

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

17th OCTOBER 2006

ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY PANEL- PROGRESS REPORT

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To provide members of the Overview and Scrutiny Board (OSB) with an update on the work of the Environment Scrutiny Panel.

BACKGROUND

2. Since the last update report was submitted to OSB, the Environment Scrutiny Panel has met once (on 29th September 2006) to begin its review of "Becks and Beck Valleys."
3. The scrutiny panel heard from Council officers who made a presentation that gave a general overview of this topic. A number of issues were identified for examination and these will be incorporated into the terms of reference of the review. Reference was also made to the involvement of external bodies in becks/beck valley management (such as The Environment Agency and Tees Valley Wildlife Trust) and arrangements are to be made to include these bodies in the scrutiny exercise.
4. The panel's findings will be included in its final report, which will be submitted to OSB in due course.

RECOMMENDATION

5. That the Overview and Scrutiny Board notes the updated position.

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

6th October 2006

Contact Officer: Alan Crawford, Scrutiny Support Officer

Telephone: 01642 729707 (direct line) e mail: alan_crawford@middlesbrough.gov.uk