

Cabinet



St Edmundsbury
BOROUGH COUNCIL

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| Title of Report: | Draft West Suffolk Annual Report 2016/2017 | |
| Report No: | CAB/SE/17/034 | |
| Report to and date: | Cabinet | 27 June 2017 |
| Portfolio Holder: | John Griffiths Leader of the Council, St Edmundsbury Borough Council Tel: 01284 757136 Email: john.griffiths@stedsbc.gov.uk | |
| Lead Officer: | Davina Howes Head of Families and Communities Tel: 01284 757070 Email: davina.howes@westsuffolk.gov.uk | |
| Purpose of report: | The draft West Suffolk Annual Report highlights the key activities and developments that have been achieved over the financial year 2016/17, with regard to the priorities set out in the West Suffolk Strategic Plan. | |
| Recommendation: | It is <u>RECOMMENDED</u> that the draft West Suffolk Annual Report 2016/2017, as contained in Appendix A to Report No: CAB/SE/17/034, be approved. | |
| Key Decision: <i>(Check the appropriate box and delete all those that do not apply.)</i> | <p><i>Is this a Key Decision and, if so, under which definition?</i></p> <p>Yes, it is a Key Decision - <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No, it is not a Key Decision - <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> | |
| Consultation: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The draft Annual Report summarises progress in achieving the priorities set out in the West Suffolk Strategic Plan which was informed by feedback from residents, business and stakeholders. | |

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| Alternative option(s): | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is good practice for councils to report on progress against their priorities in this way and ensures transparency on how they spend public money. Forest Heath and St Edmundsbury could report separately on their work to achieve their priorities. However, this would not reflect some of the excellent work which has been delivered jointly across the whole of West Suffolk. Also, it would not show the continued joint working between Forest Heath and St Edmundsbury. | |
| Implications: | | | |
| Are there any financial implications? <i>If yes, please give details</i> | | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| Are there any staffing implications? <i>If yes, please give details</i> | | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| Are there any ICT implications? <i>If yes, please give details</i> | | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| Are there any legal and/or policy implications? <i>If yes, please give details</i> | | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| Are there any equality implications? <i>If yes, please give details</i> | | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The draft Annual Report covers evidence to support the achievement of the equality objectives from the Strategic Plan. | |
| Risk/opportunity assessment: | | None | |
| Risk area | Inherent level of risk (before controls) | Controls | Residual risk (after controls) |
| Misunderstanding of the role of the report (i.e. it can only give highlights of W Suffolk's activities, not every action taken). | very low | Develop a communications plan to clearly explain the role of the report | Negligible |
| Ward(s) affected: | | All wards | |
| Background papers: <i>(all background papers are to be published on the website and a link included)</i> | | West Suffolk Strategic Plan | |
| Documents attached: | | Appendix A: Draft West Suffolk Annual Report 2016/2017 | |

1. Key issues and reasons for recommendation

1.1 Draft West Suffolk Annual Report 2016/2017

1.1.1 The draft West Suffolk Annual Report highlights the key activities and developments that have been achieved over the financial year 2016/17, with regard to the priorities set out in the West Suffolk Strategic Plan.

1.1.2 The Forest Heath District Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered the Annual Report on 6 June 2017 (Report No: OAS/FH/17/016) and the St Edmundsbury Borough Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered the Annual Report on 7 June 2017 (Report No: OAS/SE/17/016).

1.1.3 The following amendments were recommended by the Overview and Scrutiny Committees. These amendments have also been reflected in the attached version of the annual report:

- Page 9, under the section 'supporting our markets' include the sentence: *'We are working with Suffolk County Council to improve the offer on the market in Newmarket and look forward to reporting on how this progresses later in the year.'*
- Page 21, under 'locality budgets' include the sentence: *'This webpage is regularly updated with information about the latest projects that we support.'*
- Page 27, under 'promoting physical activity' remove 'Clare'. Therefore the focus will remain on the largest population centres.
- Annex 1, 'Community Chest Funding' include the geographical area the organisation serves and the amount of funding received by each organisation.
- Furthermore, the Community Chest Funding list has changed because the one circulated to the Overview and Scrutiny Committees stated who had been allocated funding in 2016/17, whereas this new correct list states who actually received funding in 2016/17. As a result the following amendments have been made to the annual report:
 - Page 21, remove the sentence: *'In this year there has been a particular focus on how organisations can support people to make positive choices and behaviour change to prevent ill health, supported with funds of £160,000 from Suffolk County Council's Public Health department.'* This is because the funding from Suffolk County Council will be available to support organisations focusing on making behaviour changes to prevent ill health in 2017/18.
 - Page 21, change '£593,263' to '£417,522'.

1.1.4 We are taking a slightly different approach to this year's annual report and have agreed that we should review the format of the report and take a more modern approach that is less resource intensive. Rather than the traditional type-set document, a webpage is being created on which we will present

information about the councils' performance in different formats – the Draft Annual Report 2016/17 (presented as a table of key achievements) and case studies. Our hope is that the new format is more engaging and will provide the opportunity to provide updates on our achievements throughout the year. Once approved, the link to the annual report will be shared with partners and stakeholders such as parish councils.

- 1.1.5 The draft report also contains a number of case studies and examples from West Suffolk to illustrate the achievements described. These have been carefully drawn from a range of localities, urban vs rural locations, and service areas, in order to demonstrate the range of activities undertaken by the councils. In some cases, initiatives were only focused on one specific area, however, so examples are necessarily drawn from these localities.