

PERFORMANCE MONITORING
(Report by the Overview and Scrutiny Panels)

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Panels for Social Well-Being, Environmental Well-Being and Economic Well-Being meetings on 1st, 8th and 10th September 2009 respectively considered a report by the Head of People, Performance and Partnerships on the Council's performance against its priority objectives. This report sets out the Panels' views on the performance levels achieved.

2. COMMENTS

- 2.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Panels have endorsed the comments of the Corporate Plan Working Group. These comments are reflected in the following paragraphs.

Social Well-Being

- 2.2 Having questioned whether the data on the throughput of the cardiac rehabilitation programme and health walks in Huntingdonshire could be presented separately rather than as a combined figure, the performance report now makes clear that while health walks is above the quarterly target, cardiac rehabilitation throughput is slightly below the expected level. Although the latter has been attributed to seasonal variance because the Easter holidays fell in April this year, Members will continue to monitor this target.
- 2.3 Members have discussed trends in demand for housing services in the District and the implications they have had for a number of the Council's objectives. The Panel has noted that the target for the number of households living in temporary accommodation has not been achieved, and this has been attributed to the economic downturn and a resulting increase in demand. The corollary of this has been that the target for the number of households that have been prevented from becoming homeless has been exceeded by a significant margin.

Environmental Well-Being

- 2.4 The Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Environmental Well-Being) has noted that all of the indicators where statistics are available are positive with the exception of the percentage of applications for loft and cavity wall insulation received under the Warmer Homes For Life Scheme that have been replied to within 5 working days. In this case, Members have suggested that the target ought to be amended to reflect the number of enquiries that result in the installation of loft and cavity wall insulation, as this would be a more meaningful measure.

Economic Well-Being

- 2.5 The Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Economic Well-Being) has received clarification that the Council has deliberately held vacant 30 posts during the quarter.
- 2.6 Having questioned why the leisure centres have made the full year's NNDR payment upfront, Members have received an assurance that this neither increases nor decreases the direct cost to the Council as no discount is available however the payment is made. However, Members have commented on the loss of interest as a result of this change.

3. THE CORPORATE PLAN WORKING GROUP

- 3.1 The Corporate Plan Working Group has received an analysis of the level of budget associated with each of the Council's aims and objectives. Having discussed the information presented in detail, Members have decided to undertake an exercise in more detailed priority analysis. They have requested a further breakdown of the budget for this purpose. Members will take into consideration whether Council activities are undertaken on the basis of permissive powers or are statutory duties. An additional meeting of the Group will be arranged for this purpose.
- 3.2 Following a suggestion at a previous meeting of the Group, Members have received information on all those community and council aims where targets were not being achieved. As a result, further information has been requested. This will be presented to the additional meeting of the Group.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 All three Overview and Scrutiny Panels have expressed satisfaction with the performance levels the Council has achieved. The Cabinet is invited to consider the Panels' comments as part of its deliberations on the report by the Head of People, Performance and Partnerships.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Corporate Plan Working Group Notes of the meeting held on 18th August 2009.

Minutes and Reports of the meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Social Well-Being) on 1st^t September 2009, Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Environmental Well-Being) on 8th September 2009 and the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Economic Well-Being) on 10th September 2009.

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