

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

7TH SEPTEMBER 2010
14TH SEPTEMBER 2010
9TH SEPTEMBER 2010

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 Details of ongoing studies are set out in the attached Appendix.

2.4 Members are reminded that if they have a specific interest in any study area which is not being considered by their Panel there are opportunities for involvement in all the studies being undertaken.

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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ONGOING STUDIES

STUDY	OBJECTIVES	PANEL	STATUS	TYPE
Car Parking at Hinchingsbrooke Hospital	To investigate the causes of public complaints regarding the provision of parking facilities at the Hospital.	Social Well-Being	Six month review of new pricing structure to be conducted with the Hospital in January / February.	Whole Panel Study
Visitor Development & Town Centre Vibrancy	To consider issues relating to Visitor Development & Town Centre Vibrancy.	Economic Well-Being	Further information requested on the cost of the tourism service and the benefits it brings to both the Council and to the District.	Whole Panel Study
Consultation Processes	To review the Council's current consultation processes	Social Well-Being	Head of People, Performance & Partnerships to report at Panel's September meeting.	To be determined.
Health Implications of the Night Time Economy	To follow up the previous study undertaken by the former Overview and Scrutiny (Service Support)	Economic Well-Being	Further information requested with regards to the rate rate of alcohol-specific hospital admissions for under 18s and the availability of any available qualitative data on alcohol consumption in rural areas.	Whole Panel Study

Gypsy & Traveller Welfare	To be determined.	Social Well-Being	Report requested for future meeting.	To be determined.
Planning Conservation	To consider & evaluate the role of the Council's Planning Conservation Team in the preservation of Huntingdonshire's built heritage with particular reference to conservation areas and listed buildings.	Environmental Well-Being	Working Group meetings held on 29 th July, 5 th August and 2 nd September 2010.	Working Group.
Lessons learned from the Headquarters and other accommodation project.	To review the implementation of the project.	Economic Well-Being	Report to be presented to Panel meeting on 14 th October 2010.	To be determined.
Leisure Centre Hospitality Performance & Future Plans.	To review the service provided following the receipt of recent performance management information.	Economic Well-Being	Report to be presented to Panel meeting on 14 th October 2010.	To be determined.
Leisure Centre Financial Performance and Employment Structure	To review the overall financial performance and monitoring arrangements To consider the current Employment Structure.	Economic Well-Being	Report to be presented to Panel meeting on 14 th October 2010.	To be determined.

Waste Collection Round Re-Scheduling	To review the current scheduling of Waste Collection rounds with a view to achieving cost savings at Bank Holidays.	Economic Well-Being	Scrutiny & Review Manager to obtain further information on previous round rescheduling and liaise with Mrs H Roberts directly,	Study currently being pursued by Individual Panel Member: Mrs H Roberts
Promotion of the use of re-useable nappies	To consider the benefits of promoting a scheme for re-useable nappies	Economic Well-Being	Scrutiny & Review Manager to obtain further information and liaise with Mrs H Roberts directly.	Study currently being pursued by Individual Panel Member: Mrs H Roberts
Use of Section 106 money for transport schemes in St Neots	To obtain further information with regard to County Council expenditure of Section 106 monies for transportation in St Neots	Economic Well-Being	Additional Information obtained from County Council and provided to Councillor G S Thorpe. No further action at this time.	Study currently being pursued by Individual Panel Member: Councillor G S E Thorpe.
Industrial Units at Caxton Road, St Ives	To consider the business plan for these premises.	Economic Well-Being	Copy of the business plan which was considered by Cabinet in October has been circulated to Members.	To be determined.

POSSIBLE FUTURE STUDIES

The Employees Performance Development Review Process	To review the current process.	Economic Well-Being	Outcome of Officer Review to be reported to the Panel when this is concluded.	To be determined.
Land Use for Agricultural Purpose in the context of planning policies and its contribution to the local economy.	To review the lack of promotion and protection of land for this purpose.	Environmental Well-Being	Not being pursued as a study at the current time.	To be determined.
Rural Transport	To review the lack of transportation in rural areas.	Environmental Well-Being	Not being pursued as a study at the current time.	To be determined.