

AGENDA ITEM: 14(F)

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

14 DECEMBER 2004

ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY PANEL – PROGRESS REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

2. To inform the Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Board of the progress made to date by the Environment Scrutiny Panel.

3. PROGRESS OF THE PANEL

4. Since my last progress report to this Board on 16 November 2004, the Panel has considered the Final Report into our first investigation into the Authority's Allotment service provision.
5. The Final Report details nine key recommendations, which are to be considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Board at a later stage during this meeting and the Executive thereafter.
6. I am also pleased to inform this Board that this scrutiny investigation has certainly attracted the attention of the local media, with live radio interviews, newspaper articles together with television coverage.
7. As per the agreed Work Programme of this Panel, our next investigation is to review the Green Budget in the context of the Housing Stock Transfer.

8. Recently, the Scrutiny Officer and I met with key officers to discuss the proposed remit of this investigation, which is to be further considered by the Panel at its meeting on 15 December 2004.
9. It is envisaged that this Scrutiny investigation will conclude by the end of this current 2004/05 Municipal Year.

10. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Board notes the progress of the Environment Scrutiny Panel.

**COUNCILLOR GEOFF COLE
CHAIR OF THE ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY PANEL**

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.