report to Cabinet with recommendations to Council.
05/12/23	Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2024 to 2025 The Cabinet will be asked to consider proposals for potential revisions to the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme prior to seeking its approval by Council.	Not applicable	(R) – Council 19/12/23	Cabinet/ Council	Diane Hind Resources 01284 706542	Rachael Mann Director (Resources and Property) 01638 719245	Report to Cabinet with recommendations to Council.

Expected decision date	Subject and purpose of decision	Reason for taking item in private (see Note 1 for relevant exempt paragraphs)	Decision (D), Key Decision (KD) or Rec (R) to Council on date (see Note 2 for Key Decision definitions)	Decision taker (see Note 3 for membership)	Portfolio holder contact details	Lead officer contact details	Documents to be submitted
05/12/23 Page 49	Delivering a Sustainable Medium-Term Budget The Cabinet will be asked to consider recs of the Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committee for recommending to Council on proposals for achieving a sustainable budget in 2024 to 2025 and in the medium term.	Not applicable	(R) – Council 19/12/23	Cabinet/ Council	Diane Hind Resources 01284 706542	Rachael Mann Director (Resources and Property) 01638 719245	Recommendations of the Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committee to Cabinet and Council.
05/12/23	Treasury Management Report – September 23 Cabinet will be asked to consider the recs of the Performance and Audit Scrutiny Cmt regarding seeking approval for the financial resilience activities between 1 April 2023 and 30 Sept 2023.	Not applicable	(R) – Council 19/12/23	Cabinet/ Council	Diane Hind Resources 01284 706542	Rachael Mann Director (Resources and Property) 01638 719245	Recommendations of the Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committee to Cabinet and Council.

Expected decision date	Subject and purpose of decision	Reason for taking item in private (see Note 1 for relevant exempt paragraphs)	Decision (D), Key Decision (KD) or Rec (R) to Council on date (see Note 2 for Key Decision definitions)	Decision taker (see Note 3 for membership)	Portfolio holder contact details	Lead officer contact details	Documents to be submitted
05/12/23 Page 50	Revenues Collection Performance and Write Offs The Cabinet will be asked to consider writing-off outstanding debts, as detailed in the exempt appendices.	Exempt appendices: paragraphs 1 and 2	(KD) (a)	Cabinet	Diane Hind Resources 01284 706542	Rachael Mann Director (Resources and Property) 01638 719245	Report to Cabinet with exempt appendices attached.
06/02/24	Community Chest Grants 2024 to 2025 The Cabinet will be asked to consider the recommendations of the West Suffolk Grant Working Party in respect of the levels of funding (if any) to be awarded to applicants to the Community Chest funding scheme for 2024 to 2025.	Not applicable	(KD) (a)	Cabinet	Donna Higgins Families and Communities	Davina Howes Director (Families and Communities) 01284 757070	Recommendations of the West Suffolk Grant Working Party to Cabinet.

Expected decision date	Subject and purpose of decision	Reason for taking item in private (see Note 1 for relevant exempt paragraphs)	Decision (D), Key Decision (KD) or Rec (R) to Council on date (see Note 2 for Key Decision definitions)	Decision taker (see Note 3 for members-hip)	Portfolio holder contact details	Lead officer contact details	Documents to be submitted
06/02/24 Page 51	Delivering a Sustainable Medium-Term Budget The Cabinet will be asked to consider recommendations of the Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committee for recommending to Council on proposals for achieving a sustainable budget in 2024 to 2025 and in the medium term.	Not applicable	(R) – Council 20/02/24 Unless separate proposals are recommended by Cabinet, consideration by Council will take place as part of the budget setting paper on 20/02/24	Cabinet/ Council	Diane Hind Resources 01284 706542	Rachael Mann Director (Resources and Property) 01638 719245	Recommendations of the Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committee to Cabinet and Council.

Expected decision date	Subject and purpose of decision	Reason for taking item in private (see Note 1 for relevant exempt paragraphs)	Decision (D), Key Decision (KD) or Rec (R) to Council on date (see Note 2 for Key Decision definitions)	Decision taker (see Note 3 for membership)	Portfolio holder contact details	Lead officer contact details	Documents to be submitted
06/02/24 Page 52	Budget and Council Tax Setting 2024 to 2025 and Medium-Term Financial Strategy 2024 to 2028 The Cabinet will be asked to consider the proposals for the 2024 to 2025 budget and Medium-Term Financial Strategy 2024 to 2028 for West Suffolk Council, prior to its approval by Council. This report includes the Minimum Revenues Provision (MRP) Policy and Prudential Indicators, and also the outcomes of the Council's review of its fees and charges.	Not applicable	(KD) (e)– in relation to fees and charges element where proposed increases will be more than five percent (R) – Council 20/02/24 Unless separate proposals are recommended by Cabinet,	Cabinet/ Council	Diane Hind Resources 01284 706542	Rachael Mann Director (Resources and Property) 01638 719245	Report to Cabinet with recommendations to Council.

Expected decision date	Subject and purpose of decision	Reason for taking item in private (see Note 1 for relevant exempt paragraphs)	Decision (D), Key Decision (KD) or Rec (R) to Council on date (see Note 2 for Key Decision definitions)	Decision taker (see Note 3 for membership)	Portfolio holder contact details	Lead officer contact details	Documents to be submitted
Page 53	The fees and charges have been reviewed in accordance with the Council's Fees and Charges Policy, which has resulted in proposed increases to some. Where the proposed increase is greater than five percent, this constitutes a Key Decision. The Cabinet will consider the proposals as part of its consideration of this report.		consideration by Council will take place as part of the separate budget setting paper on 20/02/24				
06/02/24	Financial Resilience - Strategy Statement 2024 to 2025 and Treasury Management Code of Practice The Cabinet will be asked to recommend to Council, approval of the Strategy	Not applicable	(R) – Council 20/02/24	Cabinet/ Council	Diane Hind Resources 01284 706542	Rachael Mann Director (Resources and Property) 01638 719245	Recommendations of the Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committee to Cabinet and Council.

Expected decision date	Subject and purpose of decision	Reason for taking item in private (see Note 1 for relevant exempt paragraphs)	Decision (D), Key Decision (KD) or Rec (R) to Council on date (see Note 2 for Key Decision definitions)	Decision taker (see Note 3 for membership)	Portfolio holder contact details	Lead officer contact details	Documents to be submitted
Page 54	Statement 2024 to 2025 and Treasury Management Code of Practice for West Suffolk Council, which must be undertaken before the start of each financial year.						
06/02/24	Treasury Management Report – December 2023 The Cabinet will be asked to consider the recommendations of the Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committee regarding seeking approval for the financial resilience activities between 1 April 2023 and 31 December 2023.	Not applicable	(R) – Council 20/02/24	Cabinet/ Council	Diane Hind Resources 01284 706542	Rachael Mann Director (Resources and Property) 01638 719245	Recommendations of the Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committee to Cabinet and Council.

Expected decision date	Subject and purpose of decision	Reason for taking item in private (see Note 1 for relevant exempt paragraphs)	Decision (D), Key Decision (KD) or Rec (R) to Council on date (see Note 2 for Key Decision definitions)	Decision taker (see Note 3 for membership)	Portfolio holder contact details	Lead officer contact details	Documents to be submitted
12/03/24 Page 55	Revenues Collection Performance and Write Offs The Cabinet will be asked to consider writing-off outstanding debts, as detailed in the exempt appendices.	Exempt appendices: paragraphs 1 and 2	(KD) (a)	Cabinet	Diane Hind Resources 01284 706542	Rachael Mann Director (Resources and Property) 01638 719245	Report to Cabinet with exempt appendices attached.

Note 1: Definition of exempt information and relevant paragraphs of the Local Government Act 1972

In accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)

The public may be excluded from all or part of the meeting during the consideration of items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information defined in Schedule 12(A) of the Act, as follows:

1. Information relating to any individual.
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
4. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
6. Information which reveals that the authority proposes –
 - a. to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
 - b. to make an order or direction under any enactment.
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

In accordance with Section 100A(3) (a) and (b) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)

Confidential information is also not for public access, but the difference between this and exempt information is that a Government department, legal opinion or the court has prohibited its disclosure in the public domain. Should confidential information require consideration in private, this will be detailed in this Decisions Plan.

Note 2: Key decision definition

A key decision is an executive decision that either:

- a. Results in new expenditure, or a reduced income or savings of more than £100,000 in any one year that has not otherwise been included in the Council's revenue or capital budgets.
- b. Comprises or includes the making, approval or publication of a draft or final scheme, which is not a routine business decision, that may require, either directly or in the event of objections, the approval of a Minister of the Crown.
- c. Results in the formation of a new company, limited liability partnership or joint venture.
- d. Has a potentially detrimental impact on communities outside of West Suffolk District.
- e. Is a decision that is significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in a definable local community in the District, or on one or more wards, in that it will:
 - i. Have a long-term, lasting impact on that community; or
 - ii. Restrict the ability of individual businesses or residents in that area to undertake particular activities; or
 - iii. Removes the provision of a service or facility for that community; or
 - iv. Increases the charges payable by members of the community to provide a service or facility by more than 5%; or
 - v. Have the potential to create significant local controversy or reputational damage to the Council
 - vi. A matter that the decision maker considers to be a key decision.
- f. Any matters that fall under the scope of e. above must be subject to consultation with the local Member(s) in Wards that are likely to be impacted by the decision prior to the decision being made.

Note 3: Membership of bodies making key decisions

a. Membership of West Suffolk Council's Cabinet and their portfolios

Cabinet Member	Portfolio
Cliff Waterman	Leader of the Council
Victor Lukaniuk	Deputy Leader of the Council
Donna Higgins	Portfolio Holder for Families and Communities
Diane Hind	Portfolio Holder for Resources
Gerald Kelly	Portfolio Holder for Governance and Regulatory
Richard O'Driscoll	Portfolio Holder for Housing
Ian Shipp	Portfolio Holder for Leisure
David Taylor	Portfolio Holder for Operations
Jim Thorndyke	Portfolio Holder for Planning
Indy Wijenayaka	Portfolio Holder for Growth

Membership of the Anglia Revenues Partnership Joint Committee (made up of Breckland Council, East Cambridgeshire District Council, East Suffolk Council, Fenland District Council and West Suffolk Council)

Member Council	Full representative	Substitute representatives
Breckland	Philip Cowen	Sam Chapman-Allen Sarah Suggitt
East Cambridgeshire	James Lay	Anna Bailey Alan Sharp
East Suffolk	Paul Ashton	Peter Byatt Vacancy
Fenland	Jan French	Chris Boden Vacancy
West Suffolk	Diane Hind	Victor Lukaniuk David Taylor

Jennifer Eves
Director (Human Resources, Governance and Regulatory)
Date: 18 August 2023

Scrutiny Work Programme 2023 Update

Report number:	OAS/WS/23/017	
Report to and date(s):	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	21 September 2023
Chair of the Committee:	Councillor Sarah Broughton Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Telephone: 01284 787327 Email: sarah.broughton@westsuffolk.gov.uk	
Lead officer(s):	Christine Brain Democratic Services Officer (Scrutiny) Telephone: 01638 719729 Email: christine.brain@westsuffolk.gov.uk	

Decisions Plan: This item is not included in the decisions plan.

Wards impacted: Not applicable.

Recommendation: It is recommended that Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- 1. Reviews and notes the current status of topics currently scheduled in its rolling work programme for 2023, attached at Appendix 1.**

1. Context to this report

1.1 Scrutiny Rolling Work Programme

- 1.1.1 The Committee has a rolling work programme whereby suggestions for scrutiny reviews are brought to each meeting, following the completion of the work programme suggestion form, and if accepted, are timetabled to report to a future meeting.
- 1.1.2 The work programme also leaves space for Call-ins and Councillor Calls for Action.
- 1.1.3 The current position of the work programme, including any Task and Finish Group(s) or Review Group(s), and items currently agreed is attached at **Appendix 1**.

2. Proposals within this report

2.1 Scrutiny Rolling Work Programme

- 2.1.1 The Committee is asked to note the current status of its rolling work programme attached at **Appendix 1**.

3. Appendices referenced in this report

- 3.1 Appendix 1 – Scrutiny Work Programme 2023

4. Background documents associated with this report

- 4.1 None

West Suffolk Council

Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Rolling Work Programme (2023 to 2024)

The Committee has a rolling work programme, whereby suggestions for scrutiny reviews are brought to each meeting, and if accepted, are timetabled to report to a future meeting. The work programme also leaves space for Call-ins and Councillor Calls for Action.

Description	Lead Member - Officer	Details
9 November 2023 (Time: 5.00pm)		
Venue: West Suffolk House, Western Way, Bury St Edmunds		
Grass Cutting Review	Cabinet Member for Operations	The Cabinet Member for Operations to be invited to provide an update on the Grass Cutting Review to for Scrutiny Members to provide input into the Review.
Suffolk County Council: Police and Crime Panel	Councillors Mike Chester and Diane Hind	To receive an update from the Council's appointed representative on discussions held by the Suffolk Police and Crime Panel on 6 October 2023
Suffolk County Council: Health Scrutiny Committee	Councillor Andrew Martin	To receive an update from the Council's appointed representative on discussions held by the Suffolk Health Scrutiny Committee on 11 October 2023.
Decisions Plan	Leader of the Council	To receive information on forthcoming decisions to be considered by the Cabinet.
Work Programme	Chair of the Committee	To receive suggestions for scrutiny reviews, appoint Task and Finish Groups for these reviews and indicate review timescales.
Abbeycroft Leisure: Strategic Partnership Review	Task and Finish Group	Agreement of draft report and recommendations by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for reporting to Cabinet in December 2023
18 January 2024 (Time: 5.00pm)		
Venue: West Suffolk House, Western Way, Bury St Edmunds		
West Suffolk Housing Strategy and Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy	Cabinet Member for Housing	To be presented to Overview and Scrutiny Committee as part of the consultation exercise.
Decisions Plan	Leader of the Council	To receive information on forthcoming decisions to be considered by the Cabinet.

Description	Lead Member - Officer	Details
Work Programme	Chair of the Committee	To receive suggestions for scrutiny reviews, appoint Task and Finish Groups for these reviews and indicate review timescales.
17 March 2024 (Time: 5.00pm) Venue: West Suffolk House, Western Way, Bury St Edmunds		
Suffolk County Council: Health Scrutiny Committee	Councillor Andrew Martin	To receive an update from the Council's appointed representative on discussions held by the Suffolk Health Scrutiny Committee on 24 January 2024.
Suffolk County Council: Police and Crime Panel	Councillors Mike Chester and Diane Hind	To receive an update from the Council's appointed representative on discussions held by the Suffolk Police and Crime Panel on 26 January 2024.
Decisions Plan	Leader of the Council	To receive information on forthcoming decisions to be considered by the Cabinet.
Work Programme	Chair of the Committee	To receive suggestions for scrutiny reviews, appoint Task and Finish Groups for these reviews and indicate review timescales.
Future Item(s) for Review		
Mildenhall Hub	Cabinet Member for Leisure	Cabinet endorsed a future review on progress against the year five financial test by way of a final report on the Mildenhall Hub Post Implementation Review be included in the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's work programme for 2026 , subject to the completion of a scoping / key lines of enquiry exercise being carried out with the Strategic Director.

Current position of Overview and Scrutiny Working Groups

	Title	Purpose	Start Date (Established)	Members Appointed	Estimated End date
1.	Modern Day Slavery Working Group	<p>A Working Group was established in November 2020 to carry out a review of the West Suffolk Council statement and approach to modern-day slavery.</p> <p>(The government announced in September 2020 new guidance which requires councils to report on their activities in relation to modern day slavery. More guidance is awaited from government. Once this has been published, the Working Group will convene its first meeting).</p> <p>Update: Queens Speech 2022 – Modern Slavery Bill – reducing modern slavery in the supply chain. Once the Bill has progressed and more detail is published, the Working Group will convene its first meeting.</p>	Not yet met.	Councillors:	
2.	Abbeycroft Leisure Strategic Partnership Review Task and Finish Group	A Task and Finish Group was established in July 2023 to review the Council's partnership with Abbeycroft Leisure between 2019 to 2023 against the current Collaboration Agreement outcomes and provide a report and recommendations for Overview and Scrutiny to consider before referring to Cabinet.	September 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sarah Broughton - Marion Rushbrook - Rowena Lindberg - Peter Armitage - Andy Neal 	December 2023
3.	Transport and Infrastructure Review Task and Finish Group	A Task and Finish Group was established in July 2023 to establish ways to get upstream on areas relating to transport and infrastructure to help influence future local plans and provide a report and recommendations for Overview and Scrutiny to consider before referring to Cabinet.	September 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sarah Broughton - Beccy Hopfensperger - Birgitte Mager - Andrew Smith - Don Waldron - Julia Wakelam - Kevin Yarrow 	October 2024

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