

## **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANELS**

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

**2<sup>nd</sup> FEBRUARY 2012  
7<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2012  
9<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 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

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. Expected March/April 2012.	To be determined.
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 February 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's conclusions endorsed by the Panel in December 2011. Working Group worked in conjunction with the Head of Environmental and Community Health Services and the Executive Councillor for Healthy and Active Communities to seek an indicative budget for voluntary sector support in 2013/14.	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. It is hoped that the Strategy will be available for the Working Group to view in April 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	First meeting of the Working Group to be held in February.	Working Group.
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 held on 19th January 2012 to be delivered to Panel in February. Members of the Working Group met with the Huntingdonshire Area Commander for the Police at this meeting.	Working Group

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 present on flood risk management activities.  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.  Due to the work being done on the Advanced Waste Partnership the Panel has decided to postpone this study, it will be re-evaluated at a later date.	Working Group
Design Principles for Future Developments	To examine issues that have arisen at Loves Farm, St Neots and to make recommendations to inform future developments.	Environmental Well-Being	First meeting of the Working Group held on 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2012.  Members will be having an overview on the Loves Farm development from the Head of Planning Services on 26 <sup>th</sup> January.	Working Group.