

**WORK PLAN: STUDIES
(Report by the Head of Administration)**

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The purpose of this report is to allow Members of the Panel to review their programme of studies.

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 Panels' respective terms of reference. These are currently:-

Service Delivery:

Environment & Transport
Leisure
Housing & Public Health
Operations

Service Support:

Finance
Resources & Policy
Information Technology
Planning Strategy

2.3 Ongoing studies have been allocated between the Panels accordingly -

STUDY	PANEL	STATUS
The Council's Travel Plan	Service Support	Working Group meeting held on 20/12/07.
Older Persons Public Health Needs	Service Delivery	Working Group to meet to provide information for Cabinet and discuss progress of the actions.
Cleaning Regimes in Town Centres	Service Delivery	Report to meeting on 8/01/08.
Cycling	Service Support	Final report of the Working Group expected at Panel's February meeting.
The Promotion of Services provided for improved home energy efficiency.	Service Delivery	Recommendations made for inclusion in Environment Strategy.
Processes and Procedures involved with the adoption of roads and sewers.	Service Delivery	Working Group has held first meeting to plan the study. Information being collated.

Traffic Enforcement	Service Delivery	Awaiting report following decision by AJC.
The Processes Involved in Applying for Community Development Grant Aid and the Effectiveness of Grant Schemes.	Service Delivery	Interim report has been to Cabinet. Information being gathered on grant schemes.
Disability Access	Service Delivery	Survey of Parish Councils and Councillors undertaken. Further work being done to follow up results.
State of the District Consultation	Service Delivery	Working Group held 3 meetings. Will meet again on 10/01/08.
Parish Charter for Huntingdonshire	Service Support	Letters to be sent to the Parish Councils.
Town Centre Initiatives	Service Support	Meeting held with DC Officers and Members. Interviews to be arranged with TCM's and Chairmen in January/February.

2.4 The Service Support Panel have also identified the following as future studies:-

Internal Communication with Members	Service Support
Review of the Council's Housing Needs Assessment Process	Service Support

2.5 The Service Delivery Panel have also identified the following as possible future studies:-

Joint working between the three tiers of local government and the implications of the white paper	Service Delivery
Heavy Goods Vehicle Parking throughout the District	Service Support
Role and effectiveness of the East of England Regional Assembly.	Service Delivery
Support for vulnerable people	Service Delivery
The Council's Plans in terms of Tourism and Sports Infrastructure in preparation for the 2012 Olympics.	Service Delivery

3. RECOMMENDATION

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

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BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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