

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

2 JUNE 2009

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 11 May 2009.
4. At that meeting the scrutiny panel concluded its investigation regarding the condition of empty shops and properties. Members heard from a representative of Mouchel in relation to the organisation's management of the Council's shops portfolio. The scrutiny panel heard details of the current number of empty shops and how these are managed on behalf of the Council. A relevant Council officer was also at the meeting to present information from the client side in respect of this issue.
5. At the 11 May meeting, Members also agreed to appoint Councillor S Carter as Vice-Chair of the scrutiny panel for 2009/10.

6. The scrutiny panel's next meeting is scheduled for 8 June 2009, when a draft final report will be considered in relation to empty shops and properties. That meeting is also to consider possible topics for inclusion in the panel's work programme for the year ahead.

COUNCILLOR BOB KERR

CHAIR OF THE ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY PANEL

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