

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

26 November 2015

COUNCILLOR NICK DAUBNEY – LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR RESOURCES

For the period October to November 2015

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Budget 2015/2016

The budget set in February 2015 for the current year still remains on track with an additional £173,440 of savings reported in the monitoring report for September. The budget monitoring report will be considered at Cabinet on 12 January 2016 and will form the base for the refresh of the Financial Plan 2015/2020.

The Financial Plan 2015/2020

The work that we have done in this financial year will provide a sound base from which we can prepare the new Financial Plan 2015/2020. Over the next few weeks Portfolio Holders and Service Managers will be firming up budget proposals that will come to Council in February 2016. Clearly there will remain a pressure to maintain a firm grip on our spending such that it can be met from reducing government funding and affordable levels of council tax. The Government will announce the Comprehensive Spending Review on 25 November 2015 and we expect to receive details of the Council's funding settlement for 2016/2017 before Christmas.

Devolution

As planned the “challenge meeting” (as explained in council pre brief) took place on November 2nd.

We still await formal feedback and a response. Initial verbal feedback is encouraging.

I will report to Council when more is known. A Norfolk Leaders meeting has been scheduled for early December.

King's Lynn University Centre

Construction has started. Finance from LEP following an initiative led by the

West Norfolk Partnership means that by the Autumn Term 2016 students will be able to study for Higher Education courses at this dedicated centre of the Anglia Ruskin University on the College of West Anglia Campus.

2 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled

Meetings Attended since 30 October

College of West Anglia
Cabinet Sifting
Alive Leisure Liaison group
SPARSE (Rural Councils Grouping)

To attend to Month end

Downham Chamber of Trade
Telephone conferences with Norfolk/Suffolk Leaders
Growing Norfolk Seminar
Open Road Project
College of West Anglia Board