

Overview and Scrutiny Committee



Title	Agenda											
Date	Thursday 14 March 2024											
Time	5.00 pm											
Venue	Conference Chamber West Suffolk House Western Way Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP33 3YU											
Full Members	<p style="text-align: center;">Chair Sarah Broughton</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vice Chair Marion Rushbrook</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">Conservative Group (7)</td> <td style="width: 33%;">Sarah Broughton Susan Glossop Beccy Hopfensperger Birgitte Mager</td> <td style="width: 33%;">Marion Rushbrook Andrew Smith Andrew Speed</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Independents (4)</td> <td>Tony Brown Dawn Dicker</td> <td>Aaron Luccarini Don Waldron</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Progressive Alliance Grouping (5)</td> <td>Luke Halpin Rowena Lindberg Andrew Martin</td> <td>Andrew Martin Kevin Yarrow</td> </tr> </table>			Conservative Group (7)	Sarah Broughton Susan Glossop Beccy Hopfensperger Birgitte Mager	Marion Rushbrook Andrew Smith Andrew Speed	Independents (4)	Tony Brown Dawn Dicker	Aaron Luccarini Don Waldron	Progressive Alliance Grouping (5)	Luke Halpin Rowena Lindberg Andrew Martin	Andrew Martin Kevin Yarrow
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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.

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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

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 18 January 2024 (copy attached).

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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.

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.

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

7.	UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural England Prosperity Fund - Progress Update	7 - 30
	Report number: OAS/WS/24/004	
8.	Suffolk County Council: Health Scrutiny Committee – 24 January 2024	31 - 36
	Report number: OAS/WS/24/005	
9.	Suffolk County Council: Police and Crime Panel – 26 January 2024	37 - 40
	Report number: OAS/WS/24/006	
10.	Cabinet Decisions Plan: 1 March 2024 to 31 May 2024	41 - 52
	Report number: OAS/WS/24/007	
11.	Work programme update	53 - 58
	Report number: OAS/WS/24/008	

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 18 January 2024** 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	Andrew Martin
Dawn Dicker	Andrew Smith
Susan Glossop	Andrew Speed
Beccy Hopfensperger	Julia Wakelam
Birgitte Mager	Kevin Yarrow

Substitutes attending for a full member
David Smith

In attendance
Richard O'Driscoll, Cabinet Member for Housing

262. **Substitutes**

The following substitution was declared:

Councillor David Smith acting as temporary substitute for Councillor Rowena Lindberg.

263. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Aaron Luccarini, Luke Halpin, Rowena Lindberg and Don Waldron.

264. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 November 2023 were confirmed as correct record and signed by the Chair.

265. **Declarations of interest**

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

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

The Chair informed members that the Vice-Chair attended Cabinet on 5 December 2023 and presented the Committee's report from its meeting held on 9 November 2023. As per the minutes confirmed above, the Vice-Chair presented the recommendations from the Committee on the Abbeycroft Strategic Partnership Review, which were approved by Cabinet.

267. Public participation

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

268. Housing Update

[Councillor Mager arrived at 5.25pm during the consideration of this item.]

The Committee received report number OAS/WS/24/001, presented by the Cabinet Member for Housing, which set out:

- Progress and challenges against the current Housing Strategy and the current Homelessness Reduction and Rough Sleeping Strategy.
- The council's strategic priorities for housing for the period 2024 to 2028.
- Emerging actions and plans for the development of the new Housing, Homelessness Reduction and Rough Sleeping Strategy for 2024 onwards. Emerging actions would be the subject of further investigation and consideration as the council moved forward with its planning of the new strategy.
- The current situation regarding refugees and asylum seekers in West Suffolk and how the council was addressing issues being faced in the district.
- Responses provided to questions which the committee had raised with the Cabinet Member for Housing in advance of tonight's meeting.

The report also set out a number of known challenges, including:

- An insufficient supply of some types of housing, particularly affordable housing in West Suffolk in meeting housing needs.
- Providing and retrofitting homes to reduce the impact on the environment. Providing good quality housing which were a safe place to live in and thermal comfort which would impact positively on people's lives and reduce costs to residents.
- The cost-of-living crisis was making affordability of housing more challenging for many families. This had a detrimental impact on physical and mental health and wellbeing with long-term negative impacts on the population and placing additional demand on the wider Suffolk system. The lack of affordable housing placed additional demands on the housing

register with people finding it difficult to maintain a tenancy in the private rented sector.

The Committee was then asked to consider the report, and in particular the emerging actions currently being considered for inclusion in the new strategy; plans on how the new strategy should be developed, including consultation and engagement and how the committee would like to be involved.

The Committee scrutinised the report in detail and asked a number of questions to which the Cabinet Member for Housing provided comprehensive responses. In particular discussions were held on the differentiation between affordable housing and social housing; how the council was addressing empty homes across the district; the various refugees and asylum housing schemes; Houses in Multiple Occupation; barriers being faced by young people accessing housing; the ageing population and appropriate housing; retrofitting heritage homes; house conditions in the private sector; disabled facilities grants and stalled housing development sites.

In response to a question raised in relation to the types and number of people in bed and breakfast accommodation, officers agreed to provide a written responses on the breakdown of the types of people in bed and breakfast, for example young people; single people; families.

In response to a question raised on shared equity to help young people to access housing, the Cabinet Member for Housing advised he would look into the options around shared equity.

In response to a question raised on what the definition was for social housing and affordable housing, the Committee was advised that social rent was 60% of the market value, and affordable rent was 80%.

In response to a question raised on houses in multiple occupation (HMOs), the Committee was informed that the council's priorities included targeted work in the small number of problematic HMOs. The Cabinet Member was considering ways to have a wider conversation around HMOs with members (linked to the future housing strategy).

In response to a question relating to registered housing providers, the Cabinet Member informed the Committee that an agreement had been made with two registered housing providers to hold regular meetings with the council on its stock condition and improving the standard of housing. He then explained the council did not have any powers to act on registered housing providers stock conditions.

In response to a question relating to self-build housing, the Cabinet Members advised that the council had retained the broad principle of self-build in the development of the new local plan. Any self-build would however need to be negotiated with a target of 10%. Self-build was an affordable product but did not fall under the affordable housing definition in planning terms therefore self-build was separate to the requirement of 40%

affordable which remained a requirement and an uplift to the existing adopted policy.

The Committee considered the development of the new strategy including the consultation and engagement plan and confirmed that it would like to be involved and that it would like to receive an update report following the consultation process.

At the conclusion of the discussions, the Committee thanked the Portfolio Holder for Housing for the comprehensive report, and **noted** the following:

- **Noted** the progress and challenges against the Housing Strategy Implementation Plan 2018 to 2024.
- **Noted** the progress and challenges against the Homelessness Reduction and Rough Sleeping Strategy Delivery Plan 2018 to 2024.
- **Noted** the Council's priorities for housing as set out in the Strategic Priorities for 2024 to 2028.
- Considered and **noted** the emerging actions to be investigated and explored and plans for the development of the Housing, Homelessness Reduction and Rough Sleeping Strategy for 2024 onwards.
- The Committee to be involved by way of an update report on the consultation for the Housing, Homelessness Reduction and Rough Sleeping Strategy for 2024 when available.
- **Noted** the situation regarding refugees and asylum seekers in West Suffolk and how the Council is addressing the issues being faced in the district.
- Considered and **noted** the responses provided to questions raised by the Committee from the Cabinet Member for Housing.

269. **Cabinet Decisions Plan: 1 February 2024 to 31 May 2024**

The Committee received report number: OAS/WS/24/002, which informed members on forthcoming decisions to be considered by the Cabinet for the period 1 February 2024 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 February 2024 to 31 May 2024 Decisions Plan.

270. **Work programme update 2024**

The Committee received report number: OAS/WS/24/003, which updated members on the current status of its rolling work programme of items for scrutiny during 2024 (Appendix 1).

In response to a question raised in relation to the Transport and Infrastructure Task and Finish Group, the Chair advised that officers were working in the background on the topic, and the first meeting of the Task and Finish Group would be arranged in due course.

There being no decision required, the Committee **noted** the update.

The meeting concluded at 6.14pm

Signed by:

Chair

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UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural England Prosperity Fund – progress update

Report number:	CAB/WS/24/004	
Report to and date:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	14 March 2024
Cabinet members:	<p>Cllr Cliff Waterman Leader of the Council Tel: 07974 092289 Email: cliff.waterman@westsuffolk.gov.uk</p> <p>Cllr Diane Hind Portfolio Holder for Resources Email: diane.hind@westsuffolk.gov.uk</p>	
Lead officer:	<p>Ian Gallin Chief Executive Tel: 01284 757001 Email: democratic.services@westsuffolk.gov.uk</p>	

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

Wards impacted: All Wards

Recommendation: **Following an invitation from the Chair to provide an update, it is recommended that Overview and Scrutiny Committee note progress so far in allocating West Suffolk’s UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural England Prosperity Fund allocations to local projects and initiatives**

1. Context to this report

- 1.1 The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF) were announced by Government in 2022 as successors to EU funding following the UK's departure from the EU. Each council was given an allocation of funding and a range of criteria for spending it over three years.
- 1.2 West Suffolk Council is coming to the end of the second year of UKSPF funding and the first year of REPF funding.
- 1.3 An update on progress in implementing West Suffolk Council's UKSPF and REPF investment plans was requested at the quarterly meeting between the Leader of the Council and the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 15 January 2024.
- 1.4 This report sets out the background to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF); spend so far in 2022-23 and 2023-24; plans for spending in 2024-25; and issues and challenges experienced with the programmes.

Background to UKSPF

- 1.5 The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) is a £2.6bn fund that Government announced in April 2022 to support implementation of its Levelling Up White Paper. Its primary goal is "to build pride in place and increase life chances across the UK", aligned with the Levelling Up White Paper goals. The Government has three investment priorities for UKSPF:
- communities and place
 - supporting local business
 - people and skills
- 1.6 Funding was allocated to each council area through a formula but could only be accessed through an Investment Plan. In these plans, councils had to say which of a 'menu' of [41 interventions](#) they would support through the funding and to identify output and outcome measures. Interventions are expected to be delivered through grants to public or private organisations, commissioning of third-party organisations, procurement of service provision and in-house provision. Full guidance on UKSPF was set out by the Government in its [prospectus](#).
- 1.7 The Government has encouraged collaborative working between councils especially on the people and skills element, but each council still required a standalone investment plan. Each lead local authority also needed to establish a Local Partnership Group to consult on its investment plan, to include MPs.

1.8 West Suffolk Council was allocated the following amounts of UKSPF funding in 2022. The council’s investment plan was [agreed by Council in July 2022](#) and approved by Government in December 2022:

UKSPF	2022-23 (year 1)	2023-24 (year 2)	2024-25 (year 3)	Total
Amount of funding	£235,858	£471,715	£1,235,894	£1,934,467
Minimum capital element	10 per cent	13 per cent	20 per cent	
Funding purpose	Communities and place Supporting local business	Communities and place Supporting local business	Communities and place Supporting local business Plus: People and skills	

1.9 A key principle in the investment plan was that UKSPF and REPF monies would be in large part be allocated to external partners, for example, community groups, strategic partners and businesses, rather than used for direct delivery by the council. This was in line with West Suffolk’s focus on building capacity in the wider local area.

Background to REPF

1.10 The Rural England Prosperity Fund is a top-up to UKSPF (covering only the Communities and Place and Supporting Local Business priorities), aimed at supporting the Levelling Up White Paper and Future Farming Programme. It is a successor to the EU LEADER Fund and the Growth Programme (Rural Development Programme for England). REPF is all capital funding.

1.11 Within West Suffolk, the funding can be used everywhere outside Bury St Edmunds, in line with the Department for Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)’s rural/urban classification of settlements. The REPF investment plan was [agreed by Cabinet in November 2022](#) and approved by Defra in April 2023.

1.12

REPF	2022-23	2023-24 (year 1)	2024-25 (year 2)	Total
Amount of funding		£188,425	£565,275	£753,701

1.13 Councils are permitted to use up to 4 per cent of the UKSPF allocation for management and administration of both UKSPF and REPF. This has been absorbed into the base budget to support the process.

Progress so far

- 1.14 Appendices A, B and C set out the spend so far in years one and two of UKSPF and year one of REPF. The tables in these appendices show that funding has reached a range of organisations across the public, private and voluntary sectors; across a range of locations; and in support of a number of different outcomes that align with the council's strategic priorities.
- 1.15 It should be noted that the amounts of funding allocated to each project under UKSPF are small, and that the number of organisations funded is large. This is because of the approach taken by Government, of giving councils a large number of outcomes to achieve with the funding; linking it to initiatives previously supported through EU funding and requiring wide engagement on priorities. West Suffolk Council's allocation was relatively modest at £1.9m, when compared to, for example, Cornwall's (£129m) or even some districts' (over £5m in Preston).
- 1.16 In 2022-24, UKSPF and REPF funds were used to support the following initiatives, as agreed by Cabinet and Council in 2022:
- Access to healthy food
 - Active travel
 - Advocacy and advice services
 - Arts and creative outreach activities
 - Drug and alcohol recovery
 - Encouraging energy efficient behaviours
 - Feasibility studies for community initiatives
 - Grants to small businesses
 - Grassroots sports clubs (grants)
 - Greenspace improvements
 - High street and town centre improvements
 - Improvements to community buildings
 - Increasing sports participation
 - Incubation space for entrepreneurs
 - Markets facilities (electric chargepoint)
 - Play area improvements
 - Physical activity for older people
 - Start up support and advice for small businesses
 - Tackling rural isolation
 - Tourism promotion
 - Voluntary sector capacity building
 - Warm hubs
 - Youth employment
- 1.17 Many of these projects have already been delivered, but for some, the funding is with the relevant organisation but project delivery is not yet complete.
- 1.18 Each of these initiatives was communicated through media releases at the point the grant programme was launched, or when the allocation was made

to the relevant partner organisation, and in turn to Members through media alerts.

1.19 Looking ahead to 2024-25, the remaining UKSPF and REPF spend can be divided into three categories:

a) Funding already committed through Suffolk-wide funding programmes

Funding has already been committed through two Suffolk-wide programmes as agreed in 2022. £231,729 has been allocated to business support (for the Growth Hub (run by YTKO), to Groundworks East (net zero support), to MENTA and for small business grants) and £288,000 to a Suffolk-wide skills contract, in line with the Government's requirement that a significant amount of UKSPF funding should be allocated to the People and Skills priority in year three.

b) Funding agreed through a portfolio holder decision taken in February 2024

These allocations are shown in Appendix D.

c) Funding yet to be allocated to specific projects

These amounts are shown in Appendix D. Decisions on allocating these amounts will be taken in the coming weeks and months, in line with the delegations made by Council.

2. Proposals within this report

2.1 UKSPF and REPF funding has been allocated and used in line with the principles that were agreed at Council in 2022, as follows:

- UKSPF is additional to existing funding, so will be applied where there are gaps or areas of most need
- UKSPF will be invested in line with our existing [2020-2024] Strategic Framework, ways of working and West Suffolk's approach (partnership working, building capacity, prevention, behaving more commercially, subsidiarity, user pays, digital transformation)
- Where possible, we will fund projects with revenue funding for three years, to give stability to partners, and will require an exit strategy or longer-term sustainable solution
- As was the case for EU funding, there is an expectation of match funding, commitment and support with delivery where appropriate – for example, business support and town centre improvement initiatives
- There will be a balance of investment according to evidence of challenges, opportunities, outcomes and benefits, across rural and urban locations
- We will encourage projects that support net-zero objectives as a cross-cutting theme
- Details of investments will need to change or evolve over the three years. Cabinet will take the lead in shaping future changes

- 2.2 Perhaps the biggest challenge of the schemes has been the difficulty of communicating effectively about UKSPF and REPF, given how multi-stranded the programmes have been and over a long period of time (see paragraph 2.8 below). Further work is in hand to communicate the remaining elements of funding and the outcomes that have been achieved for West Suffolk.
- 2.3 At the same time, West Suffolk Council has experienced a number of challenges that have arisen as a result of the design of the funds by Government, as set out below. This initial learning will continue to be shared with Government officials through UKSPF webinars and other opportunities as appropriate.

Issues and challenges with implementation of UKSPF and REPF

2.4 Delayed decisions and release of funding

There were long delays on the part of central government in announcing, confirming and releasing funding to councils. For example, the funding for 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 did not arrive with West Suffolk until 12 July 2023 (Rural England Prosperity Fund) and 14 July 2023 (UK Shared Prosperity Fund). These delays have meant that some contracts had to be entered into 'at risk', without having certainty that the funding would arrive. In the case of partnership contracts (for example, Suffolk-wide), this is particularly challenging as legal work needs to be done to ensure that the lead authority for procurement has sufficient reassurances that funding will be forthcoming from the other councils should the Government funding not be received. In future, funding should be made available ahead of the start of the new financial year.

High degree of prescription over future funding plans

- 2.5 It was very challenging for councils to produce investment plans giving firm funding commitments and specific outputs and outcomes that would be delivered two years ahead of the projects being commissioned. This was especially challenging given local elections taking place between 2023-24 and 2024-25 and the need to allow the new administration the ability to set their direction.
- 2.6 It was also difficult to predict what outputs and outcomes would be achieved through open grant programmes for community funding (one of the recommended allocation methods for UKSPF), in advance of knowing what bids would be put forward. In future, there should be greater flexibility between years to allocate funding in response to emerging circumstances and changes in council leadership.

Amounts of funding so small because of multiple interventions

- 2.7 The one-size-fits-all approach to UKSPF meant that councils receiving smaller amounts of money, such as West Suffolk, were attempting to cover many of the 41 interventions in our investment plan, which resulted in very small allocations to each intervention. The wide approach to engagement

that was encouraged meant that there was local support for a very wide range of interventions, which in turn added weight to the approach of spreading the funding across a large number of projects. In future, the number of interventions should be reduced and councils asked to select those that best fit their strategic priorities.

Reporting – outputs and outcomes

- 2.8 The reporting arrangements for UKSPF and REPF faced a number of significant problems at the national level. Several months after the outputs and outcomes were set by Government and used in council investment plans, many of the indicators were changed from percentages to actual numbers. This was challenging in the case of district councils where, to take the example of leisure and sport, increases in participation could vary from 5 to 50 depending on whether a grant was allocated to a rural or urban sports facility. A percentage was much more suited to this context.
- 2.9 Further, the PowerApp introduced by the Government for the first six monthly report of 2023-24 was poorly designed and then had to be withdrawn and relaunched, causing significant additional work for officers. In the future, reporting should be based on percentage changes and any reporting mechanisms should be tested before being launched to over 300 councils.

3. Alternative options that have been considered

- 3.1 This report was requested by Overview and Scrutiny Committee to give an update on UKSPF and REPF implementation. No alternative options were considered.

4. Consultation and engagement undertaken

- 4.1 The UKSPF and REPF investment plans were put together in response to Cabinet's priorities, following a stakeholder engagement exercise during which submissions were received from 66 organisations, individuals or councillors and a meeting of the Local Partnership Group. The three local MPs were also consulted and supported the plan.
- 4.2 More information on the consultation outcomes is given in section 4 the report to Council in July 2022 (see section 8.1 below).
- 4.3 Delegated authority to implement the West Suffolk Council investment plans for UKSPF and REPF was given by Council to the Portfolio Holder for Resources and Property in 2022. Each time a decision has been taken on the details of the funding agreement to be made in order to implement an intervention, there has been consultation with other Portfolio Holders, members, officers and other relevant stakeholders.

5. Risks associated with the proposals

- 5.1 The proposal to give feedback to Suffolk County Council and the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities on UKSPF and REPF is very low risk, if handled in positive, constructive and collaborative way.

6. Implications arising from the proposals

- 6.1 Financial – none
6.2 Legal compliance – none
6.3 Personal data processing – none
6.4 Equalities – none
6.5 Crime and disorder – none
6.6 Safeguarding – none
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) - none

7. Appendices referenced in this report

- 7.1 Appendix A: UKSPF year one (2022-23) - Projects supported
7.2 Appendix B: UKSPF year two (2023-24) – Projects supported
7.3 Appendix C: REPF year one (2023-24) – Projects supported
7.4 Appendix D: UKSPF year three and REPF year two (2024-25)

8. Background documents associated with this report

- 8.1 Item 236 – Referral from Cabinet: UK Shared Prosperity Fund: investment plan allocations (Report number: COU/WS/22/015 and addendum)
[Agenda for Council on Tuesday 26 July 2022, 7.00 pm \(westsuffolk.gov.uk\)](#)
- 8.2 Item 411 – UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural England Prosperity Fund (Report number: CAB/WS/22/059)
[Agenda for Cabinet on Tuesday 8 November 2022, 6.00 pm \(westsuffolk.gov.uk\)](#)

Appendix A: UKSPF Year one (2022-23) - Projects supported

1. £235,858 was paid out to a range of organisations by 31 March 2023, in line with the investment plan agreed by Council in July 2022.
2. The projects funded in year one are shown below. A monitoring report was submitted to DLUHC on these projects in May 2023.

Funding recipient	Description	UKSPF intervention	Funding amount (£)
Theatre Royal, Bury St Edmunds	Outreach activities	E6: Local arts, cultural, heritage and creative activities	14,702
Greater Anglia	Contribution to new cycle storage facilities at Bury St Edmunds Rail station	E7: Support for active travel enhancements in the local area	14,702
Forest Heath Schools Sports Partnership - Sports and Clubs Fayre	Sports and Clubs Fayre	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	2,000
Expansion of Fit Villages programme in rural West Suffolk	Physical activity sessions for adults aged over 55 in rural areas	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	12,702
Our Special Friends	Installation of client system that will help manage referrals	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	2,250
West Suffolk Hive Community Interest Company	Funding for new fully insulated and heated community building	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	1,688

Funding recipient	Description	UKSPF intervention	Funding amount (£)
Haverhill Community Trust	Funding to offer warmth, exercise, a hot meal, refreshments for parents or carers	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	3,660
Bury Drop in Centre	To assist in the delivery of the existing provision at Bury Drop In (homelessness services)	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	4,750
ONE Haverhill	ONE Haverhill Partnership to strengthen ongoing work to benefit local communities	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	1,000
The Salvation Army	Creation of a database of local organisations, services, groups and clubs	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	3,500
REACH Community Projects	Funding to employ a Drug and Alcohol Recovery Officer	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	2,500
Art Branches Community Interest Company	To support ten Creative Steam workshops at Steam House Café	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	1,735
St Mary's Church, Kentford	Installation of a servery and toilet inside St Mary's for community use	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	2,500
Christchurch Newmarket Mobility Aids Loan Service	Funding towards cost of new boiler to heat the hall	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	1,500

Funding recipient	Description	UKSPF intervention	Funding amount (£)
Worlington Village Hall	Contribution towards costs of providing the village hall as a safe warm space for residents	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	3,358
Pakenham Village Hall and Playing Field Association	Replacement of existing Children’s Play Area on Pakenham Playing Field	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	3,500
Development of Rural Coffee Caravan Information Project	For ongoing work to help tackle rural isolation and improve health and wellbeing	E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency and combat fuel poverty and climate change	5,000
The Racing Centre	The free of charge service engaging with community and will also establish a fruit and veg stand	E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency and combat fuel poverty and climate change	4,400
Gatehouse - Caring in East Anglia	To help with energy costs associated with Gatehouse to continue community lunches	E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency and combat fuel poverty and climate change	3,957
Haverhill Winter Family Café	To extend warm hub at Haverhill Winter Family Café for families in need	E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency and combat fuel poverty and climate change	4,750
Lightwave Red Lodge, Energy Support	To help people living on low incomes to conserve energy	E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency and combat fuel poverty and climate change	2,245

Funding recipient	Description	UKSPF intervention	Funding amount (£)
Bury St Edmunds Women's Aid Centre	To provide energy saving equipment and measures to support families in West Suffolk	E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency and combat fuel poverty and climate change	4,750
Wood Monkey Works Community Interest Company	Energy costs towards its work helping disadvantaged, excluded and children with special educational needs	E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency and combat fuel poverty and climate change	1,000
Suffolk West Citizens Advice Bureau Warm Hub	To help provide advice in a warm, comfortable and safe space	E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency and combat fuel poverty and climate change	2,500
St Edmundsbury Cathedral	Funding to provide welcoming warm space with free hot drinks	E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency and combat fuel poverty and climate change	2,000
Church of Our Lady Immaculate & St Etheldreda - Warm Hub	To help people during winter and provide food, entertainment, and companionship	E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency and combat fuel poverty and climate change	2,500
Newmarket Open Door Foodbank Project	Funding towards costs of running of foodbank	E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency and combat fuel poverty and climate change	5,000
Community Action Suffolk	Feasibility studies	E14: Funding to support relevant feasibility studies	10,000
Installation of charging points for market traders	Procurement of electric charging points for Clare market stalls to use during the market	E16: Investment in open markets and improvements in town centre retail and service sector infrastructure, with wraparound support for small businesses	8,910

Funding recipient	Description	UKSPF intervention	Funding amount (£)
Bury St Edmunds and Beyond digital marketing campaign	Digital marketing campaign to promote the town and wider area to tourism visitors	E17: Funding for the development and promotion (both trade and consumer) of the visitor economy, such as local attractions, trails, tours and tourism products more generally	11,806
Discover Newmarket digital marketing campaign	Digital marketing campaign to promote the town and wider area to tourism visitors	E17: Funding for the development and promotion (both trade and consumer) of the visitor economy, such as local attractions, trails, tours and tourism products more generally	11,806
Newmarket Incubation and Co-working space	Grant provided to the Newmarket Charitable Foundation allowing them to create an incubation space in Newmarket	E21: Funding for the development and support of appropriate innovation infrastructure at the local level.	9,532
Grant funding for business start-up support	Start Up and new business support with training, advice and access to funding	E30: Business support measures to drive employment growth, particularly in areas of higher unemployment	39,000
Minding the Gap local youth employment support	A youth employment project for 16-24 year olds residing in West Suffolk	E33: Employment support for economically inactive people: Intensive and wrap-around one-to-one support to move people closer towards mainstream provision and employment, supplemented by additional and/or specialist life and basic skills (digital, English, maths* and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) support where there are local provision gaps.	21,222

Appendix B: UKSPF Year two (2023-24) - Projects supported

£452,645 had been paid out to a range of organisations by 1 March 2024, in line with the investment plan agreed by Council in July 2022. The projects funded in year two are shown below. A monitoring report was submitted to DLUHC on these projects in January 2024.

Funding recipient	Description	UKSPF intervention	Funding amount (£)
Town and parish councils and BIDs	Funding for high street improvements	E1: Funding for improvements to town centres and high streets, including better accessibility for disabled people, including capital spend and running costs.	38,109
Haverhill Town Council	Haverhill Mutiny in Colour outreach	E6: Local arts, cultural, heritage and creative activities	24,307
Greater Anglia	Contribution to new cycle storage facilities at Bury St Edmunds Rail station	E7: Support for active travel enhancements in the local area	14,708
Haverhill Town Football Club	Footballs and training equipment	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	774
Lakenheath Youth Football Club	Mini goals, training kit and football starter kit	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	860
Lakenheath Football Club	Training poles, footballs, strimmer	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	740
The New Croft Foundation	Training equipment including SEN provision	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	900

Funding recipient	Description	UKSPF intervention	Funding amount (£)
Breckland Netball Club	Training equipment and team kit	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	850
Worlington Cricket Club	Portable roll-on cricket practice net	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	1000
Mildenhall and District Swimming Club	Training equipment	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	852
Bardwell Cricket Club	Training equipment	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	802
Mildenhall Cricket Club	Training equipment	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	992
Hundon Football Club	Junior goalposts	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	969
Eastgate Amateur boxing club	Treadmill, body protector and large first aid kit	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	737
St Edmund Pacers running club	Gazebo and flags for race day	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	738
Stoke-by-Clare bowls club	Practice bowls	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	825

Funding recipient	Description	UKSPF intervention	Funding amount (£)
Moulton Panthers Football club	Footballs and training equipment	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	343
Thurlow youth football club	Footballs and training kit	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	934
Risbygate sports club. BSE	Sports equipment	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	750
Bury St Edmunds cricket club	Additional equipment for female cricket	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	935
St Edmundsbury bowls club	Junior bowls	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	720
Haverhill Men’s sheds	To purchase a shed and to help with rental costs, tools, insurance, and travel costs	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	7,800.00
Vogue athletics	To outfit fit-for-purpose gymnastics-style gym and community hub in Newmarket.	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	10,000.00
Mildenhall and Newmarket Sea Cadets	To purchase a secure shed at Lackford Lakes	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	6,000.00
The Racing Centre	To establish an ethnic minority health and wellbeing program in Newmarket	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	5,400.00

Funding recipient	Description	UKSPF intervention	Funding amount (£)
Citizens Advice	Advocacy and advice around cost of living support	E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency and combat fuel poverty and climate change	14,708
West Suffolk Council (Families and Communities Team)	For feasibility studies by VCSE groups	E14: Funding to support relevant feasibility studies.	4,000
West Suffolk Council Markets team	Improvements in markets equipment and infrastructure	E16: Investment in open markets and improvements to town centre retail and service sector infrastructure, with wrap around support for small businesses.	8,916
Bury St Edmunds and Beyond and Discover Newmarket	Digital marketing campaigns	E17: Funding for the development and promotion (both trade and consumer) of the visitor economy, such as local attractions, trails, tours and tourism products more generally	23,624
West Suffolk College	Innovation equipment	E21: Funding for the development and support of appropriate innovation infrastructure at the local level.	19,545
YTKO	Growth Hub – business advice and support	E30: Business support measures to drive employment growth, particularly in areas of higher unemployment	27,010
Groundwork	Net zero business advice and support	E30: Business support measures to drive employment growth, particularly in areas of higher unemployment	21,222
Various small businesses	Small business grants	E30: Business support measures to drive employment growth, particularly in areas of higher unemployment	87,415
MENTA	Start up and new business support with training, advice and access to funding	E30: Business support measures to drive employment growth, particularly in areas of higher unemployment	78,000
Minding the Gap	Local youth employment support	E33: Employment support for economically inactive people: Intensive and wrap-around one-to-one support to move people closer towards mainstream provision and employment, supplemented by	47,160

Funding recipient	Description	UKSPF intervention	Funding amount (£)
		additional and/or specialist life and basic skills (digital, English, maths* and ESOL) support where there are local provision gaps.	

Appendix C: REPF Year one (2023-24) - Projects supported

£138,000 had been paid out to a range of organisations by 1 March 2024, in line with the investment plan agreed by Council in July 2022. The projects funded in year two are shown below. A monitoring report was submitted to DLUHC on these projects in January 2024. Announcements on the remaining £50,000 will be made shortly.

Funding recipient	Description	REPF intervention	Funding amount (£)
Various small businesses	Small business grants	1.1: Capital grant funding for small scale investment in micro and small enterprises in rural areas	39,000
Bradfield St Clare Village Hall	Building works with enlarging and modernising the dated kitchen facilities to better serve the community and regain our status as a Polling station.	2.2: Capital grant funding for investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	5,660.00
Brandon In Bloom	Capital purchases to improve the high street	2.2: Capital grant funding for investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	4,375.00
Cavenham Village Green Limited	Purchase and installation on playground equipment	2.2: Capital grant funding for investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	9,387.00
Honington & Sapiston Village Hall	Renovate a piece of land to provide community sports, social events.	2.2: Capital grant funding for investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	5,000.00
Ingham Parish Council	Renovate the lynch gate	2.2: Capital grant funding for investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	2,300.00
Lidgate Village Hall	To provide a multiuse toddler unit with two slides, a toddler swing	2.2: Capital grant funding for investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	9,386.00

Funding recipient	Description	REPF intervention	Funding amount (£)
	with safety matting and a bench.		
Pakenham Village Hall	Purchase playground equipment	2.2: Capital grant funding for investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	2,892.00
West Suffolk Council grounds maintenance team	Greenspace improvements (Newmarket)	2.3 capital grant funding for creation and improvements to local rural green spaces	60,000

Appendix D: UKSPF year three (2024-25)

Multi-year programmes and Suffolk-wide skills programme

Funding recipient	Description	UKSPF intervention	Funding amount (£)
MENTA, YTKO, Groundwork	Business start up support	E30: Business support measures to drive employment growth, particularly in areas of higher unemployment	231,729
Various organisations	Suffolk-wide skills support	E33: Employment support for economically inactive people	288,000

Funding agreed through a portfolio holder decision taken in February 2024

Funding recipient	Description	UKSPF intervention	Funding amount (£)
Town and parish councils and BIDs	Funding for high street improvements (in same way as for 2023-24 – open to local bids)	E1: Funding for improvements to town centres and high streets, including better accessibility for disabled people, including capital spend and running costs	192,662
Various community groups	Grant funding for capacity building to support variety of community goals	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	68,106
Suffolk Community Food Partnership	For new Community Food Partnership Officers to enable support to be available to the food banks, groups supporting sustainable food and the establishment of a food network	E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency and combat fuel poverty and climate change	34,053
West Suffolk College	A new post to engage with employers with under-employed staff and offer	E37: Tailored support to help people in employment, who are not supported by	20,000

Funding recipient	Description	UKSPF intervention	Funding amount (£)
	skills training and qualifications to enable them to take up full-time jobs, with a focus on those likely to be leaving or not returning to the workplace	mainstream provision to address barriers to accessing education and training courses. This includes supporting the retention of groups who are likely to leave the labour market early.	
West Suffolk College	To create new skills training opportunities to enable local people to access local skilled jobs, particularly in areas of shortage and growth	E38: Support for local areas to fund local skills needs. This includes technical and vocational qualifications and courses up to level 2 and training for vocational licences relevant to local area needs and high-value qualifications where there is a need for additional skills capacity that is not being met through other provision.	100,000
West Suffolk College	To extend the access and availability of green skills courses to both employed and unemployed utilising newly created training facilities and qualifications	E39: Green skills courses targeted around ensuring we have the skilled workforce to achieve the government’s net zero and wider environmental ambitions.	25,000

Funding yet to be allocated to specific projects

Fund and intervention	Amount (R = revenue, C = capital)
UKSPF: E6: Support for local arts, cultural, heritage and creative activities.	£34,053 (R)
UKSPF: E7: Support for active travel enhancements in the local area	£34,053 (C)
UKSPF: E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	£34,053 £1362 (R) £32691 (C)
UKSPF: E14: Funding to support relevant feasibility studies	£50,000 (R)

UKSPF: E16: investment in open markets and improvements in town centre retail and service sector infrastructure, with wrapround support for small businesses	£10,000 (C)
UKSPF: E17: Funding for the development and promotion (both trade and consumer) of the visitor economy, such as local attractions, trails tours and tourism products more generally	£44,053 (R)
UKSPF: E21: Funding for the development and support of appropriate innovation infrastructure at the local level	£20,698 (C)

Rural England Prosperity Fund (2024-25)

Fund and intervention	Amount	Agreement reached at Cabinet in November 2022
REPF: Rural business	190,000 (C)	Agreed to be used as capital grants for businesses
REPF: Rural communities	190,000 (C)	Agreed to be used as capital grants for community groups
REPF: E3: greenspace infrastructure	140,000 (C)	Continuation of 2023-24 (£60,000). Improvements in Brandon, Haverhill, Mildenhall, Newmarket
REPF: E26: waste and streetscene improvements	45,000 (C)	In Haverhill, Newmarket and villages



Suffolk County Council: Health Scrutiny Committee (24 January 2024)

Report number:	OAS/WS/24/005	
Report to and date(s):	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	14 March 2024
West Suffolk Council Substitute Member on the Health Scrutiny Committee:	Councillor Sue Perry Email: sue.perry@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 Sue Perry, attached as Appendix 1 to this report.**

1. Context to this report

1.1 Suffolk County Council: Health Scrutiny Committee

- 1.1.1 Councillor Sue Perry, the Council's appointed substitute representative on the Suffolk County Council Health Scrutiny Committee has prepared a report, attached as **Appendix 1** from the meeting held on 24 January 2024.

2. Proposals within this report

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to note the report prepared by Councillor Sue Perry.

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 Sue Perry

7. Background documents associated with this report

- 7.1 Health Scrutiny Committee Agenda:

[Health Scrutiny Agenda Pack - 24 January 2024](#)

- 7.2 Suffolk County Council Health Scrutiny Web page:

[Health Scrutiny Committee - Web Page](#)

Report from Suffolk County Council Health Scrutiny Committee meeting 24 Jan 2024

West Suffolk Council represented by Councillor Sue Perry, substituting for Councillor Andrew Martin.

YouTube link:

[Suffolk County Council, Health Scrutiny Committee - 24 January 2024 - YouTube](#)

Agenda and reports: [Meeting Documents - Committee Minutes \(suffolk.gov.uk\)](#)

1. Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust (NSFT) mental health services

To seek assurance from Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust (NSFT) and system partners that recommendations and actions from the Grant Thornton review (GTR) and subsequent co-produced work can be effective in improving mortality recording, reporting, relationships with bereaved families and it is hoped, prevention.

Representatives from NSFT and Suffolk and North-East Essex (SNEE) and Norfolk and Waveney ICBs were present.

Summary

- Good progress made with implementing recommendations and actions, however Healthwatch Suffolk have withdrawn from the Learning from Deaths Action plan Management Group.
- Joint 'informal' scrutiny with Norfolk Health Scrutiny Committee to be explored.

Progress to date:

- **Data**
 - New data pathways and audit trail implemented.
 - Standard operating procedure (SOP) development in progress
- **Reporting**
 - Standardised reporting (to boards) structure agreed
 - Improved staff access to data - in progress
 - Attendance at the Norfolk and Waveney ICB Learning from Deaths forum.
 - Guidance and training on admin procedures for discharge and caseload reviews - in progress.
 - Membership of the Learning from Deaths forum in SNEE ICB.
- **Partnership working**
 - Working with GPs, coroners, registrars and medical examiners to improve data on cause of death – ongoing

- Data sharing with other trusts established
- Update the Trust's Learning from Deaths policy – ongoing
- **Governance**
 - Audit and external review processes – in progress.
 - Learning from Deaths Action Plan Management Group established to replace the current internal executive led Grant Thornton Action Plan Programme Management Board. Membership to include NSFT Executives, service users, carers, bereaved relatives, SNEE and N&W ICB Quality/Safety Representatives, Healthwatch and Public Health leads. It will be informed by the draft action plan produced by a collaborative working group (see below). Draft terms of reference were presented.

Co-production

A collaborative working group met several times and developed a draft action to address concerns raised by the authors of the Forever Gone report. This will feed into the work of the Trust Learning from Deaths Action Plan. It is recognised that people experiencing complex grief require more support to participate in co-production.

Healthwatch Suffolk

A representative from Healthwatch Suffolk made a statement at the end of the meeting. HWS will not participate in the Learning from Deaths Action plan Management Group as it does not consider that genuine independent lived experience has been included in the review process, the formation of the group or its draft Terms of Reference.

Trust Leadership

Caroline Donovan joined the NSFT as Chief Executive in November 2023 and has set four strategic priorities: Improving health, care, culture and value. Learning from deaths is one of the ten large-scale change programmes underpinning these.

External initiatives

- The implementation of the statutory medical examiner system across England in April 2024 will require a discussion between the attending doctor and the medical examiner's office for every death to improve quality of death certification. Medical Examiners and their teams are meeting monthly across Suffolk to track progress.
- The ICB led Suffolk Trauma Informed Mortality Meeting will meet for the first time in March 2024, with representatives from primary care, acute and mental health providers, local public health services and bereaved relatives.

2. West Suffolk Hospital Future Systems Programme Update

Gary Norgate, Director for the Future System Programme

The main hospital building is constructed from Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) planks. Robust risk mitigation is underway to ensure the safety of staff and patients pending the delivery of the new hospital.

There is a revised capital funding envelope in excess of £800m.

The primary focus areas for the programme have been:

- Implementation of the co-produced clinical strategy
- Design review with input from the national New Hospital Programme (NHP)
- Satisfying pre-commencement planning conditions and preparing the construction site

The clinical strategy has highlighted the increased potential for collaborative working. There are proposals to increase capacity by make increased use of the new Elective Surgery Centre at Colchester and increased outpatient services Newmarket Hospital.

Designs of the new hospital have been expertly reviewed by the NHP and NHSE Regional team. This has largely supported the conclusions drawn from co-production.

The translocation of turf from the construction site to new location to protect rare wax cap and other fungi has been successful. This fulfils a pre-commencement planning condition.

Key risks:

- Securing sufficient capital
- Ongoing affordability of operating a new hospital,
- Attracting a construction partner from within a limited pool
- Maintaining services during transition

Mitigation:

- Being part of the NHP.
- Panel of senior finance managers ESNEFT, WSFT, NHSE Region and ICB to understand and manage costs.

Timetable:

The timetable to enable a completion date of 2030 is very tight:

- Agreement to proceed to outline business case (OBC) by end February 2024
- Procure Primary Build Partner – End July 2024
- OBC approved - April 2025
- Full planning permission – end September 2025
- Full business case approved – February 2026
- Construction commences – February 2026

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Suffolk County Council: Suffolk Police and Crime Panel (26 January 2024)

Report number:	OAS/WS/24/006	
Report to and date(s):	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	14 March 2024
West Suffolk Council Full Member’s on the Suffolk Police and Crime Panel:	Councillor Mike Chester Telephone: 01284 850000 Email: mike.chester@westsuffolk.gov.uk Councillor David Smith Telephone: 07796 245093 Email: david.smith@westsuffolk.gov.uk	
West Suffolk Council Substitute Member’s on the Suffolk Police and Crime Panel:	Councillor Carol Bull Telephone: 01953 681513 Email: carol.bull@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 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 26 January 2024 along with Councillor David Smith.

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 26 January 2024

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:
[Police and Crime Panel Agenda - 26 January 2024](#)

Suffolk Police and Crime Panel Outside Body Report – 26 January 2024

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 [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

At the last Panel meeting on 26 January 2024:

- The Panel supported the PCC's **proposal to increase the policing precept** by £12.96 (4.9%) per annum for a Band D property in 2024/25. Whilst Members understood that people were suffering from the cost-of-living crisis, those in most need would be protected from the increase by council tax reduction schemes. Additionally, any reduction in police resource and subsequent increase in crime levels would be likely to disproportionately affect the more vulnerable sectors of society. Finally, the government's funding settlement for police had assumed full use of the maximum allowable £13 increase in the precept, and not to agree the precept would mean the PCC and the Constabulary would not be in a position to balance the police budget. The Panel's report to the PCC on its consideration of his precept proposals will be published on the [County Council's website](#).
- In a change to the usual format, the **Recent Decisions of the PCC** were presented in a separate report, rather than in the Panel's Information Bulletin. A key responsibility of the Panel is to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, by the PCC in connection with the discharge of his functions. Members questioned the PCC on a number of his recent decisions, with the main focus being on target setting and monitoring of projects which had been awarded grants. The PCC reminded members that his Head of Commissioning and Governance was to brief the Panel shortly on his commissioning responsibilities, and this would be an opportunity for members to ask for further details on how commissioning decisions were made. Other discussion areas included the recruitment of a new Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer for the OPCC, and slippage in the capital programme.
- As PCC elections were due to take place in May 2024, the Panel was required to review its **Panel Arrangements and Rules of Procedure**. One amendment was suggested to the Suffolk Public Sector Leaders Group, that a requirement be added to the Panel Arrangements that Independent Co-opted Members of the Panel must live or work in Suffolk.



Cabinet Decisions Plan: 1 March 2024 to 31 May 2024

Report number:	OAS/WS/24/007	
Report to and date(s):	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	14 March 2024
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: democratic.services@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 March 2024 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 March 2024 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 March 2024 to 31 May 2024

Publication Date: 9 February 2024

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
12/03/24 (new) Page 46	<p>Olding Road Options Appraisal The Cabinet will be asked to consider an options appraisal for the site at Olding Road, Bury St Edmunds and to agree and recommend to Council a preferred option with which to proceed.</p> <p><i>(Note that since publication of this version of the Decisions Plan, this item has been deferred for consideration at a later date)</i></p>	Exempt appendices: paragraph 3	(R) Council – 26/03/24 <i>(Date to be confirmed)</i>	Cabinet/ Council	Diane Hind Resources	Rachael Mann Director (Resources and Property) 01638 719245	Report to Cabinet with recommendations to Council and appendices, including 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
12/03/24 (new) Page 47	Food Safety and Health and Safety Service Plan The Cabinet will be asked to consider and approve a revised Food Safety and Health and Safety Service Plan.	Not applicable	(D)	Cabinet	Gerald Kelly Governance and Regulatory 07968 396389	Jen Eves Director (HR, Governance and Regulatory) 01284 757015 Andrew Newman Service Manager (Regulatory) 01638 719276	Report to Cabinet with revised plan attached.
12/03/24	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	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
21/05/24 (new) Page 48	<p>Review and Appointment to Cabinet Panels/Working Groups/Joint Committees</p> <p>The Cabinet will be asked to review and appoint to its panels/working groups/joint committees.</p>	Not applicable	(D)	Cabinet	Cliff Waterman Leader of the Council 01284 757001	<p>Jen Eves Director (HR, Governance and Regulatory) 01284 757015</p> <p>Teresa Halliday Service Manager (Legal and Governance) 01284 757144</p>	Report to Cabinet.

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.
- 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.
- 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: 9 February 2024

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Scrutiny Work Programme 2024 Update

Report number:	OAS/WS/24/008	
Report to and date(s):	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	14 March 2024
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: democratic.services@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 2024, 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 2024

4. Background documents associated with this report

- 4.1 None

West Suffolk Council

Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Rolling Work Programme (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	Details
13 June 2024 (Time: 5.00pm)		
Venue: West Suffolk House, Western Way, Bury St Edmunds		
Draft West Suffolk Annual Report (2023-2024)	Leader of the Council	To provide an input to this important document.
Suffolk County Council: Police and Crime Panel	Councillors Mike Chester and David Smith	To receive an update from the Council's appointed representative on discussions held by the Suffolk Police and Crime Panel on 22 March 2024.
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 County Health Scrutiny Committee on 17 April 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.
18 July 2024 (Time: 5.00pm)		
Venue: West Suffolk House, Western Way, Bury St Edmunds		
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.
12 September 2024 (Time: 5.00pm)		
Venue: West Suffolk House, Western Way, Bury St Edmunds		
Community Safety Partnership Report	Cabinet Member for Families and Communities	To review the work of the Partnership on an annual basis (West Suffolk Community Safety Partnership)
Decisions Plan	Leader of the Council	To receive information on forthcoming decisions to be considered by the Cabinet.

Description	Lead Member	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.
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.	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	- Sarah Broughton - Beccy Hopfensperger - Birgitte Mager - Andrew Smith - Don Waldron - Julia Wakelam - Kevin Yarrow	October 2024

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