

## **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANELS**

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

**3<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY 2012  
5<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2012  
10<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2012**

### **WORK PLAN STUDIES (Report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services)**

#### **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Members 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.

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**ONGOING STUDIES**

<b>STUDY</b>	<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>PANEL</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>TYPE</b>
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.
Cambridgeshire Local Investment Plan	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 January 2012 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.	Social Well-Being	Further report expected in March/April 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	Social Well-Being	Working Group's conclusions endorsed by the Panel in December 2011. Further report to be considered by Panel in January 2012.	Working Group

	District.			
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. It is hoped that the Strategy will be available for the Working Group to view in February 2012.	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 in April 2012.	To be determined.
Review of Neighbourhood Forums in Huntingdonshire	To undertake a review of the Neighbourhood Forums in Huntingdonshire.	Social Well-Being	Update on meeting of the Working Group to be delivered to Panel in January. Further meeting of Working Group to be held in the New Year with the Police Huntingdonshire Area Commander.	Working Group

Housing Benefit Changes and the potential impact 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 considered by Panel at their December meeting. Report to be considered at the January meeting of the Economic Well-Being Panel.	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	The County Council's Flood and Water Manager will attend the February meeting to advise of the County's growing responsibilities. SUDs report due in April 2012.	To be determined.
Waste Collection and Recycling Policies	To investigate the Council's waste collection and recycling policies.	Environmental Well-Being	Waste Collection Policies being prepared by Eric Kendall to be presented to the Working Group for comment prior to submission to the Panel.  A meeting is scheduled for 4 <sup>th</sup> January to discuss communication and public satisfaction.	Working Group

#### FUTURE STUDIES

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