

**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 current Executive responsibilities. These were advised in agreement with the Panel Chairmen with effect from September 2008.

**Service Delivery:**

Customer Services &  
Information Technology  
Leisure  
Housing & Public Health  
Operational & Countryside Services

**Service Support:**

Finance & Environment  
Resources & Policy  
Planning Strategy /Transportation  
Special Advisor to the Cabinet

2.3 Ongoing studies have been allocated between the Panels accordingly –

<b>STUDY</b>	<b>PANEL</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
Cleaning Regimes in Town Centres	Service Delivery	The Cabinet had considered the Panel's concluding report and has requested further information. A further report will be submitted to the Cabinet at their 6 <sup>th</sup> November meeting.
Process and Procedures involved with the adoption of roads and sewers.	Service Delivery	Investigations ongoing. Information being sought from the County Council and Anglian Water. Further meeting to be arranged.
The Processes involved in Applying for Community Grant Aid and the Effectiveness of Grant Schemes.	Service Delivery	Investigative work complete. Final meeting held on 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2008. Working Group is now in the process of compiling their final report.
Disability Access	Service Delivery	Meeting of the Working Group held on 9 <sup>th</sup> October. Completion of study anticipated by the end of 2008.
Section 106	Service Support	Working Group is in the process of compiling their final report. Update to be provided to November Panel meeting.

Great Fen Project	Service Support	Presentation to be made to Panel's November meeting.
Social Consequences of Alcohol Abuse	Service Support	Further meetings to be held on 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 24 <sup>th</sup> November 2008. Update to be provided to November Panel meeting.
Maximising Council Income	Service Support	First meeting to be held on 1 <sup>st</sup> December following the completion to two internal audits on Income Generation and Discretionary Service Charges.
Affordable Housing	Service Delivery	Scoping Report to be considered at a future meeting.
Impact of New A14 in terms of air quality and noise pollution.	Service Delivery	Preliminary advice received from the District Council's Environmental and Community Health Services Division. Matter to be raised at a future meeting.

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

Review of the incentives of the Council's Travel Plan.	Service Support
The Council's Investment Strategy	Service Support

### 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.