

Joint Executive (Cabinet) Committee

Forest Heath & St Edmundsbury councils

West Suffolk
working together

Title of Report:	Recommendation of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees: 6 and 7 June 2018 – West Suffolk Homelessness Reduction Strategy 2018-2023	
Report No:	CAB/JT/18/005	
Report to and date:	Joint Executive (Cabinet) Committee	25 June 2018
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Chairmen of the Committees:	Councillor Diane Hind Chairman of SEBC's Overview and Scrutiny Committee Tel: 01284 706542 Email: diane.hind@stedsbc.gov.uk	
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Purpose of report:	<p>On 6 and 7 June 2018, the Overview and Scrutiny Committees considered Report No: OAS/SE/18/016, OAS/FH/18/015, Appendix 1, Appendix A and Appendix B. The Homelessness Act 2002 requires all councils to review and produce a new homelessness strategy at least every five years. A review of West Suffolk's existing strategy is due in 2018. The new version of the strategy will be known as the West Suffolk Homelessness Reduction Strategy.</p> <p>In addition to this, the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 came into force on 3 April 2018 and there are a number of fundamental changes to legislation and additional duties that will need to be reflected in the new Homelessness Reduction Strategy for West Suffolk. In legislation there is no legal requirement for a new strategy to be in place before April 2018.</p>
Recommendation:	<p>It is <u>RECOMMENDED</u> that the designed version of West Suffolk Homelessness Reduction Strategy 2018-2023, attached as Appendix 1 to Report No: CAB/JT/18/005, be approved.</p>
<p>Key Decision:</p> <p><i>(Check the appropriate box and delete all those that do not apply.)</i></p>	<p><i>Is this a Key Decision and, if so, under which definition?</i></p> <p>Yes, it is a Key Decision - <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No, it is not a Key Decision - <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>(a) A key decision means an executive decision which, pending any further guidance from the Secretary of State, is likely to:</p> <p>(i) be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area in the Borough/District.</p>
Consultation:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Report Nos: OAS/SE/18/016 and OAS/FH/18/015
Alternative option(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Report Nos: OAS/SE/18/016 and OAS/FH/18/015
Implications:	
<p><i>Are there any financial implications? If yes, please give details</i></p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Report Nos: OAS/SE/18/016 and OAS/FH/18/015
<p><i>Are there any staffing implications? If yes, please give details</i></p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Report Nos: OAS/SE/18/016 and OAS/FH/18/015
<p><i>Are there any ICT implications? If yes, please give details</i></p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Report Nos: OAS/SE/18/016 and OAS/FH/18/015

<i>Are there any legal and/or policy implications? If yes, please give details</i>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> • See Report Nos: OAS/SE/18/016 and OAS/FH/18/015	
<i>Are there any equality implications? If yes, please give details</i>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> • See Report Nos: OAS/SE/18/016 and OAS/FH/18/015	
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 Report Nos: OAS/SE/18/016 and OAS/FH/18/015			
Ward(s) affected:		All Wards	
Background papers:		None	
Documents attached:		Appendix 1 – Designed West Suffolk Homelessness Reduction Strategy Appendix A - Evidence Base Appendix B – Delivery Plan	

1. Key issues and reasons for recommendations

1.1 Key Issues

- 1.1.1 The Committees received Report Nos: OAS/SE/18/016 and OAS/FH/18/015 which informed members that a review of the West Suffolk's Homelessness Strategy was due in 2018. In addition to this, by producing a new West Suffolk Homelessness Reduction Strategy the Council was responding to the fundamental changes to legislation and additional duties introduced by the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017.
- 1.1.2 In accordance with the Homelessness Act 2002, West Suffolk councils had conducted a review of homelessness in the area between November 2017 and April 2018. The review took the form of an evidence base that was attached as Appendix A to the West Suffolk Homelessness Reduction Strategy (Appendix 1). The depth and scope of the review had contributed to a comprehensive understanding of the key issues facing West Suffolk. It had also enabled the Councils to consider where it needed to focus its attention in the future in order to determine which priorities and actions the Councils needed to focus on.
- 1.1.3 The West Suffolk Homelessness Reduction Strategy was an important part of what the Councils were doing across West Suffolk to prevent and reduce homelessness. However, other activities which supported the reduction of homelessness were outlined in West Suffolk's Housing Strategy and the Strategic Framework 2018-2020.
- 1.1.4 The delivery plan (Appendix B) had been developed to deliver on the Councils priorities as set out in the strategy and would be resourced through existing budgets and resources and by accessing external funding sources from government and other partners.
- 1.1.5 Both Committees considered the West Suffolk Homelessness Reduction Strategy and the five priorities and felt it addressed all areas. Therefore the Committees did not suggest any amendments to the draft West Suffolk Homelessness Reduction Strategy.
- 1.1.6 The SEBC and FHDC Overview and Scrutiny Committees have put forward a recommendation as set out on page one of this report.