

Report to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date of meeting: 6 November 2008

**Report of: Constitution and Member Services
Standing Scrutiny Panel**

Subject: Government Consultation - Weekend Voting

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Recommendation:

To note the views expressed by the Standing Scrutiny Panel in respect of the Government Consultation Document which have now been submitted to the Ministry of Justice in line with its deadline of 26 September 2008.

Report:

1. The Panel has considered a copy of the Ministry of Justice's consultation document on weekend voting together with an LGIU summary and commentary. Details of this consultation document were circulated in the Council Bulletin and Members of the Council invited to submit their views. Details were also published on the Council's website and comments from the public, along with those from Councillors and Parish Councils were considered at our meeting and passed on to the Ministry of Justice.
2. Appendix 1 to this report shows the Government's nine consultation questions in the document and in each case the views expressed by this Standing Scrutiny Panel. This response is being brought to this meeting of the Committee as the meeting on 2 October 2008 was cancelled. In any event, the Panel was authorised to submit representations direct to the Ministry of Justice in order to comply with the deadline set. The views expressed have now been submitted in accordance with the deadline set by the Ministry.
3. Any individual Councillor or political party was able to give their views on the consultation document by sending a questionnaire direct to the Ministry of Justice.