

Cabinet



St Edmundsbury
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Title of Report:	Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: 20 April 2016	
Report No:	CAB/SE/16/019	
Report to and date:	Cabinet	24 May 2016
Outgoing Chairman of the Committee:	Diane Hind Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Tel: 01284 706542 Email: diane.hind@stedsbc.gov.uk	
Lead Officer:	Christine Brain Scrutiny Officer Tel: 01638 719729 Email: christine.brain@westsuffolk.gov.uk	
Purpose of report:	On 20 April 2016, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered the following items: (1) Presentation by the Portfolio Holder for Families and Communities; (2) Western Suffolk Community Safety Partnership Annual Report; (3) On-Street Parking – Skyliner Way, Bury St Edmunds: Update; (4) Review and Revision of the Constitution; (5) Directed Surveillance Authorised Applications (Quarter 4); and (6) Work Programme Update.	
Recommendation:	The Cabinet is requested to <u>NOTE</u> the contents of Report CAB/SE/16/019, being the report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.	

Key Decision: <i>(Check the appropriate box and delete all those that do not apply.)</i>		<i>Is this a Key Decision and, if so, under which definition?</i> Yes, it is a Key Decision - <input type="checkbox"/> No, it is not a Key Decision - <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Report for information only.	
Consultation:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Reports listed under background papers below 	
Alternative option(s):		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Reports listed under background papers below 	
Implications:			
<i>Are there any financial implications? If yes, please give details</i>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Reports listed under background papers below 	
<i>Are there any staffing implications? If yes, please give details</i>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Reports listed under background papers below 	
<i>Are there any ICT implications? If yes, please give details</i>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Reports listed under background papers below 	
<i>Are there any legal and/or policy implications? If yes, please give details</i>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Reports listed under background papers below 	
<i>Are there any equality implications? If yes, please give details</i>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Reports listed under background papers below 	
Risk/opportunity assessment:		<i>(potential hazards or opportunities affecting corporate, service or project objectives)</i>	
Risk area	Inherent level of risk (before controls)	Controls	Residual risk (after controls)
See Reports listed under background papers below			
Wards affected:		All Wards	
Background papers:		Please see background papers, which are listed at the end of the report.	
Documents attached:		None	

1. Key issues and reasons for recommendation

1.1 Presentation by the Portfolio Holder for Families and Communities (Report No: OAS/SE/16/008 and Verbal)

- 1.1.1 As set out in the Council's Constitution, at every ordinary Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting at least one Cabinet Member shall be invited to attend to give an account of his or her portfolio and to answer questions from the Committee.
- 1.1.2 Report No: OAS/SE/16/008 set out the overall responsibilities of Councillor Robert Everitt, Portfolio Holder for Families and Communities who had been invited to the meeting to discuss his portfolio.
- 1.1.3 Members discussed the presentation in detail and asked questions of the Portfolio Holder and officers, to which comprehensive responses were provided. In particular, discussions were held on the percentage of on-line enquiries; automated calls; contract details on the website and social media.
- 1.1.4 There being no decision required, the Committee **noted** the contents of the presentation.

1.2 Western Suffolk Community Safety Partnership Annual Report (Report No: OAS/SE/16/009)

- 1.2.1 It is the duty of the Committee as the Council's Crime and Disorder Committee designated under the Police and Justice Act 2006, to scrutinise the work of the Partnership.
- 1.2.2 Over the past year the West Suffolk Community Safety Partnership (WSCSP) continued to meet and discharge its statutory duties by carrying out an annual assessment of crime, producing an annual plan and carrying out Domestic Homicide Reviews, as required.
- 1.2.3 The Committee received and **noted** the update on the community safety activity in West Suffolk, including the WSCSP from April 2015 to March 2016.
- 1.2.4 In May 2015, the WSCSP completed and published its partnership plan and project plan for identified community priorities for 2015-2016. Attached as Appendix A to the report, was the WSCSP project plan. Progress of the identified community concerns would be evaluated at the April meeting of the WSCSP.
- 1.2.5 The report also set out the work of the Strong and Safe Communities Group; the multi-agency Anti-Social Behaviour Group and the PREVENT Strategy which was published by the Government in 2011. The PREVENT Strategy was part of the country's Counter Terrorism Strategy called CONTEST. The aim of the strategy was to reduce the threat to the UK from terrorism by stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.

- 1.3 **On-Street Parking – Skyliner Way, Bury St Edmunds: Update (Report No: OAS/SE/16/010)**
- 1.3.1 The received Report No: OAS/SE/16/010, which updated Members on alternative funding options now available to alleviate the parking issues in Skyliner Way, Bury St Edmunds, and improve traffic flow in Skyliner Way before the completion of the Eastern Relief Road (ERR).
- 1.3.2 The Head of Planning and Growth gave a verbal update having received correspondence from Suffolk County Council’s (SCC) Transport Policy and Development Manager who had clarified the County Council’s position. Despite the Borough Council’s offer to provide funding for a scheme, SCC’s view was *that any decision to implement changes to parking within Skyliner Way should be made once the actual impact of the ERR is known enabling the most appropriate measures to be provided. No funding or scheme development is therefore needed at this time.* The latest views from the Transport Policy and Development Manager had clearly gone against the feelings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Local County Councillor.
- 1.3.3 It was further reported that the Head of Planning and Growth had earlier spoken with the Leader of the Council, Cllr John Griffiths, on 20 April 2016 who had agreed to a letter being sent to Suffolk County Councillor James Finch (Portfolio Holder for Highways and Transport) expressing the Borough Council’s concerns.
- 1.3.4 The Committee was concerned that in light of this recent news, little progress had been made since January 2016 and that the estimated cost of the project had now risen by a further £10,000.
- 1.3.5 Some Members of the Committee also raised concerns regarding the Borough Council utilising its own funds to progress the project, as it was considered that it could set a precedent for other projects. It was felt the project should be jointly funded with SCC as the Highways Authority, and that they should be asked to review the project as a matter of urgency before the EER was completed.
- 1.3.6 The Committee **RECOMMENDS that: The Committee supported the Head of Planning and Growth in sending a letter on behalf of the Council Leader, Cllr John Griffiths, to Cllr James Finch, Suffolk County Council Portfolio Holder for Highways, expressing concerns about the delay in improving the parking issues in Skyliner Way and seeking a review of the decision to delay the delivery of a parking solution until after the completion of the Eastern Relief Road, on the basis that the Borough Council felt the problem needed to be addressed sooner and as such was prepared to make a contribution towards the cost of the planned layby.**
- 1.3.7 The above recommendation is required to be **noted** by the Cabinet.
- 1.4 **Review and Revision of the Constitution (Report No: OAS/SE/16/011)**
- 1.4.1 As set out in the Council’s Constitution, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on a quarterly basis would receive a report from the Monitoring Officer setting

out minor amendments made arising from changes to legislation, changes to staffing structures/job descriptions or changes in terminology.

1.4.2 Report No: OAS/SE/16/011 set out minor amendments which had been undertaken by the Monitoring Officer under delegated authority from January to March 2016. All Members of the Council had also been informed of the minor amendments made as part of the ongoing review and revision of the Constitution.

1.4.3 There being no decision required, the Committee **noted** the contents of the report.

1.5 **Directed Surveillance Authorised Applications (Quarter 4) (Verbal)**

1.5.1 The Regulation of Investigatory Powers (Directed Surveillance and Covert Human Intelligence Sources) Order 2010 requires that Members should scrutinise the authority's use of its surveillance powers on a quarterly basis. In June 2010 it was agreed that this requirement should be fulfilled by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Monitoring Officer had advised that in Quarter 4 no such surveillance had been authorised.

1.6 **Work Programme Update (Report No: OAS/SE/16/012)**

1.6.1 The Committee received and **noted** Report No: OAS/SE/16/012, which provided an update on the current status of the Committee's Work Programme and the Task and Finish Groups appointed by the Committee.

1.6.2 With regards to the work of the Joint Task and Finish Group on New Housing Development Sites, Members were advised that following the Task Groups last meeting on 14 December 2015, the Development Manager undertook to agree the details of the highways adoption conditions with other Suffolk Authorities and Suffolk County Council. Whilst agreement had been established in principle, the details were yet to be agreed.

1.6.3 Following a question from a Member, the Democratic Services Officer (Scrutiny) agreed to follow up with the lead officer regarding a future update to the Committee on the North West and North East Haverhill Relief Road, including the Haverhill Town Centre Master Plan.

2. **Background Papers**

2.1.1 Report No: [OAS/SE/16/008](#) to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Presentation by the Portfolio Holder for Families and Communities

2.1.2 Report No: [OAS/SE/16/009](#) to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Western Suffolk Community Safety Partnership Annual Report

2.1.3 Report No: [OAS/SE/16/010](#) to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: On-Street Parking – Skyliner Way, Bury St Edmunds - Update

2.1.4 Report No: [OAS/SE/16/011](#) to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Review and Revision of the Constitution

2.1.5 Report No: [OAS/SE/16/012](#) to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Work Programme Update