

# Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: 10 November 2022

<b>Report number:</b>	<b>CAB/WS/22/063</b>	
<b>Report to and date:</b>	<b>Cabinet</b>	6 December 2022
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**Decisions Plan:** This item is not required to be included in the Decisions Plan.

**Wards impacted:** All wards.

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that Report number: CAB/WS/22/063, being the report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, be noted.

## 1. Context to this report

1.1 On 10 November 2022, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered the following items:

1. Air Quality and Vehicle Idling
2. Suffolk County Council Health Scrutiny – 12 October 2022
3. Work programme update 2022

A separate report is included on the Cabinet agenda for Item 1 above.

## 2. Proposals within this report

2.1 **Suffolk County Council Health Scrutiny – 12 October 2022  
(Report number: OAS/WS/22/017)**

2.1.1 The Committee received and **noted** report number OAS/WS/22/017, prepared by Councillor Margaret Marks setting out what was considered at its meeting held on 12 October 2022. The focus of the meeting was improving palliative and end of life care in Suffolk.

2.1.2 Councillor Marks informed the Committee that she was firstly saddened that nurses would be going on strike. She then drew the Committee's attention to specific parts of the report. In particular the progress and improvements made to date by the Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust following a report from the Care Quality Commission in April 2022 setting numerous failures. She then went on to explain that the health service was currently failing people in the community and stated the NHS needed to get more people working in the community.

2.1.3 The Committee considered the report in detail and asked questions to which Councillor Marks provided comprehensive responses. In particular discussions were held on issues in the mental health trust and young people not being able to get the help they needed to stop them becoming acute; mobile dentistry and dental contracts; whether there was engagement with local pharmacies and GPs; the high number of nursing vacancies in England and eConsult (online consultation and triage platform). Detailed discussions were also held on the Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust, due to it being the only Trust not meeting the standards and its legal obligations.

2.1.4 In response to a question raised regarding orthopaedics, Councillor Marks advised that Colchester hospital was building three new theatres for elective orthopaedic surgery, which was on track to be completed in a couple of years.

## **2.2 Work programme update 2022 (Report number: OAS/WS/22/018)**

2.2.1 The Committee received report number OAS/WS/22/018, which updated Members on the current status of its rolling work programme of items, and items currently agreed but had yet to be programmed for 2023 as attached at Appendix 1.

2.2.2 The Committee considered its future work programme of topics which had not yet been scheduled to be brought forward. The Committee therefore requested that Havebury Partnership be invited back to its 12 January 2023 meeting to provide a progress update on their Older Persons; Homelessness and Community Investment Strategies.

2.2.3 Councillor Julia Wakelam suggested inviting Flagship Housing to a future meeting of the Committee which was also listed as a future item. Officers advised that to progress this further a work programme suggestion form would need to be submitted then a scoping document would be drafted setting out the purpose of the review; key lines of enquiry; outcomes; approach; information required and timeframe. The Chair of the Committee agreed to discuss this further with Councillor Wakelam outside of the meeting regarding completing the suggestion form.

## **3. Alternative options that have been considered**

3.1 Please see background papers.

## **4. Consultation and engagement undertaken**

4.1 Please see background papers.

## **5. Risks associated with the proposals**

5.1 Please see background papers.

## **6. Implications arising from the proposals**

6.1 Financial - Please see background papers.

6.2 Equalities - Please see background papers.

## **7. Appendices referenced in this report**

7.1 Please see background papers.

**8. Background documents associated with this report**

- 8.1 Report number: [OAS/WS/22/017](#), [Appendix 1](#) and [Appendix A](#) to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Suffolk County Council Health Scrutiny – 12 October 2022
- 8.2 Report number: [OAS/WS/22/018](#) and [Appendix 1](#) to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Work Programme Update