



## **OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD**

**10 JANUARY 2012**

### **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 to OSB, the Environment Scrutiny Panel has met once, on 19 December 2011.
4. Following the conclusion of the panel's investigation of footpath repairs, work has begun on the new topic of highway and carriageway works by the utilities companies.
5. Members heard an overview of information relating to:
  - The legal powers, duties and responsibilities of the statutory undertakers.
  - Notification and liaison arrangements with the local authority.
  - The scale of works undertaken annually.
  - How any disruption is minimised.
  - Penalties or sanctions for works that over-run.

6. Updates were also submitted on the following previous scrutiny topics:
  - Junk job charges
  - Side waste policy
  - Review of Council depots
  
7. At its next meeting, scheduled for 16 January 2012, the panel will determine how it wishes to proceed with investigation of the utilities works topic. Updates will also be submitted in respect of energy reduction and the national Renewable Heat Incentive Scheme.

**COUNCILLOR BOB KERR**

**CHAIR OF THE ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY PANEL**

**Contact Officer:** Alan Crawford  
Scrutiny Support Officer  
Legal & Democratic Services  
Telephone: 01642 729707 (direct line)  
e-mail: alan\_crawford@middlesbrough.gov.uk