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# Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Service Delivery)

Report of the meeting held on 6th June 2006

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## Matters for Information

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### 1. **“GROWING SUCCESS” – CORPORATE PLAN AND PERFORMANCE MONITORING**

The Panel has considered proposals to review and update the Corporate Plan and the end of year results for local and national performance indicators. Members have noted the timetable for the review, the training for Members contained within it and the role of the proposed Member Working Group comprising the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel and an additional Member from each of the Panels, which will lead the review of the Council's objectives and Improvement Plan and the development of the performance monitoring framework. The Service Delivery Panel has appointed Councillor R W J Eaton as its third representative on this Group.

The Panel has discussed the Council's performance in relation to the collection of non-domestic rates, the electronic delivery of services, grant aid for legal advice for local residents that has the quality mark, domestic burglaries, processing notification of changes of circumstances, land and highway cleanliness, economic development and affordable housing. Particular reference has been made to the local indicator on the Council's employees and, as a result, Members have been reminded that the Action Plan arising from the Employee Opinion Survey will be submitted to a future meeting.

Members also have commented on the format of the performance monitoring report, following which it has been agreed that the inclusion of the quartile in which the Council's performance for each indicator falls, the development of qualitative measures and prioritisation and weighting of indicators will be included in the review.

### 2. **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY – PROCEDURE, REMIT AND STUDIES**

#### **Progress**

The Panel has been reminded of the remits of the Overview and Scrutiny Panels and the processes involved in their work. Members' attention has been drawn to the importance of the adopted Forward Plan procedure, which assists with pre-scrutiny of Cabinet matters and helps avoid the call-in of decisions.

The Panel also has reviewed its programme of studies. It is aimed to conclude the study on Twinning at a future meeting of the Working Group, which will be held as soon as possible. In addition, with regard to the study on the rural economy and services, Members have deferred meeting with the Patient and Public Information in Health Forum for twelve months in order that the effects of changes to dentistry services can be assessed. On the same study the Panel has considered whether it can be extended to any other sectors of the rural community. Having discussed farming, affordable housing and youth facilities, Councillor R W F Bailey has undertaken to consider whether there are any areas where the study can usefully be pursued and to report back to the Panel.

The Panel also has requested the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Service Support) to undertake a study on cycling provision in the District and has agreed to ask the Chairman of that Panel for permission to undertake a study on highways maintenance which falls within his Panel's remit.

Finally, the Panel has decided to carry out a study into the possible introduction of a traffic enforcement scheme to be delivered via Town and Parish Councils.

### **3. APPOINTMENTS**

The Panel has appointed Councillor D J Priestman to the Flood Forum and Councillor K J Churchill as the Council's substitute on the Cambridgeshire County Council Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee.

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## **Other Matters of Interest**

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### **4. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000 – FORWARD PLAN**

The Panel has been acquainted with details of the Forward Plan of key decisions, which has been prepared by the Leader. Investigations are to be carried out into items on Recycling Credits, an Enforcement Policy for Private Sector Housing and Agreements for the Extension to Paxton Pits Nature Reserve. A report on the Housing Strategy will be submitted to the next meeting.

### **5. SCRUTINY**

The Panel has considered the latest edition of the Decision Digest and Members have received an update on the item entitled Young People.

S J Criswell  
Chairman