

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

8 FEBRUARY 2011

**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.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. It is **RECOMMENDED** that the Overview and Scrutiny Board notes the updated position.

BACKGROUND

3. Since the last update to OSB, the Environment Scrutiny Panel has met twice, on 7 and 24 January 2011.

7 January 2011

4. At the above meeting the scrutiny panel considered reports on the following:
 - a) The panel's final report on Weed Control was approved. This appears elsewhere on the current OSB agenda.
 - b) Noise Complaints - An introduction/overview was presented on this new scrutiny topic.

24 January 2011

5. At the above meeting the scrutiny panel considered reports on the following:

- a) Energy Efficient Street Lighting - An introduction/overview was presented on this new scrutiny subject, which is being covered as a short topic. Information was submitted on numbers of street lights, the different types of lighting systems and their energy efficiency. The scrutiny panel is scheduled to meet once more on this issue.
- c) The panel's final report on Noise Complaints was approved. This appears elsewhere on the current OSB agenda.

Joint working party - Impact of Air Quality on Health

- 6. OSB has previously been informed that an examination of the impact of air quality vehicle emissions on health is ongoing and is being undertaken by a Joint Working party comprising Members of the Environment and the Health Scrutiny Panels. The working party met on 25 January 2011, when Members heard from Professor Tanja Pless-Mulloli, Professor of Environmental Epidemiology¹ at Newcastle University. Information was submitted on the possible long-term effects of atmospheric pollution from industry on human health. Prof. Pless-Mulloli also presented information on her involvement in earlier health-related studies on Teesside.

COUNCILLOR BOB KERR

CHAIR OF ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY PANEL

Contact Officer: Alan Crawford
Scrutiny Support Officer
Legal & Democratic Services
Telephone: 01642 729 707 (direct line)
e-mail: alan_crawford@middlesbrough.gov.uk

¹ Epidemiology: *'The branch of medicine dealing with the incidence and prevalence of disease in large populations and with detection of the source and cause of epidemics of infectious disease.'*
(www.dictionary.reference.com)