

**CAMBRIDGESHIRE RESIDENTIAL TRAVEL PLAN GUIDANCE
(Report by the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Environmental Well-Being))**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 At its meeting held on 13th September 2011, the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Environmental Well-Being) considered the report by the Head of Planning Services on the Cambridgeshire Residential Travel Plan Guidance. The following paragraphs contain a summary of the Panel's discussions on the report.

2. THE PANEL'S DISCUSSIONS

- 2.1 The Panel has reviewed the draft Residential Travel Plan (RTP) Guidance, which has been developed by the County Council in discussion with the City and District Councils. It has been noted that adoption of the Guidance is intended to make the County Council's policy position more robust.
- 2.2 Members have focussed on the threshold above which an RTP will be requested. It is proposed that Huntingdonshire will require an RTP for any development with 80 or more dwellings. This is in accordance with national Guidance on Transport Assessment (Department for Transport, 2007). However, other District Councils have indicated they will use a lower figure. Fenland District Council will use 25 dwellings or more and South Cambridgeshire District Council will use 20 dwellings or more, or, if this is not known, where the site area is 0.5 hectares or more. The Panel is of the view that the requirement to produce an RTP represents a significant burden for developers and that the figure proposed by Huntingdonshire is required for the policy to be viable.
- 2.3 The Panel has suggested that social housing agencies should be included in the Consultation Plan in Appendix 1 to the report by the Head of Planning Services. Some Members of the Panel have also commented on the apparent inconsistency demonstrated by the County Council by introducing the requirement for developers to produce RTPs when it is reducing its support for public transport.
- 2.4 At the conclusion of their discussions the Panel endorsed the Cambridgeshire Residential Travel Plan Guidance.

3. CONCLUSION

- 3.1 The Cabinet is invited to consider the discussions of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Environmental Well-Being) as part of their deliberations on this item.

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Background Documents - Reports and Minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Environmental Well-Being) held on 13th September 2011.