

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANELS

**(ECONOMIC WELL-BEING)
(ENVIRONMENTAL WELL-BEING)
(SOCIAL WELL-BEING)**

**1st DECEMBER 2011
5th DECEMBER 2011
6th DECEMBER 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 Overview and Scrutiny remits. Details of ongoing studies being undertaken by the two other Panels are set out in the attached Appendix.
- 2.3 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.

**Contact Officers: Miss H Ali, Democratic Services Officer
01480 388006**

**Mrs A Jerrom, Member Development Officer
01480 388009**

**Mrs C Bulman, Democratic Services Officer
01480 388234**

ONGOING STUDIES

STUDY	OBJECTIVES	PANEL	STATUS	TYPE
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	Report considered at Panel's November 2011 meeting. Owing to a lack of data available, agreed to monitor the situation via the Community Safety Partnership on an annual basis.	Whole Panel Study
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 due to be presented to Panel in January 2012.	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.	Social Well-Being	Further report expected in January 2012.	Whole Panel Study.
Voluntary Sector	To seek alternative ways of supporting the Voluntary Sector from 2013/14 onwards and to assess the social value of the services that they provide within the District.	Social Well-Being	Working Group met on 9 th November with Executive Councillors for Healthy & Active Communities and Customer Services. Further meeting held on 23 rd November 2011.	Working Group
Tree Strategy	To form a strategy in conjunction with the Tree Officers for the retention and planting of trees.	Environmental Well-Being	Working Group met on 27 July 2011. Draft Tree Strategy circulated to officers for comment. Councillor Davies reported to September meeting and Strategy will be presented to the Panel in due course.	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	Scoping report to be submitted to a future meeting.	To be determined.
Rural Transport	To review the provision of transportation in rural areas.	Environmental Well-Being	Transport for Cambridgeshire report received in July 2011. Comments conveyed to Cabinet. Final report expected shortly.	To be determined.

Review of Neighbourhood Forums in Huntingdonshire	To undertake a review of the Neighbourhood Forums in Huntingdonshire.	Social Well-Being	Working Group established. First meeting held on 23 rd November to pursue the study further.	Working Group
Housing Benefit Changes and the effect on Huntingdonshire.	To consider the emerging issue of homelessness arising as a result of changes to the Housing Benefit system.	Social Well-Being	Background report to be submitted to December Panel Meeting.	To be determined.
Maintenance of Water Courses	To receive a presentation on the maintenance arrangements in place for Water Courses within the District.	Environmental Well-Being	Presentation given to October meeting. SUDs report due in January 2012.	To be determined.
Waste Collection and Recycling Policies	To investigate the Council's waste collection and recycling policies.	Environmental Well-Being	Working Group met in October. Policies being prepared by Eric Kendall to be presented to the Working Group for comment prior to submission to the Panel.	To be determined.

FUTURE STUDIES

Design Principles for Future Developments	To be determined.	Environmental Well-Being	Working Group to be established in January 2012. Councillors Curtis, Godfrey, Harlock appointed.	To be determined.
---	-------------------	--------------------------	--	-------------------