

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, 13 SEPTEMBER 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 held on 12th July 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. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000: FORWARD PLAN (Pages 7 - 12)

A copy of the current Forward Plan, which was published on 11th August 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. RESIDENTIAL TRAVEL PLAN (Pages 13 - 20)

To consider a report by the Planning Services Manager (Policy) on the draft Cambridgeshire Residential Travel Plan Guidance.

**S Bell
388387**

5. PETITIONS - CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION (Pages 21 - 22)

To receive two petitions on the subject of Closed Circuit Television.

**A Roberts
388015**

6. WORKPLAN STUDIES (Pages 23 - 30)

To consider, with the aid of a report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, the current programme of Overview and Scrutiny studies.

**Mrs A Jerrom
388009**

7. **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROGRESS** (Pages 31 - 38)

To consider a report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services on decisions taken by the Panel.

**Mrs A Jerrom
388009**

8. **SCRUTINY** (Pages 39 - 44)

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 5 day of September
2011



Head of Paid Service

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, Tel: 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.

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 the Civic Suite 1a, Pathfinder House, St Mary's Street, Huntingdon, Cambs PE29 3TN on Tuesday, 12 July 2011.

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

Councillors M G Baker, I J Curtis, J W Davies, P Godley, D Harty, C R Hyams, and J S Watt.

Co-opted Member Mr M Phillips.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors Mrs M Banerjee and G J Harlock and Mr D Hopkins.

13. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on 14th June 2011 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

14. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Councillor D Harty declared a personal interest in Minute No. 17 arising from his membership of Cambridgeshire County Council.

Councillors C R Hyams and P Godley declared personal interests in Minute No. 18 by virtue of their membership of Huntingdon Town Council and Godmanchester Town Council respectively.

15. 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 Executive Leader of the Council for the period 1st July to 31st October 2011. Having been advised of the content of an item on nuisance vehicles the Panel requested sight of the report prior to its submission to Cabinet.

16. UPDATE ON SURFACE WATER FLOODING ISSUES

The Panel was informed that Mr R Kelly, Anglian Water Collections Manager, who had been invited to the meeting to provide an update on the Broadleas Pumping Station in St Ives, was not able to be present. Councillor J W Davies reminded the Panel of the background to the subject. He informed Members that several years earlier, following the receipt of a petition from residents, the Panel had established a working group to look into surface water flooding in the St Audrey Lane area of St Ives. The working group had addressed residents' concerns that the pumping station did not have sufficient

capacity to deal with both existing surface water flooding and the expected increase in the volume of water that would be experienced during flooding following the development of the St Ives West area. Members were advised that a recent major breakdown at the pumping station and a burst sewer, which had taken three weeks to repair had exacerbated the problem. Mr Kelly had been due to provide the Panel with an update on the planned upgrade to the pumping station. Members requested that a statement be sought on progress for circulation to the Panel.

17. CAMBRIDGESHIRE FUTURE TRANSPORT "TRANSPORT FOR CAMBRIDGESHIRE"

The Panel considered a report by the Head of Planning Services (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) on a future transport initiative for Cambridgeshire. Members were informed of the need for alternative ways of meeting countywide transport requirements following the announcement by the County Council that by April 2015, it would cease to fund public transport. A broad agreement had been reached amongst those partners involved in the delivery of passenger transport to work collaboratively to achieve wide community benefits through a more efficient, effective and co-ordinated approach to transportation. It would involve working across organisational boundaries to co-ordinate resources, priorities, people, journeys and transport operators. This work would be overseen by a Member led governance group, which comprised the County and District Councils, NHS Cambridgeshire and Cambridgeshire Acre. Consultants had been appointed to advise on the process.

The Panel was advised that under the new arrangements, from 2012/13 onwards, the Council's budget of £83.5k would be aligned with that of other partners. Members stressed that although they supported moves to create a more efficient and cost effective service, they would not want to jeopardise the highly regarded community transport services that the budget currently supported. They, therefore, endorsed a proposal to amend paragraph 5.2 of the report and part a. of the recommendation requiring the Council's involvement and the eventual outcomes to align with the priorities contained in the Council Plan. In so doing, Members emphasized the importance of safeguarding the Council's interests in community transport, which often provided a lifeline to rural communities. The Panel also agreed with the principle of aligning the District Council's rural transport budget with other Cambridgeshire partners within the Future Transport Initiative but Members did not want Council funds to be committed without protection being afforded to existing services. Their view was that this funding should not be committed without there being certainty that they would add value and robustness to the service. It was therefore

RESOLVED

that the Cabinet be invited to consider the Panel's comments as part of its deliberations on the report by the Head of Planning Services.

18. CCTV PROVISION

With the aid of a report by the Head of Operations (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) the Panel received an update on funding of the CCTV service. Having been informed of the options that were available to the Council and the high costs involved in temporarily closing the service, Members were advised that a number of changes had already taken place, which had achieved savings of £129k.

It was reported that, in view of their considerable usage of the CCTV service, the police had been asked to make a contribution to its cost. However, the police had indicated that they would be unable to comply with this request. Town and parish councils had also been approached and, although discussions were taking place with some neighbouring authorities, a viable model had not yet been found to operate a joint service.

In discussing the available options Members highlighted the benefits of the CCTV service particularly to the police given the changes that were occurring to their officer numbers. Councillor J W Davies, who was in receipt of a petition signed by St Ives residents requesting that an additional camera was installed in St Ives, reported that St Ives Town Council would shortly be discussing the District Council's approach. The petition would be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Panel for formal receipt. Councillor Davies also endorsed the views of the Chairman of the St Ives Town Centre Initiative who had expressed support for the retention of the current level of service.

Councillor C R Hyams expressed the view that it would have been useful to have been able to discuss this matter with an Executive Councillor. He then reiterated the value of the CCTV service to the police as a crime prevention tool. This had been confirmed to him by local police community support officers. Councillor Hyams stated that it was unreasonable to expect the District and Town Councils to pay for the service given extent of the use made of it by the police.

Co-opted Member Mr M Hopkins highlighted the reliance of the courts on CCTV footage during prosecutions and the possible impact on the outcome of trials if the service were to be reduced or withdrawn. He further commented that every possible option should be examined in order to avoid the closure of the service.

The Chairman informed the Panel that he had received an email from Councillor P G Mitchell in support of the current CCTV service. In response to a question by Mr R Coxhead, a Co-opted Member of the Social Well-being Panel, the Head of Operations stated that appointments to discuss the issue with town councils were being prioritised according to the number of cameras that were located in their areas. Members would be informed of the outcome of the negotiations later in the year.

19. MONITORING OF SECTION 106 AGREEMENTS (PLANNING OBLIGATIONS)

The Panel gave consideration to a report by the Head of People,

Performance and Partnerships (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) which provided an update on the receipt and expenditure by the Council of money negotiated under Section 106 Agreements. Following questions, Members were advised that there was little chance of agreements expiring before their specified completion dates and that it was no longer the practice to include completion dates in agreements. The Panel expressed their gratitude to the Council's Service Development Officer for the provision of the data in a new easy-to-read format and endorsed a request by Councillor Harty that the County Council should adopt a similar reporting style.

RESOLVED

that the contents of the report be noted.

20. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT

The Panel reviewed the draft Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2010/11 (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book). In response to a suggestion it was reported that plans were in hand to introduce induction training for Co-opted Members. The training would incorporate a basic introduction to scrutiny and questioning skills.

With regard to the section of the report that referred to the Panel's request for the Cabinet to develop a package of assistance to enable town and parish councils to provide public conveniences, Members requested that the results of this intervention be reported to a future meeting.

21. WORKPLAN STUDIES

The Panel considered and noted a report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) reviewing the Panel's programme of studies and informing Members of studies being undertaken by the other Overview and Scrutiny Panels.

The Panel was reminded that a meeting of the Tree Strategy Working Group had been arranged for 27th July. With regard to the previous suggestion that a study might be undertaken into land use for agricultural purposes in the context of planning policies and its contribution to the local economy, it was agreed that a scoping report would be presented to a future meeting in order that the Panel could determine whether there would be any value in pursuing the study. Following Councillor M G Baker's request that a study was undertaken into the Council's waste collection and recycling policies, Members were informed that a report on this subject by the Head of Operations would be submitted to a future meeting.

22. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL PROGRESS

With the aid of a report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) the Panel was advised of progress of matters, which had been previously discussed. With regard to the monitoring of Section 106 contributions, the Panel was advised of the steps that had been taken in conjunction

with Cambridgeshire County Council to improve audit trail documentation relating to agreements. The Panel then requested sight of the Market Town Strategy when it became available.

23. SCRUTINY

In receiving and noting the 114th edition of the Decision Digest, Members requested that they be informed in advance of the names of employees that would be retiring from the Council. Following a question by Councillor M G Baker, Members were also apprised of progress of the redevelopment of One Leisure St Ives and the joint working group study on One Leisure finance.

Chairman

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FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

Prepared by
Date of Publication:
For Period:

Councillor J D Ablewhite Miss Effe Chrisostomou
11 August 2011
1 September 2011 to 31 December 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

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
Waste Collection Policies*** ∞	Cabinet	22 Sep 2011	None.	Eric Kendall, Head of Operations Tel No. 01480 388635 or email Eric.Kendall@huntingdonshire.gov.uk		J A Gray	Environmental Well-Being
Cambridgeshire Future Transport - Transport for Cambridgeshire***	Cabinet	22 Sep 2011	None.	Paul Bland, Planning Service Manager (Policy) Tel No. 01480 388430 or email Paul.Bland@huntingdonshire.gov.uk	Update on emerging options and recommendations.	N J Guyatt	Environmental Well-Being
Nuisance Vehicles	Cabinet	22 Sep 2011	None.	Sonia Hansen, Development and Community Manager Tel No. 01480 388630 or email Sonia.Hansen@huntingdonshire.gov.uk		J A Gray	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
Call Centre Post 2012 - Infrastructure, Scope, Partnering Arrangements and Location	Cabinet	22 Sep 2011	None.	Chris Hall, Head of Information Management Division Tel No. 01480 388116 or email Chris.Hall@huntingdonshire.gov.uk	Economic Well-Being	T V Rogers B Chapman	Economic Well-Being
Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy	Cabinet	22 Sep 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	22 Sep 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
Financial Strategy	Cabinet	22 Sep 2011	Previous Year's Budget Report - Various Annexes	Steve Couper, Head of Financial Services Tel. 01480 388103 or email Steve.Couper@huntingdonshire.gov.uk	Overview and Scrutiny (Economic Well-being) – 8th September 2011	T V Rogers	Overview and Scrutiny (Economic Well-being)
Cambridgeshire Public Sector Asset Management Strategy***	Cabinet	20 Oct 2011	None.	Malcolm Sharp, Director of Environmental and Community Services Tel No. 01480 388300 or email Malcolm.Sharp@huntingdonshire.gov.uk		T V Rogers	Economic Well-Being
Green House Project Update***	Cabinet	20 Oct 2011	None.	Chris Jablonski, Environment Team Leader Tel No. 01480 388368 or email Chris.Jablonski@huntingdonshire.gov.uk		J A Gray	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
Great Fen Supplementary Planning Document	Cabinet	20 Oct 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
St. Ives West Urban Design Framework	Cabinet	20 Oct 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
Gypsy & Traveller Policy Issues	Cabinet	20 Oct 2011	New PPS on G & T Issues Cambs GTANA	Paul Bland, Planning Service Manager (Policy) Tel No 01480 388430 or email Paul.Bland@huntingdonshire.gov.uk	Consider latest policy issues.	N J guyatt	Environmental Well-Being
Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document	Cabinet	20 Oct 2011	Local Infrastructure Framework	Paul Bland, Planning Service Manager (Policy) Tel No. 01480 388430 or email Paul.Bland@huntingdonshire.gov.uk	Endorse as Council policy.	N J Guyatt	Environmental Well-Being
Carbon Management Update***	Cabinet	17 Nov 2011	None.	Chris Jablonski, Environment Team Leader Tel No. 01480 388368 or email Chris.Jablonski@huntingdonshire.gov.uk		J A Gray	Environmental Well-Being
Planning for Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDs)	Cabinet	17 Nov 2011	CCC SuDs Options Paper	Paul Bland, Planning Service Manager (Policy) Tel No 01480 388430 or email Paul.Bland@huntingdonshire.gov.uk	Consider options.	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
Planning Proposals Development Plan Document	Cabinet	17 Nov 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	17 Nov 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
Draft MTP***	Cabinet	8 Dec 2011	None.	Steve Couper, Head of Financial Services Tel No. 01480 388103 or email Steve.Couper@huntingdonshire.gov.uk		T V Rogers	Economic Well-Being
Local Government Finance Act 1988 - Publication of Rural Settlement List***	Cabinet	8 Dec 2011	None.	J Barber, Head of Customer Services Tel No. 01480 388015 or email Julia.Barber@huntingdonshire.gov.uk		T V Rogers	Economic Well-Being

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**OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
(ENVIRONMENTAL WELL BEING)
CABINET**

13TH SEPTEMBER 2011

22ND SEPTEMBER 2011

CAMBRIDGESHIRE RESIDENTIAL TRAVEL PLAN GUIDANCE (Report by Head of Planning Services)

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to consider the draft Cambridgeshire Residential Travel Plan Guidance that has been developed by the County Council in discussion with the City and District Councils.
- 1.2 The report also considers the schedule for taking the Guidance forward, including the Consultation Plan.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 A Residential Travel Plan (RTP) is a package of measures which seeks to increase sustainable travel at a residential development. It does this by reducing the need for travel, reducing single-occupancy car travel and by providing and encouraging the use of more sustainable travel choices, such as walking, cycling, public transport, car sharing and car clubs.
- 2.2 The concept of Travel Plans is one that has become more popular over recent years, particularly due to the environmental and economic benefit of reducing congestion, which in turn reduces the contribution of road transport to air pollution and climate change.
- 2.3 National and regional guidance and policy has not in the past required Local Planning Authorities to request RTPs. However, the draft National Planning Policy Framework (draft NPPF) which the Government is currently consulting on does make it clear (in paragraphs 89 and 90) that Travel Plans are a key tool in facilitating the use of sustainable travel modes which support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and congestion. In particular, the draft NPPF states (in paragraph 90) that "All developments which generate significant amounts of movement, as determined by local criteria, should be required to provide a Travel Plan".
- 2.4 Local Planning Authorities in Cambridgeshire have worked together to develop the draft Cambridgeshire Residential Travel Plan Guidance (or "the draft Guidance") as a means of ensuring that RTPs are provided as part of planning applications by developers. In effect this will enable City and District Councils to request RTPs from

developers for residential developments. The Local Transport Plan (LTP3) also carries reference and support for RTPs, with them being mentioned alongside all other types of travel plans.

- 2.5 This document is being taken forward by the County Council as Supplementary Guidance, which will have similar weight to a statutory Supplementary Planning Document in decision making if it has been subject to a) public consultation, b) Sustainability Appraisal, and c) been endorsed by County, City and District Council Members.
- 2.6 The content of the draft Guidance has been agreed between the County, City and District Officers.
- 2.7 The draft Guidance has been subject to Sustainability Appraisal to ensure that it contributes to sustainable development, by considering all social, economic and environmental factors. The Sustainability Appraisal revealed that the draft Guidance is likely to have positive effects in all social, environmental and economic areas, except for one social area (crime and fear of crime), where the Guidance is likely to have no obvious effects. Both the draft Guidance and the Sustainability Appraisal are available as Background Papers to this report.

3. PROPOSALS

- 3.1 In accordance with national guidance, the schedule to develop the Guidance includes carrying out a 6-week period of public consultation. Prior to any such exercise being undertaken, the City and District Council's are presenting this draft Guidance, including the Sustainability Appraisal and the Consultation Plan to Members, for them to note and to allow them to provide feedback.
- 3.2 The draft Guidance and its supporting Sustainability Appraisal are large documents that can be found on the Member Services pages of Modern Gov at the following link;
http://projects.huntsdc.gov.uk/Members_Services/default.aspx
- 3.3 The detailed Consultation Plan can be found at Appendix 1.
- 3.4 Following this consideration and feedback, the draft Guidance will be revised to allow public consultation to be undertaken and following the completion of this exercise and its consideration thereof and revisions made, it will then be presented for adoption as Supplementary Guidance by all the Cambridgeshire Local Authorities.

4. IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no significant Resource or Performance implications associated with this work.

4.2 In terms of Climate Change, the draft Guidance encourages developers to promote sustainable alternatives to the car as part of their developments, such as walking, cycling and public transport. In so doing, this draft Guidance will assist in reducing harmful emissions across the County, thereby assisting in reducing the impact of climate change and will assist in improving air quality.

4.3 In terms of Access and Inclusion, the draft Guidance will help to enhance access to services by promoting a wider range of sustainable transport options, and encourage wider social benefits such as promoting active travel that can assist in improving both health and community well-being.

5. CONCLUSIONS

5.1 This work builds on national and local policy and guidance as outlined at Appendix 2 and follows good practice in having a definitive guide for Cambridgeshire and the benefits that will ensue for the County as a whole as outlined in the report.

5.2 At the conclusion of the consultation, the results and emerging recommendations will be reported to Members, as well as those at County, City & other District level, at a later date.

6. RECOMMENDATION

It is RECOMMENDED;

- i) **to note the draft Cambridgeshire Residential Travel Plan Guidance as a basis for public consultation**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

LTP 3.

Cambridgeshire Residential Travel Plan Guidance - Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report (May 2010).

Cambridgeshire Residential Travel Plan Guidance - Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening Report (May 2010).

Contact Officer: Paul Bland – Planning Services Manager (Policy)

 **01480 388430**

Appendix 1

Consultation Plan

Document	Consultees	Method of communication	Consultation outcome
Consultations up to December 2010			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Residential Travel Plan (RTP) Guidance 	CCC Teams	Email, meetings	Agreed
	Planning Policy Forum	Email, meetings	Agreed
	Chief Planning Officers	Meetings	Agreed
	CCC Members – Environment Services Spokes	Meeting	Noted
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Report 	Natural England	Email	Approved
	Wildlife Trusts	Email	No comments
	RSPB	Email	No comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Scoping Report 	Natural England	Email	Approved
	Environment Agency	Email	Approved
	English Heritage	Email	No comments
Consultation of County Members prior to District Member consultation and Public Consultation, January/February 2011			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ RTP Guidance ▪ SA Scoping Report ▪ Consultation Plan 	CCC Members - Growth and Environment Policy Development Group (PDG)	Meeting	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ RTP Guidance ▪ SA Scoping Report ▪ Consultation Plan 	CCC Members - Cabinet	Meeting	
Informal Consultation with District Members, March to September 2011			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ RTP Guidance 	Cambridge City Council -	Meeting	

Document	Consultees	Method of communication	Consultation outcome
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SA Scoping Report ▪ Consultation Plan 	Development Plan Steering Group (DPSG)		
	East Cambs District Council (DC) Members	Meeting	
	Fenland DC Members	Meeting	
	Hunts DC Members	Meeting	
	South Cambs DC Members	Meeting	
Public Consultation¹ for 6 weeks – date to be agreed			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ RTP Guidance ▪ SA Scoping Report 	Statutory and non-statutory consultees	Email, post, County & District websites and main receptions, press adverts	
County & District Consultation following Public Consultation – to be agreed			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ RTP Guidance ▪ Consultation Statement 	Planning Policy Forum	Email or meeting	
	Chief Planning Officers	Meeting	
	Development Control Managers	Meeting	
Endorsement of RTP Guidance – to be agreed			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ RTP Guidance ▪ Consultation Statement 	CCC Members - Growth and Environment PDG	Meeting	
	CCC Members - Cabinet	Meeting	
	Cambridge City Council Members	Meeting	
	East Cambs DC Members	Meeting	
	Fenland DC Members	Meeting	
	Hunts DC Members	Meeting	
	South Cambs DC Members	Meeting	

Further Supporting Information on the Guidance

National Policy and Guidance

Currently residential travel plans are not well-established in national planning policy. *Planning Policy Guidance 13 (PPG 13)* explicitly supports local authorities requesting travel plans from developers, but this policy only specifies travel plans for workplaces and for schools.

The draft National Planning Policy Framework (July 2011) is expected to replace existing PPGs and PPSs by the Spring of 2012, and this specifically states that Travel Plans are a key tool in facilitating reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and congestion from all new developments which generate significant amounts of movement..

Department for Transport (DfT) later released the guidance *Making Residential Travel Plans Work (2005)* which seeks to establish the place of residential travel planning in the planning process.

Residential travel planning is further supported by DfT's *Smarter Choices – Changing the Way We Travel (2004)*. This document stresses the importance of using 'softer' measures, such as travel planning, to persuade people to travel sustainably, alongside 'hard' measures such as providing transport infrastructure. The DfT has published proven results of the effectiveness of Smarter Choices in influencing travel behaviour.

Local Policy and Guidance

One of Cambridgeshire's Local Transport Plan (LTP) objectives is "*to develop integrated transport and to promote public transport, walking, cycling and other sustainable forms of transport.*" More specifically, the LTP makes reference to Smarter Choices and dedicates a whole chapter to Smarter Travel Management.

In addition, the County Council's Climate Change and Environment Strategy (CCES) clearly identifies the importance of sustainable travel, as a way of reducing the county's greenhouse emissions:

Climate Change Policy 5 (CC5): "We will work to bring about a shift to more sustainable transport (smarter travel), including walking, cycling and public transport."

The CCES itself has been developed from national policy and indicators. Therefore this Guidance will contribute towards reducing climate change, by encouraging sustainable travelling at new residential developments in Cambridgeshire.

Cambridgeshire County Council has been working collaboratively with local planning authorities to produce the Residential Travel Plan guidance. Once complete, it will allow local planning authorities to use the guidance in preparing their Local Planning Documents. Currently South Cambridgeshire District is the only authority which has an adopted policy, which explicitly requires the preparation of Residential Travel Plans. It is envisaged that local planning authorities will adopt this Guidance as Supplementary Guidance to enable them to have a stronger policy backing to request Residential Travel Plans from developers.

The purpose of the Guidance is to provide a background on Residential Travel Plans,

to explain the residential travel planning process, and to specify the local requirements for Residential Travel Plans.

This Guidance is intended for use by developers, consultants, Cambridgeshire's City and District Councils, and any other stakeholders involved in the residential travel planning process.

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**PETITION – CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION
(Report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services)**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Council has received two petitions on the subject of Closed Circuit Television. The petitions have insufficient signatories to be submitted to the full Council, so they have been referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Panel for formal receipt.

2. THE PETITIONS

- 2.1 One of the petitions has been organised by Councillor J W Davies. The petition, which has 42 signatories is as follows:

“Having listened to residents’ concerns about street drinking and associated crime in the area, Councillor John Davies is petitioning St Ives Town Council and Huntingdonshire District Council to work towards a solution whereby a CCTV camera can be provided to cover the locality of the “chub stream” and surrounding area. We the undersigned support the provision of this facility.”

- 2.2 The other petition has been organised by the local Neighbourhood Watch CO-ordinator and has 41 signatories:

“We, the undersigned, wish to petition Huntingdonshire District Council regarding the apparent decommissioning and removal of the CCTV camera in Ingram Street car park. The presence of the CCTV camera over the last few years has been greatly valued by residents and we are disappointed that there was no consultation with us prior to this action. We would be grateful to know whether there is an agreed timescale for when the camera might be reinstated?”

Whilst we appreciate the need for cuts in local government finances, we were particularly disappointed to note that the large black bowl that protects the camera has been completely removed from the supporting post. Would it not be possible for this to at least be reinstated (even if it was not operational) in order that it might act as a deterrent to any unwanted vandalism?”

3. CONCLUSION

- 3.1 Fifty signatures are required for a petition to be submitted to the full Council. The two petitions, which have been received, do not qualify to be treated in this way. Provided there are more than 10 signatures, it is referred to an Overview and Scrutiny Panel for formal receipt and for Members to determine what action to take to respond to them.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Petitions submitted to the Council.

Contact Officer: A Roberts (01480) 388015

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

6th SEPTEMBER 2011
8th SEPTEMBER 2011
13th SEPTEMBER 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. This study is on hold until circumstances change.	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	Final report submitted to the Cabinet in June 2011. The Managing Director (Resources) to undertake investigations as to how the current process can be improved and to report to the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Social Well-Being) and Executive Councillors on the outcomes.	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	Social Well-Being	Social Well-Being Panel to consider whether to incorporate this study into	To be determined.

	Scrutiny (Service Support).		their work programme. Further information to be submitted to a future Panel meeting.	
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, 28 th April, 23 rd June and 1 st September 2011. Interim report submitted to Cabinet on 23 rd June 2011. Cabinet requested the Executive Councillor for Organisational Development to review the Council's IT costs, including the basis upon which the IT network service is re-charged to users.	Working Group
Cambridgeshire Local Investment Plan	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 October 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 and Social Well-Being	Members received an update at their July meeting. Further information is expected in the Autumn.	Whole Panel Study.

Voluntary Sector	To seek alternative ways of supporting the Voluntary Sector from 2013/14 onwards.	Social Well-Being	Working Group meeting held on 23 rd August 2011 with the District Council's Community Health Manager. Site visits to be undertaken in September.	Working Group
A14 improvements.	To review the implications to the local economy of the decision not to proceed with the A14 improvements.	Economic Well-Being	Agreed to invite a representative of the Highways Agency to a future meeting to discuss their plans in the event of an interruption to traffic flow.	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 met on 27 July 2011. Draft Tree Strategy circulated to officers for comment. Councillor Davies to report to meeting.	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	Scoping report to be submitted to a meeting in the Autumn.	To be determined.
Rural Transport	To review the provision of transportation in rural areas.	Environmental Well-Being	Transport for Cambridgeshire report received in July 2011. Comments conveyed to Cabinet.	To be determined.
Rural Crime	To be determined.	Social Well-Being Panel	Under consideration by the County Council's Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Committee.	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. Background report to be considered by Panel in September.	To be determined.
Homelessness	To consider the emerging issue of homelessness and the Council's capacity to deal with the matter.	Social Well-Being	Background report to be submitted to a future Panel meeting.	To be determined.
Maintenance of Water Courses	To receive a presentation on the maintenance arrangements in place for Water Courses within the District.	Environmental Well-Being	Presentation to be delivered at a future meeting.	To be determined.
Waste Collection and Recycling Policies	To investigate the Council's waste collection and recycling policies.	Environmental Well-Being	Scoping report to be submitted to a future meeting.	To be determined.
District Council Support Services	To review the District Council's support services.	Economic Well-Being	Scoping report to be submitted to a future meeting in the Autumn.	To be determined.
Development of the Alconbury Airfield site.	To consider the implications for the local economy from the establishment of a local enterprise zone on the former Alconbury Airfield site.	Economic Well-Being	To be determined.	To be determined.

POSSIBLE FUTURE STUDIES

The Employees Performance Development Review Process	To review the current process.	Economic Well-Being	Amendments to the Performance Related Pay System are being considered as part of the current years pay negotiations and the consultation on pay structure.	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.
Business Rates	To consider the implications to the Authority from changes to Business Rates.	Economic Well-Being	Report to be prepared when further information is available.	To be determined.

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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
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 update. Collections Manager has been requested to provide update statement as unable to attend July meeting of the Panel.</p>	12 July 2011
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	Update requested 7/03/11	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. Response received from Environmental Management 7/3/11.	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. 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. The Transport Team Leader confirmed that both schemes have been approved and should go ahead within this financial year.	08/03/11
12/07/11	Update requested			
19/05/10	Corporate Plan – Growing Success Councillors P M D Godfrey and D Harty appointed to the Corporate Plan Working Group.	Quarterly reports submitted to all Overview & Scrutiny Panels.		
13/07/2010	Great Fen Project The Panel attended a tour of the Great Fen.		The Director of Environmental and Community Services advised Members that updates on the	

Panel Date	Decision	Action	Response	Date
<p>7/12/10</p> <p>08/03/11</p> <p>08/4/11</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>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>Supplementary Planning Document expected at October meeting. (see Forward Plan)</p>	<p>00/10/11</p> <p>08/03/11</p> <p>TBC Oct 2011?</p> <p>13/10/11</p>
<p>7/12/10</p>	<p><u>Environment Strategy</u></p> <p>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>	<p>December 2011</p>

Panel Date	Decision	Action	Response	Date
12/01/10 07/12/10 08/03/11 08/03/11 14/06/11 14/06/11 14/06/11	<u>Forward Plan</u>			
	Site Options Planning Proposals Development Plan Document	Guidance and new policy awaited		TBC
	Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy	Report requested		13/10/11
	St Ives West Urban Design Framework	Report requested		13/10/11
	Great Fen Supplementary Planning Document	Report requested		13/10/11
	Residential Travel Plan	Report requested		13/09/11
	St Ives West Urban Design Framework	Report requested		13/10/11
13/05/09 2/02/10	<p data-bbox="297 975 927 1007"><u>Provision of Play Facilities for Young People</u></p> <p data-bbox="297 1043 1010 1347">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 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.</p> <p data-bbox="297 1383 1010 1442">Final report of Working Group considered by Panel. Report presented to Cabinet on 22nd April 2010 by</p>			

Panel Date	Decision	Action	Response	Date
2/11/10	Councillors P G Mitchell and R J West. 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.			
7/12/10	In light of recent developments, the Panel has agreed to pursue this matter further at a later date.			TBC
3/11/09	<u>Monitoring of Section 106 Agreements (Item transferred over from O&S Social Wellbeing Panel)</u> Panel agreed to include the Monitoring of Section 106 agreements in its work plan.	Monitoring reports to be submitted to Panel on a quarterly basis.	Quarterly monitoring report received at July meeting. Next report due October,	13/10/11
2/11/10	<u>CCTV Provision (Item transferred over from O&S Social Wellbeing)</u> Panel expressed some concern at the recent budgetary announcement made by the Council to reduce CCTV provision within the District in 2011-12 with a view to ceasing the service from April 2012.			

Panel Date	Decision	Action	Response	Date
4/01/11	Members have requested 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.	Request submitted to the Head of Operations.	Update report received at July meeting. Further report due.	13/10/11
14/06/11	<u>Waste Collection and Recycling Policies</u> Report due in November	Report requested		08/11/11
14/06/11	<u>Maintenance of Water Courses</u> The Panel has requested a presentation on the maintenance arrangements in place for water courses within the District.	Presentation requested from the Projects and Assets Manager	C Allen due to address Panel at a future meeting.	TBA

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Decision Digest

Edition 116

Monthly summary of the decisions taken at meetings of the Council, Cabinet, Overview & Scrutiny and other Panels for the period 24th June to 29th July 2011.

TREASURY MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2010/11

In accordance with the CIPFA Code of Practice, the Overview & Scrutiny Panel (Economic Well-Being) has considered the Council's performance for the year ending 31st March 2011 in the investment of its capital receipts. As part of this, the Panel has also been acquainted with the Council's Strategies for both borrowing and investing funds in the current year.

The Panel was pleased to note that the performance of the funds in a year when rates have stayed low has been very good, with both the benchmark and the budgeted investment interest having been significantly exceeded.

Members discussed a number of issues including the management of the Council's cash flow, the potential to lend monies to other authorities and the reduction in the average interest rates that have been paid on investments during the year.

The Panel has also discussed the Authority's Strategy for long-term borrowing and noted that the capital programme for the next 5 years assumes expenditure of approximately £23M plus any slippages from individual years. Following the reduction of the Council's reserves over the last few years, all investments are now being managed in-house.

Subsequently, the Cabinet has noted the views of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel and recommended the report to Council.

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER FOR RESIDENTS

The Overview & Scrutiny Panel (Economic Well-Being) has received a presentation on future proposals for communicating with residents in Huntingdonshire. These include the production of an electronic newsletter on a quarterly basis at a cost of £1095 per annum.

Having indicated their support in principle to the electronic proposal for a twelve month trial period, Members queried whether it would be possible to reproduce the electronic version within other parish magazines. It has also been suggested that the Council could utilise Parish Council websites to signpost residents to relevant information.

Discussion has ensued on a number of issues including the use of an externally managed database to store the email addresses of residents who had registered their interest in receiving council information and whether e-communication would disadvantage a particular section of society. Members were keen to ensure that a thorough risk assessment had been undertaken of the company involved to ensure that the Council did not fall foul of any anti-discrimination legislation.

Lastly, Members were of the opinion that it would be unnecessary to produce a supplementary printed version of the newsletter.

CUSTOMER SERVICES QUARTERLY REPORT

The Overview & Scrutiny Panel (Economic Well-Being) has considered the quarterly performance report for Customer Services. As changes to the opening hours at the Ramsey and Yaxley Centres had not yet come into effect, Members noted that it would not be possible to review the impact of these changes until June 2012.

Customer satisfaction levels continued to be maintained despite a reduction in staffing levels. Members discussed a number of issues including the business continuity arrangements for the Call Centre, the opening hours of the Yaxley Customer Service Centre and whether any consideration had been given to providing a service for other authorities.

Having regard to the increasing number of benefit enquiries being received in the current economic climate, the Panel has noted that it was uncertain at this stage as to whether the subsidy from the Department for Work and Pensions for housing benefit would continue after April 2012. With this in mind, the Panel has asked the Executive Councillor to give further consideration to the actions which could be taken in the absence of the receipt of any further funding.

ONE LEISURE FINANCE

In conjunction with the Overview and Scrutiny Panel for Social Well-Being, the Economic Well-Being Panel has received an update on the work of the Group which had been established to review the performance of One Leisure

and to make recommendations on the service's future strategic direction.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2010/11

The Overview & Scrutiny Panels have reviewed the contents of their draft Annual Report for 2010/11. The Report summarises the Panels' activities over the past year and contains illustrations of their impact and the results that they have achieved.

SHARED HOME IMPROVEMENT AGENCY SERVICES

Details of a proposal to establish a shared Home Improvement Agency Service with Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire District Councils was considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Social Well-Being).

Owing to a number of concerns raised by Members, the Panel has requested the attendance of the Managing Director (Communities, Partnerships and Projects), the Head of Housing Services and the Executive Councillor for Resources and Customer Services to attend the Panel's September 2011 meeting. Concerns related to the potential redundancies which might result, the impact of an increased travel requirement on staff, the effect of a merger on the ability to deliver a consistent service using best practice.

ANNUAL REPORT ON ORGANISATIONS SUPPORTED BY GRANTS VIA SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS 2010-11

The performance of voluntary organisations in receipt of funding from the Council through service level agreements was received and noted by the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Social Well-Being). All organisations are monitored against a set of agreed

performance indicators and other organisational criteria on a quarterly basis.

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

It was reported to Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Social Well-Being) that Circle had not yet assumed responsibility for the management of Hinchingsbrooke Hospital. Circle's intention to report to the Panel in September will therefore be deferred to another meeting.

REVENUE BUDGET AND CAPITAL MONITORING: 2010/11 OUTTURN AND 2011/12 BUDGET

The Cabinet has noted the final outturn for revenue and expenditure in 2010/11 and variations already identified in the current year. Executive Councillors were pleased to note that as a result of under spending the Council has been successful in saving an additional £1 million in reserves.

Executive Councillors also have been apprised of variations in the capital programme in the current year and adjustments in the 2011/12 budget.

UPDATE ON SURFACE WATER FLOODING ISSUES

The Overview and Scrutiny (Environmental Well-being) Panel has again requested a response from Anglian Water to long term surface water flooding issues in St Ives.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE FUTURE TRANSPORT "TRANSPORT FOR CAMBRIDGESHIRE"

Having considered a report outlining plans for a collaborative approach to future countywide transport provision

through the Cambridgeshire Future Transport Initiative, the Overview and Scrutiny (Environmental Well-being) Panel has highlighted to Cabinet the importance of safeguarding the Council's interests in community transport.

The Panel has in principle supported a suggestion that the District Council's rural transport budget is aligned with other Cambridgeshire partners in order to provide a more efficient and cost effective service. However Members do not want to see Council funds committed without the service being protected, or replaced as part of the project, as these often provide a lifeline to rural communities.

Subsequently, the Cabinet has supported the on-going development of the Initiative and the work of a cross authority Member led Governance and Solutions Group as they support the Council's objectives.

CCTV PROVISION

The Overview and Scrutiny (Environmental Well-Being) Panel has been acquainted with progress of negotiations to secure financial support for the Council's CCTV service.

The Panel has taken into account the views of fellow Councillors on the value of CCTV. A petition from residents in St Ives requesting the installation of an additional camera in the Town will be considered at the next meeting.

The Panel had been disappointed to hear that, despite the considerable use made of the service by them, the Police have declined to contribute to the running costs of CCTV. Whilst acknowledging the need for the Council to make savings, the Panel has requested that all avenues are explored in order to maintain the service.

MONITORING OF SECTION 106 AGREEMENTS

Having been provided with an update on the receipt and expenditure by the Council of money negotiated under Section 106 Agreements, the Overview and Scrutiny (Environmental Well-Being) Panel has been given assurance that there is no possibility of payments being allowed to expire.

REPRESENTATION ON ORGANISATIONS.

The Cabinet has appointed Councillor P L E Bucknell to serve on the Nene & Ouse Community Transport Board of Trustees and Councillors S Cawley, J J Dutton and T D Sanderson to the One Leisure Huntingdon Sports Centre Joint Committee.

LEISURE CENTRE MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS

The Cabinet has been advised that the five secondary schools linked to the leisure centres sites have committed themselves to achieving Academy status. As a consequence the ownership of the school sites will transfer from the County to the appropriate schools/colleges and the associated management agreements will need to be renegotiated. With this in mind, the Cabinet has authorised the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, after consultation with the Executive Councillor for Health and Active Communities, to negotiate and finalise the draft heads of terms for the leisure centres and to enter into lease and new management agreements as necessary.

DEVELOPMENT OF ONE LEISURE, ST IVES

The Cabinet has considered four potential options to re-model the St Ives

Leisure Centre. The proposals have been designed to reduce One Leisure's net operating costs and to increase admissions and participation levels to meet both Government and Council health agenda targets.

Executive Councillors were conscious that the current rifle range facility had not been incorporated into the remodelling proposals. In that respect, the Cabinet has noted that the range returns a minimal amount of income and that the Rifle and Pistol Club was not in a position to make a significant contribution to the cost of providing a smaller facility within the development.

Having considered the views of the Overview and Scrutiny Panels (Economic Well Being and Social Well Being) the Cabinet has supported Option B for the redevelopment of the Centre and has requested the Leisure Centres General Manager to issue tenders in respect of this. Following the final tender evaluation a further report will be submitted to Cabinet to include an assessment of the business case for the proposal.

PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY – HUNTINGDON

Part of Public Footpath No 9 crosses the proposed development site for the new food store, petrol filling station and other retail and residential units on land between John Street and George Street in Huntingdon. The Development Management Panel has agreed that an order be made under Section 257 of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 to stop up that part of the footpath which will be obstructed by the new development on the understanding that an alternative footway will be created as part of the development of Huntingdon West and in place before the existing route is stopped up.

DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT APPLICATIONS

At its July meeting, the Development Management Panel determined eight applications and of these seven were approved and one refused. An application for a new dwelling off the Great Whyte in Ramsey was deferred to enable further consultation with the applicant to secure an amended scheme which preferably could comprise a single storey dwelling using materials which would reflect the location of the development in a conservation area.

An application resulting in the permanent use of land as a residential caravan site for gypsy families at 5 Acres Field, St Ives Road, Woodhurst also was approved.

APPLICATION FOR DISPENSATION

The Standards Committee has approved an application for dispensation received from St Ives Town Council which would enable four newly elected Councillors to speak and vote on matters relating to the Corn Exchange should these arise at meetings of the Town Council. The remaining Members of the Council had previously been granted dispensation for the same purpose. The Town Council would be unable to deal with business relating to the Corn Exchange unless these dispensations were in place because of the interests that Members would be required to declare.

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