

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

STUDY	OBJECTIVES	PANEL	STATUS
Delivery of Advisory Services Across the District	To monitor the performance of the voluntary organisations awarded grant aid by the Council in 2013 – 2015. To discuss funding arrangements for the final year of the Voluntary sector agreements.	Social Well-Being	UPDATE: The Head of Community will present an update to the Panel October 2015.
Housing and Council Tax Benefit Changes and the Potential Impact Upon Huntingdonshire	To monitor the effect of Government changes to the Housing Benefit System arising from the Welfare Reform Act.	Social Well-Being	The Panel received the latest six-monthly report on the effect of the Government's Welfare Reform programme and how it impacts on households in Huntingdonshire. Further updates only to be provided when circumstances require it. UPDATE: Benefits Risk Based Verification Policy to be presented to the Panel on 07/07/15
Flood Prevention within the District	To investigate flood prevention arrangements in the District and the impact of flooding on associated local policy developments.	Environmental Well-Being	Representatives from the Environment Agency delivered a presentation on flood risk management within Huntingdonshire. A scoping report was considered by the Panel in April 2014 and a Working Group was appointed. The Chief Executive and Clerk to the Middle Level Commissioners delivered a presentation to the Panel's June 2014 meeting to outline their role with flood alleviation in the District. A meeting of the Working Group was held on 25th March 2015 at which Members considered the draft Cambridgeshire Flooding and Water SPD. UPDATE: Agreed that Working Groups scrutinising the Operations policies at HDC stand down until the Operations Review has been completed and implemented.
Waste Collection Policies	To assist the Head of Operations and Executive Member for Operations &	Environmental Well-Being	First meeting of Working Group held on 24th June 2014. Further meeting to be arranged to consider the outcome of the survey work being undertaken by the Operations

	Environment with reviewing waste collection policies in relation to the collection points for wheeled bins/sacks and remote properties (farms and lodges).		Division on affected properties and various other matters. UPDATE: Agreed that Working Groups scrutinising the Operations policies at HDC stand down until the Operations Review has been completed and implemented.
Litter Policies and Practices (to include graffiti removal)	To consider and make recommendations on future litter and graffiti service scope and standards and on public appetite for changes.	Environmental Well-Being	Scoping report received. Working Group appointed. UPDATE: Agreed that Working Groups scrutinising the Operations policies at HDC stand down until the Operations Review has been completed and implemented.
Affordable Housing	To make recommendations for the next Housing Strategy 2016-19 by considering and making recommendations on ways to deliver affordable housing, including through the rural and enabled exceptions policy of the Local Plan and through the Community Land Trust.	Social Well-Being	A Working Group meeting was held on 16th March 2015. Government changes affecting the supply of new affordable housing and the Elphick-House Report were reviewed. Next meeting to be held to scrutinise: • The housing register • Statistics on homelessness • Housing Need • Bands of people on the register The Working Group is seeking a member from each of the Economic and Environmental Panels to join the Working Group. The next meeting of the Affordable Housing Working Group is to be held on 20th April 2015. Given the imminent submission date of the Local Plan it was agreed that a meeting would be arranged with the Affordable Housing Working Group, the Managing Director, the Executive Councillor (Strategic Planning and Housing) and the Leader in order to progress the matter including the inclusion of recommendations for the Local Plan and to inform any refresh of the housing strategy. UPDATE: Following the meeting of the Affordable Housing Working Group in April 2015, a report on the group's

			activities will be completed and submitted for scrutiny in October 2015.
The Health Economy	To establish priorities for future work on the local health economy.	Social Well-Being	Scoping paper considered. Further reports requested on: • on the current state of Neighbourhood Planning within the Council and how it was likely to develop and how it might promote community resilience; • on community engagement, including examples of good practice; • on the impact of Welfare Reforms, including fuel poverty and how it was defined; • reviewing the Council's Equalities Impact Assessment arrangements, and • on the impact of growth on GP surgeries, school places and hospital capacity.