

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

14th NOVEMBER 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 30th October 2006) in respect of its ongoing review of Becks and Beck Valleys.
3. The scrutiny panel heard directly from representatives of The Environment Agency in relation to Government proposals for that body to take over responsibility for some becks in Middlesbrough. The panel heard details of the Environment Agency's plans and proposals and also from Council officers in respect of the possible implications of the transfer of responsibilities.
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**

30^h October 2006

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