

## REPORT OF ENVIRONMENT REVIEW PANEL

(Meeting held on 21 September 2001)

### 1. **OUTLINE WORK PROGRAMME (REPORT A) (MINUTE NO 25).**

The Panel discussed the Work Programme to guide their activities over the forthcoming year.

Members agreed that they will visit the coastal group, prior to undertaking a review of the Coastal Strategy, at the meeting in November. It was also agreed that there should be a six monthly review on waste management, programmed for just before key meetings of Project Integra, so performance be monitored and the Council's representatives advised of the Panel's views. This has been included in the programme for the November 2001 and June 2002 meetings.

#### ***RECOMMENDED:***

***That the outline work programme, as attached as Appendix 1 to this report, be adopted to guide the Panel's work over the forthcoming year.***

### 2. **COUNTRYSIDE AND RIGHTS OF WAY ACT 2000 – EFFECT ON DOG WALKING IN THE FOREST (REPORT B) (MINUTE NO. 26).**

The Panel had requested a report on the potential implications of the restrictions included in the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act on dog walking in the New Forest (Minute 9, 16 June 2001). Panel members also received correspondence from the New Forest Dog organisation which provided an update on their latest discussions with the Forestry Commission on this issue. In essence, the CROW Act restrictions would not have any effect unless the Forestry Commission, as landowner, altered the current permissive rights. The Countryside Agency had indicated that they did not wish to see the CROW Act used to introduce restrictions when none currently existed. Wildlife mapping might however reveal the need to impose restrictions on all Forest users in certain areas of particular ecological sensitivity.

The Environment Portfolio Holder has been requested to write to the Forestry Commission to welcome that they are listening to the concerns of local people in seeking to resolve this issue.

### 3. **COMMERCIAL SERVICES OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH: BEST VALUE REVIEW (REPORT F) (MINUTE NO.30).**

The Panel was advised of the proposed scope, expected outcomes and identified key challenges for the best value review of Environmental Health. For this Panel, the scope of interest related to the food function.

They were advised that the Portfolio Holder had requested that this, and indeed all best value reviews, should state the total cost of the service being reviewed and the cost of undertaking the best value review, in order to ensure that the process used was commensurate in scale. He had also requested that a cost benefit analysis should be done on all non-statutory activities within this service.

The Panel supported the proposed Best Value Review process, as set out, and did not make any suggestions of additional outcomes or challenges which should be considered.

**Councillor J.M. Hoy**  
**CHAIRMAN**

**Attachment:** Note 1 - Appendix 1

(ES210901)

**ENVIRONMENT REVIEW PANEL**

**OUTLINE WORK PROGRAMME**

**18 October 2001**

Expenditure Plan Proposals

**15 November 2001**

Expenditure Plan Proposals  
Contaminated Land Strategy  
Coastal Strategy – Site Visit and Policy Review  
Project Integra – Review of Waste Management

**17 JANUARY 2002**

Budget Estimates 2002/2003

**14 MARCH 2002**

To be determined

**JUNE 2002**

Project Integra – Review on Waste Management Systems