OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (SERVICE SUPPORT)

13th JANUARY 2009

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 –

STUDY	PANEL	STATUS
Process and Procedures involved with the adoption of roads and sewers.	Service Delivery	Investigations ongoing. Further meeting arranged with the Head of Planning Services and a representative from the County Council on 29 th January 2009.
The Processes involved in Applying for Community Grant Aid and the Effectiveness of Grant Schemes.	Service Delivery	Panel has considered the Working Group's final report. Due to appear before the Cabinet on 29 th January 2009.
Disability Access	Service Delivery	Final Report to be considered by the Panel at their January meeting.
Section 106	Service Support	Further meeting to be held on 8 th January 2009. Final report to be presented to February Panel meeting.
Social Consequences of Alcohol Abuse	Service Support	Final report to be considered by the Panel at their January meeting.
Maximising Council Income	Service Support	Further meeting to be held on 3 rd March 2009.

Provision of Leisure Facilities for Young People	Service Delivery	Subject raised as an area for potential study. Scoping report requested with the Heads of Operations and Environmental & Community Health Services.
Homelessness and the Housing Market	Service Delivery	Report on the issue of homelessness and the housing market to be considered by the Panel at their January meeting.
Recycled Materials	Service Delivery	Report requested with the Head of Operations on trends in the value of recycled materials.
Future Governance of Hinchingbrooke Hospital: Consultation Arrangements	Service Delivery	Dr S Dunn, Director of Strategy, East of England Strategic Health Authority and Hinchingbrooke Next Steps Project Director and Ms J Bawden, Director of Communications and Public Engagement, NHS Cambridgeshire to attend January Panel meeting to discuss the proposals for public and stakeholder engagement in plans for the future governance and operation of Hinchingbrooke Hospital.

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 Future Borrowing Arrangements.	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.