

**Report to** Cabinet  
13 December 2017  
**Report of** Strategy manager  
**Subject** Scrutiny Committee Recommendations

**Item**

10

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### **Purpose**

To consider the recommendations from the scrutiny committee since June 2017.

### **Recommendation**

To consider the individual recommendations made by the scrutiny committee as outlined in the report, particularly the following addressed to cabinet:

#### **22 June 2017 - City accessibility recommendations:**

1) ask cabinet to formulate a city access charter and to extend consultations on such a charter to groups representing all disabilities including those with hidden disabilities,

### **Corporate and service priorities**

The report helps to meet all the corporate priorities.

### **Financial implications**

None

**Ward/s:** All Wards

**Cabinet member:** Councillor Kendrick - Resources

### **Contact officers**

Adam Clark, strategy manager

01603 212273

### **Background documents**

None

# Report

## Background

1. The council's scrutiny committee is constituted of councillors who do not sit on cabinet. They are expected to review/scrutinise and oversee decisions made by cabinet. They can 'call in', for reconsideration, decisions made by cabinet or an officer which have not yet been implemented. The main functions of scrutiny are to hold cabinet to account by examining their proposals; evaluating policies, performance and progress; ensuring consultations, where necessary, have been carried out; and highlighting areas for improvement.

The committee makes recommendations for cabinet, the wider council and other stakeholders based on evidence on the issues scrutinised at their meetings.

The following is a summary of the topics the committee has considered over recent meetings with the recommendations that were made accordingly.

2. 22 June 2017 – City accessibility item summary:

At the scrutiny meeting on 22 June, the committee heard from Norwich Access Group, RNIB, NNAB, NDA, Age UK, and the UEA's accessibility taskforce, who provided evidence and insight into the issues which groups have accessing Norwich. This included; uneven pavements, A board placement, misuse of blue badge parking, shop access, and controlled crossings.

Mike Wordingham (RNIB) felt that the equality impact assessment attached to the report was inadequate as the scheme disadvantaged visually impaired people and did not address the concerns raised by the NNAB. There was no mention of any mitigating factors being implemented. He suggested that these assessments could be put through a panel of disabled users as a second check to ensure robust consultation. He was interested in the idea of a street charter and said that he would be delighted to assist in the development of this. Aliona Derret said that the NDA could always be approached for advice.

RESOLVED to:

- 1) ask cabinet to formulate a city access charter and to extend consultations on such a charter to groups representing all disabilities including those with hidden disabilities,
- (2) consider the formation of a task and finish group at the appropriate time to support the development of a city accessibility street charter
- (3) ask Norfolk County Council's Environment, Development and Transport committee to review the same evidence presented to this meeting to inform their work going forward;
- (4) improve stakeholder representation earlier in the design process of new transport schemes,

- (5) ask relevant officers to ensure that any new signage be evaluated in terms of accessibility
- (6) ask the Norwich Highways Agency Committee to consider formally pausing the use of shared space schemes,
- (7) ensure the A Boards policy is easily accessible on the Norwich City Council website,
- (8) ask the relevant body to consider ways to more robustly enforce the engine switch off policy for buses within Norwich,
- (9) ask the relevant body to consider ways to increase awareness of ways to report misuse of blue badge parking,
- (10) ask the chair of the licensing committee to consider receiving a report on the sufficient supply of wheelchair accessible private hire vehicles, and
- (11) ask relevant officers to approach the Business Improvement District (BID) to explore ways of improving city centre retail access for those with mobility issues, such as more drop off points and a mini bus 'hopper' service

3. 21 September 2017 – Pre-scrutiny of the proposed budget consultation item summary:

An overview of the consultation was presented to the committee by the head of strategy and transformation. The members discussed the idea that a sub group or Councillor representative could attend the focus groups as there was not enough detail on the content of the consultation. The head of strategy and transformation said that information would be brought back to members at various points throughout the consultation.

A member commented that the language within the budget consultations needed to be accessible and understandable to all. The head of strategy and transformation said that the council was aware of this need and appointing an external organisation would facilitate this.

RESOLVED to ask the head of strategy and transformation to:-

- (1) consider how best to involve members in shaping the budget consultation with an update brought back to scrutiny at appropriate time to allow changes to be considered; and
- (2) include an 'easy-read' sheet to sit alongside the budget consultation

4. Cooperatives item summary:

This item was introduced by the strategy manager who said that with regard to involving co-operatives in the community asset transfer programme, the council was responsive to groups which approached the council. A robust process had been put in place so that when special opportunities arose, these would be advertised. He added that they need to think about whether preference could be given to cooperatives under the community right to

challenge. Discussion ensued around procurement and social value. The strategy manager said that the council worked with a range of social enterprises and gave grants in kind to some of these. There was ongoing work taking place in conjunction with this sector to ensure that social enterprises had a chance to compete for procurement opportunities.

RESOLVED to ask the democratic and elections manager to arrange an all-members briefing on co-operatives to include examples of how co-operatives have worked with other local authorities and what services were available to Norwich City Council.

5. Call-in – kitchen and bathroom replacements delegated decision item summary:

The scrutiny chair said that he had called in the decision as he had concerns around how such delegated decisions were published in the public domain. He clarified that he had no concern with the contractor identified but he was concerned about how members would find out which contractor had been appointed.

The director of business services said with regard to delegated decisions, once an officer had taken the decision, this should be published to members and the public to allow for call in. This was done until two years ago but had lapsed due to staff absence.

RESOLVED to:

(1) Endorse the delegated decision to appoint Roalco Limited for replacement kitchens, bathrooms and repointing in housing properties

(2) Note the work being undertaken on publishing delegated decision and progress on motions to council ; and

(3) Ask the director of business services to liaise with the head of customer services to discuss the Councillor enquiry system

6. 19 October 2017 – Health inequality item summary:

At the October meeting, the committee members heard from a range of experts. Nadia Jones highlighted the work being undertaken in conjunction with other district authorities around wider health. A public health profile was being pulled together which aimed to rank factors across local authorities. Child poverty had a huge impact as well as attainment of GCSEs. Norwich was ranked ninth worst for GCSE attainment and pupil absence was, also high. Other notable factors included statutory homelessness for vulnerable people, fuel poverty, hospital admissions for deliberate injuries and high smoking rates.

Rachel Hunt, Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) gave an overview of the work of Healthy Norwich. She said that it was a programme of work to acknowledge Norwich as a World Health Organisation healthy city on the

worldwide stage. Three key areas had been identified to add value to; smoking cessation, healthy weight and lifestyle and affordable warmth.

The chair introduced Mary Fisher, representative of Making it Real. She explained that Making it Real was a partnership between those who use and those who design services. She had asked service users whether they felt they experienced health inequality and what Norwich City Council could do about this. Housing was the biggest issue as some properties were not sufficiently accessible.

Stephen Hulme said that a locality approach had been taken to understand how Active Norfolk could contribute to the wellbeing of residents in different areas. Data relevant to physical activity had been reviewed, including factors such as instances of disease and anti-social behaviour. Where there was a high prevalence of these factors, the mapping exercise aided with understanding these geographically and thematically. Four priorities had been identified in areas that the greatest contribution could be made, which were healthy weight, anti-social behaviour, access to skills and employability.

Members discussed the mapping of community resources and ensuring that these were accessible to all. The director of communications and culture said that this was a piece of work being undertaken as part of the work on the Digital Sharing Platform and was about linking the resources so they could be easily found.

## RESOLVED

(1) To ask the chair of scrutiny to liaise with the leader of the council around progressing accessibility charter and to acknowledge all recommendations from June scrutiny committee meeting on city access

(2) To ensure provision of web information linked across organisations

(3) To ensure health and wellbeing is taken into consideration when the review of parks and open spaces takes place

(4) To scrutinise the river Wensum strategy to ensure health inequality actions are considered

(5) To scrutinise the social value and procurement framework as part of next year's work programme; and

(6) For the strategy manager to feedback to members regarding the significantly negative outliers for Norwich from the Public Health Outcomes Framework

## Integrated impact assessment



**NORWICH**  
City Council

### Report author to complete

<b>Committee:</b>	Cabinet
<b>Committee date:</b>	13 December 2017
<b>Director / Head of service</b>	Adam Clark
<b>Report subject:</b>	Scrutiny Committee Recommendations
<b>Date assessed:</b>	28 November 2017
<b>Description:</b>	A summary of scrutiny committee discussions and recommendations between June and November 2017

	Impact			
Economic (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Finance (value for money)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other departments and services e.g. office facilities, customer contact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ICT services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Economic development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Financial inclusion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Social (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Safeguarding children and adults	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<u>S17 crime and disorder act 1998</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Human Rights Act 1998	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Health and well being	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Individual item o health inequalities considers council role in improving health and wellbeing of residents

	Impact			
Equality and diversity (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Relations between groups (cohesion)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Eliminating discrimination & harassment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Item on city access considers impact on residents and others with protected characteristics and how to eliminate discrimination
Advancing equality of opportunity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Item on city access considers impact on residents and others with protected characteristics and how to advance equality of opportunity
Environmental (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	City access item could impact on transport design in city centre
Natural and built environment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Waste minimisation & resource use	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Pollution	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sustainable procurement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Energy and climate change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
(Please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments



	Impact			
Risk management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Recommendations from impact assessment
Positive
Cabinet to give due consideration to recommendations made by the committee
Negative
Neutral
Issues