MATTERS ARISING UPDATE SHEET

FROM SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING ON 2 MARCH 2023

Updates		
Minute Item Number	Member Query Raised	Cabinet Member/Officer Response (no more than a paragraph required)
5	Is it possible to have another QR code on site notices to take members of the public to a simple guide on what constitutes a relevant planning objection?	This is not feasible. Space is already very tight on site notices which would make it difficult to include anything additional. It could also lead to confusion with customers as there is already a QR code that links specifically to that application in public access that is automatically added to the site notice by the uniform software, so with this proposal there would then be two QR Codes, potentially resulting in confusion in terms of which one a customer needs to scan. There are also potential technical problems in terms of
		ensuring such a QR remains stable particularly if the website/page it links to is ever changed, because it could not be set to automatically update as unlike the existing embedded QR code it can not be automated.
5	What was the outcome, and were there any further actions arising, from the recent meeting between Officers and SALC in relation to their survey?	Following circulation of the SALC planning survey summary report on behalf of town and parish councils, East Suffolk Council and SALC have recently met and have agreed that opportunities exist to potentially work more closely together to enable ESC to develop solutions to further improve processes which will address some of the key findings of the survey. As always in planning, key to this is focussing on looking forward to address issues such as communication and transparency to enable all parties to better understand the planning decision process and reasons for outcomes acknowledging these need to be made solely on planning grounds. Both organisations recognise that closer working with all participants and networks including SALC will add value.
		ESC are constantly updating processes to improve the service and a number of changes have already taken place recently and ambitions to re-start other engagement initiatives are in the process of being

implemented post the forthcoming elections. This commitment includes to re-group following the May elections with a view to supporting town and parish councils in their representative role at community level in
the handling of planning applications