

Committee: Scrutiny Committee

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Title: Update on Planning Related Studies

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Summary

1. This report provides a brief update of the 3 planning related studies that Scrutiny is currently engaged with, namely Airport related car parking, Planning Obligations and the Planning Advisory Service's (PAS) review of major planning applications.

Recommendations

2. Note the updates of the 3 planning related studies.

Financial Implications

3. None. There are no financial implications associated with this report

Background Papers

5. The following papers were referred to by the author in the preparation of this report and are available for inspection from the author of the report.

None

Impact

6.

Communication/Consultation	No specific impacts
Community Safety	No specific impacts
Equalities	No specific impacts
Health and Safety	No specific impacts
Human Rights/Legal Implications	No specific impacts
Sustainability	No specific impacts

Ward-specific impacts	No specific impacts
Workforce/Workplace	No specific impacts

Situation

7. **Airport – related Parking Task and Finish Group** – The implications of Covid 19 began to impact on airport passenger numbers in February. There were around 28 million passengers per annum using the airport pre - Covid 19. This figure went down to as low as 200-400 passengers per day at one point. The airport terminal was closed for 12 hours each day and all car parks were closed except short stay. MAG has reported that things are beginning to pick with passenger numbers up to around 25,000 per day now (this equates to an annual figure of around 9 million). Therefore, although passenger numbers are increasing again, the impact of this relating to fly-parking is not significant. Consequently, no further work has been taken forward by the Fly-Parking Task and Finish Group. However, as passenger numbers start increasing, the Council will need to monitor the situation closely to make sure that once the airport starts operating to a fuller capacity, the issue of fly-parking doesn't begin to become an issue in Uttlesford again. This review should be undertaken quarterly as a minimum for now so a further update report should be brought to Scrutiny Committee for consideration in January 2021.
8. **Planning Obligations Task and Finish Group** – this work is being paused at the request of the Task and Finish Group Chair, Cllr Criscione. It has been agreed that the Group will pick this up again after Christmas. The work that is currently outstanding is to formulate and agree the recommendations of the Group. This includes the need to agree a process for formally consulting with Town and Parish Councils to ensure the actions agreed reflect their needs and concerns.
9. **PAS review of major planning applications** – PAS has now completed all of the interviews it needed to do as part of the fact-finding stage of the study. Unfortunately, there has been some delay on this work due to a lack of input from some interviewees as a consequence of them having other priorities to address during Covid 19. The final report is now scheduled to be issued in October and will be focusing on PAS's recommendations to further improve the way that the Council manages major planning applications.

Risk Analysis

1.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
Group's conclusions will not be endorsed by Scrutiny Committee	Little	Low	Ensure Scrutiny is kept informed of emerging work and findings prior to final report being written

1 = Little or no risk or impact

2 = Some risk or impact – action may be necessary.

3 = Significant risk or impact – action required

4 = Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure of project.