

## DRAFT MINUTES – PAPER A

<b>Title:</b>	Suffolk Strategic Partnership Chief Executives' Panel
<b>Date:</b>	5 September 2008
<b>Place:</b>	Rose Room, Endeavour House
<b>Time:</b>	10.00am – 12.30pm
<b>In Attendance:</b>	<p>Andrea Hill, Chief Executive, Suffolk County Council (AHill) (Chair)</p> <p>Simon Ash, Chief Constable, Suffolk Constabulary (SA)</p> <p>Stephen Baker, Chief Executive, Suffolk Coastal District Council and Waveney District Council (SBaker)</p> <p>Shona Bendix, Chief Executive, Suffolk Association of Local Councils (SBendix)</p> <p>David Burnip, Chief Executive, Forest Heath District Council (DB)</p> <p>Mike Dawson, Acting Chief Executive, St Edmundsbury Borough Council (MD)</p> <p>Scott Dolling, Acting Chief Executive, Suffolk Development Agency (SD)</p> <p>Jonathan Free on behalf of Andrew Good, Chief Executive, Mid Suffolk District Council (JF)</p> <p>Steve Green, Suffolk Lead, Government Office – East of England (SG)</p> <p>Mike Hammond on behalf of Pat Rockall, Chief Executive, Babergh District Council (MH)</p> <p>Julian Herbert on behalf of Carole Taylor-Brown, Chief Executive, Suffolk Primary Care Trust (JH)</p> <p>Judith Mobbs, Area Director, LSC (JMobbs)</p> <p>Jonathan Moore, Chief Officer, Suffolk Association of Voluntary Organisations (JMoore)</p> <p>Richard Rafe, Regional Programme Manager, Natural England (RR)</p> <p>Marcus Sibley, Area Environment Manager (Suffolk), Environment Agency (MS)</p> <p>Jan Wain on behalf of Tina Ellis, district Manager (Cambridgeshire and Suffolk), Jobcentre Plus (JW)</p>
<b>Supporting Officers:</b>	<p>Chris Bally, Planning and Performance, Suffolk County Council (CB)</p> <p>Maurice Brenner, Service Strategy Team, Suffolk County Council (MB)</p> <p>Richard Catherall, Partnerships Team, Suffolk County Council (RC)</p> <p>Lydia Crow, Partnerships Administrator, Suffolk County Council (LC)</p> <p>Jenny Foster, Partnerships Team, Suffolk County Council (JFoster)</p> <p>Ann Hunter, Planning and Performance, Suffolk County Council (AHunter)</p>

	Item Description	Relevant business considered, facts noted, the decision taken and its rationale
1.	<b>Welcome and Apologies</b>	<p>AHill welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p> <p>The following apologies were given:  Tina Ellis (Jan Wain attending)  Andrew Good (Jonathan Free attending)  James Hehir  Jacqui Martin  Pat Rockall (Mike Hammond attending)  Mike Stonnard  Carole Taylor-Brown (Julian Herbert attending)</p>
2.	<b>Minutes of the Last Meeting &amp; Matters Arising</b>	The minutes of the last meeting were agreed.
3.	<b>LAA1 Review</b>	<p>MB led through the LAA1 Review paper, highlighting the lessons learned throughout the process and the problems with some of the targets set. All priorities from LAA1 have been moved into either LAA2 or Suffolk's Community Strategy.</p> <p>The Panel agreed that a key lesson to learn from LAA1 was that of the need for appropriate and effective performance management. MD also stressed that Suffolk's projected outcomes and targets should be communicated to stakeholders in a way that LAAs are seen to be about outcomes for local people.</p> <p>Overall, it was decided that LAA1 should be considered a good exercise in gaining experience, resulting in a solid and optimistic LAA2. It was also noted that LAA1 has given Suffolk the opportunity to be more rigorous in LAA2.</p> <p><b>Action:</b>  <b>JFoster to get information on how many PSA targets were met (to be circulated with minutes).</b></p>
4.	<b>Update on LAA2 Progress</b>	<p>JFoster led through the LAA2 paper, explaining that in addition to negotiating those targets not already set, GO-East has offered Suffolk the opportunity to renegotiate the housing targets due to the current economical climate. It is hoped that the Go-East work being undertaken to explore the 'duty to co-operate' will be shared with partners before Christmas.</p> <p>GO-East will continue to act as the lead negotiator between Central Government and Local Government during the review and refresh period, where agreed targets will be refined rather than replaced.</p>
5.	<b>CAA Update</b>	<p>CB introduced the CAA paper, and recapped the details of his meeting with Edwina Child (EC) from the Audit Commission. Though the Audit Commission sympathised with Suffolk's current climate given Local Government Review, there is little chance of the county being exempt from future CAA involvement. It was queried how the issues highlighted by the CAA would be applied, with the answer being given that the CAA would be self-corrective.</p>

		<p>CB highlighted the fact that the CAA pilot has been a successful learning exercise, showing the relative position and offering an opportunity to learn between LSPs. It was suggested that the leads of the CAA pilot meet to talk about sharing self-assessment.</p> <p>JMobbs stressed that there was actually a very good basis for self-assessment in the JAR process; CB agreed, highlighting there was a similar inspection due shortly for older people.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b>  <b>CB to produce a paper on CAA and to bring it to the next meeting along with a presentation for the Panel.</b></p>
6.	<p><b>Making Suffolk Exceptional</b></p>	<p>RC led through the 'Making Suffolk Exceptional' paper, explaining the need to make progress towards the ambitious 20 year aims outlined within Suffolk's Community Strategy. Given the current political climate within Suffolk, it is imperative that resources are not completely diverted to LGR and are still focused on positive outcomes for the county. The project is sponsored by RIEP.</p> <p>AHill explained the idea of 'Making Suffolk Exceptional' being based on the good Suffolk engagement exemplified by the work undertaken to create Suffolk's Community Strategy, but on a more informal arrangement. People who may usually be a barrier to certain progressions and people with novel and different ideas would be encouraged to participate and get involved: it was stressed that 'Making Suffolk Exceptional' was not just about local government but about organisations throughout the whole county. A pilot has been undertaken in Cumbria, and communications have already been made with the Cumbria to discuss their project.</p> <p>The Panel agreed to support the project in its initial stages and commit to further discussions relating to 'Making Suffolk Exceptional', acknowledging the project was a different and exciting way of partnership working.</p>
7.	<p><b>SSP and LAA Governance</b></p>	<p>AHill introduced the paper on SSP and LAA Governance, recapping previous discussions relating to governance arrangements. JFoster explained all previous comments had been taken on board and considered, particularly those relating to performance management and democratic accountability.</p> <p>A proposal that SCEG should be extended to include further representatives, and the CEP should cease to meet, was discussed at length with the primary issue being that local authority chief executives would still need to meet on their own at some point to discuss issues that are only relevant to local authority partners. It was suggested there could be one meeting with a two part agenda, with the SSP and LAA element of the meeting primarily driving performance management. The reasoning of having a Core Group and an enhanced SCEG was queried, as this would surely be an example of duplicated workloads.</p>

		<p>SBaker distributed an amended which the Panel considered at length. It was noted that the positioning of the enhanced SCEG was good, as was the link between the LSPs and SSP. The structure dealt with the issue of Performance Management and member accountability.</p> <p>Recommendations from CEP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There be an enhanced SCEG, but the local authority chief executives would continue to meet separately, possibly immediately before or after the enhanced SCEG</li> <li>• The enhanced SCEG would performance manage the SSP and LAA</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
<b>8.</b>	<b>AOB</b>	There was no further business to discuss.
<b>9.</b>	<b>Provisional Date for PMG</b>	21 <sup>st</sup> November 10.00am – 12.00noon (Rose Room, Endeavour House)