CABINET

Minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet of South Norfolk District Council held at South Norfolk House, Long Stratton on Monday 9 October 2017 at 9.00 a.m.

Members Present:

Cabinet: Councillors J Fuller (Chairman), Y Bendle, L Hornby, K Mason Billig and B Stone

Apologies: Councillor M Edney

Non-Appointed: Councillors V Bell, D Bills, N Legg and T Lewis

Officers in Attendance: The Chief Executive (S Dinneen), the Director of Growth and Business Development (D Lorimer), the Director of Planning and Environment (T Horspole), the Director of Communities and Well-Being (J Sutterby - for part of the meeting), the Head of Environmental Services (B Wade), the Planning Policy Manager (A Nicholls), and the Procurement Consortium Manager (I Purdom)

2574 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr J Fuller declared an “other” interest in item 6 (minute 2578), the Norfolk Strategic Framework Consultation, by virtue of being the Chairman of the Norfolk Duty to Co-operate Member Forum.

2575 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held 17 July 2017, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
2576 **CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman welcomed Jamie Sutterby, the newly appointed Director of Communities and Well-Being, to the Council.

2577 **A NEW ECONOMIC STRATEGY FOR NORFOLK AND SUFFOLK**

**The Subject of the Decision**

Members considered the report of the Director of Growth and Business Development, which presented Cabinet with the New Economic Strategy for Norfolk and Suffolk, developed in partnership with local authorities, universities, colleges, business sector leaders and the New Anglia Local Economic Partnership (LEP).

The Director of Growth and Business Development presented her report, explaining that the Council had been proactively involved in the drafting of the new Strategy. She stressed the importance of close alignment with the South Norfolk Economic Growth Strategy, as this would increase the chances of securing Government funding to support the Council’s growth ambitions.

Members welcomed the report and the long-term aspirations of the new Strategy. Cabinet agreed that a review of South Norfolk’s own Economic Growth Strategy should be undertaken to allow for greater alignment of targets.

During discussion, mention was given to the list of food and drink companies (under Advanced Agriculture Food and Drink), and it was suggested that this might require editing, following recent reports that Britvic was likely to leave its site in Norwich. Members expressed concern at the impact this would have on Norwich and the wider area, and it was suggested that a smaller site for Colman's should be sought, to enable it to carry on operations in the area. The Chief Executive advised that Norwich City Council would be providing advice to the companies involved and their employees during this time. The Chairman added that the LEP would also play a role in ensuring the best outcome for the county.

In response to a query regarding the figures for housing growth, officers confirmed that these were evidence based figures obtained through the Strategic Housing Market Assessment.
The Chief Executive advised Cabinet that the new Strategy did differ from the LEP’s 2014 Strategic Economic Plan, in that the 2014 document had been a bidding platform for government funding. The new Strategy built on those foundations and members noted that the Chief Executive was a member on the steering group, set up to ensure a plan for delivery.

**The Decision**

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<td>1. To endorse the New Economic Strategy for Norfolk and Suffolk;</td>
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<td>2. That the proposed adjustments to be made to the South Norfolk Economic Growth Strategy, be discussed at the Growth, Infrastructure and Environment Policy Committee prior to being referred back to Cabinet for agreement</td>
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**The Reasons for the Decision**

To support collaborative working, helping to drive growth and investment to the District
To ensure close alignment with the South Norfolk Economic Growth Strategy, to maximise opportunities to secure government funding.

**Other Options Considered**

None.

**2578 NORFOLK STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK CONSULTATION**

**The Subject of the Decision**

Members considered the report of the Planning Policy Manager, which invited Cabinet to note and comment on the contents of the draft Norfolk Strategic Framework (NSF).

Cllr J Fuller reminded members of the background to the report and explained that the document not only provided the evidence needed to demonstrate how the Duty to Co-operate was being discharged, but it also was helpful in that it set out how all Norfolk
authorities would work together to best manage key cross-boundary planning issues, such as infrastructure and housing. Members also noted the potential for future savings through further joint commissioning of evidence base work.

The Planning Policy Manager presented his report to members and drew attention to the points raised during consideration of the NSF at the Regulation and Planning Policy Committee, held 20 September. Members noted that the Committee had suggested that there was a need for more weight to be given to the rural economy and to specifically mention the A140 corridor. There had also been a suggestion for an additional agreement around standard timeframes for 5-year land supply permissions.

In response to a query regarding targets for housing growth, the Planning Policy Manager explained that a sound evidence base for these figures had been obtained through the Strategic Housing Market Assessment, which examined the need for growth up to 2036. Norfolk had been divided into three housing market areas, which had been defined with the help of consultants, through the examination of the strength of self-containment in relation to jobs and houses.

During discussion, some concern was expressed regarding the ability of Norwich City Council to deliver on future housing growth targets. Whilst Norwich might not be able to entirely accommodate its own housing needs, Cllr Fuller assured members that there were opportunities for (re)development in Norwich, and as a central hub for economic growth, the City would have to deliver identified minimum housing numbers.

The Decision

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<td>1. Agree and submit the comments made in paragraphs 3.10-3.14 of the report, seeking improvements to the sections on rural economy, housing delivery, telecoms, transport, and the inclusion of a new overarching diagram;</td>
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<td>2. Delegate to the Director of Planning and Environment, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for External Affairs, to agree and submit the precise wording of the response, which will also include a schedule of identified spelling mistakes and similar minor errors.</td>
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The Reasons for the Decision

To ensure that the document covers all key strategic planning issues, whilst demonstrating that the Duty to Co-operate is being discharged.

Other Options Considered

None.

2578 SOUTH NORFOLK COUNCIL RESPONSE TO THE WAVENEY FIRST DRAFT LOCAL PLAN (JULY 17)

The Subject of the Decision

Members considered the report of the Planning Policy Manager, which sought Cabinet approval for the South Norfolk response to the Waveney First Draft Local Plan.

The Planning Policy Manager outlined his report, explaining that some South Norfolk settlements might benefit from the planned growth in both Beccles and Bungay. However, it was also recognised that there could be traffic impacts on the A143 and A146, creating congestion in key areas in the South Norfolk district. Members noted that overall, officers were broadly supportive of the Plan, felt it to be well written, and welcomed East Suffolk Council’s continued commitment to engage with South Norfolk.

Cllr K Mason Billig, whose ward bordered East Suffolk, agreed that the A146 was a problem during peak times, and that housing growth in this area would exasperate this issue. Congestion on ‘A’ roads was a problem, and this sometimes led to alternative routes being sought and the creation of “rat runs”. With regard to flooding, Cllr Mason Billig stressed the need for a cohesive strategy to flooding on both sides of the River Waveney, and the need to focus on the issues that were important to communities, referring in particular to health and wellbeing, and transport.
**The Decision**

**RESOLVED:** To agree the South Norfolk Council response to the Waveney First Draft Local Plan consultation, as outlined at Appendix 1 of the report;

**The Reasons for the Decision**

To ensure that the impacts of the Waveney Local Plan on the South Norfolk District, are fully considered.

**Other Options Considered**

None.

**2579 FUTURE MANAGEMENT OF STREET LIGHTS**

Members noted that the report regarding the future management of street lights would be considered at a future meeting of the Cabinet.

**2580 GREATER NORWICH LOCAL PLAN**

Members noted that the report regarding the Greater Norwich Local Plan would be considered at a future meeting of the Cabinet.

**2581 INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT PLAN**

Members noted that the report regarding the Infrastructure Investment Plan would be considered at a future meeting of the Cabinet.
2582  RESPONSE TO MID-SUFFOLK AND BABERGH LOCAL PLAN

Members noted that the report regarding the Council’s response to Mid-Suffolk and Babergh Local Plan would be considered at a future meeting of the Cabinet.

2583  CABINET CORE AGENDA

Members noted the latest version of the Cabinet Core Agenda.

2584  EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

It was

RESOLVED: To exclude the public and press from the meeting under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act (as amended)

2585  GREEN GARDEN WASTE PROCESSING AND DISPOSAL CONTRACT

The Subject of the Decision

Members considered the exempt report of the Head of Environmental Services and the Procurement Consortium Manager, which sought Cabinet approval for the award of contracts for green garden waste processing and disposal services.
The Head of Environmental Services presented the report to members.

During discussion, members commended officers on the success of the Council’s garden waste collection service. In response to a query, Cabinet was informed that although some contamination did occur in the brown bins, this had not proved to be a significant issue.

The Chairman sought clarification regarding the end date of the contract, expressing concern that the Council could be out of contact during peak collection times. The Head of Environmental Services assured members that the Council controlled the cessation of contract (as detailed in paragraph 5.2.3 of the report), and that any future changes would be carefully planned.

The Decision

RESOLVED: To approve the award of the green waste processing and disposal contract as outlined in paragraph 7.1 of the report.

The Reasons for the Decision

To seek value for money, social value and revenue generation

Other Options Considered

As outlined in the report

(The meeting concluded at 10.06 am)

Chairman