

## **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANELS**

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

**3<sup>RD</sup> APRIL 2012  
5<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2012  
10<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 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.	To be determined.
Leisure Centre Financial Performance and Employment Structure	To consider the future business model for "One Leisure" and the development of a methodology for the quantification of Social Value.	Economic Well-Being and Social Well-Being	<p>Working Group met on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2012. Agreed to split into two sub groups to investigate each area.</p> <p>Sub-Group looking at the 'Social Methodology' will meet once desktop research has been undertaken by Officers.</p> <p>The Sub-Group looking at the future business model are currently scoping their work. Informal Meeting to be held shortly.</p>	Joint Working Group
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	A report on changes to the CCTV service in 2012/13 will be submitted to the Panel in November 2012.	Whole Panel Study.

Consultation Processes	To assist the Corporate Team with its review of the Council's Consultation and Engagement Strategy.	Social Well-Being	Panel to appoint Members to undertake this work at its June 2012 meeting.	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.
The Council's Relationship with the Voluntary Sector	To examine the proposed future relationship between the Council and the Voluntary Sector.	Social Well-Being.	Requested for investigation by the Economic Well-Being Panel. A report on Voluntary Sector Funding for 2013/14 onwards will be submitted to the Panel in June. Panel to determine how to proceed with their investigations at this meeting.	To be determined.
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	Initial meeting held on 9 <sup>th</sup> February followed by a meeting on 12 <sup>th</sup> March attended by a local environmental farmer. Future meetings to be arranged with the Planning	Working Group.

			Service Manager (Policy) and the Environmental Adviser from the NFU.	
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 due course.	To be determined.
Review of Neighbourhood Forums in Huntingdonshire	To undertake a review of the Neighbourhood Forums in Huntingdonshire.	Social Well-Being	Draft proposals considered by Panel in March 2012. The proposals will be subject to a six month consultation period with Town and Parish Councils and Partners once agreement to consult has been obtained from the Cabinet. Cabinet will be considering the proposals at their April 2012 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 attended the February meeting to present on flood risk management activities.  Negotiations are ongoing between local Members and officers regarding the drainage issues in Yaxley.	To be determined.

<p>Design Principles for Future Developments</p>	<p>To examine issues that have arisen at Loves Farm, St Neots and to make recommendations to inform future developments.</p>	<p>Environmental Well-Being</p>	<p>Meetings of the Working Group held on 6<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> January 2012.</p> <p>A site visit was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> March and followed by a debrief with Planning Officers on 21<sup>st</sup> March. A further meeting to be arranged with the Head of Planning Services.</p>	<p>Working Group.</p>
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