

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

23 SEPTEMBER 2008

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.

RECOMMENDATION

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

BACKGROUND

3. Since the last update report to OSB, the Environment Scrutiny Panel has met once, on 29 August 2008, to continue its investigation of "countryside matters."
4. At the 29 August meeting the panel considered further information in respect of the Newham Grange Leisure Farm and the Lingfield Countryside Centre. The panel heard the views of the Executive Member for Environment and the Ward Members for Coulby Newham in respect of the countryside centre and the leisure farm and their possible future development.
5. Information was also submitted to the scrutiny panel in respect of plans to refurbish the farmhouse at the leisure farm and of improvements which could be made to the farm in general should future funding be obtained. A Business Plan is also to be prepared for the farm, and will be submitted to the scrutiny panel.
6. The panel's next meeting is scheduled for 22 September 2008 and will look at progress made in implementing the Environment Scrutiny Panel's 2005 recommendations on allotments.

COUNCILLOR JEANETTE WALKER
CHAIR OF THE ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY PANEL

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