

**Norfolk Strategic Planning Member Forum**  
**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2019**  
**2pm Council Chamber, Norfolk County Council**

**Minutes**

<b>Councillors</b>	<b>Attended</b>	<b>Apologies</b>
Cllr Andrew Brown – North Norfolk District Council	✓	
Cllr Gordon Bambridge – Breckland Council		x
Cllr Stuart Clancy – Norfolk County Council	✓	
Cllr John Fuller – South Norfolk District Council - Chair	✓	
Cllr Melanie Vigo di Gallidoro – Broads Authority	✓	
Mr Bruce Keith – Broads Authority (Sub)		x
Cllr Graham Plant - Great Yarmouth Borough Council		x
Cllr Richard Blunt – King’s Lynn & West Norfolk	✓	
Cllr Mike Stonard – Norwich City Council	✓	
Cllr Lana Hempsall – Broadland District Council	✓	
<b>Supporting Officers</b>	<b>Attended</b>	<b>Apologies</b>
Mark Ashwell – North Norfolk District Council	✓	
Natalie Beal – Broads Authority		x
Andrew Darcy – Breckland Council	✓	
Simon Ward – Breckland Council		x
Keith Moore – Environment Agency	✓	
Phil Morris – Norfolk County Council		x
Stephen Faulkner – Norfolk County Council	✓	
Graham Nelson – Norwich City Council	✓	
Simon Marjoram – South Norfolk Council		x
Sam Hubbard – Great Yarmouth Borough Council	✓	
Ninan Xu – Norfolk County Council	✓	
John Walchester – Broadland District Council	✓	
Alan Gomm – King’s Lynn and West Norfolk	✓	
Trevor Wiggett – Strategic Framework Project Manager	✓	
Caroline Jeffrey - Norfolk County Council	✓	
Nick Johnson– Norfolk County Council		x
Phil Shreeve – Norfolk County Council	✓	
Simon Papworth – Anglian Water	✓	
James Cutting – Suffolk County Council	✓	

1	<b>Welcome, introduction and apologies</b>	<b>Actions</b>
1.1	All members and officers introduced themselves and apologies were noted (as above).	
2	<b>Minutes and matters arising from meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> July 2019</b>	
2.1	Previous minutes agreed as accurate.	
2.2	No other matters arising.	
3	<b>Local Industrial Strategy (Simon Papworth)</b>	
3.1	Simon Papworth, representing the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership (NALEP), gave a presentation on the newly produced Local Industrial Strategy (LIS) for Norfolk and Suffolk.	
3.2	LEPs have been tasked by the Government to develop LIS and will be responsible for delivering them alongside local partners. The strategy should bring together a strong evidence about Norfolk and Suffolk's economy and outline a long-term set of priorities that makes the most of the existing opportunities in the economy, address weaknesses and meet the area's needs.	
3.3	The LIS focusses on three opportunities areas: clean energy, agri-food and ICT/digital creative. The golden thread is clean growth.	
3.4	The strategy is structured around the five foundations of growth (ideas, people, infrastructure, business environment and places) identified in the national Industrial Strategy. The strategy outlines our assets in these areas and proposed interventions to boost productivity, support inclusive growth and capitalise on our three opportunity areas.	
3.5	Cllr Clancy expressed concern over the lack of adequate 3G coverage in Norfolk, particularly in rural areas.	
3.6	Cllr Fuller noted that hydrogen should be included as part of clean energy opportunity area in the LIS.	
4	<b>Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework (Trevor Wiggett)</b>	
4.1	Trevor Wigget, Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework Project Manager, gave an update on the progress of the NSPF. A report has been prepared detailing latest development of the framework.	
4.2	A revised NSPF was considered in the July 2019 Member Forum. It was agreed then, subject to some minor amendments to the wording around water and climate change, the NSPF could be taken for endorsement by each authority.	
4.3	Each authority (apart from Breckland who have yet to take the NSPF to their cabinet) has endorsed the document. This document also	

	continues to be endorsed by the New Anglia LEP, the Environment Agency, Natural England and Anglian Water.	
4.5	North Norfolk District Council agreed to endorse the NSPF subject to the modification of agreement 10. The modification requested involves the removal of reference to table 9 which sets out the Local Housing Need based on the new standard national methodology using the mid 2014 household projections.	
4.6	Trevor informed the forum that the Norfolk Strategic Planning Officers Group has considered North Norfolk's request and recommends a foot note is added to table 9 highlighting that <i>'At this point in time North Norfolk District Council is considering if an alternative approach to establishing OAN is justified'</i> . This avoids the need to update an agreement which has already been endorsed by most authorities, and nor should this impact other authorities in any other way.	
4.7	Mark Ashwell, Planning Policy Manager at North Norfolk District Council, explained that NNDC is currently look for ways to challenge the accuracy of Standard housing methodology.	
4.8	Cllr Fuller emphasised the result from the current standard housing methodology is a statement of fact and it would be challenging for the NNDC to establish an alternative approach with the government.	
4.9	Members agreed for the NSPF to include a new foot note on table 9 highlighting that North Norfolk District Council is considering an alternative approach to establishing OAN.	
4.10	Trevor also gave an update on the progress of the Green Infrastructure and Recreational Impact Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy. Consultants have been commissioned to produce a county wide Green Infrastructure Strategy and will be expected to report back on the completion of this work at the January member forum. Part of the output will include a detailed programme of strategic mitigation measures which will recommended to be funded by developer contributions from residential development schemes.	
4.11	Cllr Fuller and Cllr Clancy advised caution in approaching the notion of introducing any kind of developers' levy and a full understanding of its scope, detail and impact will need to be achieved before any meaningful recommendation can be made.	
4.12	Given the public nature of the member forum, it is agreed that the best approach to examine the full details of this potential levy is to be done in a private member briefing session.	
4.13	<b>ACTION:</b>  A private member workshop on the developer contribution to fund mitigation measures to be arranged.	

4.14	On the Older Persons Accommodation and Support Needs Study, Three Dragons have been commissioned to carry out the study. This work is still at its early stage and the consultants are currently looking at the demand modelling at district and large settlement level.	
4.15	Cllr Fuller noted the importance of providing all types of housing for all residents of the County.	
4.16	On the topic of climate change, the climate change group has been set up and will provide technical evidence and make recommendations in relation to strategic cross boundary initiatives which could help reduce the County's impact on climate change.	
4.17	For 5G shared guidance and the Broadband guides, new guidance to support the roll out of 5G and Broadband to the County has been produced, however, it will need to be reviewed due to the recent emergence of Government's consultation on 5G.	
4.18	Cllr Clancy stressed the importance of focussing on actual, realistic deliverable and resolving the existing issues with 3G and 4G connections, especially in the rural parts. He also expressed his doubts on Mobile UK's ability to deliver 5G connections across all parts of the County.	
4.19	A separate paper covering funding requirement for 2020/21 program has been presented to the forum for formal endorsement. The recommendation is for each district Authority to continue to contribute £10,000, and for Broads authority to contribute £5,000 for the next financial year. Norfolk County Council currently funds East of England Forecasting Model and provide officer support.	
4.20	The Forum agreed to continue with the proposed arrangement of financial contribution from the Districts and the Broads Authority.	
4.21	There are, however, some disagreements amongst Members on level of contribution made by Norfolk County Council. Cllr Fuller strongly believed that Norfolk County Council should also provide direct financial contribution (of £25,000 a year) as well as continuing to provide officer support for the joint working.	
4.22	Ninan Xu informed the forum the current County's contribution consists of officer support, cost for the East of England Forecasting Model and Board membership fee for the newly formed Water Resource East.	
4.23	The Forum has requested officers to articulate details of the County's contribution to the Duty to Cooperate joint working formally in a budget paper, to be discussed at the January Member Forum.	
4.24	<p><b>ACTION:</b></p> <p>A budget paper to be prepared detailing Norfolk County Council's contribution to the Duty to Cooperate joint working programme</p>	

<b>5</b>	<b>Neighbouring Counties Update</b>	
5.1	James Cutting, Head of Planning for Suffolk County Council, gave an update on the state of local Plans across Suffolk. Local Plans are progressing at different stages in Suffolk. James confirmed currently there is no need for requirement for cooperation from Norfolk.	
<b>6</b>	<b>Local Plan Update</b>	
6.1	A summary report updating members on the latest progress of the local plans have been presented at the forum. Updates noted.	
<b>7</b>	<b>AOB</b>	
7.1	The next member forum will be in January 2020. Ninan Xu to confirm a date for the January forum.	