

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

**5 FEBRUARY 2013  
7 FEBRUARY 2013  
12 FEBRUARY 2013**

**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
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 focus on three key areas; namely social, health and financial benefits of the Council's activities.</p> <p>The One Leisure Business Plan was considered by the Economic Well-Being Panel at their January meeting. Panel to determine whether to pursue its study into the business model.</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 April 2013.	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. Draft considered by	Working Group.

			Working Group at their meeting on 23rd January 2013. Further work to refine both documents is being undertaken.	
Great Fen	To monitor the latest developments in respect of the Great Fen.	Environmental Well-Being	Site visits undertaken by the Panel in July 2010 and October 2012. Business Plan is awaited – expected to be made available to Panel at their March 2013 meeting.	Whole Panel.
Tree Strategy	To form a strategy in conjunction with the Tree Officers for the retention and planting of trees.	Environmental Well-Being	Work is yet to commence on the Draft Tree Strategy. Owing to resource constraints within the Planning Department alternative ways of finalising the Tree Strategy are being considered. A proposal for a programme of work to complete the Strategy is awaited from the consultant. Likely timescales to be advised in due course.	Working Group.
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	The final report of the Working Group was considered at the Panel's November meeting. The report's recommendations have been endorsed by the Cabinet. Working Group met on 30th January 2013	Working Group.

			to discuss progress against the recommendations.	
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	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 held on 7th November 2012. Further informal meeting to be arranged.	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	Following consideration of the St Neots Surface Water Management Plan and discussions on widespread drainage problems within the District, a working group was convened to engage with Anglian Water in order to establish their general powers, responsibilities and the limitations on its ability to prevent flooding.  Meetings have been held with representatives from	Working Group

			<p>Anglian Water and the Environment Agency. The Working Group has produced a report on its findings. Panel has received an update on the outcome of negotiations between Anglian Water and the County Council on drainage in Yaxley. This was delivered to the Panel at its January 2013 meeting.</p>	
<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>The Working Group has produced a report detailing its findings to date. The Working Group will now focus on detailed aspects of the design guide with the Council's Urban Design, Trees and Landscape Team Leader. This is expected to be made available to the Working Group in February 2013.</p>	<p>Working Group.</p>
<p>Equality Framework for Local Government</p>	<p>To review the action plan arising from the Equality Framework for Local Government peer assessment.</p>	<p>Social Well-Being</p>	<p>Action Plan was subject to review by the Working Group at their meeting on 23rd January 2013. Report to be presented to Panel at its February 2013 meeting.</p>	<p>Working Group</p>
<p>Corporate Plan</p>	<p>To assist the Corporate Office with the development of a new</p>	<p>All O&amp;S Panels</p>	<p>Executive Leader's Strategy Group considered the Council Delivery Plan on</p>	<p>Working Group</p>

	Corporate Plan.		14th January 2013 with a view to taking responsibility for the actions contained therein. A programme of bi-monthly meetings of the Working Group will be arranged over the course of the next year with a view to holding Executive Members to account. The Delivery Plan is currently undergoing refinement by the Corporate Office.	
Delivery of Advisory Services Across the District	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, November and December 2012. A report on interim arrangements for Jan-Mar 2013 and grant aid awards for 2013/14 was submitted to the Panel at its January 2013 meeting. The Voluntary Sector Working Group will meet biennially to review progress of those organisations in receipt of grant funding.	Whole Panel Study.
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	The Working Group has decided to focus on how best to engage with residents as to what should be placed in which bin. The Group may go on to study waste collection procedures in more detail, this is	Working Group

			<p>dependent on the work of RECAP.</p> <p>The Panel expressed its support for the use of wheelie bin stickers to convey messages with community benefits, such as speed restrictions. In January 2013, representatives of Speedwatch and Hilton Parish Council presented a proposal intended to reduce speeding within the village to the Panel. A written proposal will be submitted at a future meeting. Members also wish to discuss the matter further with the Head of Operations and the Executive Councillor for Environment.</p>	
Local Plan 2036 – Provision of Social and Affordable Housing and Impact Upon Homelessness	To explore how the new Local Plan would help to address housing and homelessness needs within the District.	Social Well-Being	An outline of how the new Local Plan would help to address housing and homelessness needs within the District was delivered to the Panel. 6 monthly updates to be provided. Next update expected July 2013.	Whole Panel.
Green Waste and Energy Generation	To consider what opportunities the Council might have in terms of	Environmental Well-Being	Scoping report on green waste and energy generation requested for	To be determined.

	generating energy from green waste.		submission to a future meeting. Head of Operations will be delivering a presentation to Executive Leaders Strategy Group at their meeting on 26th February with a view to bringing a report before the Panel thereafter. Report anticipated March/April 2013.	
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