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

1<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER 2009 8<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2009 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2009

# WORK PLAN STUDIES (Report by the Head of Democratic and Central 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**

Housing
Community
Leisure Centres
Operations (part)
Democratic and Central Services (part)
People, Performance and Partnerships (part)

## **Environmental Well-Being**

Environmental and Technical Services Planning Services Environmental Health Operations (part)

#### **Economic Well-Being**

Information Management
Finance
Customer Service and Call Centres
Revenues
Democratic and Central Services (part)
Law, Property and Governance
People, Performance and Partnerships (part)
HQ/Accommodation

2.3 On going studies have been allocated between the Panels accordingly:-

| STUDY  | PANEL                       | STATUS   |
|--|-----------------------------|--|
| The processes involved in applying for community grant aid and the effectiveness of grant schemes. | Economic<br>Well-Being      | Annual report on those organisations supported by grants to be submitted to a future Panel meeting.                        |
| Provision of leisure facilities for young people across the District.                              | Social<br>Well-Being        | Investigations on going. Meeting of the Working Group held on 13 <sup>th</sup> August 2009 with the Head of Operations.    |
| Car parking at Hinchingbrooke Hospital.  | Social<br>Well-Being        | The Panel has requested for further information to be submitted to a future meeting.                                       |
| Tourism  | Economic<br>Well-Being      | Panel will consider looking at the wider tourism issue at a brainstorming session following the Panel's September meeting. |
| The process for the determination of planning applications.  | Environmental<br>Well-Being | Investigations ongoing. Meeting of the Working Group held on 6 <sup>th</sup> August 2009.                                  |

2.4 The following have also been identified by Members as possible future studies:-

| Review of the incentives contained in the Council's Travel Plan. | Environmental Well-Being |
|--|--------------------------|
| The Council's future borrowing arrangements.                     | Economic Well-Being      |
| Planning enforcement   | Environmental Well-Being |
| Waste disposal arrangements                                      | Environmental Well-Being |

# 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.

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