

**Norfolk Strategic Framework and Norfolk Strategic Planning Member Forum  
update**

Report by Planning Policy Officer

**Summary:** This report provides an update to members on the progress of the Norfolk Strategic Framework which is being overseen by the Norfolk Strategic Planning Member Forum.

**Recommendation:** That members note the report.

**1. Introduction**

This report provides an update to members on the progress of the Norfolk Strategic Framework (NSF) which is being overseen by the Norfolk Strategic Planning Member Forum.

**2. General update on Norfolk Strategic Framework**

2.1 The Norfolk Strategic Framework (NSF) project has continued to progress well. All task and finish groups are meeting on a regular basis. The key tasks for the project since the last report have been to:

- finish compiling the evidence for the document; and
- complete the writing of the first draft

2.2 The initial drafting of the report has been completed and the draft document is now with Members for review. There have been some areas of evidence which are not completed yet and this will mean that the draft document provided to Members will require updating as this further evidence becomes available. This updating will be ongoing until the document is made available near the time of public consultation.

2.3 The production of Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessments (HELAAAs) based on the agreed methodology has progressed more slowly than anticipated and no authority has a completed HELAA to date. However we will look to ensure all authorities either have confidence that they can meet their own housing need or have agreements in place with neighbouring authorities before the NSF is published for public consultation.

2.4 The NSF has been produced with only one external study being commissioned (for Green Infrastructure). There is the possibility that one additional study is commissioned for the delivery group which may require some funding. The limited external work has meant that the project will have a

significant underspend.

- 2.5 The most recent report provides more detail and can be found here:  
<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/-/media/norfolk/downloads/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/policy-performance-and-partnerships/partnerships/strategic-member-forum/report-norfolk-strategic-framework-16-feb-2017.pdf?la=en>
- 2.6 The timeline which the NSF production is working towards is included at Appendix A to this report, but to summarise:
- June 2017 – the NSF is discussed at the Member Forum.
  - June and July 2017 – individual authorities consider NSF for consultation.
  - July/September 2017 – draft dates for public consultation
  - October to December 2017 – individual authorities adopt NSF

### **3. Norfolk strategic planning member forum**

- 3.1 As a reminder for Members, this group meets on a quarterly basis and is made up of Planning Portfolio holders or leaders of all the Councils in Norfolk. The Broads Authority representative is Paul Rice, in his role as Vice Chair of the Planning Committee.
- 3.2 The aim of the Forum is to provide a strategic steer to plan making in Norfolk so as to meet the Duty to Cooperate requirements set out in the Localism Act 2011.
- 3.3 The forum has no executive powers and decision making remains with each of the participating authorities which comprises all Norfolk Planning Authorities
- 3.4 The Forum is currently overseeing the preparation of a Norfolk Strategic Framework which will consider and seek agreement in relation to the strategically important cross boundary issues affecting the delivery of growth in Norfolk. This Framework is intended to inform the preparation of statutory development plans.
- 3.5 At their last meeting, it was decided to amend the Terms of Reference in order to meet in public. As a result, a website<sup>1</sup> has been put in place to publish the papers, hosted by Norfolk County Council.

### **4. Financial Implications**

- 4.1 Generally officer time. The Authority has already paid its contribution of £12,500 towards the production of the NSF.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/policy-performance-and-partnerships/partnerships/norfolk-strategic-planning-member-forum>

Background papers: None  
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Appendices: Appendix A: Timeline for the NSF

Appendix A – timeline for the remaining stages of the Norfolk Strategic Framework

### NSF Adoption Process Plan C

