

A meeting of the **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (ENVIRONMENTAL WELL-BEING)** will be held in **CIVIC SUITE 1A, PATHFINDER HOUSE, ST MARY'S STREET, HUNTINGDON, CAMBS PE29 3TN** on **TUESDAY, 14 JUNE 2011** at **7:00 PM** and you are requested to attend for the transaction of the following business:-

**Contact
(01480)**

APOLOGIES

1. MINUTES (Pages 1 - 6)

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on 12th April 2011.

**Mrs A Jerrom
388009**

2. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

To receive from Members, declarations as to personal and/or prejudicial interests and the nature of those interests in relation to any Agenda item. Please see notes 1 and 2 overleaf.

3. FORWARD PLAN (Pages 7 - 10)

A copy of the current Forward Plan, which was published on 13th May 2011 is attached. Members are invited to note the Plan and to comment as appropriate on any items contained therein.

**Mrs H Taylor
388008**

4. GYPSY AND TRAVELLERS (Pages 11 - 18)

To receive a report by the Head of Planning on the Council's response to the Government's consultation on the draft planning policy statement – Planning for Travellers Sites.

**S Ingram
388400**

5. PRELIMINARY DRAFT COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY CHARGING SCHEDULE (Pages 19 - 58)

To receive a report by the Head of Planning Services introducing the Council's proposed Preliminary Draft Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule.

**S Ingram
388400**

6. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT (Pages 59 - 70)

To consider a report by the Head of People, Performance and Partnerships containing details of the Council's performance against its priority objectives.

**D Buckridge
388065**

7. **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANELS - SCHEME OF CO-OPTION**
(Pages 71 - 74)

To consider proposed changes to the District Council's Scheme of Co-option to Overview and Scrutiny Panels.

A Roberts
388015

8. **REMIT AND WORK PROGRAMME** (Pages 75 - 98)

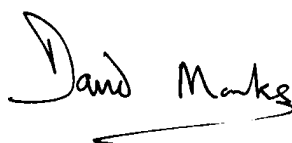
To consider a report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services on the Panel's remit and to consider the Panel's current programme of studies.

A Roberts
388015

9. **SCRUTINY** (Pages 99 - 104)

To scrutinise decisions as set out in the Decision Digest and to raise any other matters for scrutiny that fall within the remit of the Panel.

Dated this 3 day of June 2011



Chief Executive

Notes

1. *A personal interest exists where a decision on a matter would affect to a greater extent than other people in the District –*
 - (a) *the well-being, financial position, employment or business of the Councillor, their family or any person with whom they had a close association;*
 - (b) *a body employing those persons, any firm in which they are a partner and any company of which they are directors;*
 - (c) *any corporate body in which those persons have a beneficial interest in a class of securities exceeding the nominal value of £25,000; or*
 - (d) *the Councillor's registerable financial and other interests.*
2. *A personal interest becomes a prejudicial interest where a member of the public (who has knowledge of the circumstances) would reasonably regard the Member's personal interest as being so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Councillor's judgement of the public interest.*

Please contact Mrs A Jerrom, Democratic Services, Telephone: 01480 388009, email: amanda.jerrom@huntingdonshire.gov.uk if you have a general query on any Agenda Item, wish to tender your apologies for absence from the meeting, or would like information on any decision taken by the Committee/Panel.

Specific enquiries with regard to items on the Agenda should be directed towards the Contact Officer.

Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting as observers except during consideration of confidential or exempt items of business.

Agenda and enclosures can be viewed on the District Council's website –
www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk (*under Councils and Democracy*).

If you would like a translation of Agenda/Minutes/Reports
or would like a large text version or an audio version
please contact the Democratic Services Manager and
we will try to accommodate your needs.

Emergency Procedure

In the event of the fire alarm being sounded and on the instruction of the Meeting Administrator, all attendees are requested to vacate the building via the closest emergency exit.

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Agenda Item 1

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (ENVIRONMENTAL WELL-BEING) held in Meeting Room 1a/b, Pathfinder House, St Mary's Street, Huntingdon, Cambs PE29 3TN on Tuesday, 12 April 2011.

PRESENT: Councillor D Harty – Vice-Chairman in the Chair

Councillors K M Baker, Mrs M Banerjee, P J Downes, P Godley, M F Newman and J S Watt.

Mr D Hopkins

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors M G Baker, J W Davies, P M D Godfrey and Mr M Philips.

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor D Dew

88. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on 8th March 2011 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

89. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

No declarations were received.

90. FORWARD PLAN

The Panel considered and noted the current Forward Plan of Key Decisions (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) which had been prepared by the Leader of the Council for the period 1st April to 30th July 2011. Members were advised that reports, which had been requested by the Panel, would be presented to them prior to their submission to Cabinet.

91. WIND FARMS

(Councillor D Dew, Executive Councillor for Planning Strategy and Transport was in attendance for this item.)

The Panel noted that this item had been included on the Agenda following their request for an update on the Council's position with regard to wind farm applications within the District.

Members were advised by the Head of Planning Services that little had changed with regard to the Council's position following the presentation given by Councillor Dew to Members at the meeting of

full Council in February, when he had informed them of the Council's current policy on wind farm development.

In answer to questions raised by the Panel on the positioning of developments within 2km of a residence and on the number of applications that had been received, Members were advised that all applications were considered having full regard to national planning policy. Current national policy supported the government's commitment to renewable energy. Each application was considered on its merits and should be in a suitable location. Developments would not be supported in areas of nationally significant landscape but there were no such areas in Huntingdonshire. Members were informed that the Council had not adopted a policy that wind farms should not be located within 2km of a residence, however a Private Member's Bill, 'Wind Turbines (Minimum Distance from Residential Premises)', was shortly due to have a second reading in the House of Lords.

The Panel was advised that it was the government's intention to replace the current planning policy document with new guidance, the New National Planning Policy Framework which, in turn, would act as a catalyst for the revision of local planning policy.

In response to questions, Members were assured that the cumulative impact of developments was taken into account by planners; however it would not be possible to sustain a prescriptive policy on numbers as cumulative impact was assessed on the basis of a proposed development's relationship with other wind farms. Members were of the view that there should be more offshore wind farms. They were informed that the government was committed to increasing renewable energy from 10% in 2010 to 20% by 2020 of the total consumed.

Having discussed the siting of turbines and the noise from wind farms, the Panel was advised that so far no complaints had been received from residents living in close proximity to existing turbines in the area. Expert advice on noise would always be sought from the Council's Environmental Health division when applications for wind farms were assessed. Environmental Health Officers were undertaking specific training for this purpose. It was suggested to Members that a site visit to the largest wind farm in the District, Tick Fen, in Warboys, might be useful in order for Members to gauge the impact of the turbines on the area.

In reply to a question on the likely influence of a petition in respect of wind farms that was due to be submitted to the next meeting of Council, Members were advised that planning policy would not be adopted on this basis, however it would be referred to when the policy was reviewed. In that context the Panel requested that they be kept informed of related planning developments as they emerged.

92. RURAL TRANSPORT

(Councillor D Dew, Executive Councillor for Planning Strategy and Transport was in attendance for this item.)

In response to a request from the Panel regarding a possible future study into rural transport following the reduction in government

funding for it, the Council's Transportation Team Leader updated the Panel on a local transport project being led by Cambridgeshire County Council.

The Panel was advised that the reduction in funding would lead to the phasing out of subsidised transport in the area. The aim of the project, which had been established in conjunction with Inspire East, District Councils, the Health Authority and other relevant partners, would be to look at all forms of transport in the County and to shape a new transport network financed from a central fund, which was expected to be in the region of £23m. The Transportation Team Leader had represented the District Council at the first meeting of the project in March and would attend future meetings. Councillor Dew would represent the Council on the Governance Panel overseeing the project. It was explained that in devising the new network, community infrastructures would have to be reviewed and some areas of the District might be better served by aligning it with neighbouring Districts. Members were advised that the need for better transportation had been a common theme of parish plans and the project might aid the delivery of parishes' aspirations.

The Panel was advised that work to date had been constructive, though there would be difficulties in engaging the health sector as health bodies did not ring fence funds for transport. A bid for £5/6m had been made for community transport from the Local Sustainable Transport Fund, making a potential total fund for the District of £8m. Members noted that the County Council, while retaining its statutory responsibilities, had indicated that it would delegate direct management of transportation to local areas. An external organisation, Blue Marble, had been contracted to produce transport modelling. It was decided to invite Blue Marble to a future meeting of the Panel to give a presentation on their work.

Following questions from the Panel on the fund's governance, Members were advised that it would be administered by non-profit making community interest companies with any surplus ploughed back into transport services. It was not yet known how many companies would be needed but they would be expected to have a constitution and terms of reference.

Members acknowledged that the project was be a positive step forward and agreed there was a need for a full review of local transportation. However, they drew attention to the diminishing number of commercial bus routes and the problems that could arise from the statutory requirements on public sector organisations to provide transport, which could be costly. Members also noted the value of the contribution made by the District Council to community transport and to the project.

93. CABINET FEEDBACK

(Councillor D Dew, Executive Councillor for Planning Strategy and Transport was in attendance for this item.)

The Panel received and noted a report from the Cabinet (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) on its response to the Panel's

comments on the Great Fen Project. Councillor Dew advised that, following his recent tour of the Great Fen, he had been happy to present the Panel's views to the Cabinet who had fully supported the request that Members' concerns should be taken to the next meeting of the Great Fen partners. Councillor Dew stressed that the District Council was one of five voting members who would determine the request.

In response to a request from Councillor Downes that his concerns the changes being made to the Great Fen might encourage mosquitoes and their associated health implications in terms of malaria, also be forwarded to the partners, Councillor Dew undertook to pass on these comments. He also reported that a study was being undertaken into this subject by scientists from Cambridge University.

94. WORKPLAN STUDIES

The Panel received and noted a report by the Head of Democratic and Central Services (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) containing details of studies being undertaken by the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Panels. Members were advised that decisions on gypsy and travellers sites in both Earith and Somersham had been made recently that extended the period of their existing planning permission. They were also informed that meetings of the Tree Strategy Working Group would be arranged by the Planning division who were leading the formulation of the strategy.

95. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL PROGRESS

With the aid of a report by the Head of Democratic and Central Services (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) the Panel was advised of progress on issues that had been previously discussed. With regard to the update on flooding at St Audrey's Lane St Ives, Members were informed that a new contact officer at Anglian Water was awaiting confirmation of capital expenditure on Broadleas Pumping Station and once it had been received he would meet with interested parties.

96. SCRUTINY

The Panel received and noted the latest edition of the Council's Decision Digest. With regard to the item on recycling credits that had been considered by the Panel at its previous meeting, Councillor Downes stated that reaction from parish councils in his Ward to the change had been negative. Feedback he had received included comments on the amount of time it would take to collect a tonne of textiles and the moral dilemma residents faced having to choose between placing textiles in the new bins and donating them to charities. Councillor Downes also raised a concern over the increase in recycling material being placed in blue bins and suggested that the Panel should revisit the issue in 6 – 12 months time.

In respect to an item on Development Management, Members raised concerns over the implications for education in the Yaxley and Sawtry areas of the proposed urban extension on land north of Norman Cross. Members encouraged co-ordinated working between the

District Council, Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council on this issue.

Chairman

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FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

Prepared by
Date of Publication:
For Period:

Councillor J D Ablewhite
13 May 2011
1st June to 30th September 2011

Membership of the Cabinet is as follows:-

Councillor J D Ablewhite	- Leader of the Council, with responsibility for Strategic Economic Development	3 Pettis Road St. Ives Huntingdon PE27 6SR Tel: 01480 466941 E-mail: Jason.Ablewhite@huntingdonshire.gov.uk
Councillor N J Guyatt	- Deputy Leader of the Council with responsibility for Strategic Planning and Housing	6 Church Lane Stibbington Cambs PE8 6LP Tel: 01780 782827 E-mail: Nick.Guyatt@huntingdonshire.gov.uk
Councillor B S Chapman	- Executive Councillor for Organisational Development	6 Kipling Place St. Neots Huntingdon PE19 7RG Tel: 01480 212540 E-mail: Barry.Chapman@huntingdonshire.gov.uk
Councillor J A Gray	- Executive Councillor for Environment	Shufflewick Cottage Station Row Tilbrook PE28 OJY Tel: 01480 861941 E-mail: JG@novae.com
Councillor T V Rogers	- Executive Councillor for Resources and Customer Services	Honeysuckle Cottage 34 Meadow Lane Earith Huntingdon PE28 3QE Tel: 01487 840477 E-mail: Terence.Rogers@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

Councillor T D Sanderson - Executive Councillor for Healthy and Active Communities	29 Burmoor Close Stukeley Meadows Huntingdon PE29 6GE Tel: (01480) 412135 E-mail: to(M) Sanderson@huntingdonshire.gov.uk
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Any person who wishes to make representations to the decision maker about a decision which is to be made may do so by contacting Mrs Helen Taylor, Senior Democratic Services Officer on 01480 388008 or E-mail: Helen.Taylor@huntsdc.gov.uk not less than 14 days prior to the date when the decision is to be made.

The documents available may be obtained by contacting the relevant officer shown in this plan who will be responsible for preparing the final report to be submitted to the decision maker on the matter in relation to which the decision is to be made. Similarly any enquiries as to the subject or matter to be tabled for decision or on the availability of supporting information or documentation should be directed to the relevant officer.

Roy Reeves
Head of Administration

Notes:- (i) Additions/significant changes from the previous Forward are annotated ***
(ii) For information about how representations about the above decisions may be made please see the Council's Petitions Procedure at <http://www.huntsdc.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/3F6CFE28-C5F0-4BA0-9BF2-76EBAE06C89D/0/Petitionsleaflet.pdf> or telephone 01480 388006

Subject/Matter for Decision	Decision/recommendation to be made by	Date decision to be taken	Documents Available	How relevant Officer can be contacted	Consultation	Relevant Executive Councillor	Relevant Overview & Scrutiny Panel
Consultation on Planning for Travellers Sites by the Local Government Department***	Cabinet	23 Jun 2011	None.	Paul Bland, Planning Service Manager (Policy) Tel No. 01480 388430 or email Paul.Bland@huntingdonshire.gov.uk		N J Guyatt	Environmental Well-Being
Enterprise Zone - LEP***	Cabinet	23 Jun 2011	None.	Malcolm Sharp, Director of Environmental and Community Services Tel No. 01480 388301 or email Malcolm.Sharp@huntingdonshire.gov.uk		J D Ablewhite/N J Guyatt	Economic Well-Being

Subject/Matter for Decision	Decision/ recommendation to be made by	Date decision to be taken	Documents Available	How relevant Officer can be contacted	Consultation	Relevant Executive Councillor	Relevant Overview & Scrutiny Panel
Homelessness Strategy	Cabinet	23 Jun 2011	Draft Homelessness Strategy - previously circulated to Members	Steve Plant, Head of Housing Services Tel No. 01480 388240 or email Steve.Plant@huntsdc.gov.uk	Ongoing with Members, Partners and Stakeholders and due to be completed late April.	N J Guyatt	Environmental Well-Being
Preliminary draft Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule	Cabinet	23 Jun 2011	Preliminary Draft CIL Charging Schedule	Paul Bland, Planning Service Manager (Policy) Tel No. 01480 388430 or email Paul.Bland@huntsdc.gov.uk	Preliminary Draft for Consultation.	N J Guyatt	Environmental Well-Being
Home Improvement Agency Review - Future Delivery Model Consultation	Cabinet	23 Jun 2011	None	Steve Plant, Head of Housing Services Tel No. 01480 388240 or e-mail Steve.Plant@huntsdc.gov.uk		N J Guyatt	Environmental Well-Being
Communicating with Residents***	Cabinet	21 Jul 2011	None.	Mrs C Garbett, Head of People, Performance & Partnerships Tel No. 01480 388459 or email Corrine.Garbett@huntingdonshire.gov.uk		T V Rogers	Social Well-Being
One Leisure, St. Ives - Proposal for Development	Cabinet	21 Jul 2011	None.	Simon Bell, General Manager, One Leisure Tel No. 01480 388049 or email Simon.Bell@huntsdc.gov.uk		T D Sanderson	Social Well-Being
Great Fen Supplementary Planning Document	Cabinet	21 Jul 2011	Great Fen SPD	Paul Bland, Planning Service Manager (Policy) Tel No. 01480 388340 or email Paul.Bland@huntsdc.gov.uk	Endorse as Council policy (further details required)	N J Guyatt	Environmental Well-Being

Subject/Matter for Decision	Decision/ recommendation to be made by	Date decision to be taken	Documents Available	How relevant Officer can be contacted	Consultation	Relevant Executive Councillor	Relevant Overview & Scrutiny Panel
Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy	Cabinet	21 Jul 2011	Cambs County Council-Led Project	Paul Bland, Planning Service Manager (Policy) Tel No. 01480 388340 or email Paul.Bland@huntsdc.gov.uk	Endorse as Council Policy (subject to County Council progress).	N J Guyatt	Environmental Well-Being
Residential Travel Plan	Cabinet	21 Jul 2011	Cambs County Council-Led Project	Paul Bland, Planning Service Manager (Policy) Tel No. 01480 388340 or email Paul.Bland@huntsdc.gov.uk	Endorse as Council Policy (subject to County Council progress).	N J Guyatt	Environmental Well-Being
St. Ives West Urban Design Framework	Cabinet	21 Jul 2011	Agreed Urban Design Framework	Paul Bland, Planning Service Manager (Policy) Tel No. 01480 388430 or email Paul.Bland@huntsdc.gov.uk	Adopt as Council policy	N J Guyatt	Environmental Well-Being
Planning Proposals Development Plan Document***	Cabinet	22 Sep 2011	Updated SHLAA, Employment Land Review, Updated Retail Study	Paul Bland, Planning Service Manager (Policy) Tel No. 01480 388430 or email Paul.Bland@huntsdc.gov.uk	Approve findings for consultations as preferred options.	N J Guyatt	Environmental Well-Being
RAF Brampton Urban Design Framework***	Cabinet	22 Sep 2011	Agreed Urban Design Framework	Paul Bland, Planning Service Manager (Policy) Tel No. 01480 388430 or email Paul.Bland@huntingdonshire.gov.uk	Adopt as Council Policy.	N J Guyatt	Environmental Well-Being

COMT
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
CABINET

7th June 2011
14th June 2011
23rd June 2011

DRAFT PPS – PLANNING FOR TRAVELLER SITES (Report by Head of Planning Services)

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Members about and to recommend a Council response to the Government's 'Planning for Traveller Sites' consultation – responses are due by 6th July 2011. A Member seminar on this issue was held on 24th May 2011.
- 1.2 A response to the consultation is considered necessary as the document proposes, and would set the framework for, new Government policy on all traveller site issues. As Members may be aware the Council had commenced preparatory work on a Gypsy and Traveller Sites DPD, but decided last year that work should be put in abeyance until Government policy on this most important local issue had been clarified.
- 1.3 The matter is of significance to this Council given the widespread community concern that has already arisen regarding potential traveller sites. Two recent decisions by the Planning Inspectorate have also overturned the Council's refusal of two planning applications, thereby allowing 2 permanent pitches near Somersham and 11 pitches on a temporary basis near Bluntisham.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 This draft Planning Policy Statement (PPS) was released for consultation on 13th April 2011. The Secretary of State Eric Pickles, had in August 2010 indicated that government would seek to revoke what it regarded as 'flawed guidance' on travellers and the DCLG website stated that the all the existing policy statements would be replaced with new 'light touch guidance'.
- 2.2 The draft PPS is described in the material accompanying the draft as the promised 'light touch guidance'. It has been prepared in advance of any other part of a new National Planning Policy Framework, which is scheduled to be consulted on this year and completed by April 2012. The introduction to the draft PPS says that the policy will eventually be incorporated into the Framework although it is not clear how this will be achieved.
- 2.3 The Government has also announced other measures as part of a package to ensure "fair treatment" of those in traveller and settled communities including:
 - allowing for traveller sites in the New Homes Bonus scheme, to incentivise local planning authorities to provide appropriate sites
 - resuming traveller site provision grant funding from April 2011
 - setting up a cross-Government, ministerial-level working group to address the discrimination and poor social outcomes experienced by traveller communities

3. SUMMARY ISSUES

- 3.1 The package of measures put forward by the Government recognises the significant issues raised by traveller sites and identifies a way forward in addressing them. Comments are required on the draft PPS in order to suggest improvements to it.
- 3.2 The style of the draft PPS is one of 'sparse policy' with little in the way of explanatory text. It replaces Circular 01/2006 on Gypsies and Travellers and Circular 04/2007 on Travelling Showpeople which together total over 50 pages of advice, with a PPS of less than 10 pages (although the consultation document is in total 88 pages). As a PPS it may be assumed to have a greater status, and carry more weight, than that of circulars although this effect is not discussed in the consultation document.
- 3.3 Much of the guidance is the same as that which exists in the current circulars although differences arise given the proposed abolition of the regional spatial strategies (RSS) via the Localism Bill. The draft PPS sets out how Councils should plan for traveller sites in light of the loss of the previously specific RSS policy and targets.
- 3.4 It is proposed to define 'travellers' as including Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople using definitions as they exist in the circulars. As these definitions have caused some problems it is recommended that this Council suggest that amendments are made to make the definition more workable in the difficult real world situations that LPAs have to deal with.
- 3.5 The current circulars refer to Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments (GTANA) as required to form an evidence base of need for traveller sites. Although GTANA are still required under the Housing Act 2004 (and indeed Huntingdonshire District Council is co-operating with other Councils in preparing an updated GTANA under that Act), the draft PPS provides more flexibility in identifying what evidence is required to establish what is the local need for traveller sites. This increased flexibility is welcomed.
- 3.6 The setting of targets based on 'local need in the context of historical demand' is also broadly supported, however the suggested new requirement for Councils to identify a 'five year supply' of traveller sites as is required for other forms of housing is considered inappropriate. Requiring a 'five year supply' implies identifying sites in advance and monitoring them which is problematic in that suitable sites are not often put forward (unlike market housing sites) and it is likely to be difficult to get adequate monitoring information.
- 3.7 The proposed sanction for Councils not identifying a 'five year supply' is that applications for temporary traveller sites are to be 'considered favourably'. This is opposed in that it has the potential to result in poorly located sites which will in reality be very difficult to relocate. The new requirement for a 'five year supply' and the sanction of potentially having to approve applications if there is not such a supply does not seem to meet the Government's aim of having light touch guidance.
- 3.8 One of the Government's stated intentions is to protect the Green Belt. The proposal is to amend the phrasing from that in the circulars with the intention of providing greater protection. It is questionable whether the draft PPS achieves its aim, but as Huntingdonshire does not have any Green Belt, the

key concern with this is the explicit implication that other areas of 'open countryside' are therefore preferable (and acceptable) locations.

4. RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 It is recommended that the responses to the formal consultation questions as set out in Appendix A be endorsed as the formal response of this Council to the consultation on the draft PPS: Planning for Traveller Sites.

Appendix A: Response to Consultation Questions

Background Information

The consultation document is available on the DCLG website under Travellers:
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/travellersitesconsultation>

Progress on the Gypsy and Traveller Sites DPD and the SHLAA to date is on the Council's website under Planning Policy:
<http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/Environment%20and%20Planning/Planning/Planning%20Policy/Pages/Gypsy%20and%20Traveller%20Sites%20DPD.aspx>

CONTACT OFFICER - enquiries about this report to Steve Ingram, Head of Planning Services, on 01480 388400

APPENDIX A RESPONSE TO DRAFT PPS: PLANNING FOR TRAVELLER SITES

1. *Do you agree that the current definitions of “gypsies and travellers” and “travelling showpeople” should be retained in the new policy?*

No. While the current definition of ‘travelling showpeople’ is accepted, the current definition of ‘gypsies and travellers’ causes difficulties in the context of any planning application as it can exclude ethnic Gypsies who have a reasonable desire to return to living in a caravan, while potentially allowing applications to be made by speculative developers. The definition should be changed to one which is more workable and easier to interpret in real world situations.

The interpretation of the current definition by the Planning Inspector in the recent appeal approval APP/H0520/A/09/2104200 in respect of two pitches near Somersham concluded that one of the intended occupants and his family did not fit the definition. This was because he had set up a local business and bought a house some years previously and therefore did not have a nomadic way of life. However, he was a Romany Gypsy, it was noted that he often travels to reach pre-arranged work laying decorative concrete driveways, and he had a clear desire to live on a caravan site which was related to his ethnicity. The interpretation taken in this appeal decision may differ from that taken by other inspectors and could be considered counter-intuitive when the person would in other circumstances be identified as a Gypsy.

In the evidence base for the draft PPS (page 49) it is noted that: ‘Although some Gypsies and Travellers travel for some of the year, the vast majority do not now travel on a daily basis all year round. Increasingly, as traditional seasonal work has declined, Gypsies and Travellers have adapted to permanent residential sites where they can more easily access a doctor, schools and other services and employment whilst maintaining the cultural traditions of being a Gypsy or Traveller’. The definition should recognise this evidence and allow people who are ethnically Gypsy to return to living on a caravan site where they have a family history of living on such sites.

The burden of proof should be on applicants that they are Gypsies or Travellers and that they need to live on a caravan site in accordance with other legislation which protects the rights of these groups. The following suggested definition is adapted from the current definition and that in the Housing Regulations 2006:

- (a) Persons who can supply evidence of their recent cultural tradition of nomadism involving living in a caravan; and
- (b) All other persons who can supply evidence of a nomadic habit of life, whatever their race or origin, including:
 - i. Such persons who, on grounds only of their own or their family’s or dependent’s educational or health needs or old age, have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently; and
 - ii. Members of an organised group of travelling showpeople or circus people (whether or not travelling together as such)

2. *Do you support the proposal to remove specific reference to Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments in the new policy and instead refer to a "robust evidence base"?*

Yes. Councils should be able to decide for themselves what evidence is necessary to support its development plan documents. Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments (GTANA) may not be the only evidence used to identify what provision should be made for Gypsies and Travellers in a district or city. Omitting specific reference enables appropriate flexibility as GTANA are prepared under the Housing Act 2004 and the requirements for them could be subject to change if that legislation changed. Nevertheless, a GTANA to update the existing 2006 needs assessment for this area is currently being prepared in Cambridgeshire. It is accepted that GTANA might remain the most relevant part of an evidence base if produced well and kept up to date.

3. *Do you agree that where need has been identified, local planning authorities should set targets for the provision of sites in their local planning policies?*

Yes, with qualifications. It would be perverse to ignore need that the local planning authority identifies. However, there should be no requirement that sites be allocated in a DPD sufficient to meet a target, as instead the target may be met over time as 'windfall' planning applications come forward.

4. *Do you think that local planning authorities should plan for "local need in the context of historical demand"?*

Yes, with qualifications. This authority has consistently put forward the view that it should plan to meet its own local need in relation to the expressed needs of the Gypsy and Traveller population with defined local connections. However, it is possible that this will be defined in different ways by different authorities. The occasional roadside encampment having occurred in the past, for example, is not considered to be sufficient to suggest that historically there is a need to provide permanent residential sites in an area.

5. *Do you agree with the proposal to require local planning authorities to plan for a five year supply of traveller pitches/plots?*

No. The current system of planning a five year supply of housing sites against a target is feasible because authorities can choose from a wide range of areas put forward by developers which are available and deliverable. Such areas are usually logical extensions of existing urbanised areas, and are therefore more readily accepted by the general public.

Traveller sites are not comparable to other housing sites. The local authority is not able to choose from a wide range of areas put forward (in this authority very few sites have been put forward despite calls for sites). Any proposed sites will be controversial and the logic of choosing one site above another may not be immediately obvious, even if it follows accepted sustainability appraisal techniques.

While this authority has considered publicly-owned land stocks and major development areas as possible sources of land for traveller sites (in

accordance with Circular 01/2006), suggesting that such land be used has been controversial. This authority welcomes the omission of any specific reference in this draft PPS to the need to consider such areas and to the possibility of compulsory purchase. However the implication is now that only sites which come forward from willing landowners should be considered.

Whether all the sites that come forward will realistically be deliverable is a matter that is likely to lead to considerable debate, further delaying the prospects of establishing a five year supply.

Monitoring a five year supply requires considerable work in gathering evidence of completions and forecasts of future building rates for an annual monitoring report. Gathering such information for traveller sites is likely to be much less straightforward than with major landowners.

As stated in answer to Question 3, a target for traveller sites should be addressed in a DPD but it should not be necessary to allocate sufficient sites to meet the target as sites may be found over time as planning applications come forward, and there may be insufficient numbers of good sites put forward at the plan-making stage. What is more important is for the DPD to have a strategy with appropriate policies regarding how the target is likely to be met. Monitoring could be undertaken in relation to the target without the detail required for a five year supply to be evidenced.

Overall it is considered that this proposal to have a rolling five year supply would be a considerable additional 'top-down' requirement on Councils and does not meet the Government's objective of being 'light-touch'.

6. *Do you agree that the proposed wording of Policy E (in the draft policy) should be included to ensure consistency with Planning Policy Guidance 2: Green Belts?*

No. Green Belt policy is currently contained in PPG2 and is likely to be changed in future in accordance with the government's intention to replace all policy guidance with a new National Planning Policy Framework. Including reference to the Green Belt in this PPS has the potential to introduce inconsistencies, rather than ensuring consistency.

Green Belts have historically been defined as a means of preventing urban sprawl. It should be noted that many Green Belts already contain established traveller sites as well as other individual uses and areas of previously developed land. Areas within Green Belts may not be especially sensitive from a landscape point of view, and indeed may 'score' well in any sustainability appraisal when compared to other available land in a district having regard to distances to services and other environmental factors. Extending an existing traveller site in a Green Belt or providing for an additional site may be a sustainable way of providing for local need. The situation is significantly different from housing in the Green Belt which could lead to the urban sprawl that Green Belts are drawn up to avoid. Pragmatically, it may also be necessary for Councils with large areas of Green Belt to provide for the locally needed traveller sites within the Green Belt as their choices are limited.

Although this authority does not have any Green Belt, it does have substantial areas of high quality open countryside. Draft Policy C indicates that in rural or semi-rural settings, local authorities should ensure that the

scale of the site does not dominate the nearest settled community and Policy H reiterates this while adding that local authorities should avoid placing an undue pressure on the local infrastructure. While there is scope for additional local policy, there may be a need to strengthen the PPS as it should not be inferred that traveller sites are preferable in countryside that is particularly environmentally or landscape sensitive than sites in Green Belt which are not sensitive.

7. *Do you agree with the general principle of aligning planning policy on traveller sites more closely with that on other forms of housing?*

Yes, with qualifications. The specific needs of Romany Gypsies, Irish Travellers and Travelling Showpeople are such that there is a significant difference in the type of accommodation sought compared to other forms of housing. However, it is accepted that as a general principle planning policies should apply to all.

8. *Do you agree with the new emphasis on local planning authorities consulting with settled communities as well as traveller communities when formulating their plans and determining individual planning applications to help improve relations between the communities?*

Yes. This authority seeks, as a matter of good practice, to consult with settled communities as well as traveller communities.

9. *Do you agree with the proposal in the transitional arrangements policy (paragraph 26 in the draft policy) for local planning authorities to “consider favourably” planning applications for the grant of temporary permission if they cannot demonstrate an up-to-date five year supply of deliverable traveller sites, to ensure consistency with Planning Policy Statement 3: Housing?*

No. The draft PPS does not examine the issues surrounding temporary permissions which have been granted following the guidance set out in Circular 01/2006. Temporary permissions tend to provide neither the security sought by the occupants, nor the environmental outcomes sought by the surrounding settled communities. Conditions requiring the standard of landscaping expected in respect of a permanent permission, for example, may not be able to be imposed. The Council is also faced with the difficulty at the end of the temporary period of ‘ensuring’ relocation and the practical reinstatement of the site. For this authority, of the 17 pitches which have been granted temporary permission and implemented in accordance with Circular 01/2006, 5 pitches have had their temporary permission renewed before the expiry date (the remaining sites have not yet reached their expiry date) and no sites have relocated. A recent appeal decision APP/H0520/A/09/2117105 allows for 11 more temporary pitches in what the inspector considers to be a generally unsustainable location without any recognition of the fact that after families have established themselves on the site, any proposed relocation will raise substantial obvious issues.

As stated in answer to Question 5, this authority does not agree with the proposal to have to demonstrate a five year supply and therefore this scenario need not apply.

Decisions should be made on all planning applications based on their particular merits and there should not be any suggestion that temporary

applications should be 'considered favourably'. Such a phrase could be seen to be providing travellers with special rights in a similar way to Circular 01/2006 which states that 'substantial weight' should be given to unmet need when considering temporary permission. Arguably the proposed wording is more likely to result in the grant of permissions than that in the current Circular. The inclusion of this phrase is not considered to be consistent with Planning Policy Statement 3 on Housing as there is nothing in that PPS relating to temporary permissions in the same way, and the consideration of all other housing applications is done in the context of all the relevant policies. Suggesting that there will be situations where temporary applications will, in effect, be approved even if they are deficient, will maintain rather than dispel the 'widespread perception that the system is unfair and that it is easier for one group of people to gain planning permission' referred to in the Ministerial foreword to this draft PPS.

10. *Under the transitional arrangements, do you think that six months is the right time local planning authorities should be given to put in place their five year land supply before the consequences of not having done so come into force?*

No. Local planning authorities will not be able to identify a five year land supply within 6 months. The process of identifying a target will require the production of new evidence in accordance with the finalised PPS and consideration of this through a DPD process. As stated in answer to Question 5, this authority does not agree with the proposal to have to demonstrate a five year supply. If the Government decides to pursue this, two years is a minimum timescale for delivering a DPD which will be subject to intense public scrutiny.

11. *Do you have any other comments on the transitional arrangements?*

No.

12. *Are there any other ways in which the policy can be made clearer, shorter or more accessible?*

In addition to the matters raised earlier, this authority is concerned at the parts of the draft PPS which indicate that local connections should not be considered (apart from in respect of land that would be managed by a Registered Social Landlord). This means that while a target will be based on local need that sites may be taken by other travellers thereby leaving those that the target was identified to cater for potentially without sites.

Policy F and Policy H are also of concern in that they imply that business use should be provided for on many if not all traveler sites. These should also be re-phrased to make it clear that decisions can be made allowing for a residential traveller pitch with no provision for business use where business is inappropriate on the site due to its location or environmental constraints.

The Council also notes that this policy is meant to be incorporated into the new National Planning Policy Framework but it is not clear how this will be done. The policy would be clearer, shorter and more accessible if it is part of the Framework rather than a stand-alone addition.

COMT
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
CABINET

7th June 2011
14th June 2011
23rd June 2011

**PRELIMINARY DRAFT
COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL)
CHARGING SCHEDULE
(Report by Head of Planning Services)**

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The purpose of this report is to introduce the Council's proposed Preliminary Draft Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule (see Appendix 1) to Cabinet, and seek approval for it to be issued for 6 weeks public consultation in Summer 2011.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The Government introduced the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) in April 2010 in order to provide for a more equitable scheme for development contributions to local infrastructure provision. CIL enables local authorities to make a charge on most new developments to help meet a proportion of the costs of identified District wide community infrastructure.

2.2 Local authorities can choose to prepare a CIL Charging Schedule, consult on it, and submit it for independent examination prior to 2014 when changes will be made to restrict the extent to which the existing Planning Obligations / Section 106 Agreement processes will come into force.

2.3 It is intended that the Huntingdonshire CIL Charging Schedule will come into effect in Spring 2012, following widespread consultation through the remainder of 2011, and an independent examination. From that point the District Council will be able to make a charge on most new development including all new dwellings, very large household extensions, and employment and retail development.

2.4 The proposed CIL charges that will form the basis of the consultation are calculated per square metre of net new floorspace created as follows:

Proposed Charge	
Residential (including C2, C3 and C4)	£98 per square metre
Office (B1)	£0 per square metre
General Industrial, Storage & Distribution (B2 and B8)	£0 per square metre
Hotel (C1)	£50 per square metre
Retail > 999 sq m ¹ (A1/ A2 / A3 /A4 / A5)	£75 per square metre
Community Uses (including D1 and D2)	£0 per square metre
Sui – Generis	£0 per square metre

¹ DCLG Development Control PS 1/2 statistical definition 2007/8

2.5 Small household extensions (below 100 square metres of net additional space), community development and developments by charities are exempt from CIL along with the development of affordable housing.

3. SUMMARY OF ISSUES

3.1 The introduction CIL in Huntingdonshire will spread the requirement for developer contributions more fairly across most new development. At present, through the Planning Obligations / Section 106 Agreement process, only a proportion of new development makes any form of developer contribution.

3.2 The proposed CIL charges have been subject to rigorous viability testing so the District Council can be confident at examination that it is proposing the appropriate level of charge across the District. The charges will be uniform across the District.

3.3 CIL will not generate sufficient funding to pay for all of the District's major infrastructure needs, which are identified on a CIL Projects List, and costed at over £1,900 million to 2026. Therefore, there will need to be a process of governance, prioritisation and working with other infrastructure providers to identify how CIL is spent. Huntingdonshire District Council has an infrastructure role concerning a number of aspects including open spaces, recreation and sports, environmental improvements, economic regeneration and community facilities. The other main infrastructure providers are Cambridgeshire County Council (education, transport, libraries and waste), the National Health Service (health facilities), Emergency Services, Skills Development (Huntingdonshire Regional College) and Utilities providers.

3.4 Planning Obligations / Section 106 Agreements will still be able to be used, but in a restricted way. The proposed approach in Huntingdonshire is to retain S106 for particular site specific elements including affordable housing, provision of land for open space, and site related highways improvements. They will also be used at the District's strategic large scale major development areas (over 200 dwellings) such as St Neots East, St Ives West and RAF Brampton. The scale of these developments is such that they generate their own major infrastructure requirements, e.g. new schools. In all cases, Section 106 agreements will be used in conjunction with CIL, so most developments will pay for both elements.

3.5 As part of the emerging Decentralisation and Localism Bill there will be a requirement on authorities that collect CIL to ensure that a meaningful proportion of the funds collected are available for use by Town and Parish Councils. It is understood that the Government will issue further information on this element in coming months.

3.6 The District Council will be the collecting authority for CIL, and will have a key role as the banker and distributor for the collected funds. There will also be a significant project management role in ensuring that CIL funded projects are developed and implemented efficiently. The corporate governance and operational processes needed to underpin this role are currently being considered and will be reported at a future date.

3.7 The Preliminary Draft Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule will be accompanied by a new Draft Developer Contributions

Supplementary Planning Document that explains the interactions between CIL and Section 106 Agreements. This will be authorised for consultation by the Executive Member for Planning and Housing and will be released for consultation at the same time as the Preliminary Draft CIL Charging Schedule. The SPD is still being finalised and will come forward in due course.

4. RECOMMENDATION

4.1 It is recommended that:

- a) Cabinet approves the Preliminary Draft Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule for 6 weeks public consultation in Summer 2011.
- b) the Head of Planning Services be authorised to make any minor consequential amendments to the text and supporting documentation, after consultation with the Executive Councillor for Strategic Planning and Housing.

Appendix A: Preliminary Draft Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule

Background Papers

- **Huntingdonshire Local Investment Framework 2009**
- **Core Strategy 2009**
- **Huntingdonshire Market Report, August 2010**
- **Huntingdonshire Viability Testing of Community Infrastructure Levy Charges Report, 2011**
- **Huntingdonshire Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule Project List**

CONTACT OFFICER - enquiries about this report to Steve Ingram, Head of Planning Services, on 01480 388400

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Huntingdonshire Community Infrastructure Levy - Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule

Huntingdonshire LDF | Huntingdonshire Community Infrastructure Levy - Preliminary Draft Charging
Schedule

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 This consultation document is Huntingdonshire District Council's "Preliminary Draft Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule". It is supported by appropriate information and evidence regarding the creation of a reasonable levy for the locality.

What is the Community Infrastructure Levy?

- 1.2 The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) allows local planning authorities to raise funds from developers to pay for the infrastructure that is needed as a result of new development. It came into force on 6th April 2010.
- 1.3 The CIL is an amount payable per net addition m² of floorspace. The levy set is based on community infrastructure needs identified in the Huntingdonshire Local Investment Framework which formed part of the evidence base for the adopted Huntingdonshire Core Strategy. It is further supported by updated infrastructure modelling which takes other potential funding sources into account, and an analysis of the impact of any levy on the viability of development across the district.
- 1.4 Funds raised through the CIL will be used to help pay for a wide range of community infrastructure required to support the needs of sustainable developments in the District. It will not fund 100% of the costs of the infrastructure requirements and will therefore be one element in a range of funding opportunities that need to be used to ensure that community infrastructure is effectively delivered.

Who will have to pay the CIL?

- 1.5 CIL will be charged on most new development. Liability to pay CIL arises when, on completion of the development, the gross internal area of new build on the relevant land is 100 square metres or above. The development of all new dwellings, even if it is less than 100m², is liable to pay CIL. The levy is chargeable on the basis of a calculation related to pounds per square metre on the net additional floorspace.
- 1.6 CIL will not be charged on changes of use that involve new additional floorspace or structures which people do not regularly go into. Affordable housing development and development by charities is exempt from charge.

What are the benefits of CIL?

- 1.7 Most development has some form of impact on the infrastructure needs of an area and, as such, it is fair that the development contributes towards the cost of the needs. Those needs could be physical, social and green / environmental infrastructure.
- 1.8 The CIL is a fair, transparent and accountable levy which will be payable by the majority of new housing developments, whether 1 unit or 1000 units, and a range of other development types. The CIL gives developers a clear understanding of what financial contribution will be expected towards the delivery of community infrastructure needs, whilst providing the Local Planning Authority with a simple developer contributions process.

What happens to Section 106?

- 1.9 The CIL is intended to provide infrastructure to support the development of an area rather than making an individual planning application acceptable in planning terms (which is the purpose of Section 106 Agreements). CIL does not fully replace Section 106 Agreements. On particular developments some site specific mitigation requirements may still need to be provided through a Section 106 Agreement in addition to the CIL levy.
- 1.10 However, the CIL Regulations have placed limitations on the use of planning obligations by:

1 Introduction

- Putting three of the five policy tests on the use of planning obligations as set out in Circular 5/05 on a statutory basis for developments which are capable of being charged the Levy
 - Ensuring the local use of the CIL levy and planning obligations does not overlap
 - Limiting pooled contributions from planning obligations from no more than five developments towards infrastructure which may be funded by the Levy.
- 1.11** CIL will therefore become the main source of funding available through development management decisions. Affordable housing lies outside of the remit of CIL and will continue to be secured through Section 106 Agreements.
- 1.12** Section 106 Agreements and planning conditions will also continue to be used for local infrastructure requirements on development sites, such as site specific local provision of open space, connection to utility services (as required by legislation), habitat protection, access roads and archaeology. The principle is that all eligible developments must pay towards CIL as well as any site specific requirement to be secured through Section 106 Agreements. Details on this can be found in the Draft Developer Contributions SPD, which is also being consulted on at this time and should be read in conjunction with this document.
- 1.13** **Large scale major developments**⁽¹⁾ of 200 units or more usually also necessitate the provision of their own on-site strategic infrastructure, such as schools, which are dealt with more suitably through a Section 106 agreement, in addition to the CIL charge. It is important that the CIL Charging Schedule differentiates between these infrastructure projects to ensure no double counting takes place between calculating the district wide CIL rate for funding of infrastructure projects and determining Section 106 Agreements for funding other on-site specific infrastructure projects.
- 1.14** The large scale major development sites which will necessitate Section 106 Agreements covering on-site strategic infrastructure in addition to their CIL levy in the District are:
- St Neots Eastern Expansion (development site to East of the East Coast mainline railway) as defined in approved Urban Design Framework
 - St Ives West (as defined in the emerging Urban Design Framework)
 - Huntingdon West (as defined in the Area Action Plan)
 - RAF Brampton (as defined in the emerging Urban Design Framework)
 - Bearscroft Farm, Godmanchester (as defined in the SHLAA)
 - Ermine Street (Northbridge), Huntingdon (as defined in the SHLAA)
- 1.15** This is not an exhaustive list and may change in time, should new large scale major⁽²⁾ development sites come forward.
- 1.16** The Local Planning Authority will not be able to charge individual developments for the same items of infrastructure through both planning obligations and the Levy, as outlined in the infrastructure project list that will be published on the Huntingdonshire District Council website once a Charging Schedule has been adopted.

1 DCLG Development Control PS 1/2 statistical definition 2007/8

2 DCLG Development Control PS 1/2 statistical definition 2007/8

2 Policy Background

2.1 This section sets out the evidence the District Council has used to produce this Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule. The core elements of this are the outline of infrastructure necessary to support development that will be funded through CIL and the viability assessments that have been carried out to identify the charge.

2.2 In setting a Community Infrastructure Levy rate, a Charging Authority must comply with both Regulation 14 of the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 which states:

14.—(1) In setting rates (including differential rates) in a charging schedule, a charging authority must aim to strike what appears to the charging authority to be an appropriate balance between—

- a. the desirability of funding from CIL (in whole or in part) the actual and expected estimated total cost of infrastructure required to support the development of its area, taking into account other actual and expected sources of funding; and*
- b. the potential effects (taken as a whole) of the imposition of CIL on the economic viability of development across its area.*

(2) In setting rates in a charging schedule, a charging authority may also have regard to actual and expected administrative expenses in connection with CIL to the extent that those expenses can be funded from CIL in accordance with regulation .61.

and Section 211 (2) and (4) from Part 11 of the Planning Act 2008:

211. (2) A charging authority, in setting rates or other criteria, must have regard, to the extent and in the manner specified by CIL regulations, to—

- a. actual and expected costs of infrastructure (whether by reference to lists prepared by virtue of section 216(5)(a) or otherwise);*
- b. matters specified by CIL regulations relating to the economic viability of development (which may include, in particular, actual or potential economic effects of planning permission or of the imposition of CIL);*
- c. other actual and expected sources of funding for infrastructure.*

211. (4) The regulations may, in particular, permit or require charging authorities in setting rates or other criteria—

- a. to have regard, to the extent and in the manner specified by the regulations, to actual or expected administrative expenses in connection with CIL;*
- b. to have regard, to the extent and in the manner specified by the regulations, to values used or documents produced for other statutory purposes;*
- c. to integrate the process, to the extent and in the manner specified by the regulations, with processes undertaken for other statutory purposes;*
- d. to produce charging schedules having effect in relation to specified periods (subject to revision).*

2 Policy Background

- 2.3** The Charging Schedule levy rate should, therefore, strike a balance between the desirability for funding and the impact any levy may have on the economic viability of development across the whole development of Huntingdonshire.

Supporting Documents

- 2.4** Huntingdonshire District Council has considered a range of evidence and policy documents in reaching the conclusion set out in the Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule.
- 2.5** The **Huntingdonshire Core Strategy 2009** sets the strategic spatial planning framework for development in Huntingdonshire to 2026 and contains strategic policies to manage growth and guide new development in Huntingdonshire based on the Vision that:
- 2.6** *“In 2026 Huntingdonshire will have retained its distinct identity as a predominantly rural area with vibrant villages and market towns. Residents will be happier, healthier and more active and will enjoy an improved quality of life with improved access to a wider range of local jobs, housing, high quality services and facilities and green infrastructure.”*
- 2.7** Core Strategy Policy CS10 outlines contributions to infrastructure required by new developments.

Policy CS 10

Contributions to Infrastructure Requirements

Development proposals will be expected to provide or contribute towards the cost of providing appropriate infrastructure, and of meeting social and environmental requirements, where these are necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms where this complies with the requirements set out in Circular 5/2005 or successor documents.

Contributions may also be required to meet the management and maintenance of services and facilities provided through an obligation where this complies with the requirements set out in Circular 5/2005. The appropriate range and level of contributions will be assessed in a comprehensive manner, taking into account strategic infrastructure requirements and using standard charges where appropriate. Standards and formulae for calculating contributions will be set out in separate Supplementary Planning Documents or Development Plan Documents. Where appropriate, the particular requirements of specific sites, including any additional or special requirements will be set out in other DPDs.

In order to prevent avoidance of contributions any requirement will be calculated on the complete developable area, rather than the area or number of homes/ floorspace of a proposal, where the proposal forms a sub-division of a larger developable area.

The nature and scale of any planning obligations sought will be related to the form of development and its potential impact upon the surrounding area. Where appropriate, any such provision will be required to be provided on site. Where this is not possible, a commuted payment is likely to be sought. In determining the nature and scale of any planning obligation, specific site conditions and other material considerations including viability, redevelopment of previously developed land or mitigation of contamination may be taken into account. The timing of provision of infrastructure and facilities will be carefully considered in order to ensure that appropriate provision is in place before development is occupied.

Contributions that may be required include the following:

- affordable and key worker housing;
- open space and recreation (including leisure and sports facilities);

- strategic green infrastructure and biodiversity enhancement/ mitigation;
- transport (including footpaths, bridleways, cycleways, highways, public transport, car parks and travel planning);
- community facilities (including meeting halls, youth activities, play facilities, library and information services, cultural facilities and places of worship);
- education, health and social care and community safety;
- utilities infrastructure and renewable energy;
- emergency and essential services;
- environmental improvements;
- drainage / flood prevention and protection;
- waste recycling facilities; and
- public art, heritage and archaeology.

Contributions will be calculated taking into account provisions of the Community Infrastructure Levy.

2.8 The **Huntingdonshire Local Investment Framework (LIF) 2009** is a key supporting document to the Core Strategy and the development of the Charging Schedule. It identifies the physical, social and green infrastructure needs arising from the planned growth of Huntingdonshire to 2026 and the potential funding sources, including planning obligations and Community Infrastructure Levy that could viably be secured to help meet this need.

2.9 The **Huntingdonshire Local Strategic Partnership Sustainable Community Strategy Vision 2008 – 2028** is that:

“The Huntingdonshire Strategic Partnership is working together to achieve a long term vision for Huntingdonshire as a place where current and future generations have a good quality of life and can –

- *make the most of opportunities that come from living in a growing and developing district;*
- *enjoy the benefits of continued economic success;*
- *access suitable homes, jobs, services, shops, culture and leisure opportunities;*
- *realise their full potential;*
- *maintain the special character of our market towns, villages and countryside; and*
- *live in an environment that is safe and protected from the effects of climate change and where valuable natural resources are used wisely.”*

2.10 The **Cambridgeshire Horizons Integrated Development Plan** considers the goals set out in the East of England Plan and the Regional Economic Strategy and identifies and costs, where possible, project-level interventions needed to achieve them. These projects are sub-regional in scale and, as such, are strategic in nature, having greater than district-level impact.

2.11 The **Cambridgeshire Local Investment Plan (CLIP)** provides the context for future strategic funding discussions with the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA). The objective of the CLIP is to address the need for investment across Cambridgeshire whilst encompassing the key objectives of the HCA by delivering sustainable growth and regeneration, and representing excellent value for money. It summarises the investment priorities identified by each district to achieve this goal.

2.12 The **Greater Cambridge-Greater Peterborough Local Enterprise Partnership** was established in 2010 and is based on the complementary functional economic areas of the cities of Cambridge and Peterborough, together with neighbouring market towns and communities. The LEP area covers Cambridgeshire, Peterborough City, Rutland, Cambridge, East Cambridgeshire, Fenland, Huntingdonshire and South Cambridgeshire Districts but beyond these administrative boundaries, the real economic geography extends into parts of North Hertfordshire, Uttlesford, St Edmundsbury and Forest Heath; South Holland and King's Lynn & West Norfolk. The LEP mission is to:

2 Policy Background

"lead our area's growth to 100,000 significant businesses and create 160,000 new jobs by 2025 in an internationally renowned low carbon, knowledge-based economy"

2.13 The LEP aims to ensure the delivery of:

- A doubling of GVA over a twenty year period - from £30 billion to £60 billion annually
- Growth in number of significant businesses (as measured by Inter-Departmental Business Register) from 60,000 to 100,000 by 2025
- Creation of 160,000 net new jobs by 2025
- Delivery of 100,000 new homes over a 20 year period

Initial possible CIL rate

2.14 The Local Investment Framework 2009 was the first piece of work undertaken to look at the potential for introducing a Community Infrastructure Levy across Huntingdonshire and utilised a single hectare development model to initially assess viability. At that time the viability assessment suggested a maximum viability rate for residential development at what equated to £217 per square metre⁰ and a maximum viability rate of £54 per square metre for commercial.

2.15 Economic circumstances have changed since that work was undertaken, a new coalition government has come into power, the CIL Regulations 2010 and the CIL (Amendment) Regulations 2011 have come into force, and Parliament is considering the Decentralisation and Localism Bill which contain major potential planning reforms including neighbourhood planning and the CIL (Amendment) Regulations, linked to this Bill, are expected to come into force in 2012.

2.16 A review of work undertaken to date was therefore required in order to progress towards a Charging Schedule for Huntingdonshire. The key evidence review has been:

- Huntingdonshire District Council Viability Testing of Community Infrastructure Levy Charges by Drivers Jonas Deloitte, 2011
- Huntingdonshire Market Report by Drivers Jonas Deloitte, August 2010
- Infrastructure Project Plan, 2011

2.17 The outcome of this along with the evidence of the adopted Core Strategy 2009 has helped to establish a new Community Infrastructure Levy being proposed in the Appendix 1: 'Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule'.

Reviewing the Infrastructure projects suitable for CIL

2.18 The Huntingdonshire Local Investment Framework – the infrastructure development plan supporting the Huntingdonshire Core Strategy – was adopted in 2009. It provides a full breakdown of the infrastructure needs of the district based on the projected growth outlined in the Core Strategy, namely from 2001 to 2026, a total of at least 14000 homes will be provided in Huntingdonshire with about 85ha of new land for employment in order to contribute to the creation of at least 13,000 jobs.

2.19 The LIF looked at a range of infrastructure types. However, development progress has moved on and been affected by an economic recession. There has also been a change in government and the CIL Regulations 2010 have gained Royal Assent and one phase of amendments have come into force with a second phase anticipated by April 2012.

2.20 A review of the list of infrastructure needs identified in the Local Investment Framework has therefore been undertaken. This has been undertaken with key partners and infrastructure providers specifically considering potential CIL funded projects, as set out in para 16 of the DCLG Community Infrastructure Levy Guidance 2010. The revised list has taken into account:

- reviewed housing trajectory
- current alternative funding availability
- CIL infrastructure projects excluding large scale major site-specific projects, as noted below.

2.21 It is important to remember that whilst CIL will have the potential to raise significant funding for local infrastructure needs, it should be recognised as one of a range of funding options that can be utilised in the delivery of infrastructure.

2.22 In reviewing the infrastructure list, further work has been undertaken to consider large scale major developments⁽³⁾, those of 200 units or more, in more detail. This is for a number of reasons, as outlined in the Viability Testing of Community Infrastructure Levy Charges, undertaken by Drivers Jonas Deloitte on behalf of Huntingdonshire District Council. Primarily, such sites usually necessitate the provision of their own on-site strategic infrastructure, such as schools, which are dealt with more suitably through a Section 106 agreement, in addition to the CIL charge. It is important that the CIL Charging Schedule differentiates between these infrastructure projects to ensure no double counting takes place between calculating the district wide CIL rate for funding of infrastructure projects and determining Section 106 Agreements for funding other on-site specific infrastructure projects.

2.23 The large scale major sites identified are:

- St Neots Eastern Expansion (development site to East of the East Coast mainline railway) as defined in approved Urban Design Framework
- St Ives West (as defined in the emerging Urban Design Framework)
- Huntingdon West (as defined in the Area Action Plan)
- RAF Brampton (as defined in the emerging Urban Design Framework)
- Bearscroft Farm, Godmanchester (as defined in the SHLAA)
- Ermine Street (Northbridge), Huntingdon (as defined in the SHLAA)

2.24 This is not an exhaustive list and may change in time, should new large scale major⁽⁴⁾ development sites come forward.

2.25 Taking into account the above, the revised infrastructure list now looks at the infrastructure areas as identified in the LIF but has excluded certain strategic on-site infrastructure on large scale major sites and items required by condition. It should be noted that this is not a definitive list of infrastructure types.

Infrastructure type	Exclusions from CIL infrastructure definition
Roads and other transport facilities	Excluding local site-related condition requirements
Schools and other educational facilities	Excluding large scale major ⁽⁵⁾ on-site primary school provision
Medical facilities	Excluding large scale major ⁽⁶⁾ on-site health provision
Sporting and recreational facilities	Excluding on-site provision of land
Green Infrastructure Open Spaces / facilities	Excluding on-site provision of land

3 DCLG Development Control PS 1/2 statistical definition 2007/8
 4 DCLG Development Control PS 1/2 statistical definition 2007/8
 5 DCLG Development Control PS 1/2 statistical definition 2007/8
 6 DCLG Development Control PS 1/2 statistical definition 2007/8

2 Policy Background

Infrastructure type	Exclusions from CIL infrastructure definition
Social Infrastructure	Excluding large scale major ⁽⁷⁾ on-site library provision and community facilities
Economic Regeneration	Excluding office/unit development but including skills development activities
Emergency services	Excluding large scale major ⁽⁸⁾ on-site safer neighbourhood team accommodation provision
Utilities	Excluding local site related requirements

2.26 The infrastructure project list can be found at Appendix 2: 'Infrastructure Needs'.

7 DCLG Development Control PS 1/2 statistical definition 2007/8

8 DCLG Development Control PS 1/2 statistical definition 2007/8

3 Implementing the Charging Schedule.

3.1 The calculation of the chargeable amount to be paid by a development is set out in Regulation 40 of the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010. This states:

1. *The collecting authority must calculate the amount of CIL payable (“chargeable amount”) in respect of a chargeable development in accordance with this regulation.*
2. *The chargeable amount is an amount equal to the aggregate of the amounts of CIL chargeable at each of the relevant rates.*
3. *But where that amount is less than £50 the chargeable amount is deemed to be zero.*
4. *The relevant rates are the rates at which CIL is chargeable in respect of the chargeable development taken from the charging schedules which are in effect—*
 - a. *at the time planning permission first permits the chargeable development; and*
 - b. *in the area in which the chargeable development will be situated.*
5. *The amount of CIL chargeable at a given relevant rate (R) must be calculated by applying the following formula—*

$$\frac{R \times A \times I_p}{I_c}$$

I_c

where—

A = the deemed net area chargeable at rate R ;

I_p = the index figure for the year in which planning permission was granted; and for the year in which planning permission was granted; and

I_c = the index figure for the year in which the charging schedule containing rate R took effect.

6. *The value of A in paragraph (5) must be calculated by applying the following formula—*

$$\frac{C_R \times (C - E)}{C}$$

C

where—

C_R = the gross internal area of the part of the chargeable development chargeable at rate R , less an amount equal to the aggregate of the gross internal area of all buildings (excluding any new build) on completion of the chargeable development which –

- a. *on the day planning permission first permits the chargeable development, are situated on the relevant land and in lawful use;*

3 Implementing the Charging Schedule.

- b. *will be part of the chargeable development upon completion: and*
- c. *will be chargeable at rate R.*

C = the gross internal area of the chargeable development; and

E = an amount equal to the aggregate of the gross internal areas of all buildings which— which—

- a. *on the day planning permission first permits the chargeable development, are situated on the relevant land and in lawful use; and; and*
- b. *are to be demolished before completion of the chargeable development.*

How will the CIL levy be collected?

- 3.2** A notice of liability will be issued by Huntingdonshire District Council as soon as practicable after the day on which a planning permission first permits development stating the chargeable amount in relation to the development. The responsibility to pay the levy runs with the ownership of land on which the liable development will be situated and is a local land charge.
- 3.3** Payment of the levy is due from the date the chargeable development commences. A commencement notice must be submitted to Huntingdonshire District Council no later than the day before the day on which the chargeable development is to be commenced. Regulation 96B of the Community Infrastructure (Amendment) Regulations permits a charging authority to allow persons liable to pay CIL to do so by instalments following the publication of an instalment policy. Huntingdonshire District Council will publish an instalment policy at the point of adoption of the Charging Schedule. The instalment policy will as a minimum permit the payment instalments as noted in Regulation 70 of the Community Infrastructure Regulations 2010 namely that:
 - 2. *Where the chargeable amount is equal to or greater than £40,000, payment of the amount of CIL payable in respect of D (A) is due in four equal instalments at the end of the periods of 60, 120, 180 and 240 days beginning with the intended commencement date of D.⁽⁹⁾ (A) is due in four equal instalments at the end of the periods of 60, 120, 180 and 240 days beginning with the intended commencement date of D.*
 - 3. *Where the chargeable amount is equal to or greater than £20,000 and less than £40,000, payment of A is due in three equal instalments at the end of the periods of 60, 120 and 180 days beginning with the intended commencement date of D.*
 - 4. *Where the chargeable amount is equal to or greater than £10,000 and less than £20,000, payment of A is due in two equal instalments at the end of the periods of 60 and 120 days beginning with the intended commencement date of D.*
 - 5. *Where the chargeable amount is less than £10,000, payment of A is due in full at the end of the period of 60 days beginning with the intended commencement date of D.*
- 3.4** For developments where the outline planning permission permits development to be implemented in phases, planning permission first permits a phase of the development on the day of the final approval of the last reserved matter associated with that phase (Regulation 8). As such, each phase can be considered as a separate development and CIL will be levied per agreed phase rather than the site in its entirety.
- 3.5** From commencement of development, a demand notice will be issued by Huntingdonshire District Council to the liable person/s requesting payment of the levy amount.

9 Where D is the chargeable development

What will the CIL levy collected be spent on?

- 3.6** CIL resources will be spent on the infrastructure needed to support the new development across Huntingdonshire. It will fund new infrastructure and will not be used to fund the provision of any deficit in provision unless this is necessary to meet the need of the new development. The levy can also be used to expand, repair or refurbish existing infrastructure where necessary for new development. In addition, it may, in the future, be spent on the ongoing costs of providing infrastructure; and could consider funding maintenance, operational and promotional activities¹⁰.
- 3.7** The Government intends to require charging authorities to allocate a 'meaningful proportion' of levy receipts back to the neighbourhood in which the development has taken place. This will enable the local community to decide on what infrastructure priorities they have and take control to address them. Huntingdonshire District Council will provide a proportion of the CIL monies to local neighbourhoods from the adoption of their Charging Schedule, whether the Localism Bill and Amendment of CIL Regulations (II) have gone through all necessary parliamentary processes or not by that time.
- 3.8** As required⁽¹⁰⁾, Huntingdonshire District Council will publish on its website a list of infrastructure projects or types of infrastructure that it intends will be, or may be, wholly or partly funded by CIL.
- 3.9** It is anticipated that in the future, through an agreed process working with the Huntingdonshire Strategic Partnership, the Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Enterprise Partnership and Town/Parish Councils, an Annual Business Plan outlining the coming years future infrastructure priorities will be produced. This would work with a range of other agendas and plans including Neighbourhood Plans / Development Orders as they come forward, Homes & Communities Agency Local Investment Plan, Enterprise Zones and Business Improvement Districts.

10 Community Infrastructure Regulations 2010, Regulation 123

4 Next Steps

4 Next Steps

4.1 I would suggest **not** having this highlighted text in the document:

Responding to this consultation

4.2 If you have any comments on the Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule (see Appendix 1) for Huntingdonshire's Community Infrastructure Levy, please make your comments using the Huntingdonshire District Council Consultation Portal at <http://consult.huntsdc.gov.uk/portal>.

4.3 Alternatively comments may be submitted in writing and forward to:

4.4 Email:

4.5 or

4.6 Community Infrastructure Levy

4.7 Planning Services

4.8 Huntingdonshire District Council

4.9 St Mary's Street

4.10 Huntingdon

4.11 PE28 5NL

4.12 Please ensure responses reach us by **XXXXXXXX 2011**.

4.13 If you have any queries about this document, please call XXXXXXXXXXXX and

4.14 or email XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX.

Future Timetable

4.15 Following this consultation of the Huntingdonshire Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule, all responses will be considered along with further information to inform the Draft Charging Schedule. The Draft Charging Schedule will then be published for consultation, as required under Regulation 16. The table below outlines the timeframe for the future steps in this through to adoption by Huntingdonshire District Council.

Timescale ⁽¹⁾	
Autumn 2010	Publish the Draft Charging Schedule, relevant evidence and statement of the representations procedure for 4 weeks
Winter 2011	Examination in Public held
Spring 2012	Inspector's Report
Spring 2012	Adoption of Charging Schedule

1. subject to change

Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule Appendix 1:

Huntingdonshire LDF | Huntingdonshire Community Infrastructure Levy - Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule

Appendix 1: Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule

1.1 This is the Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule for Huntingdonshire and has been prepared in accordance with:

- Part 11, Planning Act 2008
- Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010
- Community Infrastructure Levy (Amendment) Regulations 2011
- Community Infrastructure Levy Guidance: Charge setting and charging schedule procedures
- Planning Policy Statement 12: Creating strong safe and prosperous communities through Local Spatial Planning
- Localism Bill (presented to Parliament on 13 December 2010)

1.2 Huntingdonshire District Council, as the local Planning Authority, is the Charging Authority and will also be the Collecting Authority.

Liability to Pay CIL

1.3 A chargeable development, one for which planning permission is granted, that is liable to pay CIL covers all new developments (Regulation 9).

Exemptions/ Relief to Pay CIL

1.4 A number of new developments are not required to pay CIL for a number of reasons.

- If the gross internal area of **new build is less than 100 square metres**, and does not comprise of one or more dwellings, then liability to pay CIL does not arise (Regulation 42).
- If the owner of a material interest in the relevant development land is a **charitable institution**, it is exempt from liability to pay CIL subject to conditions (Regulation 43).
- If there is discretionary charitable relief to do so, discretionary charitable relief from liability to pay CIL may be given for a development that is held by a charitable institution as an investment from which the profits will be applied for charitable purposes subject to conditions (Regulation 44).
- If the chargeable development comprises or is to comprise qualifying **social housing** (in whole or in part), it is eligible for relief from liability to pay CIL subject to conditions (Regulation 49).
- If there are **exceptional circumstances** for doing so, relief (“relief for exceptional circumstances”) from liability to pay CIL may be given subject to conditions (Regulation 55) – see section below.
- If the development only concerns a **change of use** and no additional new floorspace then it will not be liable to pay CIL, although it could be liable to S106 Developer Contributions.
- If the new development is for **a building into which people do not normally go** or into which people go only intermittently for the purpose of inspecting or maintaining fixed plant or machinery, it is not liable to pay CIL, although it could be liable to S106 Developer Contributions (Reg 6).

Discretionary Relief for Exceptional Circumstances

1.5 Regulation 55 of the Community Infrastructure Regulations 2010 permit a charging authority to:

grant relief (“relief for exceptional circumstances”) from liability to pay CIL in respect of a chargeable development (D) if—

- a. it appears to the charging authority that there are exceptional circumstances which justify doing so; and*
- b. the charging authority considers it expedient to do so.*

Appendix 1: Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule

Huntingdonshire LDF | Huntingdonshire Community Infrastructure Levy - Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule

- 1.6** The above may only happen if a planning obligation of greater value than the chargeable amount has been entered into in respect of the planning permission which permits the chargeable development and the charging authority considers that payment of the levy would have an unacceptable impact on the economic viability of the development⁽¹¹⁾⁽¹²⁾.
- 1.7** It is the intention of Huntingdonshire District Council to offer such relief. A statement confirming this will be issued once the Charging Schedule has been adopted, in compliance with Regulation 56.

The CIL Rate

- 1.8** The charge detailed below will be levied on most new building developments that people would normally use. It is chargeable in pounds per square metre on the net additional floorspace **if** that floorspace is more than 100m². However, if the development involves the creation of a new dwelling, even if it is less than 100m², it is still liable to pay CIL.
- 1.9** Huntingdonshire District Council proposes to set a flat rate across the district of £98 per square metre for residential development, based on the viability work undertaken – see Appendix 3: 'Assessment of Viability'.

Proposed Charge	per square metre
Residential (including C2, C3 and C4)	£98
Office (B1)	£0
General Industrial, Storage & Distribution (B2 and B8)	£0
Hotel (C1)	£50
Retail > 999 sq m ⁽¹³⁾ (A1/ A2/ A3/ A4/ A5)	£75
Community Uses (including D1 and D2)	£0
Sui Generis	£0

1. Do you agree with the proposed charge for residential development?
2. Do you agree with the proposed charge for office development?
3. Do you agree with the proposed charge for general industrial, storage and distribution development?
4. Do you agree with the proposed charge for hotel development?
5. Do you agree with the proposed charge for retail development?
6. Do you agree with the proposed charge for community uses development?

- 1.10** The rate shown be updated annually for inflation in accordance with the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors “All In Tender Price Index”.
- 1.11** Further contributions may also be required through a Section 106 agreement or as part of the Conditions attributed to a planning consent. Details on this can be found in the Draft Developer Contributions SPD, which is also being consulted on at this time and should be read in conjunction with this document.

11 Regulations 55 – 57. Community Infrastructure Regulations 2010
 12 DCLG Community Infrastructure Levy Relief Information Document, May 2011
 13 DCLG Development Control PS 1/2 statistical definition 2007/8

Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule Appendix 1:

Huntingdonshire LDF | Huntingdonshire Community Infrastructure Levy - Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule

CIL Geographical Zone

1.12 The proposed levy rates will apply uniformly to all land uses across the whole geographic extent of the district of Huntingdonshire.

7. Do you agree with the proposal to set flat rate levy according to uses across the whole of Huntingdonshire?

Appendix 2: Infrastructure Needs

Appendix 2: Infrastructure Needs

- 2.1** In preparing the Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule, the necessary infrastructure, phasing and cost needs to be ascertained. This is not a definitive list but an indication of the likely infrastructure required by new development, taking account of any current surpluses – this is in line with CLG Community Infrastructure Guidance, March 2010.
- 2.2** Under Section 216 of the Planning Act 2008, infrastructure includes:
- roads and other transport facilities,
 - flood defences’
 - schools and other educational facilities,
 - medical facilities,
 - sporting and recreational facilities,
 - open spaces
 - affordable housing.
- 2.3** It is important to note that the wording used in the act is ‘includes’ and, as such, this is not an exhaustive list. Regulation 63 of the Community Infrastructure Regulation 2010 has amended this listing to exclude affordable housing.
- 2.4** The infrastructure considered within Huntingdonshire is shown in the following table.

Infrastructure Type	Exclusions from CIL infrastructure definition
Roads and other transport facilities	Excluding local site specific condition requirements
Schools and other educational facilities	Excluding large scale major ⁽¹⁴⁾ on-site primary school provision
Medical facilities	Excluding large scale major ⁽¹⁵⁾ on-site health provision
Sporting and recreational facilities	Excluding on-site provision of land
Green Infrastructure Open Spaces / facilities	Excluding on-site provision of land
Social Infrastructure	Excluding large scale major ⁽¹⁶⁾ on-site library provision and community facilities
Economic Regeneration	Excluding office/unit development but including skills development activities
Emergency services	Excluding large scale major ⁽¹⁷⁾ on-site safer neighbourhood team accommodation provision
Utilities	Excluding local site related requirements

8. Do you agree with the infrastructures definition?

14 DCLG Development Control PS 1/2 statistical definition 2007/8
 15 DCLG Development Control PS 1/2 statistical definition 2007/8
 16 DCLG Development Control PS 1/2 statistical definition 2007/8
 17 DCLG Development Control PS 1/2 statistical definition 2007/8

Infrastructure Projects

2.5 The following details the infrastructure plan projects required due to the planned growth across Huntingdonshire up to 2026. This is not an exhaustive list and can change at any time.

2.6 INSERT LIST

Appendix 3: Assessment of Viability

Huntingdonshire LDF | Huntingdonshire Community Infrastructure Levy - Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule

Appendix 3: Assessment of Viability

3.1 In deciding the rate of CIL, a Charging Authority is required to have regard to the economic viability of the area. Regulation 14 Community Infrastructure Regulations 2010 states:

14.—(1) In setting rates (including differential rates) in a charging schedule, a charging authority must aim to strike what appears to the charging authority to be an appropriate balance between—

- a. the desirability of funding from CIL (in whole or in part) the actual and expected estimated total cost of infrastructure required to support the development of its area, taking into account other actual and expected sources of funding; and*
- b. the potential effects (taken as a whole) of the imposition of CIL on the economic viability of development across its area.*

9. Do you agree the appropriate balance between the desirability of funding from CIL and impacts on the economic viability have been met?

3.2 The Local Investment Framework included viability assessments on the area. However, the market has seen considerable changes in the last 18 months and Huntingdonshire District Council commissioned Drivers Jonas Deloitte to undertake a market review update and further viability assessments, taking into account the change in market conditions and the change in the affordable housing landscape and availability of grant funding support.

3.3 The market review was undertaken in August 2010 and highlights the current position regarding the residential, employment and retail markets in Huntingdonshire following the global recession. The full document outlining the affect this has had on housing supply, market prices and incentives and residential land values can be accessed in the Huntingdonshire Market Report by Drivers Jonas Deloitte, August 2010. [INSERT HYPERLINK](#)

3.4 The global recession and a range of legislative changes has also necessitated an update of viability assessments. These were undertaken by Drivers Jonas Deloitte on behalf of Huntingdonshire District Council and completed in May 2011.

3.5 The viability work has taken into account the findings of the Market Report and outlines the methodology used to assess the viability of residential and commercial development in Huntingdonshire to inform the setting of the proposed levy in the Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule. In assessing the viability, the payment periods as noted in Regulation 70 of the Community Infrastructure Regulations 2010 were used namely that:

(2) Where the chargeable amount is equal to or greater than £40,000, payment of the amount of CIL payable in respect of D (A) is due in four equal instalments at the end of the periods of 60, 120, 180 and 240 days beginning with the intended commencement date of D.⁽¹⁸⁾ (A) is due in four equal instalments at the end of the periods of 60, 120, 180 and 240 days beginning with the intended commencement date of D.

(3) Where the chargeable amount is equal to or greater than £20,000 and less than £40,000, payment of A is due in three equal instalments at the end of the periods of 60, 120 and 180 days beginning with the intended commencement date of D.

18 Where D is the chargeable development

Assessment of Viability Appendix 3:

Huntingdonshire LDF | Huntingdonshire Community Infrastructure Levy - Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule

(4) Where the chargeable amount is equal to or greater than £10,000 and less than £20,000, payment of A is due in two equal instalments at the end of the periods of 60 and 120 days beginning with the intended commencement date of D.

(5) Where the chargeable amount is less than £10,000, payment of A is due in full at the end of the period of 60 days beginning with the intended commencement date of D.

- 3.6** Full details can be found in the Huntingdonshire District Council Viability Testing of Community Infrastructure Levy Charges by Drivers Jonas Deloitte. [INSERT HYPERLINK](#)

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Huntingdonshire Infrastructure Project List

Local Multi-Area Projects

Multi-Area Project Type	Project Name	Timescale	Cost (£)	Lead	CIL or S106
Roads	A141/Sawtry Way (B1090) Junction Improvement	Not programmed	1,000,000	Highways Agency	CIL
Roads	Huntingdon West Link Road	2012-2013	9,971,000	HDC / CCC	CIL
Roads	A14 Ellington to Fen Ditton	2015	1,198,000,000	Highways Agency	CIL
Roads	A1 Buckden Roundabout Improvement	Not programmed	2,000,000	Highways Agency	CIL
Roads	A428 Caxton Common to A1	Programmed from 2021	380,000,000	Highways Agency	CIL
Bus	St Ives to Huntingdon Bus Priority Measures '(Cambridgeshire Guided Busway)	2009 - 2016	5,000,000	CCC	CIL
Bus	Cambridge-St Neots Transport Corridor bus priority measures	Not programmed	4,580,000	CCC	CIL
Walking & Cycling	Rural Cycleways	2016 - 2026	2,500,000	CCC /HDC	CIL
Green Corridors	Ouse Valley Biodiversity Project (from Barford Rd to Earith)	2011 - 2016	3,000,000	HDC	CIL
Green Corridors	Grafham Water to Abbots Ripton Corridor	2011 - 2016	2,250,000	HDC	CIL
Green Corridors	Grafham Water to Brampton Wood link	2011 - 2026	tbc	HDC	CIL
Green Corridors	Ouse Valley Way	2011 – 2026	200,000	HDC	CIL
Major Green Sites	Grafham Water Ancient and Semi natural woodland Link	2011 – 2026	2,000,000	HDC	CIL
Major Green Sites	Great Fen Project land acquisition phase 1	2011 - 2016	13,000,000	Great Fen	CIL
Major Green Sites	Great Fen Masterplan Access delivery	2011 – 2026	4,000,000	Great Fen	CIL
Major Green Sites	Great Fen Masterplan Visitor facilities development	2011 – 2026	5,000,000	Great Fen	CIL
FE /HE Education	HRC New Technology & Sustainable Energy Centre, California Rd, Huntingdon	2013 – 2014	4,000,000	HRC	CIL
FE /HE Education	HRC New Vocational Centre/Studio School with the disposal of Almond Road site, St Neots	2012 – 2013	2,800,000	HRC	CIL
FE /HE Education	HRC Sports Changing rooms and 3G Pitch, California Rd, Huntingdon	2012 – 2013	700,000	HRC	CIL
FE /HE Education	HRC Garden Centre Social Enterprise, California Rd, Huntingdon	2013 – 2014	1,000,000	HRC	CIL
FE /HE Education	HRC Critical Infrastructure and Internal Reconfiguration Work, California Rd, Huntingdon	2011 - 2016	2,206,000	HRC	CIL

Multi-Area Project Type	Project Name	Timescale	Cost (£)	Lead	CIL or S106
FE /HE Education	HRC Sports Science and Health Industries complex, California Rd, Huntingdon	2016 – 2017	1,900,000	HRC	CIL
Strategic Health	Hinchingbrooke Hospital – Critical Care Centre	2011 - 2016	7,500,000	Hinch. Hospital	CIL
		TOTAL COST	1,652,607,000		
			6,041,000	Link road funding	
			13,000,000	Gt Fen HLF funding	
			58,000	Skills Funding Agency re Sports changing rooms	
			1,198,000,000	A14 HA	
			2,000,000	A1 Buckden HA	
			380.000,000	A428 Caxton Common HA	
			5,000,000	St Ives to Huntingdon Bus Priority	
			1,100,000	Developer contribution to bus corridor	
		FUNDING GAP	47,408,000		

Local Huntingdon Projects

Huntingdon Project Type	Project Name	Timescale	Cost (£)	Lead	CIL or S106
Roads	A141/A1123/Main Street Junction Improvement	2026	2,000,000	CCC	CIL
Road	Additional riverside road ring road lane	2011 – 2021	3,500,000	CCC	CIL
Road	Bypass junction safety and capacity improvements	2011 – 2021	845,000	CCC	CIL
Bus	Hinchingbrooke Access and Bus Lane	2011 – 2021	tbc	CCC	CIL
Bus	Bus station improvements	2011 – 2021	900,000	HDC	CIL
Water & Sewage	New Strategic Sewer	2014 - 2018	400,000	Anglian Water	CIL
Electricity	Reinforcement of Grid at Eaton Socon	2012 - 2017	10,000,000	EDF	CIL
Electricity	Godmanchester general works	2014 – 2020	3,500,000	EDF	CIL
Gas	Mains Reinforcement	2016- 2026	7,500,000	British Gas	CIL
Walking and cycling	Route 6 Great Stukeley to the Rail Station and Town Centre	2011 – 2021	339,300	CCC	CIL
Walking and cycling	Route 7 Great Stukeley to St Peter's Road and Town Centre	2011 – 2021	390,000	CCC	CIL
Major Green Sites	Huntingdon Green Spaces	2011 - 2026	2,000,000	HDC	CIL
Econ. & Regen	Development East of Sapley Square, Oxmoor		225,000 – 300,000	HDC	CIL
Social Inf	Allotments and community gardens (ha.)	2011- 2026		HDC / TC	CIL
Social Inf	Children and young people's play space (ha.)	2011 - 2026		HDC / TC	CIL
Social Inf	Construct one 2FE (420 places) Primary School (including Early Years Facilities)	2011 – 2016	7,800,000	CCC	S106 site specific
Social Inf	Construction / expansion 1FE (150 places) expansion to St Peters Secondary School and Post 16 Provision	2021 – 2026	4,340,000	CCC	CIL
Social Inf	Construct one 0.5FE (105 places) Primary School or expansion to existing Brampton Primary (including Early Years Facilities)	2016 – 2021	1,950,000	CCC	S106 site specific
Social Inf	Construct new 1FE – 1.5FE (210 – 315 places) Primary School (including Early Years Facilities)	2016 – 2021	3,900,000 – 6,100,000	CCC	S106 site specific
Social Inf	Children's Centre Provision	2016 – 2021	500,000	CCC	CIL

Huntingdon Project Type	Project Name	Timescale	Cost (£)	Lead	CIL or S106
Social Inf	Primary Education accommodation for 102 – 143 places	2016 – 2021	1,770,000 – 2,490,000	CCC	CIL
Social Inf	Pre-School Accommodation for 37 – 51 places	2016 – 2021	385,000 – 531,000	CCC	CIL
Social Inf	Library adaptation, bookstock and fitout	2016 – 2021	235,936	CCC	CIL
Social Inf	Primary Care Facility provision (2 – 3 GP)	2016 - 2021	tbc	NHS	CIL
Social Inf	Police Service capital provision	2011 - 2026	118,094	Police	CIL
Social Inf	Police Service capital provision	2011 – 2021	512669	Police	S106 site specific
Social Inf	Police Service capital provision	2016 - 2021	100,595	Police	S106 site specific
Social Inf	Police Service capital provision	2016 - 2021	351,426	Police	S106 site specific
Social Inf	Police Service capital provision	2016 – 2021	150,548	Police	S106 site specific
Social Inf	Sports and Recreation Facilities Provision	2011 - 2026	495,178	HDC	CIL
Social Inf	Community Facility Provision	2011 – 2016	76,960	HDC	CIL
		TOTAL COST	54,285,706		
			169,650	Route 6 part funded	
			195,000	Route 7 part funded	
			2,625,000	Additional ring road	
			633,750	Bypass junction safety	
			7,800,000	S106 site specific primary education	
			1,950,000	S106 site specific primary education	
			3,900,000 – 6,100,000	S106 site specific primary education	
		FUNDING GAP	37,012,306		

Local Ramsey Projects

Ramsey Project Type	Project Name	Timescale	Cost (£)	Lead	CIL or S106
Roads	Signalisation or installation of a roundabout at Upwood Road / Bury Road junction	2011-2021	200,000	CCC	CIL
Public transport	Installation of RTPI signs at as many stops as possible	2011 onwards	60,000	CCC	CIL
Electricity	Second Circuit and Transformer	Funding deferred	2,000,000	EDF	CIL
Walking and cycling	Off-road path from Upwood School to High Street – better surfacing and installation of lighting, pedestrian crossing over Bury Road	2011 -2021	1,045,000	CCC	CIL
Walking and cycling	On-road signed route from the Northern gateway site through residential area to Abbey School	2011 – 2021	815,000	CCC	CIL
Walking and cycling	Cycle racks at key locations	2011 – 2021	25,000	CCC	CIL
Econ. & Regen	Ramsey Enterprise Centre	2011 – 2016	3,000,000	Developer	CIL
Econ. & Regen	Combined Heat & Power System for Ramsey	2011 - 2016	2,000,000	Developer	CIL
Social Inf	Allotments and community gardens (ha.)	2011 – 2026		HDC / TC	CIL
Social Inf	Children and young people's play space (ha.)	2011 – 2026		HDC / TC	CIL
Social Inf	Pre-School Accommodation for 25 – 35 places	2016 – 2021	260,000 – 365,000	CCC	CIL
Social Inf	Primary Education Accommodation for 70 – 97 places – extension to existing school	2016 – 2021	1,200,000 – 1,690,000	CCC	CIL
Social Inf	Library adaptation, bookstock and fitout	2016 – 2021	39,328	CCC	CIL
Social Inf	Police Service capital provision	2016 – 2021	139,070	Police	CIL
Social Inf	Sports and Recreation Facilities Provision	2011 - 2026	658,057	HDC	CIL
Social Inf	Community Facility Provision	2016 – 2021	102,490	HDC	CIL
		TOTAL COST	11,543,945		
			522,500	Upwood school / High St path	
			3,000,000	Enterprise centre developer funded	
			2,000,000	CHP developer funded	
		FUNDING GAP	6,021,445		

Local St Ives Projects

St Ives Project Type	Project Name	Timescale	Cost (£)	Lead	CIL or S106
Roads	Houghton Road – upgrade existing pelican crossing and Elm Drive	2011 – 2021	80,000	CCC	CIL
Bus	Bus station improvements – improvements to waiting facilities and timetable information for passengers	2011 – 2021	tbc	CCC	CIL
Water & Sewage	Sewer overflow reduction	2014 – 2018	400,000	Anglian Water	CIL
Electricity	Feeding of Huntingdon reinforcements + local upgrades	2014 – 2018	3,000,000	EDF	CIL
Walking and cycling	Houghton Road to St Audrey's Lane – consists of mainly on road signed routes with small sections of segregated shared use paths. Existing path lighting, width and surfaces will be upgraded along with the installation of high quality signing.	2011 – 2021	450,000	CCC	CIL
Walking and cycling	Hill Rose to Houghton Road – widening and resurfacing the existing path that runs alongside the side.	2011 – 2021	430,000	CCC	CIL
Walking and cycling	St Ives to Houghton – surface improvements	2011 – 2021	400,000	CCC	CIL
Walking and cycling	Cycle parking – centre of St Ives at bus station and key locations, such as education establishments	2011- 2021	20,000	CCC	CIL
Major Green Sites	St Ives West Green Space	2011 - 2016	500,000	HDC / Wildlife Trust	CIL
Social Inf	Allotments and community gardens (ha.)	2011 – 2026	250,000	HDC / TC	CIL
Social Inf	Children and young people's play space (ha.)	2011 – 2026	1,040,000	HDC / TC	CIL
Social Inf	Construct 1FE (210 places) Primary accommodation (including Early Years Facility and Children's Centre) - expansion of existing school	2016 – 2021	4,400,000	CCC	CIL
Social Inf	Construct Primary accommodation for 32 – 44 places - expansion of existing school	2021 – 2026	556,000 – 765,000	CCC	CIL
Social Inf	St Ivo Secondary and Post-16 expansion for approximately 34 places	2021 – 2026	1,000,000	CCC	CIL
Social Inf	Pre-school Accommodation for 12 – 16 places	2021 – 2026	125,000 – 167,000	CCC	CIL
Social Inf	Primary Care Facility provision	2016 - 2021	tbc	NHS	CIL
Social Inf	Library adaptation, bookstock and fitout	2016 – 2021	105,135	CCC	CIL

St Ives Project Type	Project Name	Timescale	Cost (£)	Lead	CIL or S106
Social Inf	Police Service capital provision	2011 – 2021	62,740	Police	CIL
Social Inf	Police Service capital provision	2011 – 2021	309,240	Police	S106 site specific
Social Inf	Sports and Recreation Facilities Provision	2011 - 2026	296,926	HDC	CIL
Social Inf	Community Facility Provision	2016 – 2021	46,250	HDC	CIL
		TOTAL COST	14,035,951		
			40,000	Houghton Road pelican crossing	
			300,000	Houghton Rd / St Audreys route	
			215,000	Hill Rose scheme	
		FUNDING GAP	13,480,951		

Local St Neots Projects

St Neots Project Type	Project Name	Timescale	Cost (£)	Lead	CIL or S106
Roads	A428/Cambridge Road Junction Improvement	2012 - 2013	2,000,000	CCC	CIL
Roads	A428/Barford Road Junction Improvement	2016	2,000,000	CCC	CIL
Rail	St Neots Station Improvements	2013 - 2015	3,600,000	Network Rail	CIL
Water & Sewage	Increase in discharge consent for full extent of proposed growth. For cost estimate purposes only, allowance to be made for possible upgrade to WWTW	2014 - 2018	500,000	Anglian Water	CIL
Water & Sewage	New Strategic Sewer	2014 - 2021	600,000	Anglian Water	CIL
Electricity	New 10-12MW Primary SubStation	2014 - 2018	5,000,000	EDF	CIL
Walking and cycling	Cambridge Road to Huntingdon Street on-road route from Cromwell Road to Huntingdon Street	2016 - 2021	100,000	CCC	CIL
Walking and cycling	On and off road route providing access from the high street down via Brook Street and St Mary's Street on to Berkley Street – includes some minor improvements to Hen Brook Path	2016 – 2021	150,000	CCC	CIL
Green Corridors	Little Paxton to Buckden Green Space Corridor (Paxton Pits)	2011 - 2026	3,500,000	HDC	CIL
Green Corridors	Green Links of St Neots	2011 - 2026	14,000,000	HDC	CIL
Major Green Sites	Land East of St Neots Access to Open Countryside	2011 – 2016	1,000,000	HDC	CIL
Econ. & Regen	Eynesbury / St Neots Green Space (Riverside Park and Barford Road Pocket Park)	2011 - 2016	3,500,000	HDC	CIL
Econ. & Regen	St Neots Space for Creativity Enterprise Phase 2	2016 - 2021	2,500,000 – 3,000,000	HDC	CIL
Econ. & Regen	Regeneration of St Neots Town Centre - the Priory Quarter.	2011 - 2016	tbc	HDC	CIL
Social Inf	Allotments and community gardens (ha.)	2011 – 2026	1,150,000	HDC / TC	CIL
Social Inf	Children and young people's play space (ha.)	2011 – 2026	4,810,000	HDC / TC	CIL
Social Inf	Construct one 4.5 – 5.5 FE New Primary Schools (954 – 1,155 places) including Early Years Facilities and Children's Centres	2016 -2026	19,800,000 – 24,200,000	CCC	S106 site specific
Social Inf	Construct one 1 – 1.5 FE New Primary Schools (210 - 315 places) including Early Years Facilities and Children's Centres	2011 – 2016	4,400,000 – 6,600,000	CCC	S106 site specific
Social Inf	Primary Education Accommodation for 54 – 75 places through extensions to existing school s	2016 – 2021	938,000 – 1,300,000	CCC	CIL
Social Inf	Pre-school accommodation for 19 – 27 places	2016 – 2021	198,000 – 281,000	CCC	CIL
Social Inf	Secondary Education Accommodation for 600 – 750 places plus Post 16 facilities (extension of Longsands CC and/or St Neots CC	2016 – 2021	17,300,000 – 21,700,000	CCC	CIL

St Neots Project Type	Project Name	Timescale	Cost (£)	Lead	CIL or S106
Social Inf	Primary Care Facility provision	2016 - 2021	tbc	NHS	S106 site specific
Social Inf	Co-located Library Facility	2016 -2021	800,000	CCC	S106 site specific
Social Inf	Expansion of St Neots Waste Recycling Facility	Completed	653,410	CCC	CIL
Social Inf	Police Service capital provision	2011 – 2021	130,533	Police	CIL
Social Inf	Police Service capital provision	2011 – 2026	1,681,929	Police	S106 site specific
Social Inf	Sports and Recreation Facilities Provision	2011 - 2026	511,376	HDC	CIL
Social Inf	Community Facility Provision	2016 – 2021	79,550	HDC	CIL
		TOTAL COST	90,902,798		
			2,000,000	A428 HA	
			3,600,000	Train station	
			653,410	Waste recycling	
			100,000	Brook St / Mary St route	
			19,800,000 – 24,200,000	S106 site specific primary education	
			4,400,000 – 6,600,000	S106 site specific primary education	
			800,000	S106 site specific library provision	
			1,666,667	Space for creativity	
			tbc	S106 site specific health provision	
		FUNDING GAP	57,882,721		

Local Yaxley/Sawtry/Fenstanton KSC Projects

Yaxley/Sawtry/ Fenstanton KSC Project Type	Project Name	Timescale	Cost (£)	Lead	CIL or S106
Electricity	Circuit and Transformer	Funding deferred	4,000,000	EDF	CIL
Social Inf	Allotments and community gardens (ha.)	2011– 2026	100,000	HDC / PC	CIL
Social Inf	Children and young people's play space (ha.)	2011 – 2026	390,000	HDC / PC	CIL
Social Inf	Primary Education accommodation for 16 – 22 places through extension of existing school (Yaxley)	2021 – 2026	278,000 – 382,000	CCC	CIL
Social Inf	Secondary Education accommodation for 12 – 16 places (Yaxley)	2021 – 2026	347,000 – 463,000	CCC	CIL
Social Inf	Pre-school Accommodation for 6 – 8 places (Yaxley)	2021 – 2026	63,000 – 83,000	CCC	CIL
Social Inf	Library adaptation, bookstock and fitout (Yaxley)	2021 – 2026	8,966	CCC	CIL
Social Inf	Police Service capital provision (Yaxley)	2016 – 2026	31,622	Police	CIL
Social Inf	Sports and Recreation Facilities Provision (Yaxley)	2011 - 2026	145,118	HDC	CIL
Social Inf	Community Facility Provision (Yaxley)	2021 – 2026	23,310	HDC	CIL
Social Inf	Primary Education Accommodation for 32 – 44 places through extension of existing school (Fenstanton)	2016- 2021	556,000 – 765,000	CCC	CIL
Social Inf	Secondary Education Accommodation for 23 – 32 places (Fenstanton)	2016 – 2021	665,000 – 926,000	CCC	CIL
Social Inf	Pre-School Accommodation for 12 – 16 places (Fenstanton)	2016- 2021	125,000 – 167,000	CCC	CIL
Social Inf	Library adaptation, bookstock and fitout (Fenstanton)	2016 – 2021	17,729	CCC	CIL
Social Inf	Police Service capital provision (Fenstanton)	2011 – 2021	62,740	Police	CIL
Social Inf	Sports and Recreation Facilities Provision (Fenstanton)	2011 - 2026	294,445	HDC	CIL
Social Inf	Community Facility Provision (Fenstanton)	2016 – 2021	46,250	HDC	CIL
Social Inf	Police Service capital provision (Sawtry)	2016 – 2021	37,665	Police	CIL
		TOTAL COST	7,191,845	NB: no funding known to deduct.	

Other Local Sites Projects

Project ID	Other Local Area Project Type	Project Name	Timescale	Cost (£)	Lead	CIL or S106	Notes
	Social Inf	Pre-School Accommodation for 35-47 places	2016 - 2021	364,000 - 490,000	CCC	CIL	
	Social Inf	Primary Education Accommodation for 94-133 places - extension to existing Schools	2016 - 2021	1,630,000 - 2,310,000	CCC	CIL	
	Social Inf	Secondary Education Accommodation for 69-94 places - extension to existing School	2016 - 2021	2,000,000 - 2,720,000	CCC	CIL	
	Social Inf	Library adaptation, bookstock and fitout	2016 – 2021	53,629	CCC	CIL	
	Social Inf	Police Service capital provision	2011 – 2021	189,757	Police	CIL	
	Social Inf	Sports and Recreation Facilities Provision	2011 - 2026	490,671	HDC	CIL	
	Social Inf	Community Facility Provision	2011 – 2016	139,860	HDC	CIL	
			TOTAL COST	4,867,917			NB: no funding known to deduct.

Total Infrastructure Costs

	Total Cost (£)	Alternative funding deductions	Funding Gap (£)
Multi-area infrastructure	1,652,607,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6,041,000 Link Road other funding: Housing Growth Funding - £3,491,000 HDC Capital contribution £ 510,000 Existing S106 - £ 440,000 confirmed Sainsbury contribution gas main £ 600,000 Sale excess land £1,000,000 • 13,000,000 Gt Fen land acquisition and restoration phase 1. HLF funded • 58,000 Skills Funding Agency to support HRC Sports Changing Rooms and 3G pitch • 1,198,000,000 A14 HA / Dept for Transport funded • 2,000,000 A1 Buckden roundabout HA funded • 380,000,000 A428 Caxton Common to A1 HA funded • 5,000,000 St Ives to Huntingdon Bus Priority Measures Dept for Transport • 1,100,000 Loves Farm contribution to Cambridge – St Neots transport corridor bus priority measures 	47,408,000
Huntingdon SPA infrastructure	54,285,706	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 169,650 Route 6 to also utilize other transport funding • 195,000 Route 7 to also utilize other transport funding • 2,625,000 Majority (75%) to be funded from other sources • 633,750 Majority (75%) to be funded from other sources • 7,800,000 Large scale major on-site primary education via S106 • 1,950,000 Large scale major on-site primary education via S106 • 3,900,000 – 6,100,000 Large scale major on-site primary education via S106. 	37,012,306
Ramsey SPA infrastructure	11,543,945	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 522,500 Other transport funding re Upwood School / High St and Bury Rd • 3,000,000 Enterprise Centre – developer lead • 2,000,000 CHP – developer lead 	6,021,445
St Ives SPA infrastructure	14,035,951	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40,000 Part of Houghton Road funding to be received from other transport funding 	13,480,951

	Total Cost (£)	Alternative funding deductions	Funding Gap (£)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 300,000 Majority of Houghton Rd cycle route to be received from other transport funding • 215,000 Part of Hill Rose scheme to be funded from other transport funding 	
St Neots SPA infrastructure	90,902,798	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2,000,000 A428/ Cambridge Rd junction all developer funded. Awaiting trigger point. • 3,600,000 Train station improvements – fully funded. • 653,410 Waste Recycling • 100,000 Brook St / St Mary's St path majority funding from other sources • 24,615,000 Open space provision from LIF – now updated by JP and waiting for input from LW. • 19,800,000 – 24,200,000 Large scale major on-site primary education via S106 • 4,400,000 – 6,600,000 Large scale major on-site primary education via S106 • 800,000 Large scale major on-site library services provision via S106 • Tbc Large scale major on-site health provision via S106 	57,882,721
Yaxley / Sawtry / Fenstanton KSCs	7,191,845	n/a	7,191,845
Other KSCs and small settlements	4,867,917	n/a	4,867,917
TOTAL	1,835,435,162		173,865,185

Based on trajectory of residential sites yet to have permission, 7725 units could come forward between 2011 and 2026 in addition to those sites already under construction or with consent. At an average unit cost of £9,000, this could bring in £69,525,000. However, 40% of units should be affordable housing which is not liable to pay levy and, as such, this means the anticipated income could be in the region of £41,715,000. Taking into account a 5% administration cost, this is then reduced to £39,629,250.

In addition to this, any retail development over 999 sq m or any hotel development will be liable to a levy rate of £75 and £50 per sq m respectively to help fund infrastructure needs.

If we take the lowest funding gap – deciding to deduct all the projects noted in the table above – even after the residential CIL being collected, there is an estimated £134,235,935 which will need to be found from other funding sources.

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
SOCIAL WELL-BEING
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING
ENVIRONMENTAL WELL-BEING

7TH June 2011
9TH June 2011
14TH June 2011

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT **(Report by the Head of People, Performance & Partnerships)**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present to Members performance management information on “Growing Success” – the Council’s Corporate Plan for 2010/11 (replaced by a new Council Plan in April 2011).

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Growing Success included short, medium and long term objectives to help achieve aims and ambitions for Huntingdonshire’s communities and the Council itself. Eight of these objectives were considered as priorities for the immediate future.

3. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

- 3.1 Progress against all objectives is reported to Chief Officers Management Team quarterly on a service basis. A progress report from each Division includes performance data in the form of achievement against a target for each of the objectives that those services contribute towards. This is supported by narrative on achievements, other issues or risks and budgeting information.
- 3.2 In addition, a working group appointed by the Overview & Scrutiny Panels meets quarterly to monitor progress and consider development issues.
- 3.3 Members of the Overview & Scrutiny Panels have an important role in the Council’s Performance Management Framework and the process of regular review of performance data has been established. In prioritising the objectives in Growing Success, it was intended that Members should concentrate their monitoring on this small number of objectives to enable them to adopt a strategic overview while building confidence that the Council’s priorities are being achieved.
- 3.4 Members of the Panels will also find broader performance information of help to them in undertaking their review and scrutiny functions. This information can be provided on a regular or ad-hoc basis. A review of performance reporting arrangements, involving officers and members, is currently underway with the emphasis on local priorities, informed by national changes to performance arrangements.

3.5 The priority objectives in Growing Success were allocated between Panels as follows:

SOCIAL WELL-BEING	ENVIRONMENTAL WELL-BEING	ECONOMIC WELL-BEING
To enable the provision of affordable housing	To help mitigate and adapt to climate change	Effective Partnership
To achieve a low level of homelessness	To promote development opportunities in and around the market towns	To be an employer people want to work for
To promote active lifestyles		Maximise business and income opportunities including external funding and grants

4. PERFORMANCE MONITORING

4.1 The following performance data is appended for consideration:

Annex A - Performance data from services which contribute to the Council objectives. For each measure there is a target, actual performance against target, forecast performance for the next period, an indicator showing the direction of travel compared with the previous quarter and a comments field. The data is colour coded as follows:

- green – achieving or above target;
- amber – between target and an “intervention level” (the level at which performance is considered to be unacceptable and action is required);
- red – the intervention level or below; and
- grey – data not available.

Annex B - a summary of the achievements, issues and risks relating to the objectives, as identified by the Heads of Service.

5. DATA QUALITY

5.1 The appropriate Heads of Service have confirmed the accuracy of the data in the attached report and that its compilation is in accordance with the appropriate Divisions’ data measure templates. Acknowledging the importance of performance management data, a system of spot checks has been introduced to give further assurance on its accuracy.

6. RECOMMENDATION

6.1 Members are recommended to;

Consider the results of performance for the Council’s priority objectives for 2010/11.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Performance Management reports produced from the Council's CPMF software system

Growing Success: Corporate Plan

Contact Officer: **Howard Thackray, Policy & Research Manager**
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Community/Council Aim: A Clean, Green and Attractive Place				
Objective: To help mitigate and adapt to climate change				
Division: Environmental Management				
Divisional Objective: Adapting to climate change				
Key Activity(s) only to deliver service objective: Key Measure:	Target:	Actual:	Forecast:	DoT*: Comment:
We will undertake: risk based assessment of vulnerabilities to weather and climate, identify priority risks for services & effective adaptive responses, incorporate responses into council strategies and operations	1	1 (G)		↔
Are we on target to achieve level 2 by March 2011? (1=Yes, 0 = No)				QRT
Divisional Objective: Increase energy efficiency & encourage renewable energy				
Key Activity(s) only to deliver service objective: Key Measure:	Target:	Actual:	Forecast:	DoT*: Comment:
Schemes and promotions include, Eastern CRI, Anglian Go Warm, PHIS and CO2Y Homes	170	221 (G)		↔
Number of energy efficiency and renewable energy measures carried out as a result of HDC schemes and promotions, cumulative qrt target				QRT
Division: Planning				
Divisional Objective: To encourage sustainable forms of development				
Key Activity(s) only to deliver service objective: Key Measure:	Target:	Actual:	Forecast:	DoT*: Comment:
Deliver sustainable policy in accord with Local Development Scheme 2010. Development management DPD July 2011. Planning Proposals DPD Dec 2012. Huntingdon West AAP Jan 2011. Gypsy and Traveller Sites DPD April 2013. St Neots Town Centre DPD June 2013.	1	1 (G)		↔
Is adoption of DPD documents consistent with the approved Local Development Scheme? (1=Yes, 0=No)				QRT
Community/Council Aim: Developing communities sustainably				
Objective: To promote development opportunities in and around the market towns				
Division: People, Performance & Partnerships				
Divisional Objective: To promote development opportunities in and around the market towns				
Key Activity(s) only to deliver service objective: Key Measure:	Target:	Actual:	Forecast:	DoT*: Comment:
Deliver LES Physical Infrastructure Development activities in the Sustainable Economic Development service plan	90	80 (R)		↓
% of Physical Infrastructure Development activities on track				Ramsey Enterprise Centre still in need of funding before building can be started.
				QRT

* Direction of Travel - shows change in performance since last quarter, where applicable

Division: Planning							
Divisional Objective: To promote development opportunities in and around the market towns							
Key Activity(s) only to deliver service objective:		Key Measure:	Target:	Actual:	Forecast:	DoT*: Comment:	
To promote development opportunities in and around Market Towns by allocating land in accordance with the direction of growth, determining planning applications in a timely fashion and bidding for funding to enable development	Is adoption of DPD documents consistent with the approved Local Development Scheme? (1=Yes, 0=No)		1	1 (G)		↔	QRT
	Successful delivery of agreed spending plan of housing growth fund? (1=Yes, 0=No)		1			N/A	YRL Annual measure, data to follow

* Direction of Travel - shows change in performance since last quarter, where applicable

Objective		Comments from appropriate Head of Service
To help to mitigate and adapt to climate change	Achievements:	<p><u>Environmental Management:</u></p> <p>Alconbury flood resilience measures over 50% completed.</p> <p>Energy use reduction trial ongoing in 2 HDC car parks.</p> <p>Work begun at the St Ivo outdoor centre includes a small scale PV installation but largely focuses on provision of pitches, changing rooms, etc...</p>
	Issues or actions for next quarter:	<p><u>Environmental Management:</u></p> <p>Development of Low Carbon Development Initiative (LCDI) for St Neots.</p> <p>Refocusing of priorities to deliver critical business needs and the low carbon agenda.</p>
	Risks:	<p><u>Environmental Management:</u></p> <p>Loss of momentum of partnership projects and strategic direction for the green and low carbon agendas as a result of broader Regional and County cuts affecting organisations including Horizons, Renewables East, etc...</p>
To promote development opportunities in and around the market towns	Achievements:	<p><u>Planning:</u></p> <p>The Council has now resolved to support both the Sainsbury's applications, for the redevelopment of Chequers Court and for the new store in Huntingdon West, subject to satisfactory completion of the related S106 and the development agreements. Positive pre-application discussions have also been held with Churchmanor Estates regarding their own much anticipated redevelopment proposals for the remainder of Chequers Court.</p> <p><u>People, Performance & Partnerships:</u></p> <p>Business Improvement District (BID) stakeholder workshops held, surveys undertaken and report completed by consultants. Meeting planned for mid May to discuss the way forward.</p>
	Issues or actions for next quarter:	
	Risks:	<p><u>People, Performance & Partnerships:</u></p> <p>Occupancy of the CreativeXchange has reduced and the number of tenants continues to decrease, current rent forecasts may not be met unless income generation is increased. A meeting with NWEES has been arranged.</p>

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CORPORATE PLAN WORKING GROUP

NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON 25TH MAY 2011

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Corporate Plan Working Group met on 25th May 2011 when Councillors S J Criswell, P M D Godfrey, S Greenall, D Harty, D M Tysoe and R J West were present.

1.3 Miss H Ali, H Thackray and A Roberts were in attendance.

2. QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORT

(a) Social Well-Being

2.1 The Working Group has accepted the reason given for the red rating for the target relating to affordable housing (commitments) on qualifying sites.

2.2 Whilst encouraged to note that the performance levels achieved by the Council in preventing the number of households from becoming homeless, some concerns were expressed by the Working Group on the impact of budgetary cuts upon the achievement of the aims and objectives of the Homelessness Strategy which is due to be considered by the Cabinet at its meeting on 23rd June 2011. It was however noted that the Council had recently approved a New Council Plan at its meeting in April 2011, to which "prevent and deal with homelessness" had been endorsed as a new Council priority.

2.3 Members of the Working Group were encouraged to note the performance of the Leisure Centres over the reporting period.

(b) Economic Well-Being

2.4 Whilst noting the red rating for the targets relating to the key activity for the performance and delivery of the thematic groups and the submission of performance reports to the HSP Executive and HSP Board, the Working Group were advised that this was attributable to the cancellation of partnership meetings over the reporting period, including the HSP Executive and HSP Board. The meetings had been cancelled owing to the fact that a review of the Council's partnership arrangements was currently being undertaken. In that light, Members concurred that there was a role for the Overview and Scrutiny Panels to be involved in the review process. Councillor D M Tysoe requested for details of each of the thematic groups and partner representatives to be forwarded to him for information purposes.

2.5 Further to previous queries raised by the Working Group, the Policy and Strategic Services Manager reported upon the level of employee absence from sickness experienced at the Council. The Working Group has been encouraged to note that the number of sick days per employee at the Council was calculated

as being 6.8 days, which compared favourably against the national and private sector comparisons of 9.6 and 7.7 days respectively.

- 2.6 In noting the amber rating for the measure relating to the % of External Funding actions on track, Members agreed to refer the action which had been identified as not being on track to the Social Well-Being Panel's Voluntary Sector Working Group.
- 2.7 With reference to Annex B, the Working Group has requested for details of the "Make It Your Market" initiative to be circulated to them for information purposes. Particular requests were made for the project timescales and the long term benefits of the initiative.
- 2.8 Members of the Working Group have sought clarification on the meaning of the words "Recruitment is picking up again" as reported by the Head of People, Performance and Partnerships in Annex B of the report.
- 2.9 In response to a question raised by a Member, it was reported that an overarching Strategy for the Leisure Centres existed. A joint study on One Leisure was being undertaken by the Social and Economic Well-Being Panels, interim findings for which would be reported to both Panels at their June meetings.

(c) Environmental Well-Being



- 2.10 In noting the red rating for the % of Physical Infrastructure Development activities on track, the Working Group has requested for details of the Local Economy Strategy, to include the activities contained within the Strategy, to be circulated to them.
- 2.11 Referring to Annex B, Members of the Working Group have queried the means by which energy reduction trails at two of the Council's car parks were being undertaken. Clarification has been sought from the Head of Environmental Management.
- 2.12 Whilst noting the achievements reported in Annex B relating to progress with the Business Improvement District scheme, clarification has been received by the Policy and Strategic Services Manager on the objectives of the scheme.
- 2.13 In noting the risks reported in Annex B relating to occupancy levels at the CreativeXchange in St Neots, the Working Group has agreed that the Head of People, Performance and Partnerships should be invited to attend a future meeting of the Environmental Well-Being Panel to discuss the project and to outline the role of Partners within it. It was further agreed that an update should also be provided on the St Ives Enterprise Centre. The meaning of the acronym "NWES" has further been sought by Members.

3. NEW COUNCIL PLAN – FUTURE PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

- 3.1 The Policy and Strategic Services Manager has reported that consideration was currently being given to the future performance monitoring mechanisms for the

New Council Plan which was approved by the Council in April 2011. Members placed on record their wish to continue their involvement with the monitoring of the Plan. It was reported that a process of determining what actions and targets to be reported in the future was currently being undertaken with Chief Officers and Heads of Service.

- 3.2 Comment also has been made upon the impact of the transfer of health to the County Council and whether appropriate performance monitoring measures and mechanisms were in place. Additionally, the impact of this upon the scrutiny of the Local Strategic Partnership in the future has also been considered.

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HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANELS

SCHEME OF CO-OPTION

1. Background

- 1.1 This scheme is made by Huntingdonshire District Council under paragraph 12 of Schedule 1 of the Local Government Act 2000 to provide for the co-option of persons to its overview and scrutiny panels. Copies of the scheme are available for inspection at Pathfinder House, St Mary's Street, St Mary's Street, Huntingdon, PE29 3TN and on the Council's website at www.huntingdonshiresde.gov.uk.

Field Code Changed

2. Purpose

- 2.1 The Council considers that the co-option of persons ([called Co-opted Members](#)) to its overview and scrutiny panels will contribute to the promotion of local democracy by –
- enabling persons interested in serving the community to become involved in local democracy without the commitment required in becoming a councillor;
 - providing expertise and knowledge of specialist subjects to the panels' investigations and debates;
 - enabling [people from all parts of the community, including those from](#) hard to reach or minority groups, to become engaged in the [local](#) political process; and
 - ~~potentially encouraging more people to put themselves forward as candidates at future local authority elections.~~
 - [introducing local perspectives into the Member arena that are not subject to political influences.](#)

3. Overview and Scrutiny Panels

- 3.1 The Council currently has appointed 3 overview and scrutiny panels –
- economic well-being;
 - environmental well-being; and
 - social well-being.

- 3.2 The number and terms of reference of the panels may vary from time to time but their principal purpose is to review and scrutinise decisions of the Cabinet, the Council and its partners and make reports and recommendations on matters affecting Huntingdonshire and its inhabitants. Meetings currently are held monthly (with the exception of May and August) in an evening, commencing at 7.00 p.m. Each of the panels comprises 10 members of the Council and 2 co-opted persons. Working groups may be appointed on an ad hoc basis from time to time to undertake more in-depth specific investigations, [with meetings scheduled to suit working group members.](#)

[Co-opted Members may meet from time to time to review their work, effectiveness, training requirements and any other matters.](#)

4. Co-option Process

- 4.1 Co-option to an overview and scrutiny panel will be made by the Council on the recommendation of the panel to which the person is to be co-opted. To be eligible for co-option, a person must meet the qualifications for election as

a member of a local authority in terms of age, residency or employment, and nationality. The rules as to politically restricted posts will also apply to persons co-opted to the panels.

4.2 A person will be co-opted to a panel for a period of up to 4 years but his/her period of co-option may come to an end earlier for any of the following reasons –

- by resignation in writing to the ~~Chief Executive~~ Head of Paid Service,
- failure to attend a meeting of the panel or working group to which he/she is appointed for a period of six consecutive months,
- any of the reasons that would disqualify a person from continuing to hold office as a councillor, or
- by resolution of the Council on the recommendation of the overview and scrutiny panel to which that person has been co-opted.

4.3 Vacancies for co-option will be advertised in the media and on the Council's website. Persons expressing an interest will be asked to supply a short written description of themselves and why they are interested in being co-opted. Interviews will be carried out by members of the overview and scrutiny panels. ~~A co-opted person will be required to undergo a Criminal Records Bureau check.~~

5. Code of Conduct

5.1 A person co-opted to an overview and scrutiny panel must sign a declaration that he/she will comply with the Council's Members Code of Conduct. Any allegation of a breach of the Members Code of Conduct will be dealt with in the same manner as if the co-opted person was a member of the Council and the same remedies for a person found to have breached the code will apply.

6. Membership and Voting

6.1 A co-opted person will be entitled to speak but not vote at meetings of the overview and scrutiny panel to which he/she has been co-opted and any working group to which he/she has been appointed by the panel including those where the public have been excluded from the meeting, subject to the following exclusions –

- membership of a panel does not entitle a co-opted person to speak at meetings of the Council ~~nor, with the exception of the Overview and Scrutiny Panels, at~~ any other of the Council's committees or panels;
- a co-opted person is not able to be elected as chairman or vice-chairman of a panel;
- a co-opted person is not entitled to exercise a right of call-in of a decision of the Cabinet.

6.2 Co-opted persons will be expected to comply with the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, Access to Information Procedure Rules and any of the Council Procedure Rules that apply to meetings of the overview and scrutiny panels as set out in the Council's constitution.

7. Training

7.1 ~~An induction will be provided for all persons co-opted to an overview and scrutiny panel. New Co-opted Members will be provided with an induction. This will cover the following key areas -~~

- How the Council works,
- The Council's expectations of Co-opted Members,

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- [What a Scrutiny Panel does, and](#)

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- [Questioning.](#)

Further training opportunities will be made available as provided for other members of the panels [and to meet the specific requirements of Co-opted Members](#).

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8. Remuneration

- 8.1 Co-opted persons will not receive a co-optee's or care allowance but shall be entitled to claim travel and subsistence under the Council's Members Allowance Scheme.

9. Variation

- 9.1 This scheme may be varied from time to time or revoked by the Council.

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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (ENVIRONMENTAL WELL-BEING)

REMIT AND WORK PROGRAMME (Report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services)

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Each year the Overview and Scrutiny Panels review their programmes of studies and plan their work for the forthcoming year. This report provides the Panel with an opportunity to complete this task and establish their work priorities for 2011/12.

2. WORK PROGRAMME

(a) Internal Scrutiny

- 2.1 Responsibility for the Council's services is divided between Executive Members. These, in turn, are distributed between the three Overview and Scrutiny Panels. Following the Election of a new Executive Leader of the Council, changes have been made to Executive Councillors' responsibilities for the current Municipal Year. A breakdown of the allocation of Council services to the Panels appears at Appendix A.
- 2.2 Performance monitoring is one of the Panel's main roles. The remits in Appendix A specify that they are responsible for scrutinising the Council's performance against its corporate priorities as they appear in the Council Plan. A report monitoring progress against each of these priorities appears elsewhere on the Agenda. The detailed form that the Council's performance management system will take in the future is currently being reviewed. The Panels' role will be reconsidered once this work has been completed.

(b) External Studies

- 2.3 The Council has a duty to promote the economic, social and environmental well-being of the District and this is reflected in the structure of overview and scrutiny in Huntingdonshire. Consequently, the Panels have a wide remit to examine any issues that affect the District by conducting in-depth studies.

(c) Study Methodology

- 2.6 The Panels have adopted a study methodology through which they undertake studies. A template has been devised to ensure the Panels adhere to the methodology. The template appears at Appendix B. There is considerable flexibility in the way studies are conducted. It is important to note that the Panels have a budget with which to pursue their study aims, for example, by obtaining expert opinion on a particular issue.

(d) Study Programme

- 2.3 Members are requested to consider whether any studies or investigations of single issues within their remit might usefully be undertaken. These might be topical or contentious matters, for example, it could be an issue that has arisen in the course of a Member's contact with constituents. Appendix C contains a list of all the studies that have been completed.

- 2.4 Performance data, which is regularly submitted to the Panel, and the Decision Digest, also can be used to identify study areas. As has been said, the latest performance report appears elsewhere on the Panel's Agenda.
- 2.5 At each meeting the Panels discuss a progress report on their programme of studies. The Economic Well-Being Panel's current progress report is reproduced at Appendix D. A report on all the studies, which are being undertaken or are planned for future investigation, is submitted to each of the Panels' meetings. This gives Members the chance to join in studies by other Panels if they have an interest in the subject matter. This report is attached at Appendix E.

(e) Working Groups

- 2.7 A number of Overview and Scrutiny working groups already exist to undertake studies. Details of the Working Group that the Environmental Panel has already established are in the table below:

Working Group	Current Membership
One Leisure Finance (Joint Working Group with the Social Well-Being Panel).	Councillor M G Baker Councillor Mrs M Banerjee Councillor J W Davies Councillor P M D Godfrey

It has been the practice for the membership of working groups to continue to the completion of studies and it is suggested that this principle should continue. However, some Members have either left the Council or are now part of the executive, in which case the Panels may wish to consider appointing replacements.

3. SCRUTINISING PARTNERSHIP WORKING

- 3.1 The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 Act introduced a requirement for the Council to scrutinise the local strategic partnership. It is intended that the Overview and Scrutiny Panels will scrutinise the Strategic Partnership's thematic groups that fall within their remits. The Strategic Partnership itself is scrutinised by the full Council. The Strategic Partnership is in the process of reviewing the way it operates and the form its thematic groups will take. Once this has been completed, the Panel will be able to commence this work.
- 3.2 Finally, the Panels have the task of scrutinising countywide strategic partnership working in which the Council is involved and the Council's other partnership working. This is done when it is required.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Panel is

RECOMMENDED

- a. to note the contents of the report;
- b. to review the existing programme of studies;
- c. to review the composition of the Working Groups, and

- d. to consider the addition of new subject areas to the programme of studies.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Previous reports to the Overview and Scrutiny Panels.

Contact Officer: A Roberts **(01480) 388015**

ALLOCATION OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PORTFOLIOS
2011 – 2012

SOCIAL WELL-BEING

Environmental and Community Health

Private sector housing
Caravan sites
Community Safety
Community Initiatives/development/grants, etc
Arts
Leisure Development
Air quality/noise/pollution
Animal welfare/pest control
Commercial: health & safety promotion/food safety
Infectious diseases
Smoke-free initiatives

Housing

Housing strategies/policies
Relations with housing providers/associations
Maintenance of housing register/nominations
Homelessness
Housing grants, including disabled facilities grants
Home Improvement Agency
Private sector housing

One Leisure

Huntingdon
Ramsey
Sawtry
St Ivo
St Neots

Legal and Democratic Services

Democratic Services
Elections/Electoral Registration
Member Support

People, Performance & Partnerships

Safeguarding
Diversity and Equalities

Strategic Partnership thematic groups

TBA

The Council Plan

- Help vulnerable and disadvantaged people to live independently
- Work in partnership to support strong communities
- Encourage new jobs, homes and facilities to meet the district's needs

ENVIRONMENTAL WELL-BEING

Operations

Streetscene

Car parks, public conveniences

Grounds maintenance, grass cutting

Parks, Open Spaces, Countryside Services

Emergency Planning/CCTV

Waste/refuse collection

Recycling

Vehicle fleet management

Abandoned vehicles

Waste Stream policy

Cleansing

Environmental Management

Strategy Implementation

Home Energy Conservation

Sustainability

Environmental improvements

Project/Contractual management

Architectural/design work

Land drainage

Residual highway responsibilities/public utilities

Street naming and property numbering

Building Control/dangerous structures/disabled access

Facilities Management

Travel Plan

Planning Services

Development control/planning applications

Planning enforcement

Development plans/policies

Planning briefs/studies

Conservation/listed buildings

Trees and footpaths

Transportation

Strategic Partnership thematic groups

TBA

The Council Plan

- Keep the district clean, provide recycling services and collect rubbish
- Prevent and deal with homelessness
- Encourage new homes and facilities to meet the district's needs
- Safeguard the environment and successfully manage the impacts of growth.

ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

Information Management

Website/Intranet
Freedom of Information
ICT Network & Systems
ICT Help Desk
Local Land & Property Gazetteer (LPG)
Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system
Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
Business Analysis/Improvement

Financial Services

Financial forecasting
Budget preparation and monitoring
Final accounts
Financial advice
Payment of Creditors
Audit
Risk management
Procurement
Treasury Management (Borrowing and Investments)
Debt Recovery

Customer Services

Call Centre, St Ives
Customer Service Centre
Information Centres
Local taxation
Revenue collection
Benefits assessments/payments/fraud
National Non Domestic Rates

Legal and Democratic Services

Land Charges
Document Centre
Licensing
Legal advice
Conveyancing
Prosecutions and litigation
Representation at Planning and other Inquiries
Data Protection/Regulation of Investigatory Powers
Contracts

People, Performance & Partnerships

Recruitment/retention
Health & Safety
Training/development
Personnel management/advice/contractual arrangements
Payroll
Communications and Marketing
Consultation, Engagement and Research
Economic Development
Town Centre Management
External Funding
Performance Management
Community Strategy/Huntingdonshire Strategic Partnership

Corporate Policy (The Council Plan)
Estates/property management/acquisition/sales

Strategic Partnership thematic groups

TBA

The Council Plan

- Encourage new jobs

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY STUDY TEMPLATE

AREA OF REVIEW	DETAILS/COMMENTS
Title of Study (name of Working Group)	
Appointing Panel	
Members Assigned (including date Working Group appointed)	
Possible Co-Options to the Group	
Interests Declared	
Rapporteur	
Officer Support	
Purpose of Study / Objective (specify exactly what the study should achieve)	
Rationale (key issues and/or reason for conducting a study)	
Terms of Reference	
Links to Council Policies/Strategies	

Methodology / Approach (what types of enquiries will be used to gather evidence)	
External/Specialist Support	
Existing Documentation	
Evidence to be Obtained (e.g. witnesses, documents, site visits, consultation, research, etc)	
Reference Sites	
Investigations	
Witnesses	

Site Visits (if necessary) (where and when)	
Meetings of the Working Group	
Costs (resource requirements, additional expenditure, time)	
Possible Barriers to the Study (potential weaknesses)	
Projected Timescale (Start and end times)	

COMPLETED STUDIES

- Anti-Social Behaviour Orders
- Vandalism
- Cemetery Administration
- Arts Provision in Huntingdonshire and Major Events Promoted by the Council
- Registered Social Landlord Rent Levels
- Bus Stations/Bus Services
- Bus Shelters
- Bus Information/Publicity
- Flooding
- Post Office Network and Services
- Fly Posting
- Fly Tipping
- Trees and Hedgerows
- Emergency Planning
- Sun Beds in Leisure Centres
- The Council's Charging Policy
- Tourism
- Market Services
- Best Value Review on Access to Services
- Council's Budget and Expenditure
- Member Development
- Street Naming and Numbering
- Levels of Affordable Housing on Land Sold By The Council
- Procedural Arrangements for Development Control
- Local Procurement
- Town Centre Initiatives
- Cycling in Huntingdonshire
- District Council's Travel Plan
- Electronic Communication
- Youth Forum
- Social consequences of alcohol abuse
- Section 106 process
- The Provision of Play Facilities
- Cleansing Services in Market Towns
- Anti-Social Behaviour at Hill Rise Park, St Ives
- St Ives (Environmental Improvements Schemes)
- County Council Highway Standards
- Consumption of Alcohol in Public Places
- Safer Routes to Schools
- Rent Levels at Paines Mill Foyer, St Neots
- West Huntingdon Rural Transport Study
- Benefit Fraud
- Service Provision for the Elderly
- Health and Safety Management
- Member Involvement and Consultation Procedures in the Local Plan Process
- Substance Misuse in Huntingdonshire
- Play Equipment
- Abandoned Vehicles
- Services for Young People
- The Big Gig
- Biodiversity
- Council's Complaints Procedure
- The Budget and Medium Term Plan
- Rural Economy and Services
- District Council's Twinning Links
- Hear By Right
- Dentistry Services
- Promoting Better Health in Older People Through Physical Activity
- Small Scale Environmental Improvements
- State of the District Engagement Events
- Grant Aid
- Leisure facilities for older people
- Development Management Processes
- Flooding
- Planning conservation
- The Use of Consultants

Panel Date	Decision	Action	Response	Date
13/01/09	<p><u>Heavy Goods Vehicle Parking In The District</u> The outcome of discussions of the first meeting of the three county group to be reported.</p>		The County Council are developing a County advisory route network for HCVs, which they will be consulting the District Council on.	
09/02/10	The Panel requested an update on the situation with regards to HCVs parking in the District.	The Transportation Team Leader updated the Panel on the current situation.	<p>The Executive Councillor for Planning Strategy and Transport has responded on behalf of the Council to the HCV Advisory Route Network Public Consultation.</p> <p>No further formal consultation has been received from the County Council.</p>	
08/07/08	<p><u>Petition By St Audrey Lane Area Residents, St Ives</u> Representatives from Anglian Water in attendance at the Panel's July meeting. Requested that an update be provided in 6 months time and that residents be informed of the outcome of their investigations.</p>	Email requesting update sent	CCTV survey of St Audrey Lane and Pig Lane Surface Water sewer completed. Funding now available to Jet Sewer – will be carried out shortly.	
7/12/10	The first meeting of the Local Drainage Liaison Group was held on 1 st November 2010.	A further meeting of the Local Drainage Liaison Group will be arranged in due course.		
7/12/10	An update was requested from Anglian Water's Collection Manager was requested following the meeting of the Local Drainage Liaison Group.	Email requesting update sent. Previous contact is no longer available, Chris Allen to be requested to raise the issue at the March Flood Forum.		
08/03/11		7 March new contact made email requesting update sent.		

Panel Date	Decision	Action	Response	Date
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12/04/11			<p>Advised by AWA contact that he was awaiting confirmation of capital expenditure re: Broadleas Pumping station before requesting a meeting between interested parties.</p> <p>AWA collections Manager to attend July meeting to give an update.</p>	12 July 2011
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13/07/10	<p><u>Cycling In Huntingdonshire</u> An update was requested from the Transport Team Leader.</p>		<p>Hunts AJC considered the Perry proposals at their meeting on 11th October 2010. They endorsed the development of Option 1 and further development work is now taking place, including negotiations with both Anglian Water and the Sailing Club. Subject to the satisfactory conclusion of those negotiations, it is planned that the scheme will be implemented during Spring 2011.</p>	
14/09/10	An update was requested from the Transport Team Leader.	Discussions have been held with the Executive Councillor for Planning Strategy and Transport regarding the wider review which was scheduled for completion by December 2010. Given the ongoing consultation by the Council on budget spending and the possible cuts in the overall transport related budget, it has been	At the same AJC meeting, the Committee were acquainted with the current proposals for the next phase of the cycling programme for Yaxley and Farcet which includes the provision of a first-time off-road pedestrian and cycle route between the two villages.	

Panel Date	Decision	Action	Response	Date
08/03/11	<p>Update requested 7/03/11</p> <p>The Vice-Chairman undertook to make enquiries with the County Council regarding the audit trail for Section 106 contributions generated from development in Huntingdonshire.</p>	<p>considered unwise to consult with District and County Members on schemes at this time as this would exacerbate the unlikelihood of current schemes being delivered as well as any of those to be added, and raises Member and public expectation to an unnecessary degree with presently little hope of delivery. It was felt that the review should be over a longer timeframe when there is more certainty regarding likely funding.</p> <p>Response received from Environmental Management 7/3/11.</p>	<p>The Committee endorsed further development, including the need to secure third party land to deliver the scheme. It is hoped that the scheme will be delivered, subject to the completion of all required negotiations, during 2011/12 using a combination of S.106 and Capital funds.</p> <p>Both projects are subject to planning applications due to be determined within the next couple of weeks. AWA are happy for their land to be used. CCC still in process of negotiating with landowners in Yaxley/Farcet both projects still on schedule for completion late spring/early summer.</p> <p>Advised by Transport Team Leader that CCC have made available full audit trail spread sheets.</p>	08/03/11
19/05/10	<p><u>Corporate Plan – Growing Success</u> Councillors P M D Godfrey and D Harty appointed to the Corporate Plan Working Group.</p>	Quarterly reports submitted to all Overview & Scrutiny Panels.		
19/05/10	<p><u>Local Area Agreements</u> Councillor P M D Godfrey appointed to Joint Accountability</p>			

Panel Date	Decision	Action	Response	Date
7/12/10	<p>Committee. Substitute Members to be appointed in consultation with the Head of Democratic and Central Services.</p> <p>Making Cambridgeshire Count was due to be considered at the meeting of the Joint Accountability Committee meeting held on 29th November 2010.</p>			Joint Accountability Committee ceased to function
<p>13/07/2010</p> <p>7/12/10</p> <p>08/03/11</p> <p>08/4/11</p>	<p>Great Fen Project The Panel attended a tour of the Great Fen.</p> <p>The Panel requested an update from the Director of Environmental and Community Services.</p> <p>Report sent to Cabinet Middle Level Commissioners to be invited to meeting on completion of Hydrology report by Atkins</p> <p>Cabinet response received, Cllr Dew to take Panel's views to next meeting of Great Fen Partners</p>	<p>Email requesting update sent.</p>	<p>The Director of Environmental and Community Services advised Members that updates on the progress of the project would be presented to the Panel at 6 monthly intervals.</p> <p>An update on the Great Fen Project will be presented at the March meeting of the Panel.</p>	<p>00/10/11</p> <p>08/03/11</p> <p>TBC Oct 2011?</p>
7/12/10	<p>Environment Strategy The Panel received a review of the Environment Strategy.</p>	<p>Members requested a further review in 12 months time.</p>	<p>An update on the Environment Strategy will be presented at the Panel's meeting in December 2011.</p>	December 2011

Panel Date	Decision	Action	Response	Date
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ENVIRONMENTAL WELL-BEING – Items in italics have been transferred over from O&S Social Well-Being Panel following new portfolios

	<u>Forward Plan</u>			
12/01/10	Site Options Planning Proposals Development Plan Document			TBC
07/12/10	Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy			TBA
08/02/11	Contributions to the CIL Supplementary Planning Document	Report requested	This item appears elsewhere on the agenda	14/06/11
08/03/11	Planning Proposals Development Plan Document	Report requested		14/06/11
08/03/11	St Ives West Urban Design Framework	Report requested		12/07/11
08/03/11	Great Fen Supplementary Planning Document	Report requested		12/07/11
	Gypsy and Travellers – Consultation report		This item appears elsewhere on the agenda	14/06/11

13/05/09	<u>Provision of Play Facilities for Young People</u> <i>This item was transferred over from the former Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Service Delivery) who had identified this subject as a potential area for study. Particular interest expressed on how these facilities are managed and insured and if they were</i>			
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Panel Date	Decision	Action	Response	Date
<p>2/02/10</p> <p>2/11/10</p> <p>7/12/10</p>	<p><i>maintained by the District Council. The study sought to make recommendations on achieving an even distribution of facilities across the District and on meeting the ongoing revenue costs associated with such facilities.</i></p> <p><i>Final report of Working Group considered by Panel. Report presented to Cabinet on 22nd April 2010 by Councillors P G Mitchell and R J West.</i></p> <p><i>The Panel considered a progress report on the two recommendations that were endorsed by the Cabinet. The Panel has discussed whether to revisit its previous recommendations regarding the maintenance of outdoor youth facilities. Further financial details awaited before proceeding further.</i></p> <p><i>In light of recent developments, the Panel has agreed to pursue this matter further at a later date.</i></p>			<p>TBC</p>
<p>3/11/09</p>	<p><u>Monitoring of Section 106 Agreements</u></p> <p><i>Panel agreed to include the Monitoring of Section 106 agreements in its work plan.</i></p>	<p><i>Monitoring reports to be submitted to Panel on a quarterly basis.</i></p>	<p><i>Next quarterly monitoring report anticipated July 2011.</i></p>	<p>12/07/11</p>
<p>2/11/10</p>	<p><u>CCTV Provision</u></p> <p><i>Panel expressed some concern at the recent budgetary announcement made by the Council to reduce CCTV provision within the District in 2011-12</i></p>			

Panel Date	Decision	Action	Response	Date
4/01/11	<p><i>with a view to ceasing the service from April 2012.</i></p> <p><i>Members have requested for an update on negotiations with Partners on the future of the service from 2012/13 onwards to be submitted to the Panel's July 2011 meeting.</i></p> <p><u>Waste Collection Policies</u> <i>Report due in September</i></p>	Request submitted to the Head of Operations.		12/07/11

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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANELS
(SOCIAL WELL-BEING)
(ECONOMIC WELL-BEING)
(ENVIRONMENTAL WELL-BEING)

7th JUNE 2011
9th JUNE 2011
14th JUNE 2011

WORK PLAN STUDIES
(Report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services)

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to allow Members of the Panel to review their programme of studies and to be informed of studies being undertaken by the other Overview and Scrutiny Panels.

2. STUDIES

- 2.1 The Council has a duty to improve the social, environmental and economic well-being of the District. This gives the Overview and Scrutiny Panels a wide remit to examine any issues that affect the District by conducting in-depth studies.
- 2.2 Studies are allocated according to the Council's service areas which have been identified as follows:-

Social Well-Being

Environmental and Community Health
Housing
One Leisure
Legal and Democratic Services (part)
People, Performance and Partnerships (part)

Environmental Well-Being

Operations
Environmental Management
Planning Services

Economic Well-Being

Information Management
Financial Services
Customer Services
Legal and Democratic Services (part)
People, Performance and Partnerships (part)

- 2.3 Details of ongoing studies are set out in the attached Appendix.
- 2.4 Members are reminded that if they have a specific interest in any study area which is not being considered by their Panel there are opportunities for involvement in all the studies being undertaken.

3. RECOMMENDATION

3.1 The Panel is requested to note the progress of the studies selected.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Minutes and Reports from previous meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Panels.

**Contact Officers: Miss H Ali, Democratic Services Officer
01480 388006**

**Mrs A Jerrom, Member Development Officer
01480 388009**

**Mrs C Bulman, Democratic Services Officer
01480 388234**

ONGOING STUDIES

STUDY	OBJECTIVES	PANEL	STATUS	TYPE
Visitor Development & Town Centre Vibrancy	To consider issues relating to Visitor Development & Town Centre Vibrancy.	Economic Well-Being	Further information requested on the cost of the tourism service and the benefits it brings to both the Council and to the District.	Whole Panel Study
Consultation Processes	To review the Council's current consultation processes with a view to determining whether the approach taken to consultation is suitable and consistent across the authority.	Social Well-Being	Interim findings to be submitted to Panel in June 2011.	Working Group
Gypsy & Traveller Welfare	To examine existing gypsy and traveller sites in the District with a view to informing any future Planning Policy on sites.	Social Well-Being	Report requested for submission to a future meeting. Following consultation with the Chairman, agreed that the study would proceed once Government guidance has been issued on future provision requirements.	To be determined.
Health Implications of the Night Time Economy	To follow up the previous study undertaken by the former Overview and Scrutiny (Service Support).	Social Well-Being	Social Well-Being Panel to consider whether to incorporate this study into their work programme. Further information to be submitted to a future Panel meeting.	To be determined.

Leisure Centre Financial Performance and Employment Structure		To review the overall financial performance and monitoring arrangements. To consider the current / future business structure. To consider whether an increase in income might be made by charging non-residents of the District a higher rate to use the Council's leisure centres	Economic Well-Being and Social Well-Being	Meetings of the Working Group held on 3 rd March and 28 th April 2011. Next meeting scheduled for 23 rd June 2011.	Working Group
Cambridgeshire Investment Plan	Local	To review the implications of the Investment Plan upon local housing, to include the potential shortfalls in the delivery of affordable housing within the District, identify what housing is due to come forward and to include reference to the underlying links between housing and planning.	Social Well-Being	Report to be considered at Panel's September 2011 meeting.	Whole Panel Study.
CCTV Provision within the District		To review the impact of the Council's proposal to cease the CCTV service with effect from April 2012.	Environmental Well-Being	Members have requested an update on negotiations with Partners on the future of the service from 2012/13 onwards for submission to the Panel's July 2011 meeting.	Whole Panel Study.
Voluntary Sector		To seek alternative ways of supporting the Voluntary Sector from 2013/14 onwards.	Social Well-Being	Considered at Panel's February and March meeting. Panel appointed a Working Group to	Working Group

			consider options for support in the future. First meeting held on 28 th March 2011. Background information to be circulated to Working Group prior to arranging a further meeting.	
The Use of Consultants	To review the criteria used in the appointment of consultants and assess the cost and value gained from using them.	Economic Well-Being	Final report to be considered at Panel's June meeting.	Working Group.
The Financial Implications of the Council's Future Housing Responsibilities.	To be determined.	Economic Well-Being	Copy of Cambridge Local Investment Plan to be provided to Councillor Shellens when it is distributed with Social Well-Being Agenda.	To be determined.
A14 improvements.	To review the implications to the local economy of the decision not to proceed with the A14 improvements.	Economic Well-Being	The Panel has been acquainted with steps that are being taken to pursue this matter with the Government. The Panel will receive updates on progress in due course.	Whole Panel Study.
Tree Strategy	To form a strategy in conjunction with the Tree Officers for the retention and planting of trees.	Environmental Well-Being	Working Group meetings on 5 th and 24 th November 2010. The next meeting was scheduled to be held in January 2011.	Working Group.

Land Use for Agricultural Purpose in the context of planning policies and its contribution to the local economy.	To review the lack of promotion and protection of land for this purpose.	Environmental Well-Being	Under consideration.	To be determined.
Rural Transport	To review the lack of transportation in rural areas.	Environmental Well-Being	Received a presentation from Transport Team Leader at April meeting.	To be determined.
Rural Crime	To be determined.	Social Well-Being Panel to nominate representative as and when required.	Meeting of Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Committee held on 13 th December 2010.	Joint Authority Working Group.
Review of Neighbourhood Forums in Huntingdonshire	To undertake a review of the Neighbourhood Forums in Huntingdonshire.	Social Well-Being	Suggested by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 19 th May 2011	To be determined.
Housing Register	To review the availability of larger houses for letting the Council's housing register.	Social Well-Being	To consider a request by the Economic Well-Being Panel to investigate this issue.	To be determined.

POSSIBLE FUTURE STUDIES

The Employees Performance Development Review Process	To review the current process.	Economic Well-Being	Outcome of Officer Review to be reported to the Panel when this is concluded. Work is expected to conclude in Spring 2011.	To be determined.
Central Recharges		Economic Well-Being	To be pursued once the One Leisure Study has concluded.	To be determined

Decision Digest

Edition 114

Monthly summary of the decisions taken at meetings of the Council, Cabinet, Overview & Scrutiny and other Panels for the period 4th April to 27th May 2011.

GREATER CAMBRIDGE – GREATER PETERBOROUGH LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP

The Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Economic Well-Being) has received an update on the progress that has been made in the establishment of the Greater Cambridge – Greater Peterborough Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP).

The Panel has been advised of LEP's ambition to achieve "100,000 major businesses and create 160,000 new jobs by 2025, in an internationally significant low carbon, knowledge-based economy", its economic geography and priorities and details of the LEP Board membership.

With regard to funding, the Panel understood that local authorities had agreed to make a funding contribution to the LEP and contributions "in kind" were also being made. Applications had been made to two sources of money for capacity and transition funding, the outcome of which was not yet known.

The LEP would shortly be submitting a proposal for an enterprise zone. Having been advised of the benefits of enterprise zones, (which include full business rate discount of up to £55k for up to five years), Members have commented on the potential zones have to promote economic development in their surrounding areas. Comment was made about the dangers of business rate discounts for businesses in new areas if their terms

are not tightly drawn to prevent existing areas from becoming empty and new zones being abandoned once the financial incentives have ended.

The Panel has also been advised that to be eligible to be an enterprise zone, the local planning authority would have to declare an Order reducing planning requirements.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (ECONOMIC WELL-BEING) – PROGRESS

Councillor M F Shellens and Independent Member Mr R Hall have investigated the business case for the multi-storey car park in Huntingdon. As a consequence of their findings, the Panel has suggested that the Council should introduce a more detailed methodology for the assessment of projects under consideration.

The Panel has also asked the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Social Well-Being) to look into the availability of larger houses for letting through the Council's housing register.

FUTURE GOVERNANCE OF HINCHINGBROOKE HOSPITAL

The Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Social Well-Being) has received a presentation from representatives of Circle on the operating model and vision that Circle will employ once they assume responsibility for the governance of Hinchingsbrooke Hospital. The formal agreement

between Circle and the Strategic Health Authority is yet to be signed but it is anticipated that Circle will take over the running of the Hospital at the end of June 2011.

Circle's business model is that of a partnership mutual which enables clinicians and other professionals to have a share in the ownership of Circle with shareholder voting rights to help direct the company. The model empowers doctors, nurses and all other employees who work within their hospitals, treatment centres and clinics, to put patient's needs first through a bottom-up approach to management.

The bidding process has been subject to extensive scrutiny by the Department of Health together with the Hinchingsbrooke Hospital Stakeholder Panel to ensure that the rules of engagement are complied with. The Panel has also been informed of the Hospital's future direction of travel and noted the areas that will be explored by Circle to enhance the services currently provided. Members have discussed a number of these matters in depth and made suggestions for areas which they would wish to see improved to include service enhancements within adult wards and general care of the elderly.

A three month mobilisation phase will commence once the contractual arrangements are in place. Representatives of Circle will report back to the Panel on progress made at the Panel's September 2011 meeting.

HUNTINGDONSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

Under the provisions of the Police and Criminal Justice Act 2006, the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Social Well-Being) has scrutinised the work of the Huntingdonshire Community Safety Partnership. Attention was drawn to the level of funding awarded to the

Partnership for the 2011/12 financial year, which represents a significant reduction from the previous year to £56,880. Recent developments concerning the election of a Police and Crime Commissioner in May 2011 have been noted together with the changes that this would bring to the Partnership in terms of bidding against community and voluntary organisations for future funding.

The Panel has acknowledged the complexity in the way in which the Partnership is required to operate to meet the challenges faced by the District and has concluded, on the basis of the data presented in the Strategic Assessment, that it is effective in its work. The Huntingdonshire Community Safety Plan 2011-14 has been reviewed and it was noted that the Strategic Assessment is conducted each year to inform the priorities that are included within it.

The Panel has discussed a number of matters and received a response to each from the Chairman of the Partnership. Members have subsequently expressed their satisfaction that the Partnership has appropriate monitoring and accountability mechanisms in place.

MONITORING OF SECTION 106 AGREEMENTS (PLANNING OBLIGATIONS)

An update on the receipt and expenditure by the Council of money negotiated under Section 106 Agreements has been delivered to the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Social Well-Being). A copy of the spending plan for the construction of a Multi-Use Games Area in Godmanchester will be circulated to the Panel for information.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE ADULTS WELL-BEING AND HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Brief updates have been delivered by Councillor R J West to Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Social Well-Being) on service changes following the closure of Hawthorne Ward at Hinchingsbrooke Hospital. In addition, it has been reported that the mental health service has been tasked with identifying £3,000,000 of savings and consequently are exploring alternative service delivery methods, which include the use of the internet for preliminary advice and guidance.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (SOCIAL WELL-BEING) – PROGRESS

Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Social Well-Being) have received updates on the outcome of recent meetings of the Consultation Processes, One Leisure and Voluntary Sector Working Groups. An update on progress of negotiations on the future of the CCTV service has been requested for the Panel's July meeting.

WIND FARMS

The Overview and Scrutiny (Environmental Well-being) Panel has been updated on the Council's position from a planning perspective with regard to wind farms.

Members have been advised that all applications are considered against national planning policy which supports the government's commitment to renewable energy. Each application is considered on its merits and should be in a suitable location. The Government does not support developments in areas of nationally significant landscape but Huntingdonshire has no such areas. The Council has not adopted a policy that wind farms should not be located within 2km of a residence, however a Private Member's Bill 'Wind Turbines (Minimum Distance from Residential

Premises)' containing such provisions, is shortly due to have a second reading in the House of Lords. The Panel has been advised that current planning policy is due to be replaced with new guidance, the New National Planning Policy Framework which will act as a catalyst for the revision of local policy.

RURAL TRANSPORT

The Overview and Scrutiny (Environmental Well-being) Panel has received an update on a local transport project being led by Cambridgeshire County Council. Members have been advised that following a reduction in funding, subsidised transport in the area is likely to be phased out. The aim of the project which has been established in conjunction with Inspire East, District Councils, the Health Authority and other relevant partners is to look at all forms of transport in the County and shape a new transport network financed from a central fund, expected to be in the region of £23m. The District Council is represented at officer level and has Member representation on the project's Governance Panel.

In devising the new network, community infrastructures will have to be reviewed and some areas of the District may be better served if they are aligned with neighbouring Districts. The Panel has been advised that the project might aid the delivery of better transportation which has been a common theme in parish plans.

The County Council has indicated that it will delegate direct management of transportation to local areas while retaining its statutory responsibilities. The fund will be administered by non profit making community interest companies with any surplus ploughed back into transport services. Members have acknowledged that the project is a positive step forward and agreed there

is a need for a full review of local transportation. However, they have however drawn attention to the diminishing number of commercial bus routes and to problems that could arise from the statutory requirements on public sector organisations to provide transport, which can be costly.

CABINET FEEDBACK

The Cabinet has supported the views of the Overview and Scrutiny (Environmental Well-being) Panel's that land within the Great Fen Project area that is currently in arable production, should remain in use for that purpose pending a review of the land that is currently under restoration, the development proposals for visitor facilities and the creation of associated employment opportunities. The Panel had felt that land in the area was being changed from arable production more rapidly than had been envisaged and were concerned at the length of time it would take for peripheral benefits for local communities in terms of tourism and employment to come to fruition. These views will be conveyed to the Great Fen Partners along with Members concerns over the possible increase in mosquitos in the area which in turn may lead to the occurrence of malaria.

FINANCIAL MONITORING

The Head of Financial Services has drawn to the Cabinet's attention variations to the approved Capital Programme and spending variations in the revenue budget for the current year. Members have noted that whilst savings in the revenue budget of £2.0m are likely to be achieved, £2.7m of reserves will still need to be used to cover the 2010/11 deficit.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

Nineteen applications have been considered over two meetings of the Development Management Panel and of these seventeen were approved and two refused. In terms of the applications which hold wider public interest, the Panel has given consent for changes to the store currently occupied by Sainsbury's in St Germain Walk, Huntingdon and other alterations to that site to accommodate a new retail unit.

A separate application to create a new foodstore and petrol filling station, nine further retail and thirteen residential units, office floor space and car parking also was approved for land between St John's Street and George Street, Huntingdon. Both applications will be subject to comprehensive conditions and a S106 Agreement.

Approval also has been given to the construction of 48 new build houses, following the demolition of existing poor quality properties on land at the Whaddons and Butts Grove Way, Huntingdon.

ENFORCEMENT ACTION: HARTFORD MARINA

The Development Management Panel has reviewed the current position with regard to the enforcement issues at Hartford Marina. The Panel previously had endorsed a series of recommendations made to them by a Working Party which had been appointed to consider the matter. Following representations made by the Ward Councillor, Marina Manager and Chairman of the Marina Community Association and whilst disappointed that little progress had been made in the intervening period, the Panel requested the Head of Planning Services, in conjunction with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Panel, to make a presentation to the Community Association, Marina owner

and residents on the process envisaged by officers which ultimately should take the process forward. The owner/manager and/or occupiers of floating lodges, houseboats and other boats would then be invited to apply for planning permission to rationalise the current situation at the Marina.

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