

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

**6TH NOVEMBER 2012
8TH NOVEMBER 2012
13TH NOVEMBER 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, Democratic Services Assistant
01480 387049**

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

ONGOING STUDIES

STUDY	OBJECTIVES	PANEL	STATUS	TYPE
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 28th February 2012. Agreed to split into two sub groups to investigate each area.</p> <p>Sub-Group looking at the 'Social Methodology' met in August 2012. Research being undertaken by Officers. Pending its completion, a meeting of the Working Group will be arranged.</p> <p>The whole Working Group will receive the Business Plan prior to its submission to the Panel and the Cabinet in December.</p> <p>Having noted that the review of the Business Model has come to a standstill, the Economic Well-Being Panel has asked their Chairman to speak to the Executive Leader about this, about prioritising the Council's services and more generally about the role of scrutiny.</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 February 2013.	Whole Panel Study.
A14 improvements.	To review the implications to the local economy of the decision not to proceed with the A14 improvements.	Economic Well-Being	Panel has requested a presentation on developments relating to the A14 for all Members of the Council at an appropriate time. Updates on recent developments to continue to be provided by email.	Whole Panel Study.
Consultation Processes	To assist the Corporate Team with its review of the Council's Consultation and Engagement Strategy.	Social Well-Being	Strategy and Guidance being updated by the Corporate Office to incorporate comments suggested by the Working Group. First draft expected to be made available to the Working Group end of November/early December.	Working Group.
Review of Neighbourhood Forums in Huntingdonshire	To undertake a review of the Neighbourhood Forums in Huntingdonshire.	Social Well-Being	Cabinet agreed to hold a pilot in the Norman Cross County Division. Panel requested to undertake a review of the pilot during its 12 months of operation. Pilot meeting arranged for 7th November 2012 – however, this meeting will not be open to the public.	Working Group

District Council Support Services	To review the services provided by the District Councils Document Centre to form a view on its efficiency and cost effectiveness.	Economic Well-Being	<p>Working Group has formed two sub groups to consider:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the financial cost of the service; and b) the operation of the service <p>The Working Group will meet on 14th November to draw together the conclusions from their review.</p>	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 met on 29th August 2012 to review the Action Plan. Councillor Mrs P A Jordan to attend the Equality Framework Steering Group. Action Plan revised since the Working Group last met. Further meeting of the Working Group to be arranged in the future.	Working Group
Economic Development	To be determined.	Economic Well-Being	The Local Economy Strategy is scheduled for completion at the end of the year. Work is currently taking place to develop a robust evidence base for the new Strategy. As part of this process all members were given the opportunity to participate in the	To be determined.

			<p>consultation on the initial report. A seminar was held on 18th October for this purpose.</p> <p>The Economic Development Manager will also attend the Panel's November meeting.</p>	
Corporate Plan	To assist the Corporate Office with the development of a new Corporate Plan.	All O&S Panels	Meeting of the Working Group arranged for 12th November 2012 to further refine the Council Delivery Plan and consider future monitoring arrangements.	Working Group
Fraud Prevention	To consider the implications from forthcoming changes to the Housing Benefits system.	Economic Well-Being	The Corporate Governance Panel have agreed to establish a working group to consider fraud risks, current and future approaches and single fraud issues. Their report will be considered by the Panel at their meeting in January.	To be determined.
Huntingdonshire Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB)	To consider the social implications of the announcement made by the Huntingdonshire CAB to go into voluntary liquidisation.	Social Well-Being	Executive Leader provided an update to the Panel in October. Further update on recent developments will be provided in November. Mr M Mealing, Chairman of the CAB will also be present at the meeting.	Whole Panel Study.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)	To consider the implications of planning social housing requirements on Community Infrastructure Levy income and the housing waiting list.	Economic Well-Being	Managing Director (Communities, Partnerships & Projects) to discuss with Councillor M F Shellens directly.	To be determined.
Council Borrowing	Agreed to establish a working group to develop an understanding of the District Council's approach to borrowing.	Economic Well-Being.	First meeting held on 17 th October 2012. The Group discussed various aspects of general approaches to borrowing and have asked for a report on a number of matters relating to the Council's borrowing.	Working Group.