

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANELS
(SOCIAL WELL-BEING)
(ENVIRONMENTAL WELL-BEING)
(ECONOMIC WELL-BEING)**

**3RD JULY 2012
10TH JULY 2012
12TH JULY 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.

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

**Mrs J Walker, Trainee Democratic Services Officer
01480 387049**

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

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.
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	Members appointed to the Working Group in June 2012. Meeting to be arranged.	Working Group.
Tree Strategy	To form a strategy in conjunction with the Tree Officers for the retention and planting of trees.	Environmental Well-Being	The draft tree strategy is being prepared for the Working Group to view.	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 July. Panel to determine how to proceed with their investigations at this meeting.	To be determined.

Land Use for Agricultural Purposes 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	Various meetings held and a site visit to a local farm has been conducted. A report of the Working's findings to date is being drafted.	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 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 were subject to a six week consultation with Town and Parish Councils, District and County Members, Partners and the public. Consultation responses to be submitted to Panel in July 2012.	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. Following the consideration in June 2012 of the St Neots Surface Water Management Plan and subsequent discussions on widespread drainage problems within the District, a working group has been convened to engage with	Working Group

			Anglian Water in order to establish their general powers, responsibilities and the limitations on its ability to prevent flooding.	
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	Various meetings held and a site visit has been conducted. A meeting with the Urban Design, Trees and Landscape Team Leader was held on 1 st June to summarise the Group's findings. The working group is drafting its final report.	Working Group.
Equality Framework for Local Government	To review the action plan arising from the Equality Framework for Local Government peer assessment.	Social Well-Being	Working Group appointed in June. Meeting to be arranged.	Working Group
Waste Collection	To identify options for improving the Council's waste collection and recycling arrangements and for enhancing public satisfaction with the service.	Environmental Well-Being	This study was postponed in light of the work of the Advanced Waste Partnership and the upcoming Waste Collection Policies report from the Head of Operations. However a Member has emphasised the immediate need for the Council to educate residents as to what can be placed in recycling bins.	Working Group