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.		Annual report on those organisations supported by grants to be submitted to a future Panel meeting.
Provision of play facilities for young people across the District.	Social Well-Being	Investigations ongoing with the Head of Operations.
Car parking at Hinchingbrooke Hospital.	Social Well-Being	Investigations ongoing. Invitation to be extended to representatives of Hinchingbrooke NHS Trust to attend a future Panel meeting.
Tourism.	Economic Well-Being	Panel will consider looking at the wider implications of tourism.
The process for the determination of planning applications.	Environmental Well-Being	Investigations ongoing.

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
Management of capital projects by Environmental Management Section.	Economic Well-Being
The effect and cost implications of the loss of the Huntingdon Enterprise Agency.	Economic Well-Being
The employees performance development review process.	Economic Well-Being

The Creative Exchange, St Neots.	Economic Well-Being
Annual report on organisations supported through service level agreements.	Economic Well-Being
Financial reports on the District Council's Leisure Centres.	Economic Well-Being
Lessons learned from the Headquarters and other accommodation project.	Economic Well-Being
Industrial Units at Caxton Road, St Ives.	Economic Well-Being
Night time economy study (Hospital's perspective).	Economic 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.

Contact Officers:Miss H Ali, Democratic Services Officer
01480 388006Mrs J Walker, Trainee Democratic Services Officer
01480 387049Mrs A Jerrom, Member Development Officer
01480 388009