

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

22 February 2018

COUNCILLOR P HODSON - CABINET MEMBER FOR PERFORMANCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

For the period 5 January to 13 February 2018

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Progress with the actions arising from the 2016/17 Annual Governance Statement has been monitored and the findings reported to Audit Committee. Progress with all actions is well underway and some actions are now completed. Work on compiling the AGS for 2017/18 has already started, with the draft scheduled to be presented to Audit Committee in May.

The strategic internal audit plan for 2018/19 was also considered by Audit Committee in February and has been agreed – this plan defines the work of the internal audit team for the coming year, and also outlines proposed work through to 2023.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

New Anglia Economic Strategy

On 25 January, the Norfolk Chamber of Commerce and New Anglia LEP have organised a consultation event with West Norfolk businesses on the delivery plan for the newly published New Anglia Economic Strategy. The event offered local businesses an opportunity to highlight current initiatives and investments and expressed their views on the key actions and interventions that the delivery plan should include for West Norfolk.

External funding – European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development – EAFRD (Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough LEP)

The EAFRD has two funding strands: Business Development and Food Processing. The current EAFRD pipeline spend for the GCGP LEP area is at 48% of the current Call value for Business Development and 36% for the Food Processing, which means that there is £1,689,408 of unallocated funding under the Business Development strand and £2,323,278 under the Food Processing one.

The current call for Expressions of Interest for both funding streams is open until 31 May 2020. Successful projects will be able to claim funding until 31 December 2020.

The Borough Council and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs will organise a workshop in March to promote this funding opportunity to West Norfolk businesses.

3 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled

Matthew Henry
Jemma Curtis
Martin Chisholm
Chris Bamfield
Abbie Panks (Markets)
Ostap Paparega
Paul Harrison
Hunstanton Town Council
Brian Long
Cabinet
David Pomfret (College of West Anglia)
Bid Meeting
Audit Committee
Paul Harrison
Sharon Clifton