

BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL and MIDSUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL

From: Head of Corporate Organisation	Report Number: JSC/03/14
To: Joint Scrutiny Committee	Date of meeting: 5 February 2014

FOLLOW UP OF JOINT SCRUTINY ITEMS

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 To inform the committee of action or progress made on previous recommendations.

2. Recommendations

That the Committee identify those areas where further monitoring of progress is required.

3. Financial Implications

3.1 There are no specific financial implications identified from this report.

4. Risk Management

4.1 The report is not linked to any risks identified on the integrated significant business risk register.

5. Consultations

5.1 Officers were consulted to provide updates for this report.

6. Equality Analysis

6.1 This report has no inherent equality and diversity impact.

7. Shared Service / Partnership Implications

7.1 None

8. Key Information

8.1 This report looks at the outcomes from the resolutions and recommendations made by the Joint Scrutiny Committee between June to December 2013. Full details are included in the attached Appendix A

8.2 The Committee are asked to consider the outcomes and identify those areas where further monitoring of progress is still required.

9. Appendices

Title	Location
A. Joint Scrutiny Committee 5 February 2014 – Outcomes from Resolutions and Recommendations	Attached

10. Background Documents

None

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APPENDIX A

Joint Scrutiny Committee 5 February 2014 – Outcomes from Resolutions and Recommendations

Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Resolutions and Recommendations	Progress and Outcomes
4 June 2013	MID SUFFOLK SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT	<p>RESOLVED</p> <p>(1) That the Mid Suffolk District Council Scrutiny Annual Report 2012/13 attached as an appendix to Paper JSC/8/13, and amended as referred to above be approved.</p> <p>(2) That the Annual Report be submitted for noting to the Mid Suffolk District Council Meeting on 27 June 2013.</p> <p>(3) That the Annual Report be made accessible on the Council website and distributed predominantly electronically in a similar low cost manner to that for the previous year's report.</p>	<p>N/a</p> <p>Submitted 27 June 2013</p> <p>Council minutes</p> <p>The Report had been disseminated electronically via the MSDC website and by email to key stakeholders including parish and town councils, with a limited number of monochrome paper copies sent to libraries and in the Council reception area, and also available on request.</p> <p>RESOLUTION</p> <p><i>That the Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2012/13 be received.</i></p> <p>Completed</p>
31 July 2013	OPTIONS FOR THE TRANSFORMATION ENQUIRY GROUPS TO CONSIDER – NEW HOMES BONUS (NHB) APPROACHES	<p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That a letter be sent from the two Joint Scrutiny Chairs to the Transformation Enquiry Groups making them aware of the potential approaches for the allocation and use of New Homes Bonus, as contained in Paper JSC/11/13, and of the Joint Scrutiny Committee's specific views as summarised below:-</p>	<p>Letter sent to TEG Lead members</p> <p>Completed</p>

Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Resolutions and Recommendations	Progress and Outcomes
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The importance of the 'invest to save approach' and its incorporation in the Budget process for 2014/15 • The need to secure effective community engagement and clarity throughout the process, with a clear timetable and criteria for making bids 	
31 July 2013	REVIEW OF THE WESTERN COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP	<p>RESOLVED</p> <p>(1) That the contents of Paper JSC/12/13 be noted.</p> <p>(2) That a letter be sent to the Police and Crime Commissioner from the two Joint Scrutiny Chairs, in support of the Western Community Safety Partnership, emphasising its positive outcomes for the community and the value of its good local connections.</p>	<p>The Police and Crime Commissioner has since decided to divert funds away from Western Crime Partnership.</p> <p>Completed</p>
31 July 2013	CORPORATE COMMENTS, COMPLIMENTS AND COMPLAINTS REPORT	<p>RESOLVED</p> <p>(1) That the compliments and complaints activity since the new system was introduced on 2 April 2013, as shown in Appendix 1 to Paper JSC/13/13, be noted.</p> <p>(2) That an interim report as referred to above be made to the Committee ahead of the annual report for 2013/14.</p>	<p>Interim report to Committee on 4 Dec 2013</p> <p>Completed</p>

Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Resolutions and Recommendations	Progress and Outcomes
2 October 2013	REVIEW OF PARTNERSHIP ACCOUNTABILITY	<p>RECOMMENDED TO EXECUTIVE AND STRATEGY COMMITTEES</p> <p>(1) That further work be carried out on the definition of partnerships.</p> <p>(2) That a review is needed so that there is a clear understanding of who we should be working with to deliver the Council's strategic priorities and the benefits and savings therein.</p> <p>(3) That the review should encompass both Councils' arrangements for Councillor representation on outside bodies. Further, it is suggested that a joint review is concluded by April 2014. In addition, a comprehensive list of all the Council's partnerships should be maintained with a clear understanding of the relationships. A policy with supporting procedures should be developed to cover all partnerships to determine the governance arrangements</p>	<p>Executive 14 October 2013</p> <p>Members agreed that a review was required although some concern was expressed regarding the officer resource implications of undertaking this. It was agreed that recommendation 2.1 should be deleted as this would have to be considered in the context of recommendations 2.2 and 2.3.</p> <p>By a unanimous vote</p> <p>RESOLUTION 1</p> <p><i>That a review is required so that there is a clear understanding of who the Council should be working with to deliver its strategic priorities and the benefits and savings therein</i></p> <p>RESOLUTION 2</p> <p><i>That the review should encompass both Council's arrangements for Councillor representation on outside bodies and it is suggested that a joint review is concluded by April 2013. In addition, a comprehensive list of all the Council's partnerships should be maintained with a clear understanding of the relationships. A policy with supporting procedures should be developed to cover all partnerships to determine the governance arrangements.</i></p> <p>Strategy 17 October 2013</p> <p>Members noted that further work was ongoing to define partnerships and accepted the need for a review, as recommended.</p>

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			<p>RESOLVED</p> <p>(1) That a review is required so that there is a clear understanding of whom the Council should be working with to deliver its strategic priorities and the benefits and savings therein.</p> <p>(2) That the review should encompass both Councils' arrangements for Councillor representation on outside bodies. Further, it is suggested that a joint review is concluded by April 2014. In addition, a comprehensive list of all the Council's partnerships should be maintained with a clear understanding of the relationships. A policy with supporting procedures should be developed to cover all partnerships to determine the governance arrangements.</p> <p>Progress</p> <p>A review of Councillor representation on outside bodies to be undertaken during 2014. Officers are scoping the review of partnership activity linking to the development of TEG outcomes and the emerging strategic planning programme.</p> <p>On-going</p>
4 Dec 2013	CORPORATE COMPLIMENTS, COMMENTS AND	<p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That the update on Compliments,</p>	<p>To be incorporated into next annual report.</p> <p>On-going</p>

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	COMPLAINTS	<p>Comments and Complaints as summarised in Appendix A to Paper JSC/19/13, together with the actions identified, be noted.</p> <p>Members asked for further information to be provided on various of the elements referred to in the report, including the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • number of complainants, as well as numbers of complaints – <i>information will be included in future reports</i> • an indication of the relative gravity of complaints – <i>Head of Corporate Resources to circulate</i> • alignment with the Risk Register – <i>Heads of Service to consider as part of reviewing the complaints in their area</i> • District of which the complainant is a resident – <i>will be included in future Annual Reports</i> • level of detail in Annual Reports – <i>Heads of Service receive and monitor detailed reports on a quarterly basis, exception reporting is made to Members</i> 	
4 Dec 2013	PLANNING POLICY UPDATE	<p>RECOMMENDATION TO EXECUTIVE AND STRATEGY COMMITTEES</p> <p>That a planning policy group be set up to work in conjunction with the Transformation Enquiry Groups to deal</p>	<p>Executive 13 January 2014 (Draft minutes) Councillor D T Haley, Leader of Council, advised that the Council would be looking to have a group of Members working on the new policy framework as recommended from the TEGs at</p>

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		<p>specifically with planning policy matters and support the development of the planning policy framework for the two Councils.</p>	<p>the workshop held on 29 October. It was probable that this would be a task and finish group, which would bring forward recommendations to the Executive and Strategy Committees to provide overall strategic direction and framework for more detailed policy development. In preparation for this, Officers were reviewing the identified TEG outcomes and testing these against the agreed strategic priorities.</p> <p>He further advised that the group would be set up by the end of the current month.</p> <p>Strategy 16 January 2014 (Draft Minutes) Approved the Joint Scrutiny recommendation in principle.</p> <p>This was reported to JMIB on January 23 2014.</p> <p>On-going</p>