

Council Appendix 4

### Suggestion for Scrutiny Work Programme form

(To be considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee)

**Suggestion from:** Councillor Sarah Broughton and Councillor Marion Rushbrook

#### What would you like to suggest for investigation or review? (Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

Transport and Infrastructure – this is not to interfere with the current local plan under review but post this. To ensure that West Suffolk are ahead, as to where SCC might be proposing new schools, roads etc and the NHS are planning health facilities and how West Suffolk Council can assist.

The Government is currently consulting on new means of planning and funding of infrastructure and going forward we want to understand more of this and learn from experiences of others (Norfolk is currently doing this through partnership working) and how this might benefit the whole West Suffolk and where we can gain funding for infrastructure.

#### What are the main issues or concerns to be considered? (Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

West Suffolk is taking a large amount of new housing as well as employment, it is important that correct infrastructure such as highways, schools, GP surgeries are placed in the right place and at the right time and we need to engage with Key stakeholders.

Government funding – to understand how we can access this and to identify where WSC can lobby Government to shape the current consultation.

## Who is responsible for providing this service or tackling the issue in question?

It is a combination of SCC, Highways and West Suffolk and NHS. Government funding

Have you spoken to them and, if so, what was the response? No

#### What is the portfolio holder's view on this issue?

Have spoken to Cllr Thorndyke, Cabinet Member for Planning and he thought this was useful work.

# What would be the likely benefits and outcomes of carrying out this investigation or review?

That there would be joined up thinking as to where new schools or school expansion, hospitals, GP surgeries so a working partnership would be in place. Where required new roads to enable development and to ease congestion on the roads as well as lobbying Government for funding.

### Estimated committee and officer resource implications (for example, research group, one-off report, dedicated meeting)

Task and Finish group – meetings with key partners such as SCC, NHS - dedicated meetings. Dependent on the work this might take a year to complete, and the findings brought back to Overview and Scrutiny with outcomes.

#### Suggested witnesses, documentation and consultation

SCC – Schools and Highways

NHS – Hospitals and GP surgeries

# Will this investigation or review contribute to one or more of the council's strategic priorities? If so, which ones? (Please tick those which apply)

•	Growth in West Suffolk's economy for the benefit of all our residents and UK plc.	Yes
•	Resilient families and communities that are healthy and active.	Yes

Increased and improved provision of appropriate housing in West Suffolk
Yes

in both our towns and rural areas.

#### Will this investigation or review contribute to the achievement of one or more of the commitments within the council's West Suffolk Strategic Framework 2020 to 2024 priorities? If so, which ones? (Please tick those which apply)

Growth in West Suffolk's economy for the benefit of all our residents and UK plc:

- Encourage economic growth in West Suffolk that benefits our local economy, our workforce, our families and communities and our global and local environments, in particular by tackling climate change.
- Secure improved infrastructure and facilities to support new and existing **Yes** communities.
- Invest in our towns, villages and countryside areas by building on their unique strengths. **Yes**

#### Resilient families and communities that are healthy and active:

- Support communities to fulfil their ambitions so as to improve the lives of residents and the local environment.
- Work with partners to build resilience in families and communities, so that problems can be prevented at the earliest opportunity.
- Use our community, leisure public open space, countryside and heritage assets so that they give maximum benefit to West Suffolk communities.

### Increased and improved provision of appropriate housing in West Suffolk in both our towns and rural areas:

•	Ensure a variety of new housing is provided in appropriate locations that meets the needs of current and future generations.	Yes
•	Improve the quality of housing and the local environment for our residents.	Yes
	Current people to people witchle boucing, including by working in	Vaa

• Support people to access suitable housing, including by working in partnership to address their wider needs.

Will this investigation hit one of the essential elements of a scrutiny review when analysing potential scrutiny reviews? If so, which? (Please tick those which apply)

- **Public interest:** The concerns of local people should influence the issues chosen by overview and scrutiny.
- **Impact (value):** Priority should be given to issues that make the biggest difference to the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the area and which have the potential to make recommendations which could lead to real improvements. The outcome must also be proportionate to the cost of carrying out the review in terms of staff and councillor time.
- **Relevance:** Overview and scrutiny must be satisfied that an issue identified for review is relevant and does not duplicate existing work being undertaken elsewhere by various working groups, Cabinet, partners and so on.
- **Partnership working or external scrutiny:** The focus of scrutiny is moving towards joint action and community leadership, so anything which offers this opportunity should be given serious consideration.

**Would you like to be involved in the investigation or review?** Yes

#### Date of request:

26 June 2023

#### Signed:

Sarah Broughton

Please return this form to:

Democratic Services Officer (Scrutiny), West Suffolk Council, West Suffolk House, Western Way, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP33 3YU Email: <u>democratic.services@westsuffolk.gov.uk</u>