

# Cabinet



St Edmundsbury  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

<b>Title of Report:</b>	<b>Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: 7 June 2017</b>	
<b>Report No:</b>	<b>CAB/SE/17/032</b>	
<b>Report to and date:</b>	<b>Cabinet</b>	27 June 2017
<b>Chairman of the Committee:</b>	Diane Hind Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee <b>Tel:</b> 01284 706542 <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:diane.hind@stedsbc.gov.uk">diane.hind@stedsbc.gov.uk</a>	
<b>Lead Officer:</b>	Christine Brain Democratic Services Officer (Scrutiny) <b>Tel:</b> 01638 719729 <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:christine.brain@westsuffolk.gov.uk">christine.brain@westsuffolk.gov.uk</a>	
<b>Purpose of report:</b>	On 7 June 2017, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered the following items:  (1) Draft West Suffolk Annual Report (2016-2017);  (2) Annual Presentation by the Leader of the Council on his Portfolio Holder responsibilities;  (3) Decisions Plan: June 2017 to May 2018; and  (4) Work Programme and Re-Appointments to SCC Health Scrutiny.	
<b>Recommendation:</b>	<b>The Cabinet is requested to <u>NOTE</u> the contents of Report No: CAB/SE/17/032, being the report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.</b>	
<b>Key Decision:</b>  <i>(Check the appropriate box and delete all those that <b>do not</b> 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.	

<b>Consultation:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See Reports listed under background papers below</li> </ul>		
<b>Alternative option(s):</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See Reports listed under background papers below</li> </ul>		
<b>Implications:</b>			
Are there any <b>financial</b> implications? If yes, please give details	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See Reports listed under background papers below</li> </ul>	
Are there any <b>staffing</b> implications? If yes, please give details	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See Reports listed under background papers below</li> </ul>	
Are there any <b>ICT</b> implications? If yes, please give details	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See Reports listed under background papers below</li> </ul>	
Are there any <b>legal and/or policy</b> implications? If yes, please give details	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See Reports listed under background papers below</li> </ul>	
Are there any <b>equality</b> implications? If yes, please give details	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See Reports listed under background papers below</li> </ul>	
<b>Risk/opportunity assessment:</b>		<i>(potential hazards or opportunities affecting corporate, service or project objectives)</i>	
<b>Risk area</b>	<b>Inherent level of risk</b> (before controls)	<b>Controls</b>	<b>Residual risk</b> (after controls)
See Reports listed under background papers below			
<b>Wards affected:</b>		All Wards	
<b>Background papers:</b>		Please see background papers, which are listed at the end of the report.	
<b>Documents attached:</b>		None	

## **1. Key issues and reasons for recommendation**

### **1.1 Draft West Suffolk Annual Report 2016-2017 (Report No: OAS/SE/17/016)**

1.1.1 The Leader of the Council attended the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and presented the Draft West Suffolk Annual Report (2016-2017), which was before the St Edmundsbury and Forest Heath Overview and Scrutiny Committees to seek their comments.

1.1.2 The draft Annual Report highlighted the key activities and developments which had been achieved over the financial year 2016-2017, with regard to the priorities set out the West Suffolk Strategic Plan. The draft report contained a number of case studies and examples from West Suffolk to illustrate the achievements described. The Leader highlighted relevant issues to the attention of the Committee.

1.1.3 Members examined the document in detail and asked a number of questions of the Leader and officers, to which comprehensive responses were provided. Discussions were held on the Bury St Edmunds Town Centre Masterplan; West Suffolk Operational Hub; Camps Road Recreation Ground; Haverhill Town Council Handyman; Haverhill Youth Survey and the Dementia Action Alliance.

### **1.2 Presentation by the Leader of the Council on his Portfolio Holder Responsibilities (Report No: OAS/SE/17/017 and Verbal)**

1.2.1 On 8 June 2016, the Committee had received a presentation from the Leader of the Council, setting out responsibilities covered under his portfolio.

1.2.2 At this meeting, the Leader, Councillor John Griffiths, had been invited back to provide a follow-up presentation on his portfolio. Report No: OAS/SE/17/017, 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;
- Set out the vision for the Leader's Portfolio through to 2019 and were you on target to meet that vision.

1.2.3 Members discussed the presentation in detail and asked questions of the Leader and officers, to which comprehensive responses were provided. Discussions were held on the forthcoming Civil Parking Enforcement scheme and whether it would be "cost neutral"; the future of West Suffolk (Single Council); the disbandment of Western Area Highways; and progress on the proposed works at Bury St Edmunds Train Station. In particular, discussions were held on Suffolk County Council's (SCC) performance with regards to highways. Reference was made to concerns raised by members of the public and parish councillors at four parish council AGMs, where they had expressed disappointment with the lack of response from SCC regarding the apparent poor quality pothole repairs; no repairs at all; and the perceived general lack of care and performance.

- 1.2.4 The Committee felt that this was an issue of concern and Councillors Susan Glossop and Diane Hind agreed to complete the relevant work programme suggestion form, which would be submitted for further consideration by the Committee at its July 2017 meeting.
- 1.2.5 There being no decision required, the Committee **noted** the contents of the presentation.
- 1.4 **Decisions Plan: June 2017 to May 2018 (Report No: OAS/SE/17/018)**
- 1.4.1 The Committee considered the latest Decisions Plan, covering the period June 2017 to May 2018. Members reviewed the Decisions Plan in detail and asked questions to which the Leader of the Council provided responses.
- 1.4.2 There being no decision required, the Committee **noted** the contents of the Decisions Plan.
- 1.5 **Work Programme Update and Re-Appointments to Suffolk County Council Health Scrutiny (Report No: OAS/SE/17/019)**
- 1.5.1 Work Programme Update
- The Committee received and **noted** Report No: OAS/SE/17/019, which provided an update on the current status of the Committee's Work Programme for 2017-2018.
- Following earlier discussions held under the "Leader's Annual Presentation", relating to Suffolk County Council Highways, it was agreed that Councillors Susan Glossop and Diane Hind would complete and submit a work programme suggestion form inviting Suffolk County Council Highways to a future meeting of the Committee, which was supported by the Leader of the Council.
- 1.5.3 Suffolk County Council Health Scrutiny
- Members were made aware of Suffolk County Council's reinstatement of its Health Scrutiny Committee. This body included a representative from each of the County's districts and boroughs.
- 1.5.4 The Committee considered the report and re-nominated Councillor Paul Hopfensperger as the Borough Council's nominated representative and Councillor Margaret Marks as the nominated substitute on the Suffolk Health Scrutiny Committee for 2017-2018. The Committee **RECOMMENDS that full Council be asked to confirm the appointment of Councillor Paul Hopfensperger as the representative and Councillor Margaret Marks as the Substitute representative to the Suffolk Health Scrutiny Committee for 2017-2018.**
- 1.5.5 Councillor Paul Hopfensperger gave a brief summary of the work Suffolk County Council Health Scrutiny Committee had done over the past year.
- 1.5.6 The Committee suggested that from June 2018 the Council might wish to consider receiving an annual update on "outside bodies", which was a view shared by the Leader of the Council.

## **2. Background Papers**

- 2.1.1 Report No: [OAS/SE/17/016](#) and [Appendix A](#) to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Draft West Suffolk Annual Report 2016-2017
- 2.1.2 Report No: [OAS/SE/17/017](#) to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Annual Presentation by the Leader of the Council on his Portfolio Holder Responsibilities
- 2.1.3 Report No: [OAS/SE/17/018](#) and [Appendix 1](#) to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Decisions Plan: June 2017 to May 2018
- 2.1.4 Report No: [OAS/SE/17/019](#) to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Work Programme and Re-Appointments to SCC Health Scrutiny