

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

**2ND NOVEMBER 2010
9TH NOVEMBER 2010
11TH NOVEMBER 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 with a view to determining whether the approach taken to consultation is suitable and consistent across the authority.	Social Well-Being	Panel has begun to scope this study and requested for background information to be circulated. Invitation to be extended to the Policy and Strategic Services Manager to attend a future meeting.	Whole Panel Study
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 of alcohol-specific hospital admissions for under 18s and the availability of any available qualitative data on alcohol consumption in rural areas. Presentation on the Cardiff System to be given to January meeting.	Whole Panel Study

Gypsy & Traveller Welfare	To be determined pending receipt of background information on existing gypsy and traveller sites already established within the District.	Social Well-Being	Report requested for submission to a future meeting. Following consultation with the Chairman, agreed that the report would be deferred until further notice.	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, 2 nd September, 7 th and 22 nd October 2010. The next meeting of the Group is scheduled to be held on 11 th November 2010.	Working Group.
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	Requested further information for submission to future meeting.	Whole Panel Study.
Proposals to replace EEDA with EDRPs.	To establish the implications of these proposals.	Economic Well-Being	Report requested for submission to a future meeting,	To be determined.
A14 improvements.	To review the implications to the local economy of the decision not to proceed with the A14 improvements.	Economic Well-Being	Report requested for submission to a future meeting,	To be determined,
Tree Strategy	To form a strategy in conjunction with the Tree Officers for the retention and planting of trees.	Environmental Well-Being	Working Group meeting scheduled to be held on 5 th November 2010.	Working Group.

POSSIBLE FUTURE STUDIES

<p>The Employees Performance Development Review Process</p>	<p>To review the current process.</p>	<p>Economic Well-Being</p>	<p>Outcome of Officer Review to be reported to the Panel when this is concluded. Work is expected to conclude in February 2011.</p>	<p>To be determined.</p>
<p>Land Use for Agricultural Purpose in the context of planning policies and its contribution to the local economy.</p>	<p>To review the lack of promotion and protection of land for this purpose.</p>	<p>Environmental Well-Being</p>	<p>Not being pursued as a study at the current time.</p>	<p>To be determined.</p>
<p>Rural Transport</p>	<p>To review the lack of transportation in rural areas.</p>	<p>Environmental Well-Being</p>	<p>Not being pursued as a study at the current time.</p>	<p>To be determined.</p>