

Joint Executive (Cabinet) Committee



Forest Heath
District Council

Title of Report:	Report of Forest Heath's Overview and Scrutiny Committee: 12 July 2018	
Report No:	CAB/JT/18/015	
Report to and date:	Joint Executive (Cabinet) Committee	24 July 2018
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 12 July 2018, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered the following items: (1) Annual Presentation by the Lead Cabinet Member for Housing; (2) Evaluation of the Families and Communities Approach; (3) Annual Presentation by the Cabinet Member for Families and Communities; (4) Decisions Plan: 1 July 2018 to 31 March 2019 (5) Shadow Executive (Cabinet) Decisions Plan: 1 July 2018 to 31 March 2019 (6) Work Programme.	

Recommendation:	The Joint Executive (Cabinet) Committee is requested to <u>NOTE</u> the contents of Report CAB/JT/18/015, being the report of the FHDC 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:			
<i>Are there any financial implications? 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 	
<i>Are there any staffing implications? 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 	
<i>Are there any ICT implications? 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 	
<i>Are there any legal and/or policy implications? 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 	
<i>Are there any equality implications? 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 Lead Cabinet Member for Housing (Report No: OAS/FH/18/019)

1.1.1 The Lead Cabinet Member for Housing, Councillor Sara Mildmay-White was invited back to give an annual update on her portfolio. Report No: OAS/FH/18/019 set out the focus for the annual update.

1.1.2 Prior to the meeting taking place, the Lead Cabinet Member was provided with some key questions from Scrutiny Members on what they would like included in the update, and responses were set out the report.

1.1.3 The Committee asked a number of follow-up questions relating to homelessness, to which comprehensive responses were provided. There being no decision required, the Committee **noted** the annual update.

1.2 Evaluation of the Families and Communities Approach (Report No: OAS/FH/18/020)

1.2.1 The Committee received and **noted** Report No: OAS/FH/18/020, which followed on from the Cabinet Member's presentation to the Committee on 20 April 2017, at which the Committee asked for further information on evaluation of the Families and Communities approach, to better understand whether it was making a difference to communities and residents.

1.2.2 The report summarised progress to date; key points to note; methodologies used; and next steps. Attached to the report were a number of appendices. The report provided examples of how the evaluation model had been used and tested and sought the Committee's input into the further development of the model to evidence and evaluate the Families and Communities approach.

1.2.3 The Committee considered the report in detail, and noted the exempt appendices. The Committee asked a number of questions of the Portfolio Holder and officers, to which comprehensive responses were provided.

1.2.4 The Chairman, and the Committee were pleased with the report and acknowledged that it had been difficult to measure, score and evaluate as to whether it was making a difference to communities and residents. It was in agreement that the council should continue refining the evaluation approach and developing the methods and ethos. It was a vital piece of work and the council was leading the light in evidencing and evaluating the families and communities approach.

1.2.5 The Committee felt this work was so important that it should be embedded in the Council's strategy, as its importance was beyond political.

1.3 Annual Presentation by the Cabinet Member for Families and Communities (Report No: OAS/FH/18/021)

1.3.1 The Cabinet Member for Families and Communities, Councillor Robin Millar was invited back to give an annual update on his portfolio. Report No: OAS/FH/18/021 set out the focus for the annual update.

- 1.3.2 Prior to the meeting taking place, the Cabinet Member was provided with some key questions from Scrutiny Members on what they would like included in the update, and responses were set out the report.
- 1.3.3 The Committee asked a number of follow-up questions relating to the Community Chest Fund, to which comprehensive responses and examples of where organisation had benefited, were provided.
- 1.3.4 There being no decision required, the Committee **noted** the annual update.
- 1.4 **Decisions Plan: 1 July 2018 to 31 March 2019 (Report No: OAS/FH/18/022)**
- 1.4.1 The Committee considered the latest version of the Decisions Plan, covering the period 1 July 2018 to 31 March 2019. There being no decision required, the Committee **noted** the contents of the Decisions Plan.
- 1.5 **Shadow Executive (Cabinet) Decisions Plan: 1 July 2018 to 31 March 2019 (Report No: OAS/FH/18/023)**
- 1.5.1 The Committee considered the Shadow Executive (Cabinet) Decisions Plan, covering the period 1 July 2018 to 31 March 2019. There being no decision required, the Committee **noted** the contents of the Decisions Plan.
- 1.6 **Work Programme Update (Report No: OAS/FH/18/024)**
- 1.6.1 The Committee received and **noted** Report No: OAS/FH/18/024, which provided an update on the current status of the Committee's Work Programme for 2018-2019, which included current Joint Task and Finish Group(s).
- 1.6.2 Members were informed of an additional item to be included in its work programme for its meeting on 10 January 2019, being:
- West Suffolk Customer Access Strategy, Business Case and West Suffolk Digital Strategy.
- 1.6.3 The report also requested that Members identify questions they would like the Cabinet Member for Planning and Growth to cover in his annual report to the Committee on 13 September 2018.

2. Background Papers

- 2.1.1 Report No: [OAS/FH/18/019](#) to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Annual Presentation by the Lead Cabinet Member for Housing
- 2.1.2 Report No: [OAS/FH/18/020](#) and [Appendix D](#) and [Appendix E](#) to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Evaluation of the Families and Communities Approach
- 2.1.3 Report No: [OAS/FH/18/021](#) and [Appendix A](#) and [Appendix B](#) to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Annual Presentation by the Cabinet Member for Families and Communities

- 2.1.4 Report No: [OAS/FH/18/022](#) and [Appendix 1](#) to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Decisions Plan: 1 July 2018 to 31 March 2019
- 2.1.5 Report No: [OAS/FH/18/023](#) and [Appendix 1](#) to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Shadow Executive (Cabinet) Decisions Plan: 1 July 2018 to 31 March 2019
- 2.1.6 Report No: [OAS/FH/18/024](#) and [Appendix 1](#) to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Work Programme Update