

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

7th JUNE 2011
9th JUNE 2011
14th JUNE 2011

WORK PLAN STUDIES
(Report by the Head of Legal and Democratic 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

Environmental and Community Health
Housing
One Leisure
Legal and Democratic Services (part)
People, Performance and Partnerships (part)

Environmental Well-Being

Operations
Environmental Management
Planning Services

Economic Well-Being

Information Management
Financial Services
Customer Services
Legal and Democratic Services (part)
People, Performance and Partnerships (part)

- 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
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	Interim findings to be submitted to Panel in June 2011.	Working Group
Gypsy & Traveller Welfare	To examine existing gypsy and traveller sites in the District with a view to informing any future Planning Policy on sites.	Social Well-Being	Report requested for submission to a future meeting. Following consultation with the Chairman, agreed that the study would proceed once Government guidance has been issued on future provision requirements.	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).	Social Well-Being	Social Well-Being Panel to consider whether to incorporate this study into their work programme. Further information to be submitted to a future Panel meeting.	To be determined.

Leisure Centre Financial Performance and Employment Structure		To review the overall financial performance and monitoring arrangements. To consider the current / future business structure. To consider whether an increase in income might be made by charging non-residents of the District a higher rate to use the Council's leisure centres	Economic Well-Being and Social Well-Being	Meetings of the Working Group held on 3 rd March and 28 th April 2011. Next meeting scheduled for 23 rd June 2011.	Working Group
Cambridgeshire Investment Plan	Local	To review the implications of the Investment Plan upon local housing, to include the potential shortfalls in the delivery of affordable housing within the District, identify what housing is due to come forward and to include reference to the underlying links between housing and planning.	Social Well-Being	Report to be considered at Panel's September 2011 meeting.	Whole Panel Study.
CCTV Provision within the District		To review the impact of the Council's proposal to cease the CCTV service with effect from April 2012.	Environmental Well-Being	Members have requested an update on negotiations with Partners on the future of the service from 2012/13 onwards for submission to the Panel's July 2011 meeting.	Whole Panel Study.
Voluntary Sector		To seek alternative ways of supporting the Voluntary Sector from 2013/14 onwards.	Social Well-Being	Considered at Panel's February and March meeting. Panel appointed a Working Group to	Working Group

			consider options for support in the future. First meeting held on 28 th March 2011. Background information to be circulated to Working Group prior to arranging a further meeting.	
The Use of Consultants	To review the criteria used in the appointment of consultants and assess the cost and value gained from using them.	Economic Well-Being	Final report to be considered at Panel's June meeting.	Working Group.
The Financial Implications of the Council's Future Housing Responsibilities.	To be determined.	Economic Well-Being	Copy of Cambridge Local Investment Plan to be provided to Councillor Shellens when it is distributed with Social Well-Being Agenda.	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	The Panel has been acquainted with steps that are being taken to pursue this matter with the Government. The Panel will receive updates on progress in due course.	Whole Panel Study.
Tree Strategy	To form a strategy in conjunction with the Tree Officers for the retention and planting of trees.	Environmental Well-Being	Working Group meetings on 5 th and 24 th November 2010. The next meeting was scheduled to be held in January 2011.	Working Group.

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	Under consideration.	To be determined.
Rural Transport	To review the lack of transportation in rural areas.	Environmental Well-Being	Received a presentation from Transport Team Leader at April meeting.	To be determined.
Rural Crime	To be determined.	Social Well-Being Panel to nominate representative as and when required.	Meeting of Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Committee held on 13 th December 2010.	Joint Authority Working Group.
Review of Neighbourhood Forums in Huntingdonshire	To undertake a review of the Neighbourhood Forums in Huntingdonshire.	Social Well-Being	Suggested by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 19 th May 2011	To be determined.
Housing Register	To review the availability of larger houses for letting the Council's housing register.	Social Well-Being	To consider a request by the Economic Well-Being Panel to investigate this issue.	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. Work is expected to conclude in Spring 2011.	To be determined.
Central Recharges		Economic Well-Being	To be pursued once the One Leisure Study has concluded.	To be determined