

Cabinet



Forest Heath
District Council

Title of Report:	Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: 16 March 2017	
Report No:	CAB/FH/17/015	
Report to and date:	Cabinet	4 April 2017
Chairman of the Committee:	Councillor Simon Cole Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Tel: 07974 443762 Email: simon.cole@forest-heath.gov.uk	
Lead Officer:	Christine Brain Democratic Services Officer (Scrutiny) Tel: 01638 719729 Email: christine.brain@westsuffolk.gov.uk	
Purpose of report:	On 16 March 2017, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered the following items: (1) Annual Presentation by the Portfolio Holder for Resources and Performance; (2) Decisions Plan: April 2017 to May 2017; and (3) Work Programme Update.	
Recommendation:	The Cabinet is requested to <u>NOTE</u> the contents of Report CAB/FH/17/015, 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:			
Are there any financial implications? <i>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 	
Are there any staffing implications? <i>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 	
Are there any ICT implications? <i>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 	
Are there any legal and/or policy implications? <i>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 	
Are there any equality implications? <i>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 Annual Presentation by the Portfolio Holder for Resources and Performance (Report No: OAS/FH/17/007 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 The Committee was reminded that on 10 March 2016, the Committee received a presentation from the Cabinet Member for Resources and Performance, setting out responsibilities covered under the leisure and culture portfolio.
- 1.1.3 At this meeting, the Portfolio Holder for Resources and Performance, Councillor Stephen Edwards, had been invited back to provide a follow-up presentation on his portfolio. Report No: OAS/FH/17/007, set out the focus for the follow-up presentation, which was to:
- Outline the main challenges faced since during the first year within your portfolio;
 - Outline some key successes and any failures during the first year and any lessons learned; and
 - Set out the vision for the Operations Portfolio through to 2019 and were you on target to meet that vision.
- 1.1.4 Members discussed the presentation in detail and asked questions of the Cabinet Member for Resources and Performance, to which comprehensive responses were provided. In particular discussions were held on the difficulties around recruitment; employee recruitment packages; the council's pay-line and how it would meet the living wage by 2020 and the council's employee brand.
- 1.1.5 Discussions were also held on the importance of member development, and questioned what was being done to encourage members to attend training events/development sessions. The Committee was informed that the current timings of training events were an issue for some members. The member development programme needed to be refreshed and reviewed to include a range of options to suit all members. It was suggested by the Assistant Director (Human Resources, Legal and Democratic Services) that this could potentially be a future joint piece of work for scrutiny with the Joint Member Development Group.
- 1.1.6 There being no decision required, the Committee **noted** the contents of the presentation.

1.2 Decisions Plan: April 2017 to May 2017 (Report No: OAS/FH/17/008)

- 1.2.1 The Committee received Report No: OAS/FH/17/008, which requested that Members peruse the Cabinet Decisions Plan for the period April to May 2017, and identify where it would like further information on or the item might

benefit from the Committee's involvement.

- 1.2.2 The Vice-Chairman of the Committee informed the Committee that she would be interested in the Committee having the opportunity to look at the "Renewable Energy Provision for the Mildenhall Hub". The business case was currently scheduled to be presented to Cabinet on 20 June 2016.
- 1.2.3 The Vice-Chairman agreed to complete the suggestion form to ensure all information was provided to enable the Committee to scrutinise the proposed renewable energy provision for the Mildenhall Hub, and would contact the Director, Alex Wilson who was leading the project to discuss practicalities.
- 1.2.4 The Committee **Resolved**, that subject to the completion of the suggestion form by Councillor Ruth Bowman, the expected decision relating to the "Renewable Energy Provision for the Mildenhall Hub, be included in the Committee's future work programme for June 2017.

1.3 **Work Programme Update (Report No: OAS/FH/17/009)**

- 1.3.1 The Committee received and **noted** Report No: OAS/FH/17/009, which updated Members on the current status of its rolling work programme of items for scrutiny during 2017-2018 (Appendix 1).
- 1.3.2 The Committee noted earlier discussions held under the Annual Portfolio Holder for Resources and Performance presentation regarding:
 - 1) The possibility of working with the Joint Member Development Group on a future detailed piece of work on Member Development; and
 - 2) Officers seeking nominations at the Committee's April 2017 meeting for members to sit on a Joint Task and Finish Group to help shape the West Suffolk Information Strategy.

2. **Background Papers**

- 2.1.1 Report No: [OAS/FH/17/007](#) to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Annual Presentation by the Cabinet Member for Resources and Performance
- 2.1.2 Report No: [OAS/FH/17/008 - Appendix 1](#) to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Decisions Plan: April 2017 to May 2017
- 2.1.3 Report No: [OAS/FH/17/009](#) to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Work Programme Update