

Extraordinary Overview and Scrutiny Committee



St Edmundsbury
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Title of Report:	Suffolk County Council – Highways Services	
Report No:	OAS/SE/17/025	
Report to and date:	Extraordinary Overview and Scrutiny Committee	25 October 2017
Chairman of the Committee	Councillor Diane Hind Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Tel: 01284 706542 Email: diane.hind@stedsbc.gov.uk	
Cabinet Member: Suffolk County Council:	Councillor Jane Storey Substantive Cabinet Member for Highways	
Cabinet Member: St Edmundsbury Borough Council	Councillor Alaric Pugh Cabinet Member for Planning and Growth Tel: 07930 460899 Email: alaric.pugh@stedsbc.gov.uk	
Lead officer:	Christine Brain Democratic Services Officer (Scrutiny) Tel: 01638 719729 Email: christine.brain@westsuffolk.gov.uk	
Purpose of report:	<p>1) To discuss how communication can be improved between Highways and various tiers of local government for the benefit of all residents and Councillors in West Suffolk.</p> <p>2) To hear about the new Suffolk Highways Structure, which commenced on 4 September 2017, to deal with the workload and how Suffolk County Council intends to evaluate the success of the scheme and how the Borough Council can help.</p>	

Recommendation:	Having considered the information, the Committee may wish to:		
	1) Make recommendations to the Cabinet for Highways and Transport for his consideration; 2) Request further information and/or receive a future update.		
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"/>		
Consultation:	• N/A		
Alternative option(s):	• N/A		
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 type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	•
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)
	Low/Medium/ High*		Low/Medium/ High*
None			
Wards affected:	All		
Background papers: <i>(all background papers are to be published on the website and a link included)</i>	Link to Suffolk County Council Website: Suffolk County Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 27 July 2017		
Documents attached:	Appendix 1 – SCC OAS Presentation (27 July 2017) – Integration for Suffolk Highways Appendix 2 – SCC Scrutiny Committee: Extract from Minutes (27 July 2017)		

1. Key issues and reasons for recommendation

1.1 Background: St Edmundsbury Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- 1.1.1 The Committee at its meeting held on 19 July 2017, received a Work Programme Suggestion from Councillors Diane Hind and Susan Glossop regarding concerns raised with them by residents relating to various highways issues.
- 1.1.2 The Committee felt it needed to gain a better understanding of the various highways issues and to discuss how to improve communication between various tiers of local government for the benefit of all residents and Councillors in West Suffolk.
- 1.1.3 The Committee acknowledged that the Borough Council was not the responsible authority for highways and suggested that the Suffolk County Council Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport and representatives from Suffolk Highways be invited to a future meeting of the Committee, to listen to the Committee's concerns and to answer questions from the Committee.
- 1.1.4 The Committee resolved to include the issue into its forward work programme and invite the Suffolk County Council (SCC) Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport to a future meeting of the Committee.

1.2 Background: Suffolk County Council Scrutiny Committee

- 1.2.1 On 27 July 2017, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the St Edmundsbury Overview and Scrutiny Committee attended the Suffolk County Council Scrutiny Committee to listen to their Committee's consideration of progress with the development of new integrated team arrangements for the delivery of highways services across Suffolk.
- 1.2.2 Attached at **Appendix 1** to the report, is the presentation given to the Scrutiny Committee by Mark Stevens (Assistant Director – Operational Highways).
- 1.2.3 Attached at **Appendix 2** to the report, is an extract from the Suffolk County Council Scrutiny Committee Minute, held on 27 July 2017.

1.3 Proposals

- 1.3.1 That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee ask questions and comment on what they have heard on ways of improving communication and the integration of the new Suffolk Highways structure, which commenced on 4 September 2017.