

NOTICE OF MEETING

MEETING	CABINET
DATE:	MONDAY 21 MARCH 2011
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	BOURGES/VIERSEN ROOM - TOWN HALL
CONTACT:	Alex Daynes, Senior Governance Officer Telephone: 01733 452447 e-mail address: alexander.daynes@peterborough.gov.uk
Despatch date:	11 March 2011

AGENDA

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Circulation

Cabinet Members

Scrutiny Committee Members

Directors, Heads of Service

Press

*Any agenda item highlighted in bold and marked with an * is a 'key decision' involving the Council making expenditure or savings of over £500,000 or having a significant effect on two or more wards in Peterborough. These items have been advertised previously on the Council's Forward Plan (except where the issue is urgent in accordance with Section 15 of the Council's Access to Information rules).*



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MINUTES OF CABINET MEETING HELD 7 FEBRUARY 2011

PRESENT

Cabinet Members:

Councillor Cereste (chair), Councillor S Dalton, Councillor Elsey, Councillor Hiller, Councillor Holdich, Councillor Lamb, Councillor Lee, Councillor Seaton and Councillor Walsh.

Cabinet Adviser:

Councillor Benton.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Scott and also from Councillor Lee due to working a night shift.

2. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were given.

3. Minutes of Cabinet Meeting – 13 December 2010 and continued to 20 December 2010

The minutes of the meeting held 13 December 2010 and continued on 20 December were agreed and signed as an accurate record.

ITEMS FROM SCRUTINY COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

4. Neighbourhood Council Review – Part One

The Chairman of the review group, Councillor Burton, introduced the report and recommendations within. Cabinet noted the outcome of part one of a review of Neighbourhood Councils which had been undertaken by the Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Task and Finish Group. The review was being undertaken in two parts, the outcome of the first part was attached at Annex 1 to the report. The outcome of the second part would be presented to Cabinet on 21 March.

A statement from Councillor Sandford was read out by Councillor Todd (both members of the review group) commending the recommendations that were before Cabinet today and thanking Councillors Cereste and Seaton for their support in the matter.

Councillor Hiller moved that the recommendations in the report be approved. Cabinet debated the report and recommendations within including detailed debate regarding recommendations 3 (annual budgets), 7 (use of Community Leadership Fund), 10 (rural north review), 14 (Special Responsibility Allowance for chairmen) and 15 (the overall commitment to see the agreed recommendations be carried out). The Solicitor to the Council advised that recommendation 7 concerning the pooling of Community Leadership Fund

(CLF) monies would not be possible without a separate Decision to change the scheme as CLF money should be spent within the ward it was allocated to.

Following debate, Cabinet **RESOLVED** to:

1. Agree that the principle of delegating as much revenue and capital funding as possible is a driving principle behind Neighbourhood Councils, in line with the spirit of the new Localism Bill, and that this principle is agreed by Councillors and shared with officers.
2. Commit to reviewing the Constitutional delegations to Neighbourhood Councils in support of maximising funding delegated to them.
3. Agree that the current level of £25,000 funding is guaranteed from 2011/12 for the medium term financial plan as a minimum sum available to each Neighbourhood Council to be offset by any POIS monies that become available to each Neighbourhood Council.
4. Agree that the process for determining and allocating POIS monies be carefully assessed and agreed to ensure that all parts of Peterborough benefit from growth and new development.
5. Agree that mainstream revenue budgets are disaggregated, wherever possible, feasible and legal, and delegated to Neighbourhood Councils. In agreeing to this a pilot programme to be implemented focussing on a specific part of Council activity before a more expansive roll-out programme.
6. Agree that Neighbourhood Plans are produced for each of the Neighbourhood Council areas in line with the thinking articulated in the Localism Bill in order to help determine how all funding and other resources delegated to Neighbourhood Councils should be spent.
7. Agree that the Community Leadership Fund is maintained at £10,000 per ward, but that 25% of that budget is allocated, if all ward members agree, to meet needs identified through the Neighbourhood Council Neighbourhood Planning process.
8. Agree that the frequency of Neighbourhood Council meetings be maintained at four per year in each area and that any future change to this pattern should see an *increase* rather than *decrease* in the frequency of meetings.
9. Agree that a thorough review be conducted of all other community-based meetings with a view to combining meetings wherever possible.
10. Agree that the ongoing but separate review of the Rural North Neighbourhood Council be included in the overall review of Neighbourhood Councils to ensure shared learning and avoidance of confusion and misinformation.
11. Agree that Neighbourhood Management Delivery meetings, led by the relevant Neighbourhood Manager, be created in all Neighbourhood Council areas as a means of engaging and progressing actions between Neighbourhood Council meetings.
12. Agree that minimal staffing costs be maintained by ensuring only essential Council officers are present at each Neighbourhood Council meeting.
13. Agree that ALL Councillors are encouraged, through a flexible and modern programme of continuous training and development, to actively participate in all aspects of Neighbourhood Council business, this training and development programme to incorporate the broader aspects of Neighbourhood Management, Localism and Big Society.

14. Agree that the agreed recommendations form part of an overall implementation plan for Neighbourhood Councils alongside the agreed recommendations that emerge from part two of the Review to be overseen by the cross-party working group formed from the task and finish group; and that the Constitution be updated accordingly to reflect any agreed recommended changes.

Cabinet further **RESOLVED** to:

1. Agree that a rural Councillor be a member of the review panel for the separate review of the Rural North Neighbourhood Council indicated in recommendation 10 above.
2. Disagree that Special Responsibility Allowance for Neighbourhood Council Chairs is no longer awarded; reflecting the greater role to be played by ALL Councillors in relation to Neighbourhood Councils and that each of the seven Neighbourhood Councils should elect its own Chair who should be a Councillor from one of the wards represented at that Neighbourhood Council.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

This report came to Cabinet following a request from the Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Committee to conduct a review of Neighbourhood Councils. The review has taken into account the learning and experience from the first year of operations, in order to produce the recommendations for their continued development.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Option 1: Not to agree to the recommendations. The Committee do not recommend this as they consider it to be detrimental to the ongoing improvement and development of Neighbourhood Councils.

Option 2: Develop alternative recommendations. The Committee do not recommend this as they consider that the Task and Finish Group have conducted an in depth and objective review and therefore the recommendations put forward are considered to be the most effective way of improving the provision of Neighbourhood Councils.

STRATEGIC DECISIONS

5. Peterborough Local Development Framework(LDF): Peterborough Core Strategy (Version for Adoption)

Cabinet received a report following Council's decision on 2 December 2009 to approve the Peterborough Core Strategy (Proposed Submission Version) for the purposes of public consultation and submission to the Secretary of State. Such consultation had taken place and the plan was submitted to the Secretary of State. Subsequently, an independent Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State has sent her report to the Chief Executive setting out her conclusions on the Core Strategy. Cabinet was requested to refer the final Core Strategy document to Council for approval.

Councillor Hiller introduced and moved the recommendations in the report with additional information provided by Richard Kay, Policy and Strategy Manager, highlighting that the document provided for 25,000 new homes and over 24,000 new jobs. Minor additions were recommended from the Inspector including the need to consider the needs of the Gypsy and Traveller community when carrying out development works.

Councillor Holdich commended the document and seconded the recommendations.

Cabinet **RESOLVED** to:

1. Note the conclusions of the independent Inspector who was appointed to examine the council's submitted Core Strategy; and
2. Recommend to Council the adoption of the Peterborough Core Strategy, incorporating changes as recommended by the Inspector.

REASONS

As outlined in the report, Council only has two options available to it; either adopt the strategy or not adopt the strategy. The former was recommended, as it was a statutory duty to prepare a core strategy and, in adopting it, Peterborough would have a clear and robust policy document setting out its vision, objectives and key planning policies.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The option of not adopting the plan was not recommended, because in doing so the council:

- would have no clear vision or strategy as to how Peterborough will grow;
- would have no clear policies to progressively push forward on matters such as the environment, affordable homes and job creation; and
- would be at considerable risk of having to consider ad hoc major planning proposals from developers with no real basis or policy in place for considering such proposals (which in turn could lead to poorly planned growth, reduced investment in Peterborough, lower job growth, increased housing waiting list and insufficient provision of infrastructure due to uncoordinated, developer-led, development schemes).

In addition, should the Core Strategy not be adopted, this would mean that all other LDF documents currently under preparation (Site Allocations Document, City Centre Area Action Plan, Planning Policies DPD, etc) would need to be put on hold for perhaps 3-4 years until a revised Core Strategy was prepared, a situation which would exacerbate the issues identified above.

6. Affordable Housing Capital Funding Policy

Cabinet received a report explaining and recommending approval of a draft Affordable Housing Capital Funding Policy document. Cabinet further received recommendations from the Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee of 2 February 2011 relating to the document.

Councillor Hiller introduced the report highlighting the need to continue to ensure affordable housing was available in the city and therefore a sound policy was needed to direct funding towards development projects.

During debate issues around clarification of what constituted a Registered Social Landlord, design quality and standards of buildings, sources of funding and previous funding policies were raised. Also considered during debate were letters from Stewart Jackson MP and Councillor Swift OBE respectively.

Cabinet **RESOLVED** to:

Adopt the Affordable Housing Capital Funding Policy, publish the policy document on the website and ensure appropriate bodies were made aware of the document subject to Council approval if appropriate.

Cabinet further **RESOLVED** to:

1. Agree to include further clarification as to who a 'registered provider' was in paragraph 2.1 of the policy document as recommended by Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee on 2 February 2011; and
2. Agree that should a Director seek to overrule and reject the recommendation of the panel to approve of a bid, a Cabinet Member Decision Notice would be required to approve that rejection as recommended by Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee on 2 February 2011.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

By adopting the policy, the city council would have in place an open, transparent, and fair process in place. It would encourage high quality bids, which in turn would enable a continued supply of high quality affordable housing provision.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

No Policy Document: this option was rejected because a continuation of the current process could be open to challenge by Registered Providers or, from a wider perspective of public spend, the general public. This was not to say that the current process is wrong in any way, or has reached any unsatisfactory decisions, or has been challenged by anyone; rather it was considered that the process and policy needed to be updated, formalised and made more transparent.

Alternative Policy: Variations of the document attached at Appendix A to the report were possible, and Cabinet may have wished to seek changes. For example: the bid limits could have been increased or decreased; the criteria for assessing bids could have been amended; the scoring system to assess bids could have been varied (to put more weight on one criterion more than another). However, the policy document as attached had been thoroughly considered by a senior officer in housing, planning, finance, property and legal teams and was therefore considered to be sound and most appropriate.

7. Budget 2011/12 and Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) to 2015/16

Cabinet received a report presenting budget proposals for 2011/12 through to 2015/16 in line with the provisional local government finance settlement. The report contained three key sections:

- Cabinet report and summary of changes since the December Cabinet meeting;
- The MTFP, including capital strategy, asset management plan and Treasury Strategy; and
- Budget consultation responses from stakeholders and resultant actions taken by Cabinet.

Councillor Seaton introduced the report recommending it to Council for approval. Councillor Seaton highlighted the financial constraints that were received from central government, a proposed freeze in council tax and the changes to earlier drafts following the public consultation process.

Councillor Holdich requested that the saving on post 16 school transport be removed from the final document to reflect previous agreements.

Following a proposal from Councillor Walsh, Cabinet agreed to pass its thanks to Councillor Seaton, John Harrison – Executive Director Strategic Resources – and the finance team within the council for the preparation of this budget.

Cabinet **RESOLVED** to:

1. Have regard to the consultation comments and statutory advice detailed in the report when determining the following budget recommendations:
2. Agree that the following be approved and recommended to Council on 23 February 2011:
 - a) That the MTFP is set in the context of the sustainable community strategy
 - b) The Budget monitoring report as the latest probable outturn position for 2010/11, noting the actions taken to deliver a balanced budget.
 - c) The revenue budget for 2011/12 and indicative figures for 2012/13 to 2015/16).
 - d) The capital programme for 2011/12 to 2015/16, associated capital strategy, treasury strategy and asset management plan.
 - e) The medium term financial plan for 2011/12 to 2015/16.
 - f) The proposed council tax freeze for 2011/12 and indicative increases of 2.5% for 2012/13 to 2015/16.
 - g) To spend at the level of the Dedicated Schools Grant for 2011/12 to 2015/16.
 - h) The proposals for reserves and balances.
 - i) The Annual Accountability Agreement with the Primary Care Trust for 2011/12.
3. These recommendations are put forward in advance of the final local government finance settlement being announced and assume that any changes arising from the settlement will be immaterial to the approval of the budget.

Cabinet further **RESOLVED** to:

1. Agree the recommendations contained within the tabled addendum, outlining the final grant settlement and other amendments, and for these amendments to be included within the final report to Council on 23 February 2011; and
2. Remove savings for Post 16 transport charges on page 67 of the report (£12k in 2011/12, £20k 2012-2016).

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The Council must set a lawful and balanced budget.

The Council is required to set a Council Tax for 2011/12 within statutory prescribed timescales.

Before setting the level of Council Tax, the Council must have agreed a balanced budget.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Alternative levels of Council Tax increase and areas for growth/savings can be considered but this must be seen in the context of the Corporate Plan and other constraints, along with the loss of council tax freeze grant that any increase would lead to.

MONITORING ITEMS

8. Outcome of Petitions

Cabinet noted the progress being made in response to petitions in accordance with Standing Order 13 of the Council's Rules of Procedure.

CABINET RESOLVED TO:

Note the actions taken in respect of petitions presented to Full Council.

REASONS

Standing Orders require that Council receive a report about the action taken on petitions. As the petition presented in this report has been dealt with by Cabinet Members or officers it is appropriate that the action taken is reported to Cabinet, prior to it being included within the Executive's report to full Council.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Any alternative options would require an amendment to the Council's Constitution to remove the requirement to report to Council.

Meeting closed at 11.30 a.m.

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CABINET	AGENDA ITEM No. 4
21 MARCH 2011	PUBLIC REPORT

Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Councillor Hiller: Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Planning	
Contact Officer(s):	Adrian Chapman, Head of Neighbourhood Services Paulina Ford, Scrutiny, Performance and Research Officer	Tel. 863887 Tel. 452508

NEIGHBOURHOOD COUNCIL REVIEW – PART TWO

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S	
FROM : Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Committee	Deadline date : 13 April 2011
<p>Cabinet is asked to <u>endorse</u> the following recommendations prior to consideration by Annual Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To change the name of Neighbourhood Councils to Area Committees. 2. Adopt the following as the vision statement for Area Committees: <p style="margin-left: 40px;">“Area Committees will deliver improvements for the local area by identifying, overseeing, monitoring and driving actions to support all issues relevant to the area, including service delivery, service improvements, and area developments”</p> 3. Amend the relevant Procedure Rules contained in the Constitution to reflect these recommendations, and to ensure that Area Committees are supported by similar procedures that support other Council committees. 4. Replace the existing terms of reference for Neighbourhood Councils with the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Area Committees are established in Peterborough in accordance with the provisions set out in Local Government Act 2000 (ii) Area Committees will require the proactive support of all elected Councillors, officers, and partner organisations to ensure their full and positive success <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Area Committees should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (iii) Make decisions within the remit of their terms of reference and their formally delegated responsibilities, or make recommendations to the Executive as appropriate on issues which affect the area (iv) Be the committee where members of the Area Committee and members of the community can discuss issues of concern or interest, including those that are not the direct responsibility of the Council as well as those that are (v) Set the standards for services to meet local needs which are outside the immediate responsibility or budget of the Area Committee, and seek agreement for any changes from the Executive 	

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

- (vi) Be the primary focus for public involvement and consultation within the area, working closely with other public, private and voluntary agencies, and advising and/or making recommendations that arise to the Executive as appropriate on issues which affect the area
 - (vii) Develop community action plans, and monitor their implementation, to ensure the promotion of economic, environmental, cultural and social wellbeing of the area, that service delivery improvements are made and that better outcomes are achieved
 - (viii) Carry out any non-Executive functions delegated by the council, and any Executive functions delegated by the Leader, in accordance with the Scheme of Delegations set out in Part 3 sections 1 and 3 of the Constitution
 - (ix) Be directly responsible for any delegated funding identified by the Council and invest that money in ways that support the priorities identified through the community planning process
5. That for the Municipal Year commencing May 2011, replace the existing Delegations to Neighbourhood Councils with those set out below. Keep this under review during that year, with a view to expanding the delegations from the start of the Municipal Year commencing May 2012:
- (i) The Leader retains responsibility for functions delegated and may exercise those functions in person, regardless of further delegation. Further, the Area Committees must act with due regard to all other Council policies and procedures
 - (ii) To promote the Council's role as a community leader in its area, giving a meaningful voice to the community and fostering good and productive working relationships with the Council's partner organisations, including Parish Councils, Police, Fire, Probation, criminal justice agencies, health and social care agencies, education agencies, young peoples' services, community associations, residents associations and voluntary sector agencies
 - (iii) To take a leading role in promoting the economic, environmental, cultural and social wellbeing of the area, and develop community action plans to achieve this that improve service delivery and achieve better outcomes
 - (iv) To set the standards for all former City Services operations now contracted to Enterprise to ensure effective delivery of all services, including making decisions on the maximum amount of any delegated budgets allowable within the terms of the contract to be deployed on local priorities (*to be confirmed subject to details of the contract*)
 - (v) To agree the annual programme of works contained within the Highways Capital Programme for 2012/13 onwards
 - (vi) To act as consultees on all major or significant Executive and Council proposals that affect the area, including those affecting both capital and revenue spend
 - (vii) To act as consultees in respect of Major Planning applications relevant to the area, and report views to the relevant Committee
 - (viii) To carry out any actions that the Executive authorises in addition to those set out above, until such time as that authorisation is revoked

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S CONTINUED

6. Deliver the recommendations set out in the report from the sub-group of the Neighbourhood Council Task and Finish Group which has focussed on rural/parish issues, specifically:
- (i) create a new committee to replace the Rural North Neighbourhood Council, that comprises rural Ward Councillors and one co-opted representative from each of the 23 rural Parish Councils
 - (ii) appoint a rural Ward Councillor as the Chair of this committee
 - (iii) hold all meetings at a rural location within any of the 23 rural Parish Council areas
 - (iv) decisions relating to non-financial matters or those that are not formally delegated responsibilities will be debated by all members of the committee, with all members having a single vote each
 - (v) matters relating to financial or delegated responsibilities will be decided solely by elected City Councillors

7. Create a single, seamless approach to neighbourhood engagement by creating a structure which enables the following to be delivered in each Area Committee area during the same session:

- Ward Forum: a ward-specific informal forum where ward councillors can engage with their constituents and discuss informal issues or issues which may require escalation to the Area Committee. During these forums, key officer representation should also be available, including from the Neighbourhood Management team, Trading Standards, Community Safety, Police, and Enterprise
- Neighbourhood Panel: formally Police-led but now partner-wide meetings during which three local priorities are identified for resolution
- Area Committee: re-launched former Neighbourhood Council meetings, focussing on more strategic or impactful issues affecting the area

For example, the Ward Forums may run from 6pm until 6.50pm, and the Area Committee meeting may run from 7pm until 9.00pm with the first 30 minutes given over to the business of the Neighbourhood Panel

8. Ensure the broader neighbourhood management framework is in place and is able to respond to the opportunities provided in the Localism Bill and other relevant emerging legislation. Further, ensure that monthly Neighbourhood Management Delivery Team meetings are in place for all Area Committee areas, that there is full commitment from all councillors, and that the role of community partnership organisations is firmly established.
9. Organise a minimum of two Area Committee locality 'tours' per annum, during which *ALL* members of the Committee, the nominated CMT member, key PCC officers, key officers from partner organisations, key community leaders/representatives and the local media explore the area in more depth focussing on particular problems, hotspots and successes.

Cabinet is asked to approve the following recommendations:

10. Agree to the creation of a job description for the roles of Chair and Vice Chair of the Area Committee that reflects the changes of emphasis and focus set out in these recommendations, and the role these posts will play in support of the broader neighbourhood management structure.

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

11. Agree to the creation of a lead officer role within the Neighbourhoods division to co-ordinate and facilitate the entire Neighbourhood Management meeting and engagement structure, including:
 - Developing, co-ordinating and monitoring delivery of action plans at Area Committee, Neighbourhood Panel, Ward Forums, and locality tour levels, holding Members, officers and partners to account as necessary
 - Liaising with key PCC departments, notably Democratic Services and Communications, to ensure all required actions are delivered
 - Arranging agenda setting and planning meetings for Area Committees in accordance with the Constitution
 - All logistical arrangements for Area Committees, Neighbourhood Panels, Ward Forums, Neighbourhood Management Delivery Team meetings and any other related forums, including venues, refreshments, access, transport etc
 - Liaising with Council departments and partners regarding information to be made available at each meeting (e.g. literature or a staffed information stand)
 - Managing the agenda plan for each Area Committee containing items for future discussion
 - Developing, managing and co-ordinating a full contacts database of residents, community groups, officers and partners to ensure maximum awareness of all relevant meetings and opportunities for engagement
12. Agree that alongside formal minutes from the Area Committee, comprehensive action plans should be created from (i) every Ward Forum and (ii) every Area Committee meeting, setting out clearly what actions have been agreed, and naming a lead officer (with the consent of the officer named) and a lead councillor jointly responsible for ensuring the action is achieved.
13. Agree to formalise the seating arrangements at Area Committee meetings so that all Members sit at the front of the audience in a horseshoe arrangement, making it clear who has voting rights, how those rights are used, and who is not in attendance
14. Agree to identify a different member of the Corporate Management Team to act as champion and advocate for each of the seven Area Committees, and to ensure that the principles of Area Committees are given the appropriate status amongst all officers.
15. Agree to develop a single media and communications strategy, supported by an action plan, which proactively promotes Area Committees and Ward Forums and their achievements in a timely manner.
 - (a) To help achieve this assign an officer within the Communications team to have responsibility for coordinating publicity and marketing for Area Committees and Ward Forums
 - (b) Produce a publicity 'pack' of template materials and formats that promote Area Committees, including 'soft' formats (via the use of the web, social networking etc) and 'hard' formats (posters, leaflets etc)
16. Agree to be creative and flexible with the logistical arrangements for neighbourhood engagement activities set out in recommendation 7, providing they follow the Access to Information rules. For example, vary the start and end times of the meetings to ensure engagement with different residents, and ensure venues have enough space and capacity to cope with the requirements of both formal and informal forums during the same session

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

17. Agree that officers should explore transport initiatives as and where appropriate for each of the Area Committee meetings to support attendance from residents
18. Agree that the recommendations, when agreed, form part of an overall implementation plan for Neighbourhood Councils alongside the recommendations that emerge from stage one of the review. This implementation plan should be overseen by the cross-party working group formed from the task and finish group, and become a standing item at all Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Committee meetings, with regular updates also provided to Cabinet and Group Representatives
19. Agree to re-brand and have a major re-launch of Neighbourhood Councils as Area Committees. This should include raising awareness to all councillors, PCC officers, external partners, and residents to actively promote their purpose including the vision set out in recommendation 2 along with the new delegations and terms of reference

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report is submitted to Cabinet following a meeting of the Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Committee held on 9 March 2011.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Cabinet of the outcome of a review of Neighbourhood Councils which has been undertaken by the Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Task and Finish Group. The review has been undertaken in two parts, the outcome of the first part was presented to Cabinet on 7 February 2011. The outcome of the second part is presented in this report. Cabinet are asked to consider the conclusions and agree the recommendations of Part Two of the review.
- 2.2 This report is for Cabinet to consider under its Terms of Reference No. 3.2.5 'To review and recommend to Council changes to the Council's Constitution, protocols and procedure rules'.

3. **TIMESCALE** (If this is not a Major Policy item, answer **NO** and delete second line of boxes).

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO
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4. REVIEW OF NEIGHBOURHOOD COUNCILS – PART TWO

- 4.1 Neighbourhood Councils have now been in operation for over a year and the Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Committee requested that a report on their progress be presented to them at their meeting on 10 November 2010. After receiving this report and noting that going forward the proposal was to remove the £25,000 dedicated funding and reduce the meetings to twice a year it was agreed that there should be a review of the process and principles of Neighbourhood Councils. The Committee agreed that there was a need to take learning and experience from the first year of operations, in order to produce recommendations for their continued development. The review would:

- Review the processes and principles of Neighbourhood Councils and come forward with recommendations for their continued development

- Examine all aspects of Neighbourhood Councils, including their funding, delegated responsibilities and logistical arrangements
 - Examine how the meetings can be developed to meet the expectations of local residents
- 4.2 To ensure all aspects of Neighbourhood Councils were taken into account Terms of Reference were put in place and can be found in the attached report at Annex 1.
- 4.3 Part Two of the review has considered the following aspects of Neighbourhood Councils
1. **Decision Making Powers and responsibilities** delegated to Neighbourhood Councils
 2. **Relationships** with other committees, panels, groups, forums etc, both internal and external
 3. **Engagement** with the public, officers, press, Councillors etc, both internal and external

The conclusions and recommendations can be found in the attached report at Annex 1.

5. CONSULTATION

- 5.1 Consultation undertaken is detailed in the report at Annex 1.

5. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES

- 5.1 That Cabinet endorses recommendations 1 to 9 prior to consideration by Annual Council, and supports and agrees to recommendations 10 to 19 put forward from Part Two of the review of Neighbourhood Councils.
- 5.2 A full and detailed implementation plan, as referred to in recommendation 18, will be developed which will ensure that all financial and procedural issues are considered prior to the implementation of any recommendations. This implementation plan, coupled with the ongoing work of the review group, will take into consideration the changes the Council will need to make in the way it operates as a result of some of the recommendations, and will work closely with councillors, officers and external partners to support those changes where agreed in a sympathetic and planned manner.

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 This report has come to Cabinet following a request from the Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Committee to conduct a review of Neighbourhood Councils. The review has taken into account the learning and experience from the first year of operations, in order to produce the recommendations for their continued development.

7. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 7.1 Option 1. Not to agree to the recommendations. The Committee do not recommend this as they consider it to be detrimental to the ongoing improvement and development of Neighbourhood Councils.
- 7.2 Option 2. Develop alternative recommendations. The Committee do not recommend this as they consider that the Task and Finish Group have conducted an in depth and objective review and therefore the recommendations put forward are considered to be the most effective way of improving the provision of Neighbourhood Councils.

8. IMPLICATIONS

Finance

- 8.1 Some of the recommendations in the report at Annex 1, if agreed, will have a direct impact on council budgets. For example, the recommendation to appoint a lead officer to support Neighbourhood Councils and the accompanying neighbourhood management framework is an additional cost to the authority. Any and all costs from both stages of the review will be identified and considered as part of the detailed implementation plan and ways to reduce the impact of any increased costs will be identified wherever possible.

Legal

- 8.2 Some of the recommendations in the report at Annex 1, if agreed, will require changes to the Council's constitution. The ways in which the Neighbourhood Councils will be taken forward, if agreed, will also require the council to consider the impacts on the way it operates – for example, levels of delegated authority, working more closely with partners, community action planning etc.

Environment

- 8.3 Many of the recommendations support the council's environmental agenda. For example, combining meetings to be held on the same evening reduces travel across Peterborough. Venues for meetings will always need to be on or close to bus routes to encourage attendance, and the recommendation to explore transport initiatives to enable attendance will be taken forward in close partnership with the council's sustainable travel team.

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985)

Minutes of Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny meetings held on 10 November 2010, 19 January 2011 and 9 March 2011.

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REVIEW OF NEIGHBOURHOOD COUNCILS – Part 2



Report of the Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Committee

March 2011

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1. Introduction

At its meeting on 10th November 2010, the Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Committee agreed to establish a Task and Finish group to conduct a review of Neighbourhood Councils.

A Task and Finish Group was established to examine this in detail on behalf of the Committee.

The Task and Finish Group comprises the following members:



**Cllr Colin Burton
Conservative**



**Cllr John Fox
Independent**



**Cllr Stephen Goldspink
English Democrat**



**Cllr Nazim Khan
Labour**



**Cllr Nick Sandford
Liberal Democrat**



**Cllr George Simons
Conservative**



**Cllr Marion Todd
Conservative**

2. Objective of the Review

2.1 Scope

- To review the processes and principles of Neighbourhood Councils and to come forward with recommendations for their continued development
- To examine all aspects of Neighbourhood Councils, including their funding, delegated responsibilities and logistical arrangements
- To look at how the meetings can be developed to meet the expectations of local residents

2.2 Terms of Reference

To review the process and principles of Neighbourhood Councils, taking learning and experience from the first year of operations, in order to produce recommendations for their continued development. The review is to include:

1. The overarching terms of reference for Neighbourhood Councils as set out in the Constitution
2. The range of responsibilities and decision-making powers delegated to Neighbourhood Councils as set out in the Constitution
3. The relationship between Neighbourhood Councils and other Council forums, committees and meetings
4. The relationship between Neighbourhood Councils and other neighbourhood or community focussed forums (e.g. Neighbourhood Panels), to ensure minimum duplication and maximum delivery
5. The process of engaging with Councillors outside the formal Neighbourhood Council meeting to progress decisions made and actions agreed during the meeting
6. The revenue and capital funding delegated to Neighbourhood Councils
7. The process for making decisions on allocating delegated finance, including Section 106 funds
8. The logistical arrangements that support Neighbourhood Councils, including meeting venues, accessibility, times, dates, frequency, presentation including sound equipment, refreshments, seating arrangements and the associated costs.
9. The methods used to promote Neighbourhood Council meetings to the public and partners to ensure maximum and appropriate levels of attendance and public participation
10. The processes used to develop the agendas, including reviewing how best to ensure agendas are relevant, meaningful and interesting and how best to involve the public in the debates
11. The process of reviewing previous actions and how those results are presented to the public
12. The process for distributing the agenda packs before, and the minutes after, each Neighbourhood Council meeting

3. Approach and Timetable

To complete the review in a timely manner, the Task and Finish Group agreed to organise the review into four distinct but broad areas of focus:

1. **Financial**, including revenue and capital funding, and the costs associated with supporting Neighbourhood Councils
2. **Decision Making Powers and responsibilities** delegated to Neighbourhood Councils
3. **Relationships** with other committees, panels, groups, forums etc, both internal and external
4. **Engagement** with the public, officers, press, Councillors etc, both internal and external

In order to meet the timetable for feedback on the Cabinet's financial proposals, the first of these four areas of focus (relating to financial issues) was reviewed first. The findings and recommendations from Part 1 of the review were submitted to the Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Committee on 19 January 2011 where the recommendations put forward were agreed. The report was then submitted to Cabinet on 7 February 2011.

This Stage 2 report focuses on the remaining aspects of the review referred to above.

3.1 Reporting Timetable

The reporting timetable for the second stage of the review will be:

COMMITTEE	DATE
Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Committee	9 th March 2011
Cabinet	21 st March 2011
Council	16 th May 2011

3.2 Key Witnesses

The Task and Finish Group identified key witnesses to be interviewed throughout the course of the review, and the following witnesses were invited for interview as part of the second stage of the review:

1st February 2011

- Helen Edwards, Solicitor to the Council
- John Harrison, Executive Director of Strategic Resources
- Alex Daynes, Senior Governance Officer
- Paul Smith, Development Implementation Manager (Planning)
- Cate Harding, Neighbourhood Manager, Central and East
- Councillor Yvonne Lowndes, Chair of the Neighbourhood Councils in the Central and East area
- Councillor David Over, Chair of the Scrutiny Commission for Rural Communities

10 February 2011

- Andrew Mackintosh, Director of Communications
- Simon Machen, Head of Planning, Transport and Engineering Services
- Kevin Roddis (resident)
- Wayne Stimson (resident)

11 February 2011

- Gary Roberts, Area Committee Support Manager & Neighbourhood Crime & Justice Coordinator, Luton Borough Council

14 February 2011

- Adrian Chapman, Head of Neighbourhoods
- Paul Phillipson, Director of Operations
- Councillor Peter Hiller, Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Planning

4. Process and Findings

4.1 Stage 2 Review

The Task and Finish Group met on the following dates:

- 26th January 2011 Group Meeting to discuss way forward for Part 2
- 31 January 2010 Group Meeting to prep for interviews
- 1st February 2011 Interviews with key witnesses
- 10th February 2011 Interviews with key witnesses
- 11th February 2011 Interview with key witness
- 14th February 2011 Interviews with key witnesses
- 16th February 2011 Group Meeting to prepare draft report and recommendations

4.2 Findings

This report will deal with the findings relevant to Part 2 of the review only. All other findings have been reported in the report from the first stage of the review.

The review group wrote to the following organisations and people for their comments on how they thought Neighbourhood Councils were currently working and for their ideas on how they could be improved and developed further:

- Parish Councils
- Rural Ward Councillors
- Police
- Housing Associations
- Community Associations
- Residents Associations
- Peterborough Council for Voluntary Service
- Werrington Neighbourhood Council

The full list of those contacted and responses received are attached at Appendices 1 and 2 respectively.

All Councillors were invited to comment on Neighbourhood Councils during Part 1 of the review. Rural Councillors were given a second opportunity to comment during Part 2 of the review as stage 2 covered the relationship between Parish Councils and the Rural North Neighbourhood Council.

A short questionnaire was issued to the Youth Council and a selection of young people from Hampton and the Millfield area. The questionnaire sent out and a summary of their results is attached at Appendix 3.

(i) Interviews with key witnesses

Interviews with all key witnesses focussed on helping to establish what their perception was of Neighbourhood Councils, how this may have differed from their original vision, and what needs to change, if anything, to make sure they are delivering for the community.

The Solicitor to the Council, Helen Edwards, was asked specifically about issues associated with the Constitution, including delegated responsibilities, as well as the community action planning process and its status within the council.

The Executive Director of Strategic Resources, John Harrison, was asked about matters relevant to stage 1 of the review, particularly matters associated with financial processes and disaggregated budgets. The Head of Planning, Transport and Engineering was also interviewed on matters largely relevant to stage 1 of the review, particularly those associated with the Planning Obligations Implementation Strategy.

The Senior Governance Officer, Alex Daynes, was asked about governance support, and gave suggestions for how delegations could be better used and processes improved.

Wayne Stimson and Kevin Roddis were asked about their perceptions of why Neighbourhood Councils haven't been successful so far. Both suggested ideas and improvements linked to needing to define the overall purpose of Neighbourhood Councils and demonstrating that the public truly do have a voice and an influence over what is decided.

The interview with the Director of Communications, Andrew Mackintosh, centred on the marketing and communications activity delivered so far for Neighbourhood Councils. Andrew suggested many ways of improving awareness and attendance through better and more innovative marketing techniques.

The Executive Director of Operations, Paul Phillipson, gave his views about the potential that Neighbourhood Councils offer to deliver real results for local people, from relatively local issues whose resolution has perhaps become blocked, through to larger scale community planning of services, their design and delivery.

The Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Planning, Councillor Peter Hiller, was asked about his vision for Neighbourhood Councils. Councillor Hiller expressed a clear passion for the principles of Neighbourhood Councils and gave his commitment to supporting the lead officers responsible for delivering them.

Finally, the review group interviewed an officer from Luton Borough Council, Gary Roberts. Gary is the Area Committee Support Manager and Neighbourhood Crime & Justice Coordinator in Luton, and is responsible for co-ordinating all activity associated with Luton's equivalent to Neighbourhood Councils.

Luton Borough Council

Luton Borough Council has been operating Area Committees for over ten years, and before them a similar structure that linked councilors to communities to help make decisions. Luton's model is working well with good levels of public attendance at meetings, full participation from councilors, strategic and operational support from officers at all levels of the organization, and demonstrable delivery coming from agreed actions. Gary emphasized that much of this success is linked to the length of time that Area Committees have been running in Luton and the fact that they have become fully embedded into the council's decision making process.

Gary shared a wealth of knowledge and experience based on the Luton model, and also provided examples of materials and templates used to promote Area Committees and to co-ordinate their output.

(ii) Comments from Councillors

The Review Group would like to thank those Councillors who contributed valuable information to this review process. Whilst it is acknowledged that not every Councillor is in favour of the Neighbourhood Council model, the Task and Finish group have taken a pragmatic view to try to support their continued development. ***Comments received that are relevant to stage 1 of this review have already been reported; all other comments are set out below.***

Councillor David Over

The Neighbourhood Council struggled. Mainly through lack of direction and leadership this NC had significant problems from the start. Immediately, it antagonised the parish councils. These councils have run, with varying degrees of success, for over 100 years and are part of the identity of each village. Volunteer councillors work hard and have a direct connection with the well being of their village.

The NC encouraged individuals and groups, often unelected or single issue supporters, to contribute to the NC. This was seen as a direct attack on elected parish councillors. At the same time parish councillors found they had no vote on the NC.

Consequently, cooperation for the NC from the parish councils is limited. Ward Councillors will support the parish councils because that is where the local vote lies.

The leadership of the NC was poor. With a number of officers coming and going there was no continuity. Leadership was limited and included a tirade against ward councillors for not attending a youth concert in Bretton!

A useful procedure would have been to follow the parish council pattern. The chair and officer put together the agenda. Public contributions would be heard at the beginning of the meeting and then the work of the NC would be carried out by ward councillors.

Recent discussions on changing the nature of the NC show some promise. However, what seems to be suggested is just a consultation body where parish councils can put their views forward. It would be a brave ward councillor to go against the views of their parishes.

Councillor June Stokes

I attended last night's meeting of the above.

It was well attended, especially as it was such a cold night. I really like the idea of the neighbourhood councils as it gives the residents a chance to air their views.

I can't really think of anything that can be improved in the way they are run. But just a suggestion, now and again could we not have a daytime meeting, perhaps in a school hall to get the kids interested in their communities or a meeting in a Warden controlled elderly residents complex i.e. such as Napier Place because the elderly don't like to go out at night.

Councillor George Simons

Re the meeting of December 15th held at the Voyager School.

Plenty of refreshment was available for all.

I have to say I was very disappointed regarding the agenda and subsequent voting to approve funding for listed items. Plenty of time was given for discussion with the attending public. Alas only a handful turned up. This may have been due to lack of notification as it only appeared in the E.T. paper the day before.

Elected members were issued with all relevant information well in advance of the meeting. Too much time was wasted with back and forth comments regarding each item by a couple of Councillors when a straight forward yes or no vote should suffice.

It must have appeared to those public that the Councillors were not acting in the correct manner, and therefore it created a poor impression and this could have a knock on effect for attending future meetings.

Without the public support these meetings could be discontinued. The attendance of above consisted of about 30 people with the majority being Councillors and Council Officers.

Ideally local problems should be dealt with by the elected Ward Councillors. Also giving the public more say so that it is felt they are actually involved.

(iii) Survey results

A short survey was issued at the last round of Neighbourhood Council meetings and is attached at appendix 4. For the purposes of this report, the focus is on the following survey questions.

- Why have you attended your Neighbourhood Council?
- How would you prefer to receive feedback from your Neighbourhood Council?
- How did you hear about this meeting?
- Do you have any other venues that you think these meetings should be held at to increase attendance?
- What changes would you make that you think would really encourage your friends and neighbours to attend Neighbourhood Councils regularly?
- Do you have any other comments regarding the Neighbourhood Council, for example what their objective should be, choice of venue, etc?

68 surveys have been completed, and the results are shown at appendix 5. Many comments were added to completed surveys, **but only those directly associated with this stage of the Review of Neighbourhood Councils are captured in this report.** ALL other results and comments were recorded in the report for the first stage of the Review.

***N.B.** Surveys were completed anonymously in most cases, and it is therefore possible that some of the responses are from partner organisations, councillors and officers.*

(iv) Information from other local authorities

N.B. Information directly associated with this stage of the Review of Neighbourhood Councils is included below; all other information was included in the stage 1 report.

Thurrock Council

Thurrock Council are in the process of establishing Area Forums, but report that it is unlikely that any funding will be delegated to them. Their proposal is that each forum is chaired by a Councillor and supported by a Head of Service, but that they will receive no additional allowance for doing so. Instead, a budget will be devolved to each individual Councillor.

Luton Borough Council

This Council operate 5 Area Committees with an approximately equal population size in each. They also operate a model of Ward forums – a meeting specific to each ward that runs immediately before an Area Committee meeting.

See section 4.2 (i) for more details.

North Lincolnshire Council

This Council is currently in the process of developing Local Area Forums, and there will be one in each of the 5 areas of North Lincolnshire, typically covering around 3 electoral wards each. The first meeting of the pilot was due to be held in December 2010, and consisted of a mixed group of elected members (who Chair), officers from the Council and partner agencies, community members, and trained community ambassadors. The local parish/town council is also represented.

In addition, they have been working with the Community Development Foundation on the design of their new arrangements, and a community involvement project has been running since June 2010 as a pathfinder for this. A learning report from this was due to be drafted in January 2011.

Officer support is provided by the Council's Stronger Communities team. They have appointed an Area Based Working Programme Manager who is leading on the design and support of the process.

Swindon Borough Council

Swindon provided a great deal of information about their 'Connecting People, Connecting Places' initiative which they developed around two years ago. They have divided Swindon into 7 'clusters' or areas to work more closely with their communities. Ward Councillors and Cluster Leads (existing senior managers within the Council) were given the freedom to develop cluster based working in whatever way was most appropriate. In one area (West) this has resulted in the development of an area forum. Other area work has been based on networking, open invitation events, project based activity etc.

They have been developing this work over the last 2 years with progress being reviewed annually. The programme has changed considerably during its development.

The West Area forum does not have decision making powers. Instead it is to enable members of the public to raise or take forward issues with other members of the community, the Council and other public sector partners. It is supported by the Cluster Lead and other invited officers depending on items submitted by the public for the agenda. The meetings are held monthly with attendance of around 50 people.

5. Conclusions and Recommendations for Part 2

Alongside the recommendations made in the first stage review, the recommendations set out below continue to strengthen the role of Neighbourhood Councils in Peterborough, and both clarify and confirm the important role they will play in the future of our city.

The principles by which the recommendations in this report have been made centre on (i) learning from the first few months of Neighbourhood Council delivery in practice, and (ii) taking that learning and using it to redevelop the model so it places Neighbourhood Councils at the heart of decision making and development in our communities and provides a robust vehicle for delivering the Big Society.

As with the overall approach taken during the review process, the recommendations are set out in three distinct but inter-related sections:

- Decision making powers and responsibilities
- Relationships and organisation
- Engagement

Section A: Decision making powers and responsibilities

The review group firmly believe that Neighbourhood Councils must have and be seen to have the same status as other formal committees of the Council. There is a balance to be achieved between formal committee structure and informal engagement, and this is addressed in further recommendations below. However, initially the review group recommend that the term 'Neighbourhood Council' be replaced with the term 'Area Committee'. This will help to reinforce the fact that these are formal committee meetings and an extension of existing decision making structures. Additionally however the name change will also support the principles of a relaunch for the new municipal year – a new name, a new brand, and a wholly fresh approach to delivering local decision making.

Recommendation 1:

Change the name of Neighbourhood Councils to Area Committees

The change of name alone, although significant, will not be enough to signify the positive and dynamic focus the review group envisage for Area Committees. Although terms of reference and formal delegations do exist at present, the review group feel that there is no clear vision for Area Committees. A strong vision will help to demonstrate to our residents, other councillors, officer and partners the important role that Area Committees will play in our future.

Recommendation 2:

Adopt the following as the vision statement for Area Committees:

“Area Committees will deliver improvements for the local area by identifying, overseeing, monitoring and driving actions to support all issues relevant to the area, including service delivery, service improvements, and area developments”

In the spirit of recognising that the Area Committees are indeed formal committees of the Council, it is important that they are supported in the same way as, for example, scrutiny committees. The review group felt that, even though Neighbourhood Councils have been operating as formal committees, they have not enjoyed the same level of planning and input as other such committees. A reinforcement of this is therefore recommended in order to ensure the Area Committees can fulfil their responsibilities and duties appropriately.

Recommendation 3:

Amend the Procedure Rules contained in the Constitution to reflect these recommendations, and to ensure that Area Committees are supported by similar procedures that support other Council committees (for example, agenda setting meetings with Area Committee members, and provision of full committee reports)

Although formal terms of reference have existed for Neighbourhood Councils, the review group believe these need to be more clearly articulated and have greater impact. They should follow on from the new vision for Area Committees, and be both accessible and relevant to the role that Area Committees will play. They should be clearly understood by all councillors, officers and partners, and be readily available to the public.

Recommendation 4:

Replace the existing terms of reference for Area Committees with the following:

- (i) Area Committees are established in Peterborough in accordance with the provisions set out in Local Government Act 2000**
- (ii) Area Committees will require the proactive support of all elected Councillors, officers, and partner organisations to ensure their full and positive success**

Area Committees should:

- (iii) Make decisions within the remit of the terms of reference and the formally delegated responsibilities, or make recommendations to the Executive as appropriate on issues which affect the area**
- (iv) Be the committee where members of the Area Committee and members of the community can discuss issues of concern or interest, including those that are not the direct responsibility of the Council as well as those that are**
- (v) Set the standards for services to meet local needs which are outside the immediate responsibility or budget of the Area Committee, and seek agreement for any changes from the Executive**
- (vi) Be the primary focus for public involvement and consultation within the area, working closely with other public, private and voluntary agencies, and advising and/or making recommendations that arise to the Executive as appropriate on issues which affect the area**
- (vii) Develop community action plans, and monitor their implementation, to ensure the promotion of economic, environmental, cultural and social wellbeing of the area, that service delivery improvements are made and that better outcomes are achieved**
- (viii) Carry out any non-Executive functions delegated by the council, and any Executive functions delegated by the Leader, in accordance with the Scheme of Delegations set out in Part 3 sections 1 and 3 of the Constitution**
- (ix) Be directly responsible for any delegated funding identified by the Council and invest that money in ways that support the priorities identified through the community planning process**

Neighbourhood Councils have had formally delegated responsibilities since their inception, although have only limited evidence of decision making or delivery as a result of these delegations. In part, this may be because of the important developmental period that is required to implement any new major strategy. However, the review group also felt that, because there was a lack of purpose and agreed vision for Neighbourhood Councils, delivery against any delegated responsibility was very difficult to achieve.

The strategy that the review group are recommending is to refocus the existing delegations around a smaller number of more specific responsibilities that they are confident can be delivered to benefit our communities during the 2011/12 municipal year. Part of this approach will also include a review of those delegations during the year, with a view to broadening out their scope once again from 2012/13 onwards.

Recommendation 5:

For the Municipal Year commencing May 2011, replace the existing Delegations to Neighbourhood Councils with those set out below. Keep this under review during that year, with a view to expanding the delegations from the start of the Municipal Year commencing May 2012:

- (i) The Leader retains responsibility for functions delegated and may exercise those functions in person, regardless of further delegation. Further, the Area Committees must act with due regard to all other Council policies and procedures**
- (ii) To promote the Council's role as a community leader in its area, giving a meaningful voice to the community and fostering good and productive working relationships with the Council's partner organisations, including Parish Councils, Police, Fire, Probation, criminal justice agencies, health and social care agencies, education agencies, young peoples' services, community associations, residents associations and voluntary sector agencies**
- (iii) To take a leading role in promoting the economic, environmental, cultural and social wellbeing of the area, and develop community action plans to achieve this that improve service delivery and achieve better outcomes**
- (iv) To set the standards for all former City Services operations now contracted to Enterprise to ensure effective delivery of all services, including making decisions on the maximum amount of any delegated budgets allowable within the terms of the contract to be deployed on local priorities (*to be confirmed subject to details of the contract*)**
- (v) To agree the annual programme of works contained within the Highways Capital Programme for 2012/13 onwards**
- (vi) To act as consultees on all major or significant Executive and Council proposals that affect the area, including those affecting both capital and revenue spend**
- (vii) To act as consultees in respect of Major Planning applications relevant to the area, and report views to the relevant Committee**
- (viii) To carry out any actions that the Executive authorises in addition to those set out above, until such time as that authorisation is revoked**

Significant debate was held regarding the roles of Chair and Vice Chair of Area Committees. The review group felt that the role of Chair needed to be more clearly articulated so that there was a shared understanding of that role amongst all councillors and officers. Further, although Vice Chairs have been in post since the inception of Neighbourhood Councils, their role has not been well developed and they are therefore a valuable leadership resource that may not be fully utilised.

Recommendation 6:

Create a job description for the roles of Chair and Vice Chair of the Area Committee that reflects the changes of emphasis and focus set out in these recommendations, and the role these posts will play in support of the broader neighbourhood management structure referred to in section B below

Although many existing Neighbourhood Councils have demonstrated real development and are showing positive potential, the relationship between them and rural parish councils has perhaps been the most concerning. Parish councils have existed for many years, and already benefit from decision making powers. They act as a voice for their local communities, and are elected by those communities to represent them on local matters.

Such has been the strength of feeling regarding the relationship between Neighbourhood Councils and parish councils, a sub-group of the Neighbourhood Council review group has been working on proposals to create a new arrangement relevant to the existing Rural North Neighbourhood Council only. This sub-group has comprised a number of rural City councillors, representatives from a number of parish councils, and officers from the council.

Recommendation 7:

Deliver the recommendations set out in the report from the sub-group of the Neighbourhood Council Task and Finish Group which has focussed on rural/parish issues, specifically:

- (i) create a new committee to replace the Rural North Neighbourhood Council, that comprises rural Ward Councillors and one co-opted representative from each of the 23 rural Parish Councils**
- (ii) appoint a rural Ward Councillor as the Chair of this committee**
- (iii) hold all meetings at a rural location within any of the 23 rural Parish Council areas**
- (iv) decisions relating to non-financial matters or those that are not formally delegated responsibilities will be debated by all members of the committee, with all members having a single vote each**
- (v) matters relating to financial or delegated responsibilities will be decided solely by elected City Councillors**

Section B: Relationships and organisation

The recommendations contained in this and the previous report should deliver an Area Committee structure which will make a real and lasting difference in our communities. However, it will require focussed officer support to co-ordinate all arrangements and to monitor and manage the various action plans that emerge from Ward Forums and Area Committees. Whilst the Neighbourhood Managers have the strategic responsibility for the existing Neighbourhood Councils and much of the logistical work is carried out by colleagues in Democratic Services, there are new functions and duties that are imperative to the success of the re-launched Area Committees that will require dedicated officer time. This was further demonstrated by the successful Luton Area Committee model which benefits from dedicated officer co-ordination and support.

Recommendation 8:

Create a lead officer role within the Neighbourhoods division to co-ordinate and facilitate the entire Neighbourhood Management meeting and engagement structure, including:

- **Developing, co-ordinating and monitoring delivery of action plans at Area Committee, Neighbourhood Panel, Ward Forums, and locality tour levels, holding Members, officers and partners to account as necessary**
- **Liaising with key PCC departments, notably Democratic Services and Communications, to ensure all required actions are delivered**
- **Arranging agenda setting and planning meetings for Area Committees in accordance with the Constitution**
- **All logistical arrangements for Area Committees, Neighbourhood Panels, Ward Forums, Neighbourhood Management Delivery Team meetings and any other related forums, including venues, refreshments, access, transport etc**
- **Liaising with Council departments and partners regarding information to be made available at each meeting (e.g. literature or a staffed information stand)**
- **Managing the agenda plan for each Area Committee containing items for future discussion**
- **Developing, managing and co-ordinating a full contacts database of residents, community groups, officers and partners to ensure maximum awareness of all relevant meetings and opportunities for engagement**

Recommendations relevant to engagement techniques and maximising attendance are set out in section C below. However, as important are issues specific to the relationship that the Area Committees need to have with other local forums as well as with officers and partners. Limited public attendance levels have caused the review group some concern, although where there have been agenda items at Neighbourhood Councils which are particularly significant or controversial, unsurprisingly attendance levels have been relatively high.

The conclusion therefore must be that the business of the Area Committees needs to be more interesting and impactful if our communities are to engage with them and develop the rich debate needed to make better decisions. Alongside this, the neighbourhood panels that have been developed by the Police have been running now for some time, and generally do enjoy higher levels of attendance. They focus on identifying three local priorities that the Police, Council and other agencies will focus on, progress against which is then reported back at the next meeting. Currently these meetings are held quarterly, and separately from any other local forum.

Finally, the review group felt that as the Area Committees adopt a more formal approach to achieve more significant outcomes, this may deter some local residents from engaging. However, if they are to be successful it is of course critical that intelligence and information is provided in some way to councillors and officers to ensure appropriate actions are taken.

Adopting an approach which provides an informal opportunity to engage, an opportunity to identify three local priorities and an opportunity to participate in decision making at the Area Committee, all on the same evening and at the same location, is therefore recommended. Early discussions with senior colleagues in the Police have confirmed their support for this approach.

Recommendation 9:

Create a single, seamless approach to neighbourhood engagement by creating a structure which enables the following to be delivered in each Area Committee area during the same session:

- **Ward Forum: a ward-specific informal forum where ward councillors can engage with their constituents and discuss informal issues or issues which may require escalation to the Area Committee. During these forums, key officer representation should also be available, including from the Neighbourhood Management team, Trading Standards, Community Safety, Police, and Enterprise**
- **Neighbourhood Panel: formally Police-led but now partner-wide meetings during which three local priorities are identified for resolution**
- **Area Committee: re-launched former Neighbourhood Council meetings, focussing on more strategic or impactful issues affecting the area**

For example, the Ward Forums may run from 6pm until 6.50pm, and the Area Committee meeting may run from 7pm until 9.00pm with the first 30 minutes given over to the business of the Neighbourhood Panel

To ensure real and positive action is delivered as a result of this new approach, and to hold councillors, officers and partners to account, the review group recognise the need to implement a process of action planning to capture agreed actions and to monitor their delivery. This approach will also help identify barriers and blockages in order that they can be overcome.

Action plans for neighbourhood panel meetings are already produced, and so the review group recommend that this be extended for both the Ward Forum and Area Committee meetings.

Recommendation 10:

Alongside formal minutes from the Area Committee, comprehensive action plans should be created from (i) every Ward Forum and (ii) every Area Committee meeting, setting out clearly what actions have been agreed, and naming a lead officer (with the consent of the officer named) and a lead councillor jointly responsible for ensuring the action is achieved

The review group have become increasingly aware of the significance of the neighbourhood management framework within which sits the Area Committee itself. Area Committees will be held quarterly, but the actions that come from them will need to be delivered swiftly and responsively if we are to demonstrate their effectiveness. Progress on achieving outcomes, information about emergency priorities, and an opportunity to formally engage with the relevant neighbourhood manager are all essential components of a successful neighbourhoods approach.

Further, the principles of the Big Society, and the information that is emerging from the Localism Bill, all require structures that ensure local issues are identified and actions taken by and with local people. There is a rich fabric of local community, voluntary and faith organisations across Peterborough, each of whom have a different perspective and who have significant levels of information and experience critical to delivering better outcomes for our residents.

However, we have fewer staff resources available to engage directly with these groups, which means there is a huge risk that their knowledge but also capacity is lost. By creating forums or partnerships where these groups can come together to enable a single conversation to be had will ensure this does not become the reality.

Recommendation 11:

Ensure the broader neighbourhood management framework shown at appendix 6 is in place and is able to respond to the opportunities provided in the Localism Bill and other relevant emerging legislation. Further, ensure that monthly Neighbourhood Management Delivery Team meetings are in place for all Area Committee areas, that there is full commitment from all councillors, and that the role of community partnership organisations is firmly established

To support the important role that Area Committees will play, and to better illustrate their significance to the public, the review group recommend that the seating arrangements be changed. Although a minor point at face value, this change will truly demonstrate who has voting rights and how those votes are used.

Recommendation 12:

Formalise the seating arrangements at Area Committee meetings so that all Members sit at the front of the audience in a horseshoe arrangement, making it clear who has voting rights, how those rights are used, and who is not in attendance

In addition to the support and commitment of councillors, if Area Committees are to be truly effective it is essential that officers are also fully committed. The review group felt that this needed to be demonstrated from the top of the organisation, and that a sense of real ownership is developed across all departments. Officers should feel that the Area Committees provide them with an opportunity to engage directly with the public so that they can make better and more informed decisions about service design and delivery.

Recommendation 13:

Identify a different member of the Corporate Management Team to act as champion and advocate for each of the seven Area Committees, and to ensure that the principles of Area Committees are given the appropriate status amongst all officers

Creating a sense of ownership of an Area Committee area is important to all those supporting that committee – for example, councillors who may not be familiar with all parts of the locality, officers and partners. Whilst the committee process itself will help to develop this sense of ownership, the review group recognise the importance of making the local knowledge as real as possible. One way to achieve this is to organise tours of the local area which would focus on strengths and weaknesses, areas of concern and areas where good work has been delivered. This would also be an excellent opportunity to show all those involved with the Area Committee the positive difference the committee is making by visiting ‘before and after’ areas.

Recommendation 14:

Organise a minimum of two Area Committee locality ‘tours’ per annum, during which ALL members of the Committee, the nominated CMT member, key PCC officers, key officers from partner organisations, key community leaders/representatives and the local media explore the area in more depth focussing on particular problems, hotspots and successes

Section C: Engagement

Information, intelligence and engagement from residents is critical if Area Committees are to be a success, and the review group recognise the importance of accessible, relevant and timely media and communications activity to promote meetings to all. Information that promotes Area Committees and that provides updates on agreed actions also needs to be considered, with more effective use of social media, local venues as information providers, and local newsletters.

It will also be important to promote the achievements of Area Committees and Ward Forums to demonstrate their value.

Recommendation 15:

- (a) Develop a single media and communications strategy, supported by an action plan, which proactively promotes Area Committees and Ward Forums and their achievements in a timely manner**
- (b) To help achieve this assign an officer within the Communications team to have responsibility for coordinating publicity and marketing for Area Committees and Ward Forums**
- (c) Produce a publicity 'pack' of template materials and formats that promote Area Committees, including 'soft' formats (via the use of the web, social networking etc) and 'hard' formats (posters, leaflets etc)**

In order to engage with as many people as possible, but to also make sure that the widest cross-section of residents can become involved it is important to think creatively about how the meetings should be organised. There may be a need, for example, to vary start and finish times, or to hold meetings in different types of venues.

Recommendation 16:

Be creative and flexible with the logistical arrangements for neighbourhood engagement activities set out in recommendation 9, providing they follow the Access to Information rules. For example, vary the start and end times of the meetings to ensure engagement with different residents, and ensure venues have enough space and capacity to cope with the requirements of both formal and informal forums during the same session

The Council is fully committed to supporting all residents, including those who are vulnerable or who find it difficult to engage with councillors and service providers. Area Committees and Ward Forums will be held in venues within each Area Committee area but there may be some residents who are keen to attend but who are unable to do so because of mobility issues or because they are particularly vulnerable.

Recommendation 17:

Officers should explore transport initiatives as and where appropriate for each of the Area Committee meetings to support attendance from residents

As part of the report from stage 1 of this review, the recommendation to form an implementation plan which would be overseen by the existing task and finish group was agreed. For clarity and consistency, that same recommendation is repeated below.

Recommendation 18 (already agreed):

That the recommendations, when agreed, form part of an overall implementation plan for Neighbourhood Councils alongside the recommendations that emerge from stage one of the review. This implementation plan should be overseen by the cross-party working group formed from the task and finish group, and become a standing item at all Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Committee meetings, with regular updates also provided to Cabinet and Group Representatives

Finally, there is a real opportunity to promote the fact that we have all learned from the experiences of running Neighbourhood Councils to date and to celebrate the fact that we are hugely optimistic about the future of Area Committees. The scale of change being recommended is significant, and the review group are confident this will deliver the outcomes we need for our residents and be an important part of our response to the challenges of the Big Society.

A full re-launch of Area Committees in the context of these recommendations prior to the first meetings in the new municipal year will kick-start this approach.

Recommendation 19:

Re-brand and have a major re-launch of Neighbourhood Councils as Area Committees. This should include raising awareness to all councillors, PCC officers, external partners, and residents to actively promote their purpose including the vision set out in recommendation 2 along with the new delegations and terms of reference

6. Summary list of recommendations, with lead officers and target dates identified

	RECOMMENDATIONS	LEAD OFFICER	TARGET DATE
1.	Change the name of Neighbourhood Councils to Area Committees	Democratic Services	May 2011
2.	Adopt the following as the vision statement for Area Committees: "Area Committees will deliver improvements for the local area by identifying, overseeing, monitoring and driving actions to support all issues relevant to the area, including service delivery, service improvements, and area developments"	Adrian Chapman	May 2011
3.	Amend the Procedure Rules contained in the Constitution to reflect these recommendations, and to ensure that Area Committees are supported by similar procedures that support other Council committees (for example, agenda setting meetings with Area Committee members, and provision of full committee reports)	Democratic Services	May 2011
4.	Replace the existing terms of reference for Area Committees with the following: (i) Area Committees are established in Peterborough in accordance with the provisions set out in Local Government Act 2000 (ii) Area Committees will require the proactive support of all elected Councillors, officers, and partner organisations to ensure their full and positive success Area Committees should: (iii) Make decisions within the remit of the terms of reference and the formally delegated responsibilities, or make recommendations to the Executive as appropriate on issues which affect the area (iv) Be the committee where members of the Area Committee and members of the community can discuss issues of concern or interest, including those that are not the direct responsibility of the Council as well as those that are (v) Set the standards for services to meet local needs which are outside the immediate responsibility or budget of the Area Committee, and seek agreement for any changes from the Executive (vi) Be the primary focus for public involvement and consultation within the area, working closely with other public, private and voluntary agencies, and advising and/or making recommendations that arise to the Executive as appropriate on issues which affect the area	Democratic Services	May 2011

	RECOMMENDATIONS	LEAD OFFICER	TARGET DATE
	<p>(vii) Develop community action plans, and monitor their implementation, to ensure the promotion of economic, environmental, cultural and social wellbeing of the area, that service delivery improvements are made and that better outcomes are achieved</p> <p>(viii) Carry out any non-Executive functions delegated by the council, and any Executive functions delegated by the Leader, in accordance with the Scheme of Delegations set out in Part 3 sections 1 and 3 of the Constitution</p> <p>(ix) Be directly responsible for any delegated funding identified by the Council and invest that money in ways that support the priorities identified through the community planning process</p>		
5.	<p>For the Municipal Year commencing May 2011, replace the existing Delegations to Neighbourhood Councils with those set out below. Keep this under review during that year, with a view to expanding the delegations from the start of the Municipal Year commencing May 2012:</p> <p>(i) The Leader retains responsibility for functions delegated and may exercise those functions in person, regardless of further delegation. Further, the Area Committees must act with due regard to all other Council policies and procedures</p> <p>(ii) To promote the Council's role as a community leader in its area, giving a meaningful voice to the community and fostering good and productive working relationships with the Council's partner organisations, including Parish Councils, Police, Fire, Probation, criminal justice agencies, health and social care agencies, education agencies, young peoples' services, community associations, residents associations and voluntary sector agencies</p> <p>(iii) To take a leading role in promoting the economic, environmental, cultural and social wellbeing of the area, and develop community action plans to achieve this that improve service delivery and achieve better outcomes</p> <p>(iv) To set the standards for all former City Services operations now contracted to Enterprise to ensure effective delivery of all services, including making decisions on the maximum amount of any delegated budgets allowable within the terms of the contract to be deployed on local priorities (<i>to be confirmed subject to details of the contract</i>)</p> <p>(v) To agree the annual programme of works contained within the Highways Capital Programme for 2012/13 onwards</p> <p>(vi) To act as consultees on all major or significant Executive and Council proposals that affect the area, including those affecting both capital and revenue spend</p> <p>(vii) To act as consultees in respect of Major Planning applications relevant to the area, and report views to the relevant Committee</p> <p>(viii) To carry out any actions that the Executive authorises in addition to those set out above, until such time as that authorisation is revoked</p>	May 2011	May 2011

	RECOMMENDATIONS	LEAD OFFICER	TARGET DATE
6.	Create a job description for the roles of Chair and Vice Chair of the Area Committee that reflects the changes of emphasis and focus set out in these recommendations, and the role these posts will play in support of the broader neighbourhood management structure referred to in section B below	Adrian Chapman	May 2011
7.	<p>Deliver the recommendations set out in the report from the sub-group of the Neighbourhood Council Task and Finish Group which has focussed on rural/parish issues, specifically:</p> <p>(i) create a new committee to replace the Rural North Neighbourhood Council, that comprises rural Ward Councillors and one co-opted representative from each of the 23 rural Parish Councils</p> <p>(ii) appoint a rural Ward Councillor as the Chair of this committee</p> <p>(iii) hold all meetings at a rural location within any of the 23 rural Parish Council areas</p> <p>(iv) decisions relating to non-financial matters or those that are not formally delegated responsibilities will be debated by all members of the committee, with all members having a single vote each</p> <p>(v) matters relating to financial or delegated responsibilities will be decided solely by elected City Councillors</p>	Julie Rivett	May 2011
8.	<p>Create a lead officer role within the Neighbourhoods division to co-ordinate and facilitate the entire Neighbourhood Management meeting and engagement structure, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing, co-ordinating and monitoring delivery of action plans at Area Committee, Neighbourhood Panel, Ward Forums, and locality tour levels, holding Members, officers and partners to account as necessary • Liaising with key PCC departments, notably Democratic Services and Communications, to ensure all required actions are delivered • Arranging agenda setting and planning meetings for Area Committees in accordance with the Constitution • All logistical arrangements for Area Committees, Neighbourhood Panels, Ward Forums, Neighbourhood Management Delivery Team meetings and any other related forums, including venues, refreshments, access, transport etc • Liaising with Council departments and partners regarding information to be made available at each meeting (e.g. literature or a staffed information stand) • Managing the agenda plan for each Area Committee containing items for future discussion • Developing, managing and co-ordinating a full contacts database of residents, community groups, officers and partners to ensure maximum awareness of all relevant meetings and opportunities for engagement 	Adrian Chapman	May 2011

	RECOMMENDATIONS	LEAD OFFICER	TARGET DATE
9.	<p>Create a single, seamless approach to neighbourhood engagement by creating a structure which enables the following to be delivered in each Area Committee area during the same session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ward Forum: a ward-specific informal forum where ward councillors can engage with their constituents and discuss informal issues or issues which may require escalation to the Area Committee. During these forums, key officer representation should also be available, including from the Neighbourhood Management team, Trading Standards, Community Safety, Police, and Enterprise • Neighbourhood Panel: formally Police-led but now partner-wide meetings during which three local priorities are identified for resolution • Area Committee: re-launched former Neighbourhood Council meetings, focussing on more strategic or impactful issues affecting the area <p>For example, the Ward Forums may run from 6pm until 6.50pm, and the Area Committee meeting may run from 7pm until 9.00pm with the first 30 minutes given over to the business of the Neighbourhood Panel</p>	Adrian Chapman	May 2011
10.	Alongside formal minutes from the Area Committee, comprehensive action plans should be created from (i) every Ward Forum and (ii) every Area Committee meeting, setting out clearly what actions have been agreed, and naming a lead officer (with the consent of the officer named) and a lead councillor jointly responsible for ensuring the action is achieved	Neighbourhood Managers	From May 2011
11.	Ensure the broader neighbourhood management framework shown at appendix 6 is in place and is able to respond to the opportunities provided in the Localism Bill and other relevant emerging legislation. Further, ensure that monthly Neighbourhood Management Delivery Team meetings are in place for all Area Committee areas, that there is full commitment from all councillors, and that the role of community partnership organisations is firmly established	Adrian Chapman/ Neighbourhood Managers	From May 2011
12.	Formalise the seating arrangements at Area Committee meetings so that all Members sit at the front of the audience in a horseshoe arrangement, making it clear who has voting rights, how those rights are used, and who is not in attendance	Democratic Services	May 2011
13.	Identify a different member of the Corporate Management Team to act as champion and advocate for each of the seven Area Committees, and to ensure that the principles of Area Committees are given the appropriate status amongst all officers	Paul Phillipson	May 2011

	RECOMMENDATIONS	LEAD OFFICER	TARGET DATE
14.	Organise a minimum of two Area Committee locality 'tours' per annum, during which <i>ALL</i> members of the Committee, the nominated CMT member, key PCC officers, key officers from partner organisations, key community leaders/representatives and the local media explore the area in more depth focussing on particular problems, hotspots and successes	Adrian Chapman	May 2011
15.	<p>(a) Develop a single media and communications strategy, supported by an action plan, which proactively promotes Area Committees and Ward Forums and their achievements in a timely manner</p> <p>(b) To help achieve this assign an officer within the Communications team to have responsibility for coordinating publicity and marketing for Area Committees and Ward Forums</p> <p>(c) Produce a publicity 'pack' of template materials and formats that promote Area Committees, including 'soft' formats (via the use of the web, social networking etc) and 'hard' formats (posters, leaflets etc)</p>	Andrew Mackintosh	May 2011
16	Be creative and flexible with the logistical arrangements for neighbourhood engagement activities set out in recommendation 8, providing they follow the Access to Information rules. For example, vary the start and end times of the meetings to ensure engagement with different residents, and ensure venues have enough space and capacity to cope with the requirements of both formal and informal forums during the same session	Neighbourhood Managers	From May 2011
17.	Officers should explore transport initiatives as and where appropriate for each of the Area Committee meetings to support attendance from residents	Neighbourhood Managers	From May 2011
18.	That the recommendations, when agreed, form part of an overall implementation plan for Neighbourhood Councils alongside the recommendations that emerge from stage one of the review. This implementation plan should be overseen by the cross-party working group formed from the task and finish group, and become a standing item at all Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Committee meetings, with regular updates also provided to Cabinet and Group Representatives	Adrian Chapman	May 2011
19.	Re-brand and have a major re-launch of Neighbourhood Councils as Area Committees. This should include raising awareness to all councillors, PCC officers, external partners, and residents to actively promote their purpose including the vision set out in recommendation 2 along with the new delegations and terms of reference	Adrian Chapman/ Andrew Mackintosh/ Neighbourhood Managers	May 2011

The Review Group would like to note their thanks for the support given to them by Paulina Ford, Scrutiny Research and Project Advisor and Adrian Chapman whilst conducting this review.

They would also like to thank and acknowledge the support and information given to them by all of the key witnesses interviewed, and those organisations and people that have contributed to the review by sending in their comments and ideas. A particular thank you to Gary Roberts, Area Committee Support Manager at Luton who visited Peterborough to inform the Task and Finish Group on how Area Committees work in Luton.



Appendix 1: Details of individuals and organisations contacted

The following organisations, associations, groups and people were sent a letter or email inviting them to comment on Neighbourhood Councils:

Parish Councils:

- Ailsworth Parish Council
- Bainton and Ashton Parish Council
- Barnack Parish Council
- Borough Fen Parish Council
- Bretton Parish Council
- Castor Parish Council
- Deeping Gate Parish Council
- Etton Parish Council
- Eye Parish Council
- Glinton Parish Council
- Hampton Hargate and Hampton Vale Parish Council
- Helpston Parish Council
- Marholm Parish Council
- Maxey Parish Council
- Newborough Parish Council
- Northborough Parish Council
- Orton Longueville Parish Council
- Orton Waterville Parish Council
- Peakirk Parish Council
- Southorpe Parish Council
- St Martins Without Parish Meeting
- Sutton Parish Council
- Thorney Parish Council
- Thornhaugh Parish Council
- Ufford Parish Council
- Upton Parish Meeting
- Wansford Parish Council
- Werrington Neighbourhood Council
- Wittering Parish Council
- Wothorpe Parish Council

Community Associations:

- Dogsthorpe Community Association
- Saxon Community Association
- Parnwell Community Association
- Millfield Community Association
- East Community Association
- Wilfred Wood Hall Barnack Community Association
- Eye Community Association
- Helpston and Etton Community Association
- North Bretton Community Association
- Northborough Community Association
- Paston & Gunthorpe Community Assoc.
Community Centre
- Stafford Hall - Westwood and Ravensthorpe Community Association
- Walton Community Association

Residents Associations:

- Bluebell Residents' Association
- Broadway Residents Association
- Fulbridge Residents' Association
- Mill Area Residents' Association
- Old Dogsthorpe Residents' Association
- Parnwell Residents' Association
- Welland Residents' Association
- Clifton Court Resident Association
- Eastgate Resident Association
- Fengate park Resident Association
- Gains Resident Association
- Gladstone Connect
- Greater Dogsthorpe Environmental Forum
- Garton End Resident Association
- Hankey Street & Bamber Street Resident Association
- MANERP
- Community Action Peterborough
- Desi Ladies
- PACO
- Peterborough Bangladeshi Welfare Association UK
- PARCA
- Step Up
- St Mary's court Resident Association
- Princes Street Residents Association
- Victoria Park Residents Association
- Brookfield & Dukesmead Residents Association
- Brookfurlong Residents Group 'Four Seasons Square Group'
- Ellindon & Adderley Residents' Association
- Hodgson Community Association
- Langley and Pyhill Residents Association
- Morland Court Residents Group
- Netherton Neighbourhood Association
- North Bretton Residents Group
- Paston and Gunthorpe Community Association
- Residents of Ravensthorpe Residents' Association
- South Honeyhill Residents Association
- Thorpe Gate Residents Association
- Walton Action Group
- Werrington Neighbourhood Council
- Westwood and Ravensthorpe Community Association
- Westwood Residents Association
- Glebe Road and Fairfield Road Residents Association
- Fellowes Gardens Residents Association
- Hinchcliffe and Neighbourhood Tenants & Residents Association (HANTRA)
- Hartley Residents' Association
- Orton Southgate Residents' Association (OSRA)
- Goldhay Horseshoe Residents' Association
- Orton Wistow Residents' Association
- Phoenix Residents Association
- Saltmarsh Residents' Association
- St. Botolph Lane Residents' Association

Werrington Neighbourhood Council

Peterborough Council for Voluntary Service

Police – Kevin Vanterpool

Rural Councillors

- Councillor Ray Dobbs
- Councillor David Saunders
- Councillor John Holdich
- Councillor Diane Lamb
- Councillor Peter Hiller (interviewed on 14 February 2011)
- Councillor David Over (interviewed on 1 February 2011)
- Councillor David Harrington (comments received during Part 1 of the review)

Housing Associations:

- Axiom Housing Association
- Cross Keys Homes
- Accent Nene
- Minster General Housing Association

Letter and attachments which were sent out to those listed in Appendix 1

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E-Mail: paulina.ford@peterborough.gov.uk
Please ask for:
Our Ref: Scrutiny Review of Neighbourhood Councils
Your Ref:

**Scrutiny Team
Democratic Services
Chief Executive's Department
Town Hall
Bridge Street
Peterborough
PE1 1HG**

DX 12310 Peterborough 1

Telephone - 01733 747474

February 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

Scrutiny Review of Neighbourhood Councils

The Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Committee have formed a Task and Finish Group to conduct a review of Neighbourhood Councils. The group consists of Councillor Burton, Councillor Todd, Councillor Simons, Councillor JR Fox, Councillor Khan, Councillor Sandford and Councillor Goldspink. The Task and Finish Group would like to receive comments from XXXXXXXXXX on how they feel the Neighbourhood Councils are currently working and any thoughts that they may have on how they could be developed further.

The Task and Finish Group are currently working on stage two of the review which is looking at:

1. **Decision Making Powers and responsibilities** delegated to Neighbourhood Councils
2. **Relationships** with other committees, panels, groups, forums etc, both internal and external
3. **Engagement** with the public, officers, press, Councillors etc, both internal and external

I have attached the Terms of Reference of the review which may help you to focus your comments.

If you have not heard of Neighbourhood Councils or have not had a representative of your xxxxxxxxx attend any of the meetings the review group would like to know.

If you would like to feed into this review please can you send me your comments by xxxxxxxxx? When submitting the comments please can you confirm that you would be happy for your comments to be published in the final report?

Comments can be submitted either by email to paulina.ford@peterborough.gov.uk or by post to:

Paulina Ford
Scrutiny Performance and Research Officer
Peterborough City Council
Democratic Services

Chief Executives Department
Town Hall
Bridge Street
Peterborough
PE1 1HQ

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Paulina Ford
Scrutiny Performance and Research Officer

Review of Neighbourhood Councils

A review group, made up of City Councillors from the Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Committee, has been formed to carry out a review of Neighbourhood Councils and make recommendations on their continued improvement.

The review group will be examining the following aspects of Neighbourhood Councils, and would be very interested in your own views on some or all of these areas:

- 1. The overarching terms of reference, the range of responsibilities, and the decision-making powers for Neighbourhood Councils that are set out in the Council's Constitution (the relevant pages of this are attached for your information).**
Do you think these are too narrow or too broad? Do you have other ideas about what should be included here?
- 2. The way in which Neighbourhood Councils interact with, or should interact with, other Council forums, committees and meetings (e.g. Scrutiny Committees, Cabinet, Full Council etc).**
What do you think the relationship should be between these meetings?
- 3. The way in which Neighbourhood Councils and other neighbourhood or community meetings (e.g. Neighbourhood Panels) work together, or should work together, to ensure minimum duplication and maximum delivery.**
Do you think there is duplication at the moment? If so how can we avoid this? What purpose do you believe each of the community meetings should have? Is the name 'Neighbourhood Council' meaningful and appropriate or can you suggest an alternative?
- 4. The process of engaging with Councillors and partners outside the formal Neighbourhood Council meeting to progress decisions made and actions agreed during the meeting, and how those actions are communicated to the public**
What role do you think Councillors should have in relation to Neighbourhood Council business outside the formal meetings? How can we best ensure that agreed decisions and actions are progressed? How should we make sure that communities are kept up to date on progress?
- 5. The logistical arrangements that support Neighbourhood Councils, including meeting venues, accessibility, times, dates, frequency, presentation including sound equipment, refreshments, seating arrangements and the associated costs.**
Do you have any views on any aspect mentioned above? Are there things we can do to improve the experience of attending a Neighbourhood Council meeting?
- 6. The methods used to promote Neighbourhood Council meetings to the public and partners to ensure good attendance. The process for ensuring agendas are relevant, meaningful and interesting and how best to involve the public in the debates.**
What do you think we should do to make the meetings more relevant, accessible and enjoyable? How can we best ensure that the items for discussion are what local people really want to talk about or progress?
- 7. The process for distributing the agenda packs before, and the minutes after, each Neighbourhood Council meeting.**
How should we make sure that as many people as possible are aware of the meeting, have access to the agenda, and have access to the minutes?

Comments received from:

Name:

Address

Email address:

Please write your comments below

Appendix 2: Comments received from Housing Associations / Parish Councils / Community and Resident Associations / Werrington Neighbourhood Council

Name	Association	Comment
Housing Association Comments		
June Campbell Community Development Co-ordinator	Accent Nene Ltd	<p>The overarching terms of reference, the range of responsibilities, and the decision-making powers for Neighbourhood Councils that are set out in the Council's Constitution (the relevant pages of this are attached for your information). <i>Do you think these are too narrow or too broad? Do you have other ideas about what should be included here?</i> <i>I think that they are about right at the moment, the issue will always be ensuring good attendance from a diverse group of residents who really understand the processes and what their own community can get from these council's</i></p> <p>The way in which Neighbourhood Councils interact with, or should interact with, other Council forums, committees and meetings (e.g. Scrutiny Committees, Cabinet, Full Council etc). <i>What do you think the relationship should be between these meetings?</i> <i>It's important that all groups know what the others are doing – I assume that minutes and agendas are shared – so there is no duplication. If Neighbourhood Council's are going to succeed it is important that all the other Council forums and committee recognise the decisions, ultimately made by community representatives, at Neighbourhood Council meetings, and act on them accordingly.</i></p> <p>The way in which Neighbourhood Councils and other neighbourhood or community meetings (e.g. Neighbourhood Panels) work together, or should work together, to ensure minimum duplication and maximum delivery. <i>Do you think there is duplication at the moment? If so how can we avoid this? What purpose do you believe each of the community meetings should have? Is the name 'Neighbourhood Council' meaningful and appropriate or can you suggest an alternative?</i> <i>In my opinion there is some duplication between Neighbourhood Council's and Neighbourhood Panel meetings and the public that I work with are confused about what the differences are. I believe the Neighbourhood Panels should continue to deal with the issues that cause offence in the community, ie graffiti, litter, ASB, and crime. These should be resolved through the Neighbourhood Delivery Team approach. The Neighbourhood Council's should concentrate on the larger issues that have not been able to be resolved – issues that might include physical changes to a Neighbourhood to resolve ASB, asset transfer and what the council should spend money on in each Neighbourhood. A strong focused inclusive group of residents attending or reporting to the Neighbourhood Council's should help to achieve this. Having the word 'Neighbourhood' in each case does not help and 'Council' seems very formal – but I can't think</i></p>

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Name	Association	Comment
		<p><i>of an alternative</i></p> <p>The process of engaging with Councillors and partners outside the formal Neighbourhood Council meeting to progress decisions made and actions agreed during the meeting, and how those actions are communicated to the public <i>What role do you think Councillors should have in relation to Neighbourhood Council business outside the formal meetings? How can we best ensure that agreed decisions and actions are progressed? How should we make sure that communities are kept up to date on progress?</i></p> <p><i>Councillors need to fully engage with the process and support the Council outside of meetings. They have been elected as the representative of their community and I would therefore expect that those who voted for them would expect them to be involved. Unfortunately the only way to ensure that actions are progressed is for an administrator to keep on top of this, which would have financial implications. An agreed process of reporting on progress should be part of the administration of each meeting and assurances should be sort with those that have actions which have come out of the meeting. To engage with all age groups in the community many various methods could be used. A written update could be sent via each councillor which he/she is expected to report back to each community group in his area. Updates could appear in each Neighbourhood Council's area on PCC website and on PeteYouth website. Email briefings could be sent to members and twitter, facebook etc could also be utilised. Positive press releases on successes are always helpful.</i></p> <p>The logistical arrangements that support Neighbourhood Councils, including meeting venues, accessibility, times, dates, frequency, presentation including sound equipment, refreshments, seating arrangements and the associated costs. <i>Do you have any views on any aspect mentioned above? Are there things we can do to improve the experience of attending a Neighbourhood Council meeting?</i></p> <p><i>As much of the formality as possible needs to be taken out of the meetings to ensure that residents attend. Sound equipment is important and meetings in each locality are essential</i></p> <p>The methods used to promote Neighbourhood Council meetings to the public and partners to ensure good attendance. The process for ensuring agendas are relevant, meaningful and interesting and how best to involve the public in the debates. <i>What do you think we should do to make the meetings more relevant, accessible and enjoyable? How can we best ensure that the items for discussion are what local people really want to talk about or progress?</i></p> <p><i>I am currently in the process of developing a Parnwell Local Delivery Group who will be preparing an action plan for Parnwell. I feel that this is the best way to highlight issues that residents are concerned about as consultation will have taken place with a wider group of residents to produce the plan. There is always a concern that 'those that shout loudest get</i></p>

Name	Association	Comment
		<p><i>heard', and unless consultation has taken place, the wrong priorities for NCs might be set. Communication with whole communities is therefore essential to get the right balance</i></p> <p>The process for distributing the agenda packs before, and the minutes after, each Neighbourhood Council meeting. <i>How should we make sure that as many people as possible are aware of the meeting, have access to the agenda, and have access to the minutes?</i></p> <p><i>As stated before, all different forms of communication will need to be used to ensure that the wider community is aware of these meetings, PCC website, email and social networking sites. Unfortunately paper copies will still need to be distributed as some members of the community would prefer not to access them electronically and also there is a cost issue in printing out agendas and minutes for certain members of the community and thus these would not be accessible to them</i></p> <p><i>The help of the local press I believe is essential to advertise Council meetings and adopting a logo specifically for Neighbourhood Council's might mean that residents are more likely to look at adverts. Also the use of local community notice boards would be a good idea. The community advertising TV screens as used in doctors surgery's community centres and shopping malls would also prove successful I believe and consideration of some of the most pertinent text produced in other languages could be considered to ensure inclusivity.</i></p>
Cheryl Arnold Community Regeneration Coordinator	Accent Nene Ltd	<p>Response to Terms of Reference of Neighbourhood Councils</p> <p>4 – Conflict of Interest 4.1 OK 4.2 OK</p> <p>5 Co-optees 5.1 OK 5.2 Very important – this is something which need monitoring and evaluating. I have asked for both PLDTs to be added to the standing invite list</p> <p>6 Meetings of the Neighbourhood Councils 6.4 2 hrs – some agenda items / lengthy discussions / prior knowledge and dos where possible especially to the relevant groups who will ultimately be interested in the item</p> <p>6.5 clear instructions using 'Plain English' for code of conduct needs to be 'taught' via some open training sessions to support the development and engagement of local residents and executive members/participants</p>

Name	Association	Comment
		<p>6.6 propose a pre-meeting pack be made available on-line to assist people with this part of the proceedings</p> <p>8 Public Participation NB: overall the process is one that has been adapted from the higher Cabinet level and it will work. However, much more training and advice for elected members and members of the general public MUST be set up and offered a.s.a.p. How will local people get involved if they don't understand the basic principles of the process you have chosen to adopt.. Information is power and most local residents I work with don't have any ambition to come along to the meetings at the moment, mostly due to time and lack of knowledge about what difference they can really hope to achieve</p> <p>8.1 No one I knows gets details re the meetings notes or decisions other than via the notes. Therefore no real debate outside of the ¼ ly meetings takes place with key agencies, residents etc Similarly, I can't recall seeing any publicity which has impacted on the residents I work with in Paston / Parnwell. Even the agencies I coordinate for the Paston Local Delivery Team don't recall seeing overt publicity to entice local residents to meetings Have you considered FaceBook, Twitter, LinkedIn etc?</p> <p>Propose an additional point at 8.4 which would enable a 'on behalf' – spokes person/written request option for people who cant get to the meetings for whatever reason</p> <p>12 Work Programme 12.1 need to include actions from the Community Action Plans and these need to be ratified across the decision making process from grass roots up to executives</p> <p>13 Agenda Items</p> <p>13.3 [see 12.1 comments] in addition – more work needs to be done to promote the Neighbourhood councils to local residents – The Paston Local Delivery Team has been working on this for over a year with very limited resources, there are now the bare beginnings of a sense from local residents that they are aware of Neighbourhood councils, however, they do not know how to get issues onto the agenda NB We will be running some training sessions during the coming weeks to train residents in this matter – if you're interested to take part please get in touch</p> <p>Response to 7 questions in the paper: Review of Neighbourhood Councils</p> <p>1 Please see attached itemised critique of the ToR's (above)</p> <p>2 there should be a 'named' person from each committee who interact with a Neighbourhood Council</p>

Name	Association	Comment
		<p>coordinator. It should be the duty/responsibility of the coordinator to ensure that communication is effective between all interested persons/officers</p> <p>3 I'm not aware of too much duplication in this area other than perhaps the Police Panel meetings. Much of this business could be brought to our Paston Local Delivery Team meeting thus reducing the over attendance at multiple monthly meetings by the same people – especially local residents – who from experience sometimes seem confused by all the different meetings, and equally confused about their capacity for involvement. The name Neighbourhood Council is very meaningful. It says what it should do. However, at this point in their emergence, not much is really getting done.</p> <p>4 Accent Nene have established a working model for Paston and Parnwell which we believe could be rolled out across the City/Rural areas. To progress actions and decisions it is crucial to engage local services providers at the grass-roots levels. Accent Nene has successfully developed a set of ToRs, and Work Plan which will dovetail neatly with the wider strategies for P'Boro's Neighbourhood Council scheme. During July 2010 and Dec 2010 Accent Nene commissioned a ward wide consultation using Planning for Real methodology. Many local residents from across the ward have attended planned / structured events to 'have a say' on issues that affect their lives. Data collected is now being developed into Paston's first draft Community Action Plan. All this work has been strategically aligned to national, regional and local agendas of Sustainable Resident Involvement. The group overseeing this work is the Paston Local Delivery Team. We have worked in partnership with the council's community development department – Julie Rivett and Adrian Chapman.</p> <p>5 this is a difficult area to attain sustainability and needs time and patience to evolve – our experience has been to 'go with the flow' whilst maintaining a business mind. By this we mean that we want to convey a high level of professionalism alongside recognising the need to engage with often non-professional residents. Our attentions have been focused on developing positive working relationships with our key partners [including key residents], along with this we have not broken any promises, we have not bitten off more than we can realistically 'chew', and above all we have a level playing field. We now set the time, date, venue, we promote on Twitter, FB and all RSL websites. The 'traditional' model of them and us has been replaced with us. By this I mean that we don't have a top table set up to our meetings, we always have a tea and chat before business, we have an excellent coordinator who keeps everyone on track and in order – very similar to the NC's meets but its much more personal. Having attended all of the NWA2 meetings so far, I can only say that I find the venue too large, the PA system is not very effective, it feels more like an old style 'Trade Union' conference set up – suggest some research into how other councils do this part of their business – perhaps look to Wolverhampton for ideas?</p>

Name	Association	Comment
		<p>6 [see above] in addition, set up sustainable 'Focus Groups'. Not everyone attending will be interested in all topics – perhaps the time is right now to consider introducing 'themes' onto the agenda. Giving local people something to do, which they know they can achieve will be extremely helpful to the committee and also give a sense of involvement to local residents. For example one resident in Paston has a flair for publicity and has sole responsibility for producing the Lets Change Paston newsletter [copy can be provided on request]</p> <p>I still think the area meetings are generally too big to meet the very local and personal needs of each community/neighbourhood they are representing.</p> <p>Children's centres [SureStart] also have Parent Boards, User Forums and other established local support groups so this may be a useful starting point</p> <p>Exploration into this aspect needs urgent attention</p> <p>7 Twitter, FB, email, libraries, local shops, supermarkets, garages, health centres, garden centres, - got to think out of the box on this one really, be brave and take a few creative 'risks'</p>
Stuart Fort Operations Director	Axiom Housing Association	<p>The overarching terms of reference, the range of responsibilities, and the decision-making powers for Neighbourhood Councils that are set out in the Council's Constitution (the relevant pages of this are attached for your information).</p> <p><i>Do you think these are too narrow or too broad? Do you have other ideas about what should be included here?</i></p> <p>They have to be sufficiently broad to reflect the local interests of people. So broad enough to encompass that, without being too narrow to be meaningless. Above all the councils must not be talking shops, but meaningful with the ability to take action and make a difference to the lives of local people.</p> <p>The way in which Neighbourhood Councils interact with, or should interact with, other Council forums, committees and meetings (e.g. Scrutiny Committees, Cabinet, Full Council etc).</p> <p><i>What do you think the relationship should be between these meetings?</i></p> <p>From simply a resource perspective there needs to be close liaison to be more efficient, but also very clear communication channels to avoid duplication and ensure streamlined and transparent decision making.</p> <p>The way in which Neighbourhood Councils and other neighbourhood or community meetings (e.g. Neighbourhood Panels) work together, or should work together, to ensure minimum duplication and maximum delivery.</p> <p><i>Do you think there is duplication at the moment? If so how can we avoid this? What purpose do you believe each of the community meetings should have? Is the name 'Neighbourhood Council' meaningful and appropriate or can you suggest an alternative?</i></p>

Name	Association	Comment
		<p>Neighbourhood is meaningful – the issue is making it relevant to all smaller neighbourhoods within the larger neighbourhood. Communication is important and taking active steps to engage and involve people so they feel a component part of the communication process.</p> <p>The process of engaging with Councillors and partners outside the formal Neighbourhood Council meeting to progress decisions made and actions agreed during the meeting, and how those actions are communicated to the public <i>What role do you think Councillors should have in relation to Neighbourhood Council business outside the formal meetings? How can we best ensure that agreed decisions and actions are progressed? How should we make sure that communities are kept up to date on progress?</i></p> <p>Neighbourhood newsletters. Councillor involvement ensures that local issues are heard and transmitted through to the higher levels of decision making – making those decisions more relevant to people at ground level.</p> <p>The logistical arrangements that support Neighbourhood Councils, including meeting venues, accessibility, times, dates, frequency, presentation including sound equipment, refreshments, seating arrangements and the associated costs. <i>Do you have any views on any aspect mentioned above? Are there things we can do to improve the experience of attending a Neighbourhood Council meeting?</i></p> <p>No major comments here. Clear communication channels are obviously important that appeal to all parts of the community. The community also needs incentives and potential power to really make a difference.</p> <p>The methods used to promote Neighbourhood Council meetings to the public and partners to ensure good attendance. The process for ensuring agendas are relevant, meaningful and interesting and how best to involve the public in the debates. <i>What do you think we should do to make the meetings more relevant, accessible and enjoyable? How can we best ensure that the items for discussion are what local people really want to talk about or progress?</i></p> <p>Have standing items on the agenda that tackle issues that local people raise. Ensure all issues – no matter how difficult – are tackled and openly <i>discussed, debated and feedback given to people on the subsequent actions taken.</i></p> <p>The process for distributing the agenda packs before, and the minutes after, each Neighbourhood Council meeting. <i>How should we make sure that as many people as possible are aware of the meeting, have access to the agenda, and have access to the minutes?</i></p> <p>Use all forms of communication – from social networks to community leaders.</p>

Name	Association	Comment
Louise Fife Services Manager	Minster Housing	<p>The overarching terms of reference, the range of responsibilities, and the decision-making powers for Neighbourhood Councils that are set out in the Council's Constitution (the relevant pages of this are attached for your information). <i>Do you think these are too narrow or too broad? Do you have other ideas about what should be included here?</i> Happy with above</p> <p>The way in which Neighbourhood Councils and other neighbourhood or community meetings (e.g. Neighbourhood Panels) work together, or should work together, to ensure minimum duplication and maximum delivery. <i>Do you think there is duplication at the moment? If so how can we avoid this? What purpose do you believe each of the community meetings should have? Is the name 'Neighbourhood Council' meaningful and appropriate or can you suggest an alternative?</i> There does to appear to be duplication would it not be possible for the Neighbourhood councils and Police Panel meetings to be held jointly.</p> <p>The purpose of the community meetings should be to agree priorities taking into account all residents views.</p> <p>No opinion on name happy with existing.</p> <p>The process of engaging with Councillors and partners outside the formal Neighbourhood Council meeting to progress decisions made and actions agreed during the meeting, and how those actions are communicated to the public <i>What role do you think Councillors should have in relation to Neighbourhood Council business outside the formal meetings? How can we best ensure that agreed decisions and actions are progressed? How should we make sure that communities are kept up to date on progress?</i> The role of the councillor should be to engage and inform local residents of actions agreed at these meetings.</p> <p>By making sure all agencies who are involved in making these actions move forward are aware and that operational views are taken into account before agreeing actions. Set realistic timeframes.</p> <p>Engage with communities by promoting in various ways ie newsletters local newspapers, door knocking, website.</p> <p>The logistical arrangements that support Neighbourhood Councils, including meeting venues, accessibility, times, dates, frequency, presentation including sound equipment, refreshments,</p>

Name	Association	Comment
		<p>seating arrangements and the associated costs. <i>Do you have any views on any aspect mentioned above? Are there things we can do to improve the experience of attending a Neighbourhood Council meeting?</i> Be more interactive with all members.</p> <p>The methods used to promote Neighbourhood Council meetings to the public and partners to ensure good attendance. The process for ensuring agendas are relevant, meaningful and interesting and how best to involve the public in the debates. <i>What do you think we should do to make the meetings more relevant, accessible and enjoyable? How can we best ensure that the items for discussion are what local people really want to talk about or progress?</i> In order for the public to become more involved then would it be possible to have more consultation prior to meetings so that they feel that they are having an input in setting the agenda opposed to being set by the councillors.</p> <p>Make it more interactive sessions, more open question time and plain English not political speech.</p> <p>The process for distributing the agenda packs before, and the minutes after, each Neighbourhood Council meeting. <i>How should we make sure that as many people as possible are aware of the meeting, have access to the agenda, and have access to the minutes?</i> By ensuring there a distribution list where all the above can be sent in advance.</p>
Residents Associations and Other Associations		
Pamela Chelmiah	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Peterborough NHW • Chair East Ward Neighbourhood Panel • Chair Parnwell Residents Association 	<p>Neighbourhood Council meetings in theory very good idea, but we have also Neighbourhood Panel meetings and this is where we have duplication of problems, and actions. The public only attend meetings when there is a local problem i.e just suggest a travellers transit site and you are guaranteed a massive turnout!</p> <p>Having attended a Neighbourhood Council meeting in the East it was clear to everyone that Millfield needs help, where as Parnwell having strong local Residents Association in . solving problems for themselves do not need to attend Neighbourhood Council meetings, the council should therefore concentrate all resources to Millfield and rest of East /Dogsthorpe</p> <p>Also please take into account that Peterborough being very diverse City having large Eastern European population who have been used to corrupt police and council officials in their own country will shy away from being involved, also the general public over bankers bonuses , MPs expenses ,are so disillusioned that people just refuse to get involved.</p>

Name	Association	Comment
		<p>Personally the way forward is to join up under one heading the Neighbourhood Panel and Neighbourhood Council meetings with the council being in attendance discuss the problems with the public and solve the issues there and then, This should save time and money for Peterborough City Council, and if you do not have the money that may be needed for the problem tell the people immediately do not waste our time , by suggesting further meetings and possibilities. As this is where people get most frustrated.</p> <p>Personally I have been volunteering for may years and have found the police and council very helpful and all Parnwell problems have been solved,</p> <p>Trust this may be of some help to you</p>
Alan Clarke	Fellowes Gardens Residents Association	<p>I have no comments to make about the Neighbourhood Councils. I can ring and talk to the team if I get any problems. The Neighbourhood Council team and I try and to work and help each other. So I can only say thank you very much to Lisa Emmanuel and all her team for all the work you have done for us at Fellowes Gardens. Thank you very much.</p>
John Bell	Member of Northborough Community Association	<p>Dear Madam</p> <p>I refer to your communication of 7th February 2011 addressed to xxxxxxxxxxxx and comment:</p> <p>From what I little experience I have recently had with Neighbourhood Councils I feel that the forming of Task and Finish Group is somewhat out of place</p> <p>It appears that these Councils exist and function under the general umbrella of the City Council purportedly to "support" the management of neighbourhood activities at a lower level than Full Council</p> <p>It is noteworthy that in the papers issued there is no mention of Community Associations and from Minutes I have received I see no representation other than the Councillors and City Council support staff</p> <p>Is this just another strata of unnecessary City Council? In my view yes although I do note that "Members of the Public" are invited to attend and may, if the Chair permits, speak but other than that they have no input or voting rights. In fact I tendered my apologies for non attendance at the January meeting only to find that there were no apologies noted in the Minutes and my interpretation of the response I received was that this was by Councillors for Councillors only</p> <p>Rural areas are not, as far as I am aware, represented on the Task and Finish Group and until such time as such representation is afforded to Rural areas I do not believe that the City Council are being "representative" of the general public</p>

Name	Association	Comment
		<p>It also begs the question, in times of austerity and cuts, why has such a group been established with Councillors no doubt being able to claim attendance allowances?</p> <p>I also, like others, question why these Meetings are held on what appears to be the third Thursday of the month which is the Committee Meeting night for a number of Associations thereby precluding their attendance</p> <p>Please note that these are personal observations and may not reflect the views of other Members of Northborough Community Association as the short space of time given to formulate a wider response was insufficient.</p>
David Jost Chairman GAINS	GAINS - Group Action In Norfolk Street A local residents' association	<p>In your letter of 4 February you invited comments on the performance of Neighbourhood Councils. I am sorry that I am late in submitting comments. I hope nevertheless that they can be considered.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We were a little surprised to read the range of powers delegated Neighbourhood Councils. The range of functions seem quite appropriate but we have been unaware that to date that the Central and North Council has exercised all these functions. We do not recall, for instance, that our Neighbourhood Council has agreed a programme of Highways works or designated any conservation areas. We would welcome the continuation of the list of delegated powers but suggest that the local public should be made much more aware of what our Neighbourhood Council can decide. • “Central and North Neighbourhood Council” does not resonate with local people. It needs a title that gets across what area is covered eg “New England, Millfield and Gladstone Neighbourhood Council”. • We should like to see the Neighbourhood Council meetings merging with the Cambridgeshire Constabulary’s Local Panel meetings for the area. There are only so many evening meetings that local people will turn out for, no matter how conscientious. • Representatives and the general public need to be made really welcome at meetings. Attendees should be offered refreshments to be served by Council staff or volunteers – not left to a serve-yourself arrangement. The venues should be comfortable but business-like. Cavernous echoing halls should be avoided. We don’t think there is much need for microphones (they are often a distraction) but rather speakers invited to stand and speak clearly. Good chairmanship is essential. Officers should help the chairpersons of meetings to keep to a clear timetable and not let commentators witter on! A recent Neighbourhood Council meeting began at 6 pm (with displays to be read beforehand) and did not finish until after 9 pm! Three hours sorely taxes the interest of local people. Meetings should be restricted to two hours at the most.

Name	Association	Comment
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater effort should be made to involve local schools – both the staff and the governing bodies. Schools are well equipped to disseminate information such as notices of meetings and summaries of decisions. All organisations within a Neighbourhood Council area – churches, mosques, playgroups, schools, social clubs, GP practices, sports clubs and so on should be sent short briefings by email about Neighbourhood Council activities. Most organisations are contactable by email. We don't think there is any justification to go to the expense of mailing organisations. But notices could be displayed on the notice boards of post offices, schools and churches etc. • We think that it is well worth persevering with the concept of neighbourhood councils / panel meetings despite the severe rationing of funds at the present time. Council staff and police personnel need to work together to support lively, relevant meetings where local people can get across their views and can influence the decision-making process of the City Council.
Parish Council and Werrington Neighbourhood Council Comments		
Brenda Stanojevic Eye Parish Clerk	Eye Parish Council	<p>Eye Parish Council is of the view that Neighbourhood Councils duplicate meetings that are already in place and have been for some years.</p> <p>That Neighbourhood Councils duplicate the work carried out freely by Parish Councils at extra cost to our parishioners and ratepayers.</p> <p>The Parish Councils are elected representatives of the areas concerned and that Neighbourhood Councils appear to be unelected quangos of council officers and councillors from other areas.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Councils are spending, what appears to be monies raised as 106 agreements, in areas unaffected by developments and with no consultation with Parish Councils.</p> <p>It would also appear from media reports and other sources, Cambridgeshire radio interview, that this review and our input are a waste of time when the leader of the council, Marco Cereste, as made his mind up that these are relevant.</p> <p>Meetings are held at the same time in the village as Parish Council meetings even though our meeting dates are published at least 12 months in advance.</p> <p>We are of the view that these Councils could have a role in the inner city wards or areas not covered by Parish Councils.</p> <p>Parish Councillors feel that they are wasting their time and efforts attending meetings in Thorney, Wittering or where ever in the large area covered by these councils to discuss topics such as bus</p>

Name	Association	Comment
		timetables etc that have no relevance to the parishioners that have elected us.
Mike Chambers.	Orton Waterville Parish Council	<p>I am listing below my comments on the Neighbourhood Councils:-</p> <p>1 Terms of reference are broadly ok. However it should be possible to allow Parish Councils a voice in decision making-I thought this was one of the so called aims of the Coalition-i.e. to pass decision making down locally!</p> <p>2 I am not able to comment on the interaction with Cabinet, Full Council or Scrutiny commission. However it has somewhat cut the ground from under the Parish Liaison meetings and it would make sense to combine the two PROVIDED we get the same type of information about Council budgets etc. There is a tendency for the neighbourhood council to be more of a talking shop.</p> <p>3 See above</p> <p>4 We seem to be lucky in that June Stokes usually attends Parish Council meetings and reports back on developments. However there is a tendency for officials to think that big brother knows best. Thus we have been pressing for a crossing to the Nene Park across the Oundle road but this has been deemed unnecessary and too expensive. The cost of investigating a casualty would dwarf the cost of a crossing.</p> <p>5 Times and frequency of meetings seem ok but publicity is weak. It would help if meeting arrangements were sent to each Parish Council representative as well as clerks. There is a need for more publicity-most Parishes have at least one notice Board so leaflets would help. Meetings could also be advertised in Oracle and the other free papers. 7 See above. Hope the comments are of use</p>
Frieda Gosling	Ufford Parish Council	<p>Q1 Neighbourhood Councils may have a role in the city wards where there are no parish councils but, in the wards with parish councils, their grandiose terms of reference and responsibilities appear to be a futile attempt to justify the creation of another tier of local government, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “identify and meet the needs of the community in the local area...” • “develop master plans and action plans...” • “be a primary focus for public involvement...” • “act as consultees in respect of planning and licensing applications...”

Name	Association	Comment
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “be consulted on all executive and council proposals that affect the local area...” • “monitor service delivery...” • “designate conservation areas...” <p>With only 4 ordinary meetings a year of 2 hour duration and the policy that only the ward councillors can vote, the Neighbourhood Councils are unlikely to meet expectations. At present they are seen primarily as a source of funding, but with a budget of only £25,000, this is going to be spread very thinly.</p> <p>Q2 The aim appears to have been to create a hierarchy of meetings from the community meetings at grassroots level up through the ward councillors to the various city council meetings but so far there has been little evidence of this interaction. To monitor service delivery, parish councils prefer to liaise directly with the relevant departments such as planning, highways, tree management and grass cutting, wildlife.</p> <p>Q3 The name Neighbourhood Council is unfortunate in city wards where there are already neighbourhood or community meetings. The best way forward would be to abolish the Neighbourhood Councils and to create elected parish councils in all wards. Parish councils are statutory bodies, democratically elected to represent their communities. By inviting members of the public to raise issues at Neighbourhood Council meetings, policies may be based on who shouts loudest and has the biggest axe to grind. Alternatively, the proposed Rural Affairs Committee should be considered to provide a strong rural voice within PCC and reduce the number of meetings.</p> <p>Q4 It is essential for ward councillors to have frequent meetings in their ward. The Barnack Ward model has been particularly successful. Following the city council decision a few years ago to give each ward £10,000 a year, representatives from each parish council have met every few months to consider proposals and agree on priorities for schemes which would benefit the community, visitors and the environment. These have ranged from a lorry ban on the B1443 and speed reduction schemes to tree and hedge planting, circular walks and cycle ways and historical village boards. The meetings are minuted and there are terms of reference and full accounts of expenditure. Most important of all, the parishes now work together and the funding has made a real difference. This is a better way of implementing the Localism agenda.</p> <p>Q5, 6, 7 The wide geographical spread of the Neighbourhood Council rural areas has been one reason for the poor attendance at meetings. People are not inclined to drive a 30 mile round trip to discuss anti-social behaviour or street lighting problems in another village when their local concerns are the condition of footways and speeding traffic. The cost of petrol and the absence of expenses are</p>

Name	Association	Comment
		<p>disincentives. Meetings have been arranged so that they clash with parish council meetings although these have been notified. Very often there has been short notice of meetings. The provision of refreshments and agenda packs are not going to persuade people to attend unless the topics to be discussed are relevant to them. It is often felt that the meetings and the professional support are a waste of public money in times of austerity and that the police, for example, could be better employed.</p>
Bernard	Bretton Parish Council	<p>Many thanks for your e-mail and the chance to make comments on the Neighbourhood Councils. Unfortunately the full council did not meet in time for this to be discussed but it was considered by a committee last night. Rather than to answer the specific questions I have been requested to respond and I hope that this e-mail will be sufficient.</p> <p>It was considered that in view of the present economic climate and the cuts that we have to take it was felt that perhaps the Neighbourhood Council was using funds that could possibly be used elsewhere. This was considered to be more appropriate where there was already a Parish Council looking after local issues and which of course Bretton is such an area. The Neighbourhood Council seems to be duplicating the role of the Parish Council and real Neighbourhood Councils such as Werrington. Likewise it was felt that the role of the Neighbourhood Council is not fed into the democratic process as any decisions can only be taken by City councilors and not the members of a particular Neighbourhood Council. However where there is no Parish Council then it is felt that a Neighbourhood Council can assist where there are specific local issues that have to be addressed.</p> <p>It is hoped that these points will be considered helpful and taken into account.</p>
June Woollard Chairman of Barnack Parish Council	Barnack Parish Council	<p>Barnack Parish Council do not see any benefit in the North West Neighbourhood Council. It has not worked and has proved an inefficient use of time and a complete waste of valuable public money. The Parish Council have tried to support this initiative and understand that it was formed in an attempt to give the public a voice. In urban wards where there are no parish councils these neighbourhood councils could have some worth, but in rural parishes they are not successful for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If residents want to put their views forward they have every opportunity to do so through their parish councils. In villages all residents know their parish councillors, who all live in the village and are very easy to contact on a daily basis to address matters of concern as they arise and before they get to be a problem. There is also an open forum at each parish council meeting when residents have the opportunity to bring matters of concern to the notice of the parish council as a whole. Residents are encouraged to attend these public parish council meetings and take an active interest in how the parish council operate and see the democratic process in action. 2. The Neighbourhood Council is simply duplicating the work covered by parish councils. At the meetings of the North West Neighbourhood Council no matters other than those covered by parish

Name	Association	Comment
		<p>council work have been discussed. Very few if any members of the public from the rural areas have been present, as they have already raised any concerns they may have within their own parishes.</p> <p>3. Parish Councils have easy access to officers within the City Council and do not need the Neighbourhood Council to facilitate a channel of communication. A large number of City Council officers and staff seem to be present at the North West Neighbourhood Council meetings, which in itself is not a good use of public time and finance. Halls have to be hired at great expense, which again is a waste of limited resources.</p> <p>4. The City Councillor for the Barnack Ward attends all parish Council meetings each month and has an intimate knowledge of the business being discussed. He also visits his ward each week and is a familiar face in the village at weekends, so that residents can bring matters of concern to him and through good liaison with the parish council can enable parish councillors to immediately address any concern which might arise.</p> <p>5. The Barnack Ward Group has been in existence now for five years and is a well established group enabling all the parish councils in the ward to work together on matters common to all parishes. This has proved to be invaluable. It has also enabled the villages to work together on joint projects thus making the best possible use of public money.</p> <p>6. The same topics are being discussed at present by a number of bodies therefore Parish Councillors are required to attend numerous unnecessary meetings and City Council officers are required to present the same material at numerous meetings, which is not an efficient use of their time.</p> <p>7. Barnack Parish Council support the work done by the Rural Working Group chaired by Henry Clark.</p> <p>8. Perhaps the most efficient way of working would be for the City Councillors in the North West Neighbourhood Council area to meet perhaps once a year to bring together the projects discussed at their individual Ward Group meetings to enable them to provide finance from Neighbourhood Council funds.</p>
J Buddle Chairman	Thorney Parish Council	<p>The overarching terms of reference, the range of responsibilities, and the decision-making powers for Neighbourhood Councils that are set out in the Council's Constitution (the relevant pages of this are attached for your information).</p> <p><i>Do you think these are too narrow or too broad? Do you have other ideas about what should be included here?</i></p> <p>Quite frankly and brutally we don't want a Neighbourhood Council we want a Northern Rural Affairs Group that truly reflects our needs.</p> <p>The way in which Neighbourhood Councils interact with, or should interact with, other Council</p>

Name	Association	Comment
		<p>forums, committees and meetings (e.g. Scrutiny Committees, Cabinet, Full Council etc). <i>What do you think the relationship should be between these meetings?</i> Scrutiny Committees are pointless – the public can't speak at them. We want the Northern Affairs Group (NAG!!) to react directly with Ward Councillors and the Cabinet.</p> <p>The way in which Neighbourhood Councils and other neighbourhood or community meetings (e.g. Neighbourhood Panels) work together, or should work together, to ensure minimum duplication and maximum delivery. <i>Do you think there is duplication at the moment? If so how can we avoid this? What purpose do you believe each of the community meetings should have? Is the name 'Neighbourhood Council' meaningful and appropriate or can you suggest an alternative?</i> We don't want a Neighbourhood Council. We want a Northern Affairs Group and proposals reflect our rural concerns.</p> <p>The process of engaging with Councillors and partners outside the formal Neighbourhood Council meeting to progress decisions made and actions agreed during the meeting, and how those actions are communicated to the public <i>What role do you think Councillors should have in relation to Neighbourhood Council business outside the formal meetings? How can we best ensure that agreed decisions and actions are progressed? How should we make sure that communities are kept up to date on progress?</i> Ward Councillors <u>must</u> attend PC meetings and Northern Affairs Group.</p> <p>The logistical arrangements that support Neighbourhood Councils, including meeting venues, accessibility, times, dates, frequency, presentation including sound equipment, refreshments, seating arrangements and the associated costs. <i>Do you have any views on any aspect mentioned above? Are there things we can do to improve the experience of attending a Neighbourhood Council meeting?</i> 4 times yearly is sufficient. Thorney will happily host meetings.</p> <p>The methods used to promote Neighbourhood Council meetings to the public and partners to ensure good attendance. The process for ensuring agendas are relevant, meaningful and interesting and how best to involve the public in the debates. <i>What do you think we should do to make the meetings more relevant, accessible and enjoyable? How can we best ensure that the items for discussion are what local people really want to talk about or progress?</i> Stop filling meetings with repetitions and ego trips by Councillors.</p> <p>The process for distributing the agenda packs before, and the minutes after, each Neighbourhood Council meeting.</p>

Name	Association	Comment
		<p><i>How should we make sure that as many people as possible are aware of the meeting, have access to the agenda, and have access to the minutes?</i></p> <p>Keep your web site much simpler.</p> <p>Scrutiny Committees are a total waste of time and public money. If we attend we can't speak. We may as well not be there. Nothing is scrutinised.</p> <p><u>Neighbourhood Councils</u></p> <p>We recognise that in Urban Area this is a useful concept. However in Rural Areas as in the North of P'boro there are 23 villages each of which is very different. "One size <u>does not fit for all</u>". We want to be able to talk to Ward Councillors about our issues which are rural and different from those in the urban/city wards. We want to see the "Localism" idea exercised "locally" not in the City Hall.</p>
<p>Alan Smith and David Hedges Planning Chairman & Chairman Werrington Neighbourhood Council</p>	<p>Werrington Neighbourhood Council</p>	<p><u>Werrington Neighbourhood Council Comments Based on a Discussion at their Meeting of 21 Feb 2011</u></p> <p>We welcome the idea of the Council setting up a forum which is more local and has the potential to allow more input and engagement by residents and local representatives with the operations of the Council and other statutory and non statutory services working in the area. We do not think our Community Committee is currently achieving this. There are fundamental reasons for this as well as logistical ones. We want to engage with these difficulties to find a way through.</p> <p>In our area we do not find the area covered by the Community Committee (NC) has meaningful identity as a united area. It is not a Neighbourhood. It is quite disparate in character and recent history and does not have unifying features. It is not for example grouped around a single centre. There are different priorities across the locality and trying to bring these into a coherent pattern may not be possible or desirable. There are commonalities and shared issues but these are also shared with the rest of the City.</p> <p>The NCs derive their legitimacy from the electorate. However the Councillors were elected to the Council not the local grouping. They are not independent of the City Council and everything that the NCs do is ultimately controlled by the PCC. In that sense they are not the local voice but rather the local operation of the Council as a whole. This has implications for their remit and their ability to hold a united agreed position on local issues where there are significant differences of opinion. Their remit seems too broad both in this respect and in the extent of the issues they are expected to cover. It is not clear from experience so far how their meetings are going to be able to be effective in many of the matters within their terms of reference. Single issues affecting a very small part of the community seem to</p>

Name	Association	Comment
		<p>predominate and the process of dealing with them is far more protracted than might have been the case if taken up by one Councillor.</p> <p>Until it is clearer as to what the Community Plans and the Action Plans will contain, and their format/level of detail/timeframe has been specified, it is difficult to form a view. But they are potentially a very significant task and there needs to be a clear means of giving them legitimacy. There needs to be clarity on what resources will be available to secure their preparation and then their implementation, both in staffing and budgets.</p> <p>There is particular concern that comments on planning proposals will not work at this level and should not replace the responses of, in our case, the Werrington Neighbourhood Council.</p> <p>In terms of giving local leadership we feel that the Chairman should have a close relationship with the locality and be the Chairman for only one Neighbourhood Council. This gives them clarity of position and enables them to give voice to the locality without ambiguity or potential conflict of interest. The current arrangement with Chairmen means there is too much emphasis on process and not enough on content.</p> <p>We want to see something which improves Werrington's linkages and interaction with the City Council. The NCs could just introduce a block or tier between us and the Council officers. We would like to have a better understanding of what the NCs are expected to achieve. What are the overall outcomes which determine their medium term objectives? Are they, for example, aiming to get better services locally, and/or ones better tailored to local needs? Are they looking to improve the quality of life? The economic viability of the local facilities? Introduce more employment? Improve health and well being? Improved security and quality of the public environment? Or is it more modest: a more effective Councillor surgery, dealing with similar issues across a greater than ward area? Until there is more understanding of the ultimate ambition behind the concept it is difficult to discuss the mechanics of achieving those objectives. We need to agree what we want to do, then we can debate how best to do it.</p>

Appendix 3: Questionnaire given to the Youth Council and a selection of young people, and their responses

Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Committee - Review of Neighbourhood Councils

Questionnaire for Young People and the Youth Council – 34 young people were asked to complete the questionnaire and 34 responses were received

1. Have you heard of the Neighbourhood Councils?

If yes please go to question 2, if no go to question 6

Yes	19	56%
No	15	44%
Total response	34	

2. Have you attended a Neighbourhood Council meeting?

If yes please go to question 4, if no go to question 3

Out of 19 who had responded YES to question 1 gave the following responses:

Yes	7	37%
No	12	63%
Total response	19	

3a Why have you not attended a Neighbourhood Council meeting?

Out of 12 who had responded NO to question 2 gave the following responses:

I don't understand what they are	0	0
I don't think they would interest me	2	17%
I have not seen them advertised and don't know when the meetings are	8	66%
I thought they were just for Councillors	2	17%
Total response	12	

Comments received:

- I am not sure what issues are talked about in Neighbourhood Councils.
- I haven't been available when meetings are going on.

3b. If you knew when and where the meetings were being held do you think you would attend?

Yes	4	33.33%
Occasionally if there was something on the agenda that interested me	7	58.33%
No	1	8.33%
Total response	12	

Please write other comments below:

No comments were received.

4. When you attended the Neighbourhood Council meeting did you find it interesting?

Out of 7 who had responded YES to question 2 the following responses were given:

Yes	5	71%
No	2	29%
Total response	7	

Comments received:

Those who responded YES commented:

- To hear what the Neighbourhood Council has to say and how they listened to us.
- Topics were very relative.
- All ages attended.
- Was relative to local issues that will affect me, friends and family etc.
- It was interesting to find out what happens in other local areas and what they need and want from the Council.
- They listened to the young people and stuff.

Those who responded NO commented:

- It was a little repetitive and monotonous and also a little long.

5. Do you have any suggestions of ways that Neighbourhood Councils can better engage and communicate with young people?

Comments received:

- Flyers in the newspaper and write in graffiti on walls
- Newsletter through doors
- Facebook
- Cover topics more relevant to young people e.g. bus fares
- Email local meeting dates as is done with Youth Council meetings, posters in schools
- Flyers, put in oracles
- Advertise better and aim more at young people
- Promote them so that people are aware of them e.g. schools
- Make them accessible
- Better advertising and publicity of the meetings
- Advertise the meetings at schools
- Show they actually want our attendance and views
- Invite youths from the local schools e.g. School Councils
- Advertise them a lot more and make sure invitations are sent out
- Publicise through the media what neighbourhood councils do and help young people to contribute to meetings

6. Would you like to know more about Neighbourhood Councils and receive an invitation to attend the Neighbourhood Council meeting in your area? If so please can you give your contact details below?

23 (68%) of the 34 respondents gave their contact details.

Neighbourhood Councils - Evaluation and feedback

1. Do you believe that the Neighbourhood Council has given you a greater say in what happens in your community?

Yes No 1a. Please explain your answer:

.....
.....

1. Why have you attended your Neighbourhood Council?

I regularly attend to report a single issue Network

Other Interested in a particular agenda item

If other, please explain:

.....
.....

3. Do you believe that you can really influence the Council and its decision makers through the Neighbourhood Council?

Yes No 2a. Please explain your answer:

.....
.....

3. How would you prefer to receive feedback from your Neighbourhood Council?

Verbal next meeting PCC Website Email Letter Your Peterborough

Other (specify)

4. How did you hear about this meeting?

Your Peterborough PCC Website Email Poster Direct Invitation Other

If other, please explain:.....

5. Do you have any other venues that you think these meetings should be held at to increase attendance?

.....

6. What changes would you make that you think would really encourage your friends and neighbours to attend Neighbourhood Councils regularly.

.....

.....

7. Do you have any other comments regarding the Neighbourhood Council, for example what their objective should be, choice of venue, etc?

Appendix 5: Responses received to the survey issued at the latest round of NC meetings

Why have you attended your Neighbourhood Council?

- To participate in discussions which hopefully will end in the betterment of Park Ward
- Part of a youth forum
- We are here for the young people's forum
- I am part of Fletton Stanground and Woodston
- I do attend regularly but today I supported the youth forum
- The only reason one attends these meeting is so that non-attendance cannot be used later by officers to neglect a point
- To support Julie and Alex in their hard important and necessary work
- Gather information for local community associations, but have found more generally helpful, wish I'd known about it before.
- I am interested in the proposed development of Great Haddon
- As representative of Bainton & Ashton PC
- To show interest in our community and have a say
- By chance, asked to attend by parish council
- To try and understand how they operate democratically
- As a parish councillor
- Bus service
- I am interested in what ways people are able to participate in the way we function
- I had hoped to see local people having a direct say in how their services are met
- I try to attend regularly
- I regularly attend
- To meet and see what is discussed
- I regularly attend, network

How would you prefer to receive feedback from your Neighbourhood Council?

- By E mail
- Post
- E mail and Verbal Via our youth worker
- Via youth worker
- I thought your Peterborough has been dropped
- Through parish clerk
- Sent to parish councillor who will arrange for distribution to residents
- Through Parish council
- Displayed in parish notice boards village halls etc
- More diaries regarding content of meetings
- By Post
- Evening Telegraph
- Verbal
- Verbal next meeting, letter, Your Peterborough

How did you hear about this meeting?

- Post
- Invited
- Via our youth worker
- Through our youth worker
- Youth worker
- Last meeting
- Attended last meeting
- Invited by councillor after raising issues otherwise ignorant of NC initiative, which I now very much welcome
- Evening Telegraph
- Through parish council
- Second hand
- Orton Medical Practice
- With great difficulty, 1 line in your Peterborough is not sufficient
- By chance
- Ward councillor
- By word and mouth
- From parish clerk
- Friend who though it was at village hall but was not sure of time
- My son received an e-mail this morning from the parish clerk which said I was an officially invited person. Before 6.30 am we knew nothing of tonight's meeting
- I saw letter in ET and rang your staff
- Direct invitation
- Email and invite

Do you have any other venues that you think these meetings should be held at to increase attendance?

- Woodston community centre
- Cherry Tree
- Ken Stimpson School
- Hodgson centre, village hall – Werrington, other schools
- Local community centre
- Venues with good public transport access e.g. Voyager and Ken Stimpson Schools
- Coalies
- Venues tend to cover most of the area
- All the suitable venues I know of are used
- Matley area
- Possible local schools, bigger halls available
- Somewhere in Hampton
- Ravensthorpe
- St Johns Hall
- Mayor Walk PE3. Why do you not have a list of possible sites
- Local schools
- Pyramid centre
- Quaker hall
- Stafford Hall St Johns Hall
- Mind, Lincoln Road
- Best 4 Baby, Newark Avenue
- Bluebell – always central of very near Fulbridge. Need to encourage Bluebell input

What changes would you make that you think would really encourage your friends and neighbours to attend Neighbourhood Councils regularly?

- More time for residents to raise concerns, less time for council officers to talk on what interests them
- Make agendas more freely available
- Things seen to be done
- More publicity
- No meetings just before Christmas
- Less official
- This meeting needs to be a little more relaxed I understand the importance but a more informal start for YP would be better
- Better advertising posters available to go in community centres churches and other places
- Residents set the agenda, make decisions setting clear objectives for the council. The council are then responsible to the residents in ensuring that the officers carry out that of residents' wishes
- Less regular meetings
- I would like to see these meeting advertised on local radio
- Make sure dates and locations are advertised not just once, twice in ET
- Greater impact upon decision and policy
- Different night of week, better advertised locally – leaflet drop/postal
- More publicity in local paper
- Earlier notification as item was printed in last night's ET
- More voting
- Make meeting known by flyers in house and locals to deliver
- Better publicity including local notice board
- Take a more personal approach and get to know local people
- Better advertising of dates but also what has been achieved
- Better communications generally, you'd have to really involved already to turn up out of the blue
- The neighbourhood council would be of much greater interest to the general public if it had more funds to use to deal with problems
- Try meeting on Saturday mornings
- All parish councillors
- Actually achieve something, make decisions
- Power to make a difference that existing bodies cannot
- Better meetings and clarification of purpose of the council vs parish councils and ward councillors
- Opportunity to actually speak at the meeting would help the open session being cut short does not help
- Get out information of meeting early
- To inform them that 200 homes will be built next door
- For them to be able to have some say or influence on decisions that are made
- Know where and when meetings are to be held
- If the chairmen and others were paid
- Publicise the meetings in local parish newsletters
- Have meetings chaired by people who live in area, other councillors and residents are to take more action
- Invite PCVS, senior citizens forum, business and T.U.C
- They will be more encouraged to attend if they see that their concerns are actually addressed satisfactorily
- Communications via schools
- Day time meetings

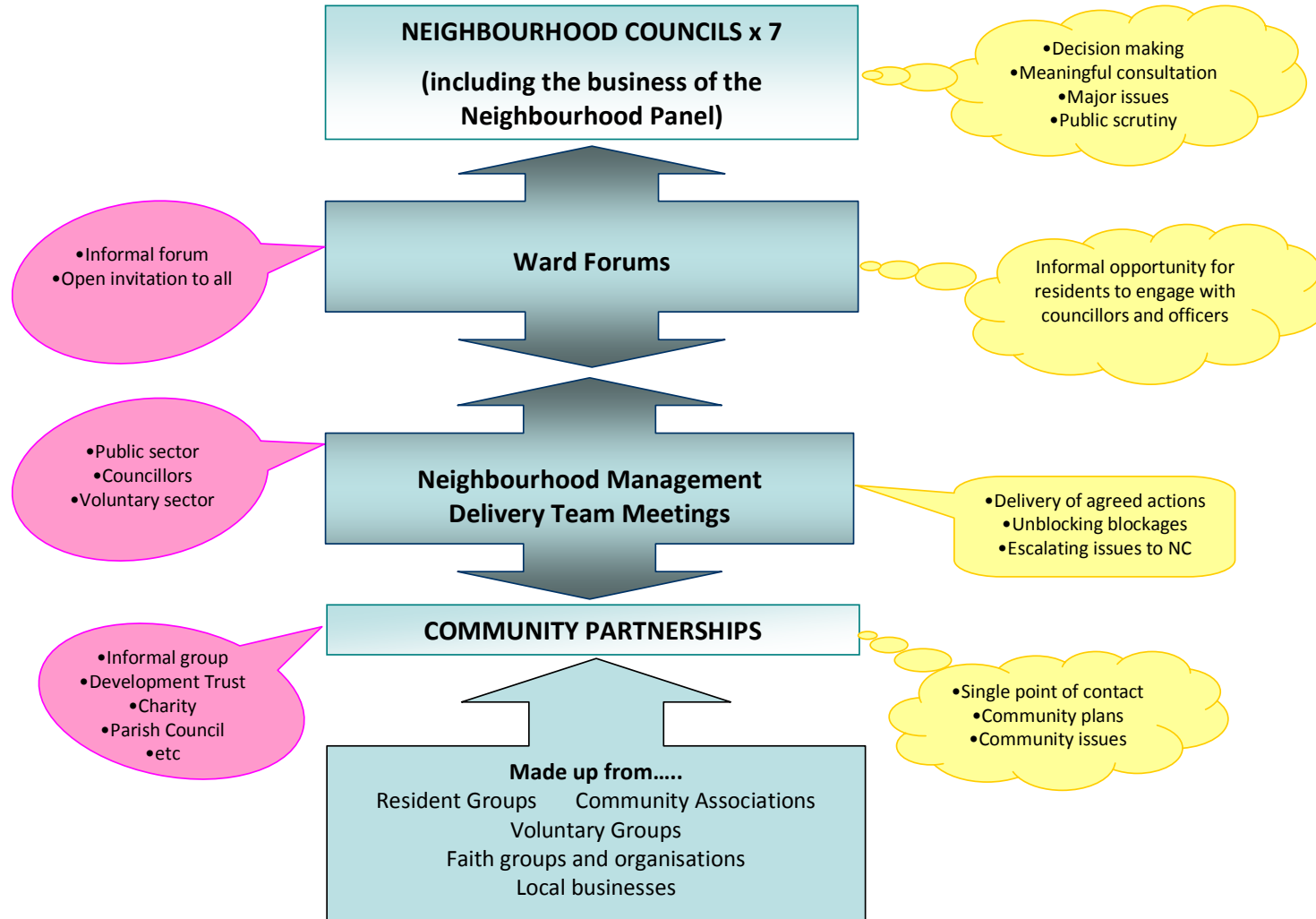
- Reduce the areas they relate to. A west ward or Longthorpe community council would be more efficient for me
- Make sure things are fed back directly to members of the public who raise the issues
- Achieve results that are highly visible and improve the neighbourhood
- Reminder on the day of the meeting for some people - possibly a few sessions earlier or afternoon
- Interesting agenda items with outcomes/decisions made that truly reflect the public view. Not consultation but debate and input with a collaborative decision including people's right to vote not just councillors. Change to constitution to allow this would help fill meetings with residents and encourage Big Society and Localism in areas not currently covered.

Do you have any other comments regarding the Neighbourhood Council, for example what their objective should be, choice of venue, etc?

- More people would attend if they knew about meetings. Notice boards to be repaired so they can be used
- More posters on local notice board and community centres
- Venues are always a good choice (mostly) Refreshment is good maybe biscuits could be supplied soft music in background to be an enjoyable environment to walk into
- Their objective should be to drive the business of the council
- Unless drastically revamped they represent poor value for time and costs
- Should take less time more focus and better decision making
- Lack of information
- My area committee are the best - first give them support
- I think its good that they exist
- Act locally
- If the government want to pass down the decisions to the local people then the money should follow
- Seems "a good thing" reassuring on my key issues today
- Regarding the neighbourhood council budget. This needs carefully monitoring. You must list the following and present the list at each meeting. What is going to be done? Who is going to do it? When are they going to do it? Where it will be done? The current situation. I accept that you may be doing this already, but it was not clear from the meeting
- Allow members of public etc more participation/ vote
- Starts too early for people who work
- Widen the membership to include reps from parish councils. Make more use of parish councils to engage with community groups
- Question the overall need if parish councillors and ward councillors are doing their job correctly. What a disorganised meeting
- Dates of meetings being notified well in advance would make the meetings seem more welcoming
- Waste of time no support off panel bodies. Rural areas need to be interested too
- If you want residents to attend the dates the agenda must be available for village notice board at least two weeks in addition
- I think the concept is a fine idea but that's all it is. Let the parish councils do the work they have been doing and doing well for years
- Waste of time
- Waste of time and money
- This was a waste of time and money
- Get rid of neighbourhood councils
- Was the meeting called to score brownie points? Ineffective sound system as not everyone could hear certain people on the top table. At the moment NC meetings are too much like mini PCC meetings

- The councillors who give their time have moved their surgeries to a group basis on one night
- Better if they were by single ward so issues are focused on
- Please combine this with the police panel meeting
- Hold the executive to account - waste of rate payers money
- Perhaps invite speakers from key Eastern European Communities to give a talk on related issues re their communities.

Appendix 6: Neighbourhood Management Framework



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CABINET	AGENDA ITEM No. 5
21 MARCH 2011	PUBLIC REPORT

Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Councillor Cereste: Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Growth, Strategic Planning and Economic Development	
Contact Officer(s):	Andrew Edwards – Head of Peterborough Delivery Partnership (PDP)	Tel. 384530

PETERBOROUGH LOCAL INVESTMENT PLAN (LIP)

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S	
FROM : Gillian Beasley, Chief Executive	Deadline date : N/A
<p>That Cabinet adopts the Local Investment Plan, as attached at Annex 1, developed in conjunction with the Homes and Communities Agency, in order that it can be used to help to attract inward investment into Peterborough, primarily for the purposes of encouraging residential regeneration.</p>	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 This report is presented to Cabinet following a change in approach to funding that has been adopted by the Housing and Communities Agency (HCA). The HCA now require local authorities to provide a document that focuses on housing growth within the area with supporting evidence. Whilst this is a fluid document the HCA see this as the key first step in securing funding for projects that provide housing growth.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval from Cabinet for the Local Investment Plan (LIP). This plan is required by the Housing and Communities Agency (HCA) to show evidence to support requests for funding and sets the context for residential development within Peterborough.
- 2.2 This report is for Cabinet to consider under its Terms of Reference No. 3.2.1, “To take collective responsibility for the delivery of all strategic Executive functions within the Council’s Major Policy and Budget Framework and lead the Council’s overall improvement programmes to deliver excellent services.”

3. TIMESCALE

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If Yes, date for relevant Cabinet Meeting	21 March 2011
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4. LOCAL INVESTMENT PLAN (LIP)

4.1 The LIP is a document initiated by the Homes and Communities Agency. The purpose of the LIP is to provide the first step in a funding application process towards the encouragement of strategic growth projects, with a particular emphasis on the provision of housing. The HCA are the intended recipient of the document, although they are keen that it is also used as a tool to attract other possible inward investors. It has been based upon the Peterborough Integrated Development Programme, which was adopted by Cabinet in

December 2009. The LIP is more focussed and is intended by the HCA to be a very fluid document. Regular updates and revisions are expected from the Council in accordance with changing situations and priorities.

- 4.2 The basic aim is to help provide or facilitate housing development in any area throughout the City where there is an identified and evidenced need.
- 4.3 The LIP is not in itself a funding application or binding agreement. It is a plan, a statement of intent, the projects within which are eligible for progression to the next stage of the application process. The key in the context of the LIP is that they are presented in an approved evidential format.
- 4.4 The LIP is intended to be a fluid document in that the content, notably the project content, can be revised on an ongoing basis, with specific project cases deleted, altered, or added to as required. These cases are in very brief summary form and follow an existing template.
- 4.5 The HCA see the LIP as being the key to investment within the City. It is an initiative aimed specifically at local authorities, and the earliest examples were completed around mid 2009. LIPs can only be formed with local authorities and as a result the Local Authority is the custodian of the document but the financial beneficiaries can be other organisations or project partners, such as housing associations.
- 4.6 The LIP is presented in two fundamental parts. Evidenced policy text, from which the existing IDP document was heavily drawn upon, and a programme of specific proposed projects, which are currently made up of 4 large affordable housing developments and 4 transport infrastructure plans enabling residential development.
- 4.7 There is currently no definitive information from the HCA as regards volume of funds available or exactly how they will be prioritised and allocated, other than that it is anticipated that there will be unallocated budget becoming available to them during the course of 2011.
- 4.8 The Recommendation outlined above would result in a fully approved LIP document being in existence and registered with the HCA by the end of March 2011. The LIP can then be reviewed in terms of project content and this can be done in consultation with third party organisations that are likely to have a direct interest in these project proposals.

5. THE NEXT STEPS

- 5.1 The stage beyond a LIP is known as the Local Investment Agreement (LIA). This is not legally binding itself, but is referred to as a Memorandum of Understanding. They are less flexible than LIPs and require much more detail on the proposed structure and delivery mechanisms for the project work therein. However, at the time of writing, it is understood that LIAs may be being superseded by new arrangements. Whilst further details have yet to be confirmed is likely to be the formation of detailed business cases for each individual project. In effect, actual funding applications.

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1 The document has been undergoing compilation since July 2010 and has been subject to considerable consultation with the HCA. In addition Housing Associations have also been consulted on the format and content of the LIP. The HCA formally approved the Peterborough LIP on 10th February 2011.
- 6.2 The LIP is due to be reviewed by the Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee on 16th March 2011. A verbal update of the comments received will be made to Cabinet.

7. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES

- 7.1 That Cabinet approve the LIP. This will allow the Council to take another step towards securing further funding for the Growth of the City.

8. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 Approval of the LIP will allow the Council, with its partners to move forward and seek further funding to support the Growth of the City.

9. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 9.1 The only other option is not to develop a LIP. If this were the action chosen then the Council would miss out on an opportunity to secure funding from the HCA to deliver Housing Growth. It should be noted that the HCA see the LIP as the only avenue to secure funding in support of residential growth.

10. IMPLICATIONS

Legal

- 10.1 At present there are no legal implications. The agreement is not legally binding on either party and only provides a framework by which the Council can bid for financial support from HCA. Further stages will have legal implications and these will move forward with the full involvement of Legal Services.

Financial

- 10.2 Other than staff time there are no financial implications at this time. However it is likely that should we move to the next stage then there will be a requirement for resources either directly or through the contribution of physical assets eg Land. Finance will be fully involved in any future work arising out of the LIP.

Equalities

- 10.3 There are no specific issues arising out of this proposal that will have an effect on any of the groups.

11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985)

Peterborough Integrated Development Plan – December 2009

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Peterborough City Council

LOCAL INVESTMENT PLAN
2011 – 2014 and beyond

For submission to the Homes & Communities Agency

February 2011



- a) This Agreement is not legally binding upon the parties.
- b) Nothing contained in or carried out pursuant to this Agreement and no consents given by the Agency or the Council will prejudice the Agency's or the Council's (as appropriate) rights, powers or duties and/or obligations in the exercise of its functions or under any statutes, byelaws, instruments, orders or regulations.
- c) This Agreement is without prejudice to the Council's and/or the Agency's functions as a local planning authority and both parties may continue to exercise such functions as if they were not a party to this Agreement.
- d) This Agreement is subject to the constitutional right of any future Parliament and/or the Agency's Sponsor Department to determine the amount of money to be made available to the Agency in any year and the purpose for which such money can be used.
- e) This Agreement is also subject to the terms of the Framework Document between the Agency and its sponsor department, as the same may be amended or replaced from time to time.

In addition, the document should allow for signature by both parties following on from the above wording:

Signed:

Signed:

Name:

Name:

Position:

Position:

**For and on behalf of the
Homes and Communities Agency**

**For and on behalf of
Peterborough City Council**

Date:

Date:

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

'Today's City' *Evidence Policy & Strategy*

Document Preparation and Purpose

This document has been prepared by Peterborough City Council. It has been developed in conjunction with the Homes and Communities Agency, who have been behind the Local Investment Plan initiative, and is intended as a comprehensive promotional document to assist in the general procurement of inward investment to the City of Peterborough. This to enable the realisation of specified land and infrastructure projects in order to help meet the City's evidenced growth needs.

The concept of the Local Investment Plan initiative, as encouraged by the HCA, has had a national remit and been running for some 2 years now. It may be that the HCA can help Peterborough using the benefit of its experiences elsewhere. Certainly the City would appreciate this kind of advice or case information wherever appropriate. Indeed, the compilation of this LIP document itself has been greatly assisted by the ongoing coaching of the HCA local office at Cambridge

The document is in effect a housing-focussed evolution of the Peterborough Integrated Development Programme (December 2009), which was used as a basis, and the purpose of which was to provide a generic, long-term set of strategic infrastructure proposals for which the City would require funding. The IDP formalised and provided evidential support to specific project proposals detailed in other documents such as the Peterborough Programme of Development (September 2008).

In terms of resourcing the growth and regeneration aspirations advocated by this LIP document and the earlier IDP, the Council has put together teams of expert people to help take matters forward and create the conditions for delivery. These teams are termed the Peterborough Delivery Partnership, Growth Delivery, Strategic Projects, and Capital Receipts. All have distinct functions, indicated by their names, and are supported by established Council departments such as Planning, Legal, and Asset Management.

Introduction

The Local Investment Plan identifies the main themes and prioritises the key interventions and projects directly related to housing led regeneration.

Peterborough's origins go back to an early Saxon village called Medehamstede, eventually becoming known as St Peters burgh around the Year 1000. The main industry throughout the Middle Ages was wool weaving, with only occasional markets activity. There had been an abbey on the site since the 7th Century, and in 1541 it was made a cathedral, now giving rise to the settlement's city status. During the 18th Century, with a population of just 2500-3000, Peterborough was the smallest city in England, and was in effect a market village. However, driven by demand for its goods arising from the Napoleonic wars, the population grew rapidly and by the 1870s had passed 17000. New industries, notably iron, brick, and elastic, grew up in the wake of the Industrial Revolution. By 1900 the population stood at 30000. This continued to grow to about 80000 in 1967 when the city was designated a New Town. This new status was a significant development and led to a decision to rapidly grow the resident population to 160000, double that existing. This was largely achieved by the formation of a Development Corporation in 1968, which expanded the city's built environment dramatically during the 1970s and 80s. The main industries of the time requiring servicing by the population were brick and tile manufacture, farm machinery, diesel engines, and electrical equipment.

Today, following the demise in the UK of primary and secondary manufacturing industries generally since the late 20th Century, Peterborough's business base has had to diversify into many other sectors (this has not necessarily translated into meaningful employment situations, however).

For example, there is a much expanded retail offer evidenced by the Queensgate and Westgate centres, with more to come; an array of professional and financial services businesses, such as the Norwich and Peterborough Building Society; and the city is renowned as a key national distribution hub for both road and rail freight. The most visible example of this is probably the Ikea National Distribution Centre by Fletton Parkway.

Peterborough is a city of change and is one of the most promising and exciting areas of opportunity in the UK. It is a city rich in heritage, but also a city that has a history of successful growth from its new town status in the 1970s through to our current ambitions for growth. The history of making Peterborough's growth a reality has required flexibility, adaptability and innovation; qualities that remain of paramount importance today.

The overarching ambition for Peterborough is to achieve sustainable growth. The city's population of approximately 166000 has numerous levels of socio-economic needs to be met, and it is intended that the city continues to provide for these needs, and that they be matched in a sustainable manner appropriate to the modern living environment.

Despite the current economic climate, housing completions in Peterborough during last financial year bucked the national trend when a total of 1125 dwellings were completed. Of this total 708 were affordable homes. These figures tell a very positive story for affordable housing provision in Peterborough which has played a significant role in keeping local house building at record levels and contributing to retaining jobs in the local construction industry as well as delivering large numbers of much needed affordable homes. This considerable achievement in affordable home provision is the result of strong and proactive partnership working between Peterborough City Council, Affordable Housing Providers who work in the city and the Homes and Communities Agency.

Peterborough also continues to act as an attractor for investment and an engine of growth. In the past year alone, over 3,000 jobs have been created in the city and major growth and inward investment companies include Amazon, Royal Sun Alliance, Tesco and White Concierge. The £12m investment into Cathedral Square at the heart of the city has demonstrated a commitment to enhancing the city and has started to attract serious interest from major retail and restaurant interests, such as TKMaxx and Chimichanga.

Market conditions are, however, at their most challenging for decades and the economic climate has fundamentally challenged how our transformation and regeneration can be delivered, so Peterborough's approach has had to change too. Uncertain times call for innovation and creativity and we are working hard to ensure the aspirations for the city continue to be driven forward and delivered.

Working within the financial realities of today's economy is therefore critical to our approach and we have developed innovative funding arrangements so that Peterborough can deliver investment and redevelopment, despite the economic downturn.

The recession led to severe limitations to growth funding, with a subsequent reduction in growth activity across the UK. Traditional funding sources available to the Council and those used by private sector developers diminished, and are unlikely to return to pre-recession levels for many years, if ever.

Peterborough's drive to still deliver an ambitious growth agenda meant we needed to access alternative sources of funding, and for this we are turning directly to the capital markets. By working with capital market specialists, we are focused on creating investor confidence by presenting developments as viable and secure long-term investment opportunities, with risks clearly understood and presented to institutions with an appetite for that particular type of risk. This approach has the financial viability for any development as its starting point, which is critical for securing capital market investment for an agenda to drive growth

Taking a new and innovative approach ensures that we will continue to make the most of the city's potential. The foundations for this latest phase of Peterborough's growth are in now place; our ambition is clear, our delivery capabilities are strong, and our vital first steps for regeneration have already begun in the heart of the city, turning the ambition into reality.

Peterborough is a city with enormous potential, with a growing economy, a growing population, and a growing position as a city at the heart of the Eastern Region. We have one of the most forward thinking agendas for economic development in the country and we are confident that, together with our partners, we will build a bigger and better Peterborough for future generations.

This links closely with the city's desire for a sustainable future and can be seen in action today at, for example, the edge of city centre South Bank regeneration site, anchored by Peterborough United Football Club. The site has been dubbed "Carbon Challenge" due to its aims to minimise carbon emissions and traditional energy uses in its proposed built developments, to include 294 new residential dwellings, of which 120 will be affordable homes. The Homes and Communities Agency and its predecessor organisations has been the primary partner at this site throughout the development process.

The exemplar Carbon Challenge development at South Bank has been enabled to a very large extent by HCA, and this is a role we would hope could be replicated on future projects. In particular the ability of HCA to act as a lead public sector partner in driving land assembly work across HCA assets and other public sector land holdings (such as PCC, Network Rail and NHS) as well as major private sector landholdings could be valuable. Combined with HCA's tools such as the Area Wide Viability Model and the Developer Appraisal Tool there is the potential for greatly aiding delivery.

A good example of where this could be applied is the wider South Bank: on the community stadium a planning application is expected in the first quarter of 2011 for the first stand to be redeveloped and plans for the further stands are being put together to follow. For Fletton Quays site evaluation work and development viability studies are planned shortly with relationship management between other landowners sure to be a key factor. On the Hospital Quarter progress is also expected in 2011 in securing a private developer who is keen to drive forward plans for the site in line with the SPD which was adopted in 2010

One of the most recent key initiatives is aimed at expanding and improving the further and higher education and training offer in the city. It is hoped that this will not only better equip its citizens for whatever future economic climates may hold, but that it will attract many more students into the city centre, adding to the vibrancy, lifting the feel, and helping the local economy while they are in town. The concept is called a Multiversity and, as the name suggests, it proposes to introduce numerous levels of new programmes, particularly where there are regional gaps or opportunities to complement existing offers from other institutions, and it is to be a very much partnership driven arrangement.

The support from the Homes and Communities Agency alongside that from local and regional Partners and from other sources will contribute to the realisation of the vision and aspirations for the City.

The Local Investment Plan recognises that it is the overall quality of place that will determine the success in meeting the growth ambitions. It is the balance of economic, environmental, social and cultural issues which will make the City attractive to residents, visitors and businesses.

It is recognised that the key element is the ability to deliver the housing and employment growth envisaged by the City in its key strategic policy documents. The challenge is to overcome infrastructure and development constraints in order to facilitate an increase in housing completions in excess of existing levels and to bring about increased investment in the local economy.

The Local Investment Plan shows how the targeted intervention of public funding will enable key sites to be brought forward, most of which are already in the ownership of the City itself or its public and private sector partners.

We are confident that with the appropriate level of HCA support we can make a significant and early contribution to progressing growth in Peterborough with the support of other partners, as well as progressing the related elements of regeneration.

Key Strategies and Plans for Peterborough

The LIP summarises key plans, strategies and associated targets within them, including:

1. The Sustainable Community Strategy, with its vision of a ‘bigger and better Peterborough’;
2. The Core Strategy, with its emerging targets of around 26,000 new homes and complementary job growth;
3. Growth aspirations, such as the proposed Great Haddon urban extension;
4. Regeneration aspirations, such as the intensification of the City Centre and the regeneration of our Neighbourhoods – including the (emerging) City Centre Area Action Plan;
5. Peterborough’s Integrated Growth Study which demonstrates how Peterborough can achieve its growth targets in a truly sustainable way.

The LIP also makes commentary on the latest social and economic issues which the City faces, such as employment and unemployment rates, job creation, and skill levels.

Issues, Opportunities and Infrastructure Needs

To deliver the targets and aspirations of the key plans and strategies there is a need for significant amounts of infrastructure. The LIP groups these needs into ‘packages’ of infrastructure requirements, under two broad headings:

- 1 Spatial packages i.e. infrastructure needs to deliver large scale spatial initiatives such as the city centre and urban extensions.
- 2 Thematic packages e.g. transport, environmental, utilities, etc, infrastructure needs to complement the growth.

Tomorrow’s Growth’

Development Programme

Project Schedule

To complement the evidential section of this report is a Development Programme. This is a schedule of named project items, aligned with the aforementioned spatial and thematic packages. This schedule is intended to be 'live' and updated frequently as and when projects are completed, added or deleted.

As required by the HCA's guidelines on the structure of an LIP, the Development Programme is supported by an initial set of specific identified projects scheduled for commencement within a 3 year time horizon. These projects are individually summarised and have cost estimates and justification indicators applied to them.

Today's City' Evidence Policy & Strategy

1. INTRODUCTION

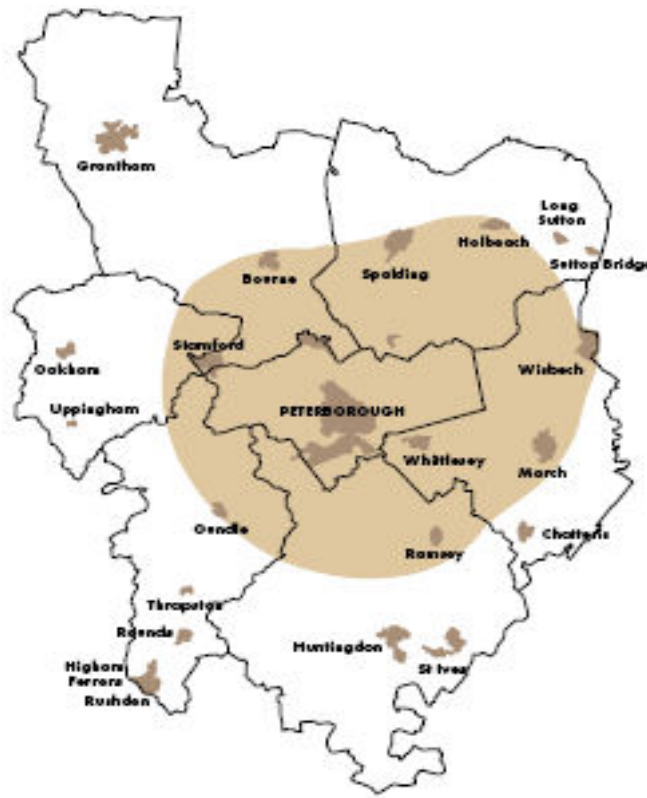
- 1.1 This document is Peterborough's Local Investment Plan (LIP). Its purpose is to provide a single delivery programme for strategic capital-led infrastructure which will allow for appropriately phased growth and development in the period 2011-14 specifically and beyond that to approximately 2030. This document builds on other evidential documents, such as the LDF and the Peterborough Integrated Development Programme (IDP), and complements the city's growth targets for both jobs and housing as identified in the Core Strategy. Consultation with the city's Registered Housing Provider partners has helped to shape the final document.
- 1.2 The purpose of the LIP is to:
- 1 Summarise key strategies and plans for Peterborough, highlight their individual roles and importantly show how they complement one another.
 - 2 Set out what support, particularly in relation to housing delivery, Peterborough needs for the next 3 years initially and 20 overall, why we need it, who will deliver it, and what it might cost. For a variety of audiences, but especially the HCA, it gives confidence that the City has a coordinated plan of action on delivering infrastructure to support growth.
 - 3 Form the basis for bidding for funding from the HCA, but also it could be directed at Government; Government Agencies; lottery and other grants; charities; private sector investment; and developer contributions (s106 and potentially CIL).
- 1.3 The LIP is founded on the IDP (which itself includes a database for infrastructure provision that reflects delivery by the private sector, the City Council and a range of agencies and utilities), the city's growth targets and site specific research into what is required to ensure delivery of key development sites.
- 1.4 However, the LIP is holistic. Some elements will need to be reviewed in the context of activity on the growth agenda such as the emerging City Centre Area Action Plan (CCAAP), and the Long Term Transport Strategy (LTTS). The IDP itself is also holistic and regularly refreshed and reviewed. As such, it is intended that this LIP will continue to be refreshed to remain fit-for-purpose and meet the overall purposes of an LIP as outlined in paragraph 1.2 above.

2: CONTEXT, VISION AND GROWTH TRAJECTORIES

Context

- 2.1 Peterborough is an area that has the potential to accommodate considerable housing and job growth. The area covered by this LIP is the unitary authority area, as shown in the centre of Figure 2-1. The shaded functional sub-region extends well into the surrounding authorities, which are also experiencing considerable growth.

Figure 2-1: Map of Peterborough – urban area, unitary authority area, and wider influence



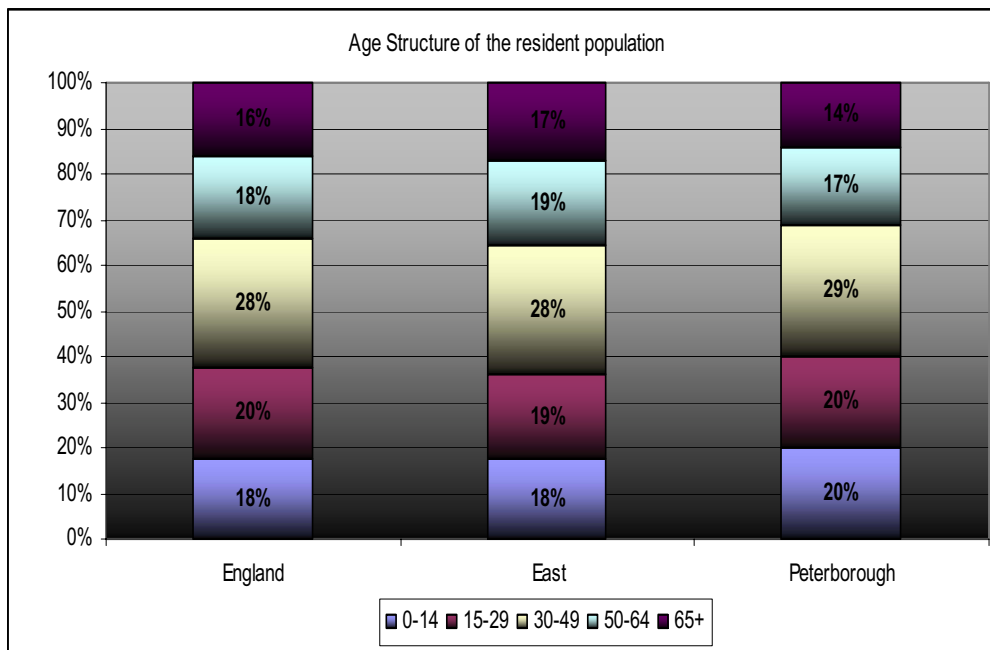
- 2.2 The population of Peterborough grew very quickly during the 1970s and 1980s. Over the last decade or so, however, the rate of population growth has been lower in Peterborough than the average for either the East of England or England as a whole (see Figure 2-2). However, with migration and high housebuilding rates in the last few years, the populations has probably spiked upwards again.
- 2.3 The urban area of Peterborough, as defined by the Office of National Statistics (ONS) “bricks and mortar”, accounted for almost 90% of the population of the unitary area at the time of the last Census. On this basis, Peterborough was identified as the fifth largest urban area in the East of England, and the biggest – by some margin – of the New Towns.
- 2.4 Peterborough forms the hub of a well-defined labour market and it is formally recognised as a Travel to Work Area. Overall, there is a net in-commute of around 19,000 people daily and the catchment extends well into the East Midlands. Among the out-commuters, around 1,500 travel to London. However one of the features of Peterborough that really stands out is its high degree of self-containment as compared to other cities within the East of England, which has positive implications in terms of sustainability:

- Of the 82,815 people travelling to work in Peterborough (urban area) at the time of the 2001 census, 49,808 (or 60.1%) also lived there
 - Within Peterborough (urban area) – at the time of the census – 63,802 people lived in the area and had a job, of whom 49,808 (78.1%) worked locally.
- 2.5 In terms of its demography, Peterborough has a number of other distinctive characteristics. Firstly, the City is ethnically diverse. As Table 2-3 suggests, an eighth of the population is non-white – a figure which is close to double the average in the East of England.
- 2.6 A second characteristic surrounds the relatively high number of migrant workers. In 2006/07, Peterborough accounted for almost 10% of the region’s National Insurance registrations of non-UK nationals; economic migrants from Poland accounted for close to half of this total with a high proportion of Lithuanians and Slovaks.
- 2.7 Finally, it is important to note that compared to the national and regional averages the population of Peterborough is relatively young (Table 2-4). In principle at least, this means that the local economy has the potential to be relatively productive.

Figure 2-2: Population of Peterborough in relation to the East of England and England

The Mid Year Population Estimates data suggests that a total of 163,900 people live in the city of Peterborough with approximately 66% falling into the working age population category which is comparable to both the national and regional averages. Peterborough has a slightly younger profile in comparison to England and the Eastern region with 40% of the population aged 29 and under compared with 38% in England and 36% in the East. Peterborough also has a slightly smaller proportion of people aged 65+ in comparison to the regional and national averages.

Figure 1: Age structure of the resident population



Source: Mid Year Population Estimates 2008

Table 2-3: Resident Population by Ethnic Background

According to the mid year population estimates for mid 2008, Peterborough’s population in 2008 was about 13% non White British compared to around 12% in England and around 7% in the region. Peterborough has a significantly higher than average Pakistani population compared with the national and regional averages.

TableXX: Population by ethnic group

	England	East	Peterborough
White	88.2%	91.6%	86.8%
Mixed	1.7%	1.5%	1.8%
Indian	2.6%	1.6%	2.7%
Pakistani	1.8%	1.0%	4.5%
Other Asian	1.4%	1.0%	0.9%
Black	2.8%	1.9%	2.1%
Chinese	1.5%	1.3%	1.1%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Source: Mid year population estimates 2008

Table 2-4: Age distribution of Peterborough’s Resident Population compared to the National and Regional Figures, 2006

	England	East	Peterborough
Aged 0-15 years	17.7	17.9	19.5
Aged 15-39	34.1	32.2	35.9
Aged 40-64	32.3	33.2	30.6
65+	15.9	16.7	14.0

Source: ONS Mid Year Population Estimates

2.8 The following box outlines some other key facts about Peterborough:

Peterborough: Key Facts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peterborough has a resident population of around 166,000 people (though this may be an underestimate by up to 5% due to fluctuating migration issues) • Population growth forecasting indicates that Peterborough will have a population of approximately 175,000 people by 2011, 189,000 by 2016 and 204,000 by 2021 • There were 43,700 children and young people (aged 0-19) living in Peterborough in 2008, including 12,300 aged under five years in 2008 • Peterborough is more ethnically diverse than most areas in the East of England, with 1 in 14 people having an Asian ethnic group • The largest Asian ethnic group is the Pakistani population, with around 7,100 people with a Pakistani ethnic group living in Peterborough • Peterborough City Council’s administrative area covers an area of around 34,300 hectares and has a higher population density than found on average in the East of

England and in England, at 4.5 people per hectare

- Peterborough has relatively high levels of deprivation compared with many areas and is ranked amongst the third of English local authorities with the greatest levels of deprivation
- Levels of income deprivation are higher than the England average. One child in four lives in a household dependent on means tested benefits
- The rate of reported crime is higher than the England average
- Overall examination results are lower than the England average
- The latest data (Apr 2009/Mar 2010) shows that the unemployment rate for working age population was higher in Peterborough at 9.2% than the national, regional or Cambridgeshire rates.
- Although still a designated dispersal area, the numbers of new asylum seekers has considerably reduced.
- Life expectancy in Peterborough is significantly below the national average for both men and women.

2.9 Strategic Housing Market Area

Peterborough City Council led on the production of a Peterborough Sub- Regional Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) and the recent refresh. The original assessment and needs survey were undertaken in 2007 and an update to the survey data and the SHMA were completed in August 2010.

2.10 The Peterborough Housing Market

Peterborough sits within a defined housing market area that consists of the authority area and adjacent authorities of Rutland, South Kesteven and South Holland. The Peterborough sub-regional housing market also partially covers several areas that fall under the jurisdiction of adjacent local authorities, including Fenland, East Northants and Huntingdonshire. It's worth noting that another Local Investment Plan that covers these three other local authority areas included in the housing market area is being produced. Effort will be made to ensure that the Peterborough LIP and the Peterborough Partial Housing Market area LIP are compatible.

2.11 Across Peterborough City Council's local authority area, two distinct housing markets have been identified. These markets are described as the 'Peterborough sub-market' that covers the main urban area of Peterborough (including Peterborough's two largest villages, Eye and Thorney) and the 'Stamford sub-market' that covers the main area of Stamford, plus surrounding rural wards (many of which lie within the western Peterborough City Council area).

2.12 Tenure

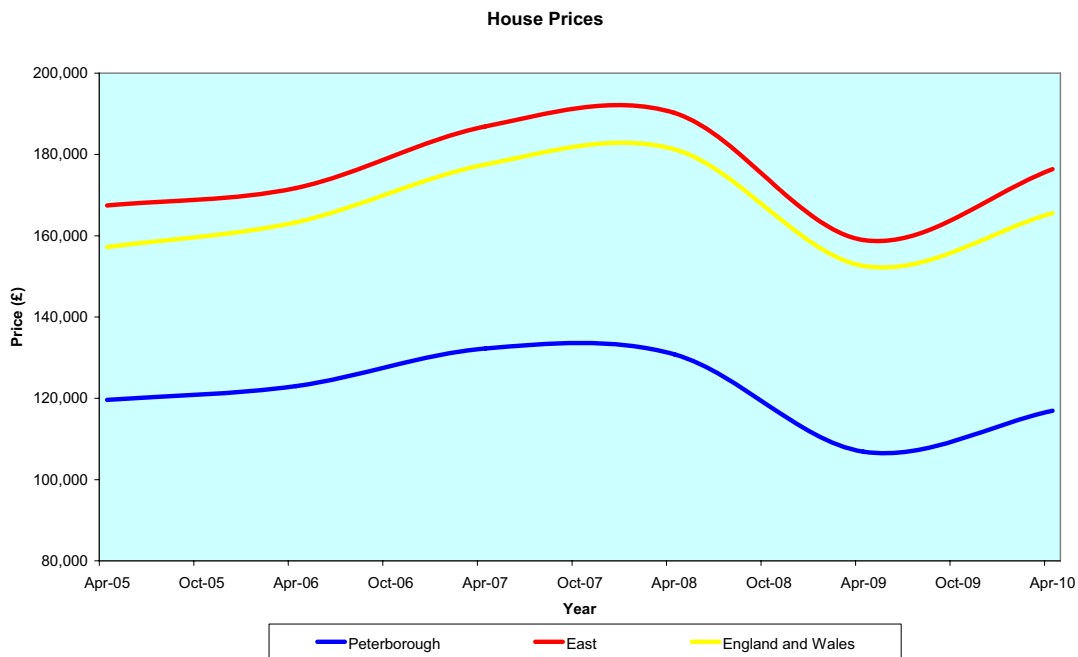
The most common tenure in Peterborough is owner-occupation with a mortgage, which represents around 40.6% of all households. Owner-occupation without mortgage is the second most prevalent tenure across the authority, at 25.9% of all households. The full tenure breakdown for Peterborough is displayed in the table below, along with the estimated total number of households across the authority;

Tenure	Households	% of Households
Owner- occupied (no mortgage)	19,393	25.9%
Owner-occupied (mortgage)	30,372	40.6%
Social rented	14,846	19.8%
Private rented	10,288	13.7%
Total	74,900	100%

Source: Peterborough Sub-Regional Strategic Housing Market Assessment Update (2010)

2.13 House Prices

The graph below shows the fluctuation in house prices in Peterborough over the past five years. Local change has remained largely consistent with the changes observed regionally and nationally. It is also clear that the average house price in Peterborough, which is presently around £116k, is consistently lower than the national and regional average.



Source: Land Registry (2010)

2.14 Tenure Price Comparisons

The table below shows the indicative income required to purchase or rent a two bed entry level property across the three main tenures without subsidy. The table shows that a lower than average amount of income is required to enter home-ownership in Peterborough, with a higher than average amount of income required to rent privately without subsidy. The income required to rent an RSL property without subsidy in Peterborough is consistent with the sub-regional average.

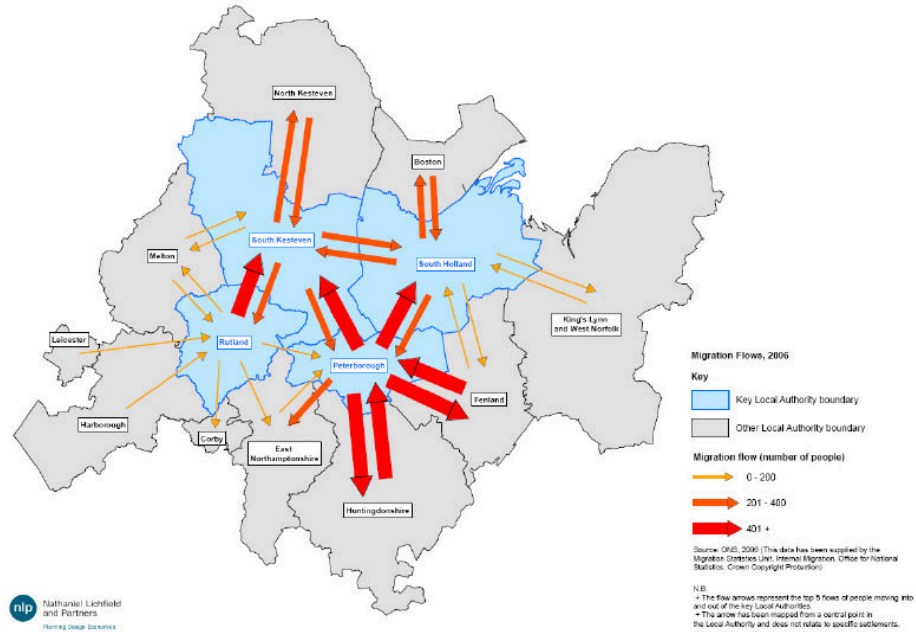
	Entry-level purchase price	Entry-level private rent	Average RSL rent
Peterborough	£26,857	£23,760	£14,560
Sub-regional average	£28,714	£21,576	£14,664

Source: Peterborough Sub-Regional Strategic Housing Market Assessment Update (2010)

2.15 Migration and Commuting Patterns

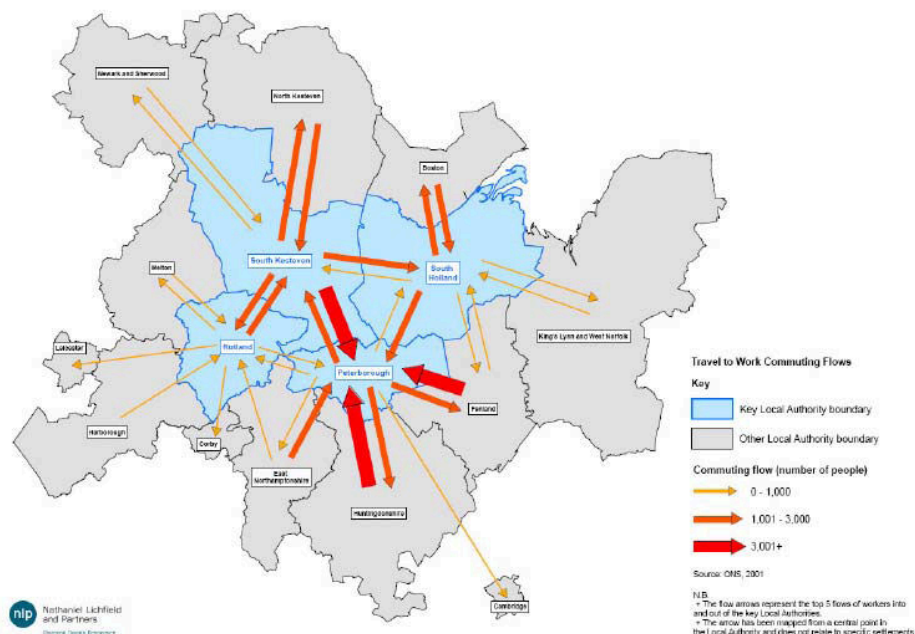
In terms of migration patterns, there is a net outflow from Peterborough to other areas within the Peterborough sub-region, mainly South Holland and South Kesteven, but also to some extent in Rutland. Despite the outward migration flows, Peterborough experiences a high level of in-commuting from neighbouring authorities. These trends are depicted in the maps below.

Fig 1. Migration flows across the Peterborough Sub-Region



Source: The housing Implications of employment land in the Peterborough Sub-Region (2009)

Fig 2. Commuting flows across the Peterborough Sub-Region



Source: The housing Implications of employment land in the Peterborough Sub-Region (2009)

2.16 Demand for market housing

The Strategic Housing Market Assessment update also featured an analysis of current and future demand based on households that can afford to buy or rent from the open market, the key findings and recommendations of which are as follows;

- There is a minimum annual requirement for 876 units of market housing, with a requirement for 93.3% of these to be houses or bungalows. This equates to a minimum of 14,017 market units between 2010 and 2026
- Around 44% of demand for market housing across the Peterborough sub-region will come from childless couples and multi-adult households, with an equal 28% coming from single persons and from households with children.
- In the long term, the majority of market demand will be for larger units, particularly three bed houses. Demand for flats and maisonettes will account for less than 5%
- Demand for properties of sizes in excess of four bedrooms will account for 22.4% of open market demand, whereas one bed accommodation will account for just 3.4% of future demand

The Table below provides a breakdown of new build market housing in Peterborough in recent years by property type and size.

Year	1-bed house	%1-bed house	2-bed house	%2-bed house	3-bed house	%3-bed house	4+-bed house	%4+-bed house	1-bed flats	%1-bed flats	2-bed flats	%2-bed flats	3-bed flats	%3-bed flats	4-bed flats	%4-bed flats	Market Completions
2002	1	0.2%	47	8.5%	187	33.8%	307	55.4%	8	1.4%	1	0.2%	1	0.2%	2	0.4%	554
2003	6	0.9%	53	7.9%	181	27.1%	326	48.8%	3	0.4%	99	14.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	668
2004	17	3.0%	57	10.1%	208	36.9%	237	42.0%	10	1.8%	34	6.0%	1	0.2%	0	0.0%	564
2005	5	0.6%	67	8.6%	251	32.4%	262	33.8%	45	5.8%	145	18.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	775
2006	13	1.7%	33	4.2%	237	30.5%	189	24.3%	91	11.7%	212	27.3%	2	0.3%	0	0.0%	777
2007	6	0.6%	60	5.7%	231	22.0%	256	24.3%	101	9.6%	392	37.3%	6	0.6%	0	0.0%	1052
2008	5	0.6%	58	7.3%	256	32.1%	273	34.3%	67	8.4%	135	16.9%	3	0.4%	0	0.0%	797
2009	5	0.8%	33	5.2%	89	14.0%	202	31.7%	110	17.3%	191	30.0%	7	1.1%	0	0.0%	637
2010	0	0.0%	23	5.3%	70	16.2%	127	29.3%	70	16.2%	141	32.6%	2	0.5%	0	0.0%	433

2.17 Specialist Housing Needs

The 2008 Peterborough Housing Needs Assessment (HNA) provides data on the levels of households with a member with a special need in Peterborough. It estimates that 18.9% of all households in Peterborough have one or members with an identified special need compared against the national average of approximately 14%. The table below shows the breakdown of households with different special needs. The percentages in each category exceeds the total number of special needs households because some people may have more than one category of special need.

Households with Special Needs		
	% of all households	% of special needs HHolds
Frail Elderly	4.2%	22.1%
Medical Condition	11.5%	61.0%
Physical Disability	9.1%	48.2%
Learning Difficulty	2.3%	11.9%
Mental Health Problem	3.2%	16.8%
Other	1.4%	7.5%

- 2.18 Not all households with special needs live in unsuitable housing. However, the HNA indicates that special needs households are nearly three times more likely to be in unsuitable housing than other households. Approximately 19% of all special needs households are living in unsuitable housing compared with 6.1% of all other households.
- 2.19 The HNA also provides data on the levels of households containing one or more older persons in Peterborough. Around 24% of all households in Peterborough contain only older people. Of these households, 27.3% are headed by someone aged 80 or over. Nearly a third of social rented accommodation contains older people only and 45.2% of these households are headed up by someone over 80. This is likely to impact upon the need for the future supply of special needs social rented accommodation.

Black and Minority Ethnic Housing Needs

- 2.20 The Housing needs survey undertaken in 2008 to provide primary data for the SHMA collected information regarding the ethnicity of the respondents to the survey. However, the sample response received from the BME community was limited and therefore 150 additional surveys were undertaken with BME households to allow more detailed information to be collected about the particular issues relevant to this group. Some of the key finds from the surveys were;
- Pakistani households recorded the largest average household size with Asian other and White other also displaying an average household size larger than the city average
 - Pakistani and Asian other households recorded a higher level of owner-occupation than the city average
 - White other and Other households recorded a higher than average level of residence in the private rented sector
 - All BME households are less likely to be pensioner only households and are more likely to contain children than the city average
 - Pakistani households are more likely than average to contain a special needs member
 - White other and Pakistani households are more likely than the city average to be living in unsuitable housing
- 2.21 A detailed and updated picture of the full extent of the ethnic diversity of Peterborough's population will become available once the outcome of the 2011 census is known. However, mid term population estimates do indicate that Peterborough has an ethnically diverse community which has increased its diversity to include many migrant workers since the enlargement of the EU in 2004.
- 2.22 A study of migrant workers in Peterborough completed in June 2009 assessed the views and experience of migrant workers on the benefits and challenges of living and working in Peterborough from a range of perspectives including accommodation and access to housing. The predominant migrant groups in Peterborough are Polish, Czech, Slovak, Portuguese and Lithuanian and therefore the study focused specifically on these communities with a total of 278 interviews conducted to inform the research. Some of the key findings from this survey were;
- 74% of respondents were renting from the private rented sector
 - 10% of respondents were living in social rented accommodation.
 - A high instance of people sharing a bedroom with other people who are not their partner was reported (up to 5 people in one room in some cases)
 - 11% of respondents had experienced sleeping rough or having to stay with family/friends because they had nowhere else to live.

2.23 Due to an identified problem with rough sleeping in Peterborough, largely arising from the migrant population, Peterborough has taken part in a pilot study during 2010/11 with the UK Border Agency to tackle rough sleeping in the city. This pilot study has been very successful reducing the number of rough sleeping migrants largely through voluntary reconnection with countries of origin and to a lesser extent through administrative removal. Peterborough is now recognised as a leading authority on tackling rough sleeper issues. Peterborough’s Homelessness Grant allocation for 2011/12 has received an uplift and a further £40,000 has been allocated by the CLG for further work with single homeless people in Peterborough.

Gypsy and Traveller Housing Needs

2.24 The most recent assessment of Gypsy and Traveller need in Peterborough was undertaken in May 2006 as part of the Cambridge Sub –Region Traveller Needs Assessment. At that time, the study estimated that 10-15 permanent pitches would be required in Peterborough by 2010. Since then an update to the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) in July 2009 required Peterborough to provide 55 permanent Gypsy and Traveller pitches between 2006-2021, plus assist the Cambridgeshire/Peterborough area in providing new Travelling Show people sites and transit sites for Gypsies and Travellers. Plans to identify sites for permanent and transit Gypsy and Traveller caravan accommodation, to meet the targets of the RSS have now been put on hold following the steps taken by the Coalition Government to pursue its abolition. The council’s policy relating to the provision of pitches for Gypsies and Travellers in the Core Strategy has been amended by the Planning Inspector following the public examination of the strategy. This amended policy will be presented to Cabinet for adoption as part of the overall Core Strategy in February 2011. The policy now states that the provision of additional pitches (whether for permanent occupation or transit use) can be achieved through the normal process of the submission of a planning application and the granting of planning permission; and, if necessary, through the identification and allocation of land in the Site Allocations DPD, therefore removing an unqualified requirement for the council to identify new sites for pitches. The policy does state however, that with regard to a transit site, a clear need has been identified in Peterborough and therefore the council intends to safeguard a site for such purposes in the Site Allocations DPD, guided by the above criteria.

The policy also sets out that the council will maintain a local assessment of need for Gypsy and Traveller pitches (permanent and transit) and Travelling Showpeople plots. The outcome of these assessments will assist the Council, if necessary, in the identification and allocation of land for sites for permanent pitches in the Site Allocations DPD, and in the determination of applicable planning applications. The council is currently working with partner authorities to commission a needs assessment for Gypsy and Traveller pitches in Peterborough and the surrounding area.

Peterborough’s Rural Housing Market

2.25 The SHMA update 2010 estimates that 14.5% of households in Peterborough live in rural areas. The table below shows a comparison between property types in Peterborough’s urban and rural housing stock. As is characteristic in many rural areas, there are a higher percentage of detached properties and bungalows in Peterborough’s rural areas than urban areas and significantly lower number of flats.

Property Type	Rural	Urban
Detached	36.2%	21.4%
Semi-detached	28.4%	25.6%
Terraced	14.3%	26.4%
Flats	2%	14.1%
Bungalows	18.7%	12.3%

2.26 Owner occupation is the majority tenure in rural Peterborough accounting for 77.5% of dwellings compared with 68.2% city wide. The SHMA update shows a marked difference between house prices in the two housing market areas identified within Peterborough. House prices are significantly lower in the main urban area in Peterborough which includes the two rural key service centres described as the Peterborough Sub –Market than house prices in the rural areas to the west of the city that contains Peterborough’s smaller rural settlements described as the Stamford sub-market.

	Peterborough Sub-Market	Stamford Sub-Market
One Bed	£64,000	£74,000
Two Bed	£94,000	£121,000
Three Bed	£117,000	£147,000
Four Bed	£173,000	£195,000

2.27 The Housing needs Survey undertaken in 2008 estimated that 8.3% of households in rural Peterborough live in rented accommodation provided by an affordable housing provider compared to 19.7% authority wide. The Peterborough SHMA update undertaken in July 2010 estimates that there is a need for 141 units of affordable housing per annum in Peterborough’s rural area if all identified housing need is to be met.

2.28 Affordability and Housing Need

According to the 2010 update of the Peterborough Strategic Housing Market Assessment, the key housing need findings are as follows;

- 27.4% of households in Peterborough cannot afford to rent or buy market housing without a need for subsidy, compared with 22.6% of households across the sub-region
- 81.2% of lone parents in Peterborough are unable to affordable market prices or rents without subsidy. 37.5% of single persons are unable to afford market prices and rents without some sort of financial intervention, closely followed by 37% of single pensioners
- At the current rate of household formation and housing supply, an average of 1,008 households will fall into housing need each year in Peterborough
- If we were to solely address the highest levels of housing need, 38% of all new housing built in Peterborough would need to be affordable
- Across the sub-region, the main reason for unsuitable housing is health and/or mobility issues due to property conditions, followed by overcrowding and affordability
- Based on present housing needs, around two thirds of future new build affordable housing would need to be smaller units, including one and two beds.
- However, based on future demographic trends, long-term housing need is expected to shift towards a requirement for two and three bed properties
- In terms of addressing the need for intermediate housing, there is a minimum requirement for 150 dwellings per annum.
- In terms of rural housing demand, percentage of households in housing need is lower than in urban Peterborough (1.06% compared with 1.35%). However, need as a proportion of supply in rural Peterborough is around ten times higher than that need as a proportion of supply in urban Peterborough.

2.29 Housing Stock Condition

In 2009 Peterborough City Council commissioned a study into the condition of the private sector housing stock across the authority. The key findings of this study were as follows;

- Around 31.3% of the private housing stock in Peterborough was developed between 1965 and 1980. Around 28.2% of the private stock was built post 1980, whereas 14.1% of the stock across the authority was developed pre-1919.
- In terms of unit type, around 27.2% of private stock in Peterborough is semi-detached housing. Detached housing makes up 23.3% of private stock, with 10.4% terraced housing. Flats account for 10.4%, whereas bungalows account for 12.1%.
- In terms of tenure, 45.2% of private housing across the authority is in owner occupation by way of a mortgage. Around 34.2% is privately owned without a mortgage, and 20.6% privately rented.
- 22.7% (13,610) of private sector dwellings in Peterborough have a category one hazard as defined under the Housing Health and Safety Rating System. This is lower than the average for England as a whole, which stands at 23.5% of all private stock. A category one hazard is such that it may cause death or serious injury.
- According to the study, the cost of rectifying these hazards is roughly £17.3 million.
- The most common hazards amongst the private housing stock in Peterborough is excess cold and risk of falling on stairs, with single pensioners and loan parents most likely to live in hazardous homes
- In terms of disrepair, the main issues across the private sector housing stock relate to doors, windows and heating systems.
- The average to rectify urgent repairs across the private housing stock is £1,171 per dwelling. The average cost to rectify basic repairs has been estimated at £1,774 per dwelling.
- In regards to Decent Homes, 39% of private sector homes fail to meet the standard. 59% of these failures are due to category one hazards, and 49% fail due to issues of thermal comfort. Around 44.8% of vulnerable households in the private sector live in non-decent housing.
- The highest levels of non-decency were found to be in the private rented sector, in empty homes, in pre-1919 dwellings, in terraced housing, and in converted flats.
- The average SAP rating for residential properties in the private sector in Peterborough stands at 55, which is higher than the national figure of 47.
- 15,000 homes in Peterborough require improvements to heating systems
- 7,749 households are in 'fuel poverty' across Peterborough, including 22.6% of all vulnerable households. Households in the private rented sector are most likely to be in fuel poverty.
- In terms of Homes in Multiple Occupation (HMOs), the stock condition survey identified 1,475 non-mandatory licensable HMOs. The study also identified 206 mandatory licensable HMOs, and 266 HMOs that require licensing as they fall within the Millfield and New England additional licensing area.

2.30 A range of initiatives have been progressed as a result of the findings of Housing Condition Survey . Many of the excess cold issues identified through the survey are being addressed through the Peterborough Home Insulation Scheme, which utilises £2 million funding from EERA and PCC to provide energy saving measures for low income households living in energy inefficient properties.

2.31 During 2010/11 a further £880,000 has been allocated to address life-threatening and serious hazards in properties occupied by low income households. Despite a 40 percent cut in funding in future years, this programme will continue but with a focus upon the highest category hazards.

2.32 The council has plans to tackle bringing back into use the large number of empty properties that were identified in the PSHCS. Peterborough City Council presently runs a private sector leasing scheme for properties that the authority brings back into use. For the last two years, progress with this scheme has been slow due to lack of dedicated resources. In January 2011, 873 empty properties were

identified by Council tax as properties that have been empty for more than 6 months. The council has now set aside funding to employ a half time post as a dedicated Empty Homes Officer from April 2011 . This post will work with the owners of empty homes to facilitate bring the stock back into use and where necessary, will utilise the authority's powers under Empty Dwelling Management Orders (EDMO) to bring homes back into use. This renewed focus on dealing with Peterborough's empty homes will enable the council to benefit from the Government's new incentives for councils to get empty homes lived in again by matching the council tax raised for every empty property brought back into use. The recent government decision however , to increase the threshold from 6 months to a minimum of 2 years before the use of EDMOs can be deployed as a means of bringing empty properties back into use, will significantly impact upon the capacity of the council to reduce the levels of empty homes and under occupation in the city.

2.33 Registered Provider's Housing Stock

During recent years, Registered Providers operating in Peterborough have made significant investment in their stock in order to achieve the 'Decent Homes' standard. In January 2011, the four registered providers with the majority of affordable housing stock in Peterborough (Cross Keys, Accent Nene, Axiom and Minster) confirmed that 97% of their combined housing stock was assessed as meeting the decent homes standard.

Economic Performance and Economic Growth

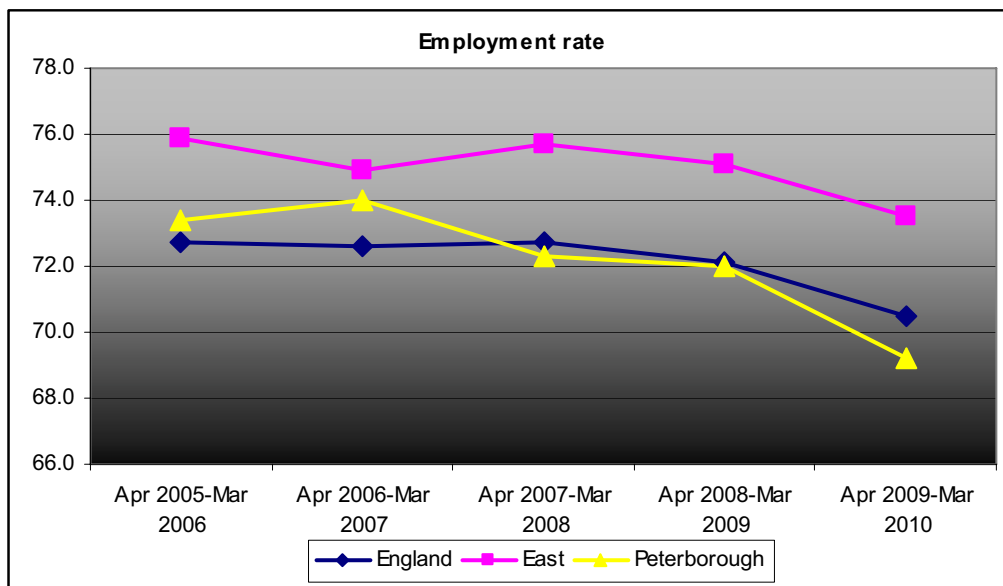
Introduction

- 2.34** Peterborough is a major regional centre and gateway. The sub-region enjoys a strategic location on the national road and rail network allowing easy access to national and international markets.
- 2.35** More than 6,000 companies are currently based within Peterborough, including some with their regional and international headquarters based in the city. Peterborough demonstrated the strongest performance of the East of England cities in the State of the English Cities report.
- 2.36** The social and economic influence of the Peterborough sub-region's economy goes far wider than the existing administrative boundaries, spreading into Fenland, parts of South Lincolnshire, Rutland, East Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire, and reaching a total population of some 700,000.
- 2.37** Peterborough has a strong and diverse economy with a number of significant sectors, such as environmental technology, media, engineering and financial services. Peterborough is currently working toward delivering major economic growth and sustainable regeneration to help secure investment for the sub-region. Peterborough is a designated 'Environment City' with companies providing environmental manufacturing, technology and advisory services supported by the new Eco-Innovation centre. Peterborough has key economic strengths in industrial sectors such as environmental goods and service industries, food agriculture and media and publishing companies.
- 2.38** There are areas of relatively high deprivation, mainly in the north and east of the city centre in the old, pre-New Town core, with 22 of Peterborough's 104 SOAs in the 20% most deprivation in the UK. One of the wards is in the most deprived 3% of SOAs nationally.

The Labour Market and Economy

- 2.39** The graph below demonstrates that Peterborough has been severely affected by the recession, more so than the region and England as a whole. It shows the trends in employment rate between 2005 and 2010. The latest data shows that 69.2 per cent of the working age population are in employment compared to England (70.5 per cent) and East of England (73.5 per cent).

- 2.40 According to the latest Annual Business Inquiry data (2008) 99,098 people employees are working in Peterborough. As with national and regional trends, the largest proportion are in the service industry, almost 28% are in the banking, finance and insurance sectors and a further 22% in the public services sector.
- 2.41 Interestingly, Peterborough's GVA per head is consistently higher than the national and regional averages. The latest data (2007) suggests that Peterborough's GVA per head is £26,968 compared to £20,458 nationally and £19,083 regionally. whilst in 2009 Peterborough's gross weekly income was £433.70. This is considerably lower than the national (£496.00) and regional averages (£509.40).



Source: Annual Population Survey Apr 2009/Mar 2010 data

Employment (Apr 2009/Mar 2010)

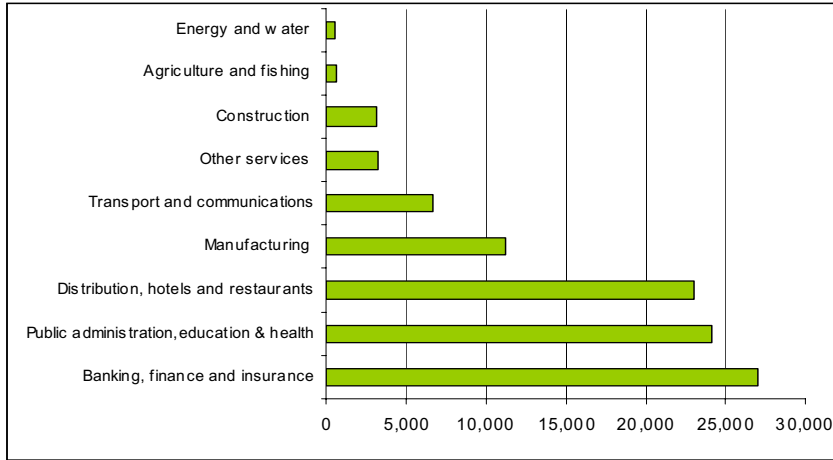
	Peterborough (numbers)	Peterborough (%)	East (%)	England (%)
Employment rate - aged 16-64	73,300	69.2	70.5	73.5
Economic activity rate - aged 16-64	80,700	76.2	76.6	78.9
% aged 16-64 who are employees	65,500	61.9	60.8	63.1
% aged 16-64 who are self employed	7,100	6.7	9.2	10.1

Source: Annual Population Survey Apr 2009/Mar 2010 data

Employment Growth

- 2.42 Whilst the figures note high levels of employment, job growth is poor, particularly in food where the total number of people employed has declined. Construction has performed better. The largest increase has been in public administration. Projections for future employment growth from 2006 – 2021 are 18 per cent. Nevertheless, the growth aspirations of the regeneration, skills and employment partnerships have collective ambitions to actively align the cities infrastructure development with that of raising both the skills and levels of job opportunities for residents and migrants to the city alike. The series of tables outlined below give a clear illustration of the most recent and projected data which provides evidence for this

Figure 3: Proportion of employees by industry



Projected number of employees

Area	Projected change 2006-2021	Projected percentage change 2006-2021	Projected total employees 2021
Peterborough	600	0.5	111,700

Employment by Occupation Apr 2009/Mar 2010

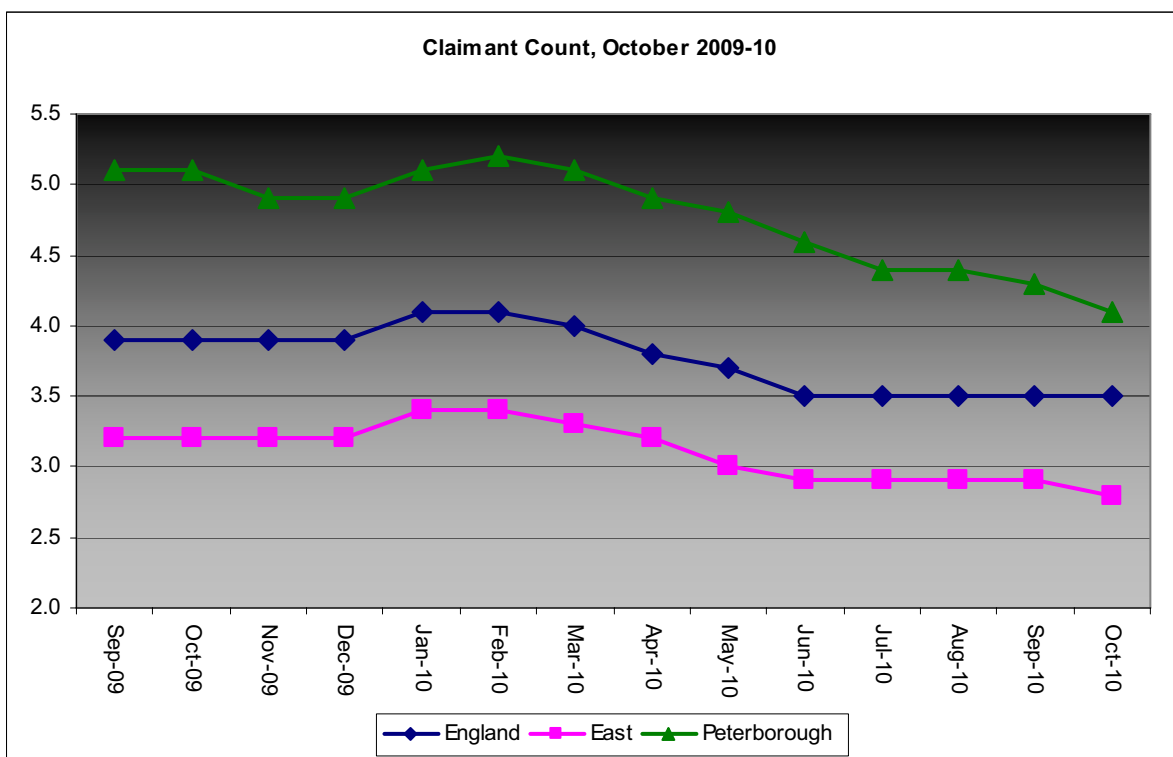
Oct 2008-Sep 2009	Peterborough (numbers)	Peterborough (%)	East (%)	England (%)
Managers and senior officials	8,800	11.9	17.5	16.1
Professional occupations	7,800	10.5	13.4	13.8
Associate professional & tech occupations	8,100	10.9	14.5	14.8
Administrative and secretarial occupations	8,700	11.7	11.5	11.2
Skilled trades occupations	6,500	8.7	10.9	10.2
Personal service occupations	6,400	8.6	8.0	8.6
Sales and customer service occupations	7,300	9.7	6.8	7.3
Process, plant and machine operatives	7,200	9.6	6.0	6.6
Elementary occupations	13,200	17.7	10.9	11.0

Source: Annual Population Survey Apr 2009/Mar 2010 data

Economic Inactivity – Unemployment

2.43

Claimant count benefit claimants are people who are out of work claiming jobseekers allowance. The latest claimant count data for Peterborough suggests claimant count has been on a downward trend since February this year. There has been a decrease of 192 claimants over the last month (from 4,809 to 4617), which equates to a rate of 4.1%. The rate for England remains unchanged from the previous month the region has seen a drop of 0.1% point



Source: Claimant Count rates and proportions. Nomis, November 2010

Figure 5: economic inactivity

Peterborough Area Apr 2009-Mar 2010	Peterborough Numbers	Peterborough %	East of England %	Great Britain %
Economically In-Active	25,200	23.8	21.1	23.4
Wanting a Job	7,500	7.1	5.2	5.6
Not wanting a job	17,700	16.8	15.9	17.8

Source: Annual Population Survey Apr 2009/Mar 2010 data

Assets and Opportunities

2.44 Despite the somewhat bleak picture of economic performance. Peterborough does have a range of assets and opportunities at its disposal, and working through the very strong partnerships greater benefit can potentially be realised for both business and the community.

- A strong and continuing tradition of high value manufacturing and a current concentration of employment in banking, finance and insurance services
- Environment City Status, Home of Environmental Capital and emerging and well supported clusters in environmental technologies and media, printing and publishing
- Strong public sector employment presence with the continuing ability to attract national agencies and organisations
- A key gateway to/from the region towards Midlands and the North and with good access to London and the Greater South East, with key investments infrastructure which has enabled an emerging proposal for an 'inland port'

- Continuing strong growth, which will attract investment
- A strong commitment to new development and regeneration to tackle some of the causes of economic underperformance, including affordable housing provision and the quality of all developments
- Presence of major companies including Thomas Cook Group, Indesit, Perkins Engines Co. Dresser Rand, EMAP, British Sugar plc, BGL Group, Diligenta Ltd and Fairline Boats plc.

Innovation

2.45 The SRES pin-points enterprise as innovation as the number one priority if Peterborough is to realise its ambitions to achieve 'substantial and sustainable growth' over the next 20 years. To achieve this vision, the Peterborough sub-regional economy must continue to increase its prosperity (as proxied by Gross Value Added (GVA) per capita) by raising the productivity of its firms, public sector and other organisations and the employment rate and prospects of its residents. A primary objective is to recognize the importance of innovation as a key driver of productivity and competitiveness, and of creating an environment that supports creativity and enterprise.

2.46 The Home of Environmental Capital initiative focuses on the significant low carbon and environmental goods and services (LCEGS) sector cluster in the Greater Peterborough Growth Area; the largest of its type in the UK. The city's 380 organisations in this sector employ around 5,000 people and account for 5% of Peterborough's GDP.

Investment

2.47 In addition to innovation, a second drive for Peterborough to recognize the accelerating pace of change and the requirement in a changing economy to be flexible, adaptable and agile in its response to changing economic and social circumstances. Critical in this respect is the capacity of the sub-region to improve its skills base and education infrastructure to meet the changing skill needs of business and the public sector (discussed later).

Skills

2.48 The skills levels within Peterborough are captured in terms of levels of attainment (by qualifications) and more generically across employment activity. Historically Peterborough has suffered from low achievement levels in terms of qualifications, and this has been deemed to create the knock effect in terms of the take-up high-level employment opportunities (by local residents) and the subsequent low wage levels of employees

Qualifications levels

2.49 The qualifications attainment of the working age population in Peterborough was generally lower than the East of England and GB averages in 2008. The proportion of graduates in the City's workforce is low. School attainment is also poor in some areas. The overall percentage of pupils achieving 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE was 47.5% in 2003 compared to 51.9% nationally and points scores at GCSE and A-level are also marginally below national equivalents. Figures below show the 12 month calculations via Nomis official labour market statistics, as NVQ 2 and above well below attainment regional and national attainment levels at 56% seta against a national average of 65.2% and East of England average of 62.8%.

Peterborough Area Jan – Dec 2008	Peterborough Numbers	Peterborough %	East of England %	Great Britain %
NVQ4 and above	19,300	18.8	26.1	29.0
NVQ3 and above	37,400	36.4	43.4	47.0
NVQ2 and above	57,500	56.0	62.8	65.2
NVQ1 and above	73,500	71.7	78.8	78.9
other qualifications	13,500	13.1	9.3	8.7
no qualifications	15,600	15.2	11.8	12.4

Conclusions

- 2.50 Peterborough is seeking to achieve a step change in delivery, essentially by targeting high end job growth through knowledge and environmental sectors. Whilst these are growing markets, delivery is competitive and in many senses Peterborough is starting with a competitive disadvantage. Significant efforts are required through intervention to encourage market led jobs delivery to take a different form to those delivered in previous periods of significant growth.

Vision for Peterborough

- 2.51 The following section outlines a summary of the vision for Peterborough, as reflected in a number of strategic plans and strategies

Sustainable Community Strategy

- 2.52 The Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) represents the growth agenda of all partners. Its vision and priorities direct many other key strategic documents that support the overall development of Peterborough including the Core Strategy.

- 2.53 The SCS vision is that of:

A bigger and better Peterborough that grows the right way – and through truly sustainable development and growth:

- *Improves the quality of life of all its people and communities and ensures that all communities benefit from growth and the opportunity it brings*
- *Creates a truly sustainable Peterborough, the urban centre of a thriving sub-regional community of villages and market towns, a healthy, safe and exciting place to live, work and visit, famous as the environment capital of the UK.*

- 2.54 The SCS has the following key priorities:

- Creating strong and supportive communities
- Creating the UK's environment capital
- Delivering substantial and truly sustainable growth
- Creating opportunities, tackling inequalities

- 2.55 The Greater Peterborough Partnership (GPP) is the Local Strategic Partnership working collectively towards the vision and priorities of the SCS.

Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS)

- 2.56 The status of the RSS, published in 2008, is currently uncertain since a recent judgement found that the coalition government's actions to revoke Regional Spatial Strategies were not legal. However, the government remains committed to abolishing the RSS and therefore it is anticipated that the strategy will be revoked in due course. Despite the inevitable deletion of the policies and targets of the RSS, some of the research and evidence base behind it remain useful and relevant to the continued development of vision, aims and objectives for the future of Peterborough.

Local Economic Assessment

- 2.57 A Local Economic Assessment is currently being prepared. This will provide both an overview of Peterborough's current economic landscape as well as detailed assessment of its risks and opportunities. Preceding jobs targets have been considered to have been challenging (1,000 pa net) but this year alone has seen a boost of over 3,000 jobs being created. Although there have been losses too, many announced redundancies have resulted in redeployment, creating a net growth around 2,000.

Local Enterprise Partnership

- 2.58 Peterborough has recently joined with the Cambridge and Cambridgeshire in the Greater Cambridgeshire-Greater Peterborough Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP). This has recently been approved by the coalition government, and demonstrates a clear economic ambition for the wider area. The process and structure of the new LEP are in process of being defined, but even in the generation of the bid, relationships between neighbouring authorities have been enhanced to levels that have not been experienced previously. This means that there is much greater likelihood for collaboration on all growth agendas (whether purely economic through investment and job creation, or through housing growth and the provision of infrastructure). Some key priorities are already coming forward from the partnership and it is clear that the focus will need to be high-level and strategic, and opportunities need to be seized around skills development, alternative funding mechanisms and infrastructure (both hard and soft).

Sub-Regional Economic Strategy 2008 - 2031

- 2.59 The Sub-Regional Economic Strategy (SRES) for Peterborough presents the vision for the economic well-being of the sub-region for the period 2008-2031. The vision and priorities contained in this SRES are derived from assessments of the Peterborough regional economy.
- 2.60 The SRES aims to deliver sustainable growth by building upon the sub-region's strengths and opportunities and tackling the weaknesses and threats identified. This is a long-term challenge that will require significant prioritisation to manage expectation and build for sustainable growth.

Local Development Framework (LDF)

- 2.61 The LDF is gradually replacing the City Council's adopted Local Plan. The first document that is due for adoption is the Peterborough Core Strategy which will be presented to Cabinet in February 2011. It shares an identical vision to that of the SCS and has been assessed as sound by the Planning Inspectorate following public examination.
- 2.62 Other LDF documents are also being prepared, including a Site Allocations DPD, a City Centre Area Action Plan and a Planning Policies DPD, together with a number of Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)

Growth Trajectories

Support for Growth

- 2.63 Peterborough’s growth targets set by the RSS were welcomed by the council and its partners. Despite the revocation of the RSS, the Leader of the Council has reaffirmed the Council’s ambition for growth (see press release of 7 June 2010).
- 2.64 Partners, however, recognise the challenges that remain in order to maintain momentum and continue to generate the right atmosphere for growth, through increasing social community infrastructure, education and skills, quality of life issues and attracting additional high grade jobs to the city.

Growth Strategy

- 2.65 As part of Peterborough’s commitment to growth, and growing the right way, an Integrated Growth Study (IGS) was commissioned to provide vital evidence on how this can be achieved in a sustainable manner. The IGS is a key element in the evidence base for the Core Strategy. The integrated nature of the study has resulted in a comprehensive review of all key policy, strategy and local planning documents as well as the aims and ambitions of key stakeholders, strategic partners, and the wider community.
- 2.66 Extensive consultation has been held with Peterborough’s communities and stakeholders on the issues, visions and generic concepts for growth patterns to ensure as broad consensus as possible for proposals.
- 2.67 The preparation of options for sustainable growth has been based on a robust analysis of the potential options, through the development of a comprehensive spatial baseline that has enabled identification of opportunities and constraints to development and allowed analysis of potential areas suitable for growth. The IGS recommended spatial option focuses on a pattern of growth including city centre and district centre intensification along with specific urban extension, and limited growth in the rural areas.

Growth Targets

- 2.68 The table below sets out the progress that has been made to achieving the growth targets (as of 1st April 2009), and rolls forward the targets to 2026.

Dwelling provision for 2001 to 2026	Number of Dwellings
Net additional dwellings achieved (2001 to 2009)	6,892
Additional dwellings required to meet RSS minimum figure (2009 to 2021)	18,108
Additional dwellings required to compensate for assumed losses in dwellings (2009 to 2021)	171
Total outstanding requirement (2009-2021)	18,279
Dwelling Provision for 2021 – 2026	
Additional dwellings required to ensure continuity of supply to (2021 to 2026)	7,100
Additional dwellings required to compensate for assumed losses in dwellings (2021-2026)	71
Total requirement (2021 to 2026)	7,171
Dwelling provision to 2009 to 2026	
Total outstanding net requirement (2009 to 2026)	25,450

- 2.69 As such, provision will be made for the development of a minimum of approximately 25-26,000 additional dwellings over the period from 2009 to 2026.

Peterborough Housing Trajectory

- 2.70 The Housing Trajectory will be updated each year to take into account the number of completions, losses and dwellings on sites with planning permission. A new Housing Trajectory will be included in the Core Strategy and updated each year in the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR).

Spatial Strategy for the Location of Residential Development

- 2.71 The overall development strategy, as set out in the emerging Core Strategy, is to focus the majority of new development in and around the urban area of the City of Peterborough, creating strong, sustainable, cohesive and inclusive mixed-use communities, making the most effective use of previously developed land, and enabling a larger number of people to access services and facilities locally.

City Centre Intensification

- 2.72 The need to increase provision of housing in the city centre was a common theme emerging from the consultations on the Core Strategy and IGS. Development would be expected to 'kick-start' regeneration of the area as a vibrant activity hub for the rest of the city, where an increased number of people living in the centre will provide a greater market demand and associated opportunities for the development of a vibrant night time economy and associated improvements in local leisure, recreation, employment and retail provision.
- 2.73 The City Centre Area Action Plan (CCAAP) will set out the coherent planning and phasing of development in the city centre.

District Centre Intensification

- 2.74 In and adjacent to District Centres and Local Centres, the Council will encourage schemes for residential intensification. These areas cover the five District Centres of Peterborough: Bretton, Hampton, Millfield, Orton and Werrington. They comprise some of the former township areas that have been identified as having the capacity for significant growth through the exploitation of in-fill sites, increased density, redevelopment of existing-use sites (surface car parks) and market and policy-led residential development.
- 2.75 Intensification of this nature should deliver considerable regeneration benefits and secure the long term sustainability of social facilities. Other benefits likely to result from this would be the potential for an improved transport network through increased patronage and demand, with the opportunity for the instigation of high quality sustainable transportation modes.

Urban Extensions

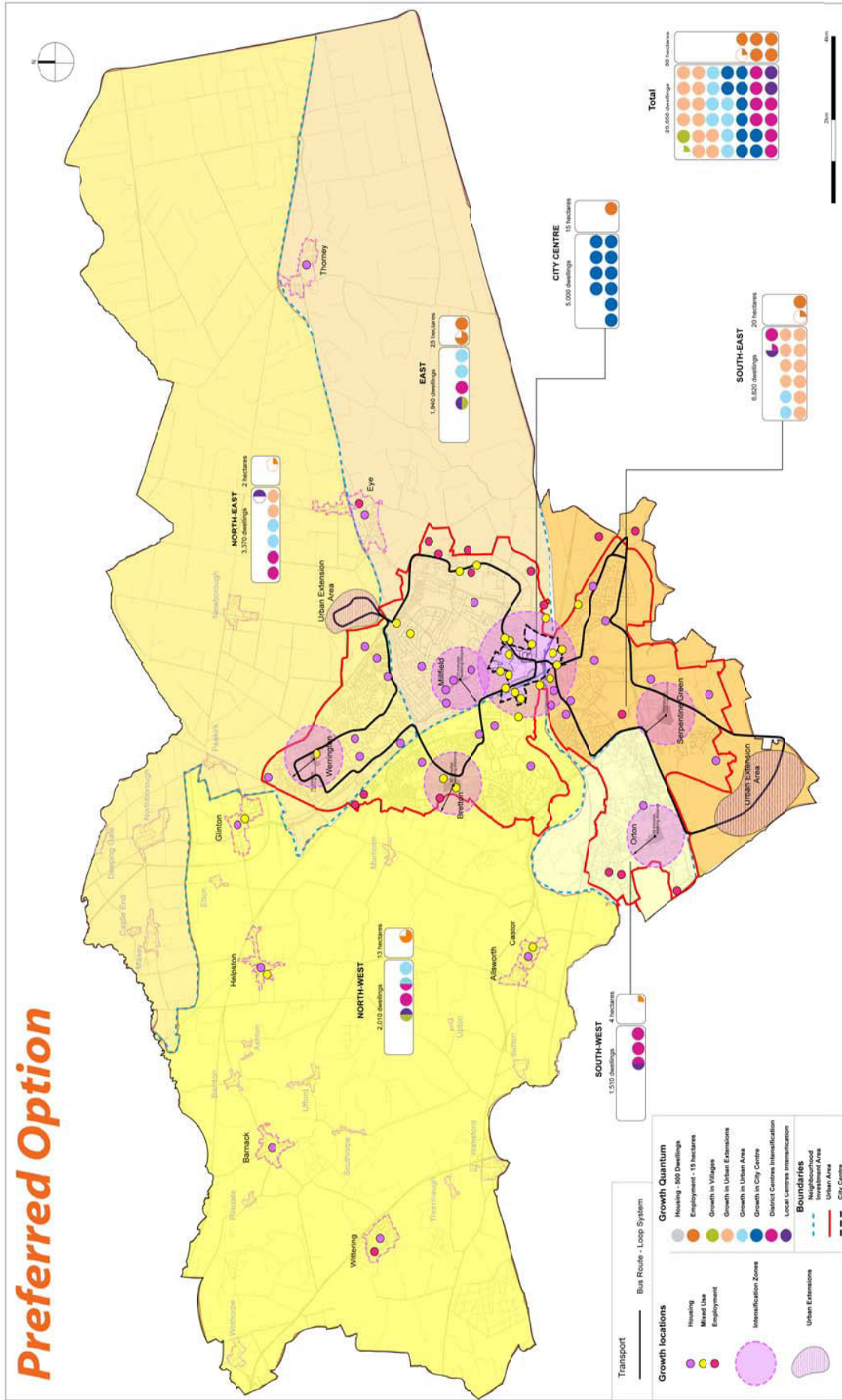
- 2.76 Urban extensions provide an opportunity to deliver a large proportion of the city's new growth. Sustainable new communities can be created by using the best principles of urban design, and modern design and construction. They can support existing communities through combined social capital and new environmental infrastructure, and offer the opportunity for enhanced public transport systems and the expansion of Peterborough's Green Wheel network. Urban extensions also offer the potential for greater speed of delivery with land coming forward more readily with fewer inherent constraints and issues.

- 2.77 The scale of housing growth that Peterborough seeks means that there will need to be significant reliance on urban extensions to deliver not simply dwellings, but complete sustainable, inclusive, mixed use communities. Learning from best international practice, urban extensions should be designed and delivered as exemplars in sustainable living.
- 2.78 The emerging Core Strategy identifies two new urban extensions namely; Great Haddon and Norwood. It also reaffirms existing urban extensions yet to be completed / commenced, namely; Hampton, Stanground South and Paston Reserve. The locations for the proposed new urban extensions (i.e. those not already committed) are based on the evidence and conclusions from the IGS, which examined all potential alternatives against a comprehensive range of constraints information and evaluation criteria.

Rural Settlements

- 2.79 In the rural area of Peterborough, residential development is planned to be on a comparatively modest scale, in accordance with the approach of the RSS and national planning policy, but offering scope to maintain the sustainability and vibrancy of villages and a degree of choice in the location of new dwellings, including affordable rural housing. The strategy is based on the settlement hierarchy which is founded on the evidence of the Peterborough Settlement Hierarchy Study 2007 and 2009 study update. The Core Strategy has full details on numbers and settlements chosen for limited growth.
- 2.80 **Summary**
A summary of the growth aspirations is shown in the figure below. This is an extract, as the Preferred Option, from the Integrated Growth Study. This has been amended slightly by the Core Strategy, through its consultation process, but the principles remain the same.

Preferred Option



3: OPPORTUNITIES AND ISSUES ARISING FROM THE STRATEGIES AND EVIDENCE BASE

Introduction

3.1 The following table sets out Summary of Peterborough’s Development Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) arising from the previous chapter:

Summary SWOT

Strengths	Opportunities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ambition and priority area for increasing levels of housing and employment growth • Choice of land available for a range of uses • Well-defined sub-regional catchment area in areas such as employment and retail • PCC to drive forward growth • Effective business engagement • Strong cluster of environmental technologies, goods and services (EnviroCluster) • Strong manufacturing base, particularly engineering • Important service provision sector, particularly finance sector • Strategic location in relation to transport network, well connected to the national road and rail network in all directions • Significant food and drink sector • Established media, publishing and printing sector • Recent increase in start up rates for new businesses • Beacon Council for improving accessibility to services (via public transport) • Good record of major transport scheme and project delivery • Green Wheel Infrastructure • Low wage economy • High average road speeds • Geographical location in relation to London, eastern ports and wider UK • Growing educational sector with the potential to develop an HE presence • Home of environment capital brand 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing health sector • Growing banking, finance & insurance sectors • Environmental technologies cluster and developing climate change agenda (opportunity to develop local markets to recycle locally recovered materials) • Exploiting the city centre in terms of under used assets • Potential to develop city-centre tourism and cultural activities • Increasingly important recreational and entertainment location • Potential to build on average level of research and development (R&D) knowledge-based industries • Sustainable Travel Demonstration Town pilot scheme to be ‘mainstreamed’ • Ideal location for Distribution industry (ideal for logistics in sending recovered materials for recycling) • Significant Government funding available to boost house building industry • Proximity to Cambridge as a tourism and high tech investment centre • Political and corporate support for growth • Low average property prices relative to the rest of the Greater South East • Opportunities for more efficient land use in urban area • Improved and more proactive planning department.

Weaknesses	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor brand and image • High incidence of low growth and low skilled sectors • Lower than national average educational attainment • Lack of higher education facility • Lack of investment in cultural, sport and entertainment amenities • Continued flow of inward investment from foreign-owned companies • Limited high tech sectors • ~ Low level of high end jobs • Lack of growth in net capital expenditure • New town infrastructure maintenance legacy • Potential restrictions to spatial growth due to limitation of energy supply. • Railway station is a poor entrance to Peterborough • High number of LSOAs in upper deprivation quartiles • High number of homes in the private sector fail to meet the Decent Homes Standard • Low development values makes new schemes difficult to deliver 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pace of technological changes • Economic restructuring with regards to manufacturing and resulting threats of globalisation in key supply chains • ~ Low aspirations and expectations • Declining environment in townships due to age • Falling top 50 retail town centre ranking and competition from surrounding settlements • Growing traffic congestion • Fringe retail areas under pressure due to city centre developments • Declining net capital expenditure • High level of people not in education, employment or training (NEETs) • Low education attainment • Impact of credit crunch and national/global recession on the development and house building sectors • Low skills, low wages • Falling house prices leading to reduced gross development values which compromise delivery viability and anticipated planning gain • Main house builders have ceased volume residential development in the short term • Decline in social cohesion • Pressure on public services from growing but transient migrant population • Rise in deprivation • Higher crime

Package Approach

3.2 With the benefit of the evidence and other information set out in the previous chapter, plus the SWOT analysis, we now turn to the principal opportunities for, and constraints to, growth. If Peterborough is to realise the shared vision, and to achieve its targets for economic/employment and housing growth, in a manner that is both sustainable and desirable, we believe that it must set out a coherent strategy on a *spatial* basis and a *thematic* basis. We created these ‘packages’ as part of the preparation of the IDP, but they remain applicable to this LIP. However, for brevity purposes, only a brief summary of the packages are described below (with fuller details in the IDP).

3.3 The ***Spatial Packages*** are grouped under the following four areas:

City Centre
Neighbourhood Areas
Urban Extensions
Other Growth

3.4 The ***Thematic Packages*** are grouped under the following headings:

Transport
Education
Environment
Utilities and Services
Employment / Economy
Community Infrastructure
Housing and Affordable Housing

Spatial Package: City Centre

3.5 The city centre is a key priority for Peterborough and its partners. The IGS, Core Strategy and emerging City Centre Area Action Plan (CCAAP), seek to create a strong, vibrant centre that will serve Peterborough and its sub-region. They will provide the detailed framework for the revitalisation and expansion of the city centre by identifying the opportunities for a range of commercial, residential, social, transport, environmental and physical benefits.

The reasoning behind the focus on the city centre is self-evident. In spite of all the benefits gained from the New Town period, one shortcoming was the lack of investment in the city centre. This has meant that with the UDC's closure in the late 1980s the city centre did not have in place a diverse infrastructure or level of residential occupancy to make it economically sustainable. For example, where other cities have relatively higher densities of residential occupancy in their centres, Peterborough's is extremely low: Peterborough's 9 dwellings per hectare as opposed to say, Bath, at 42 dw/ha.

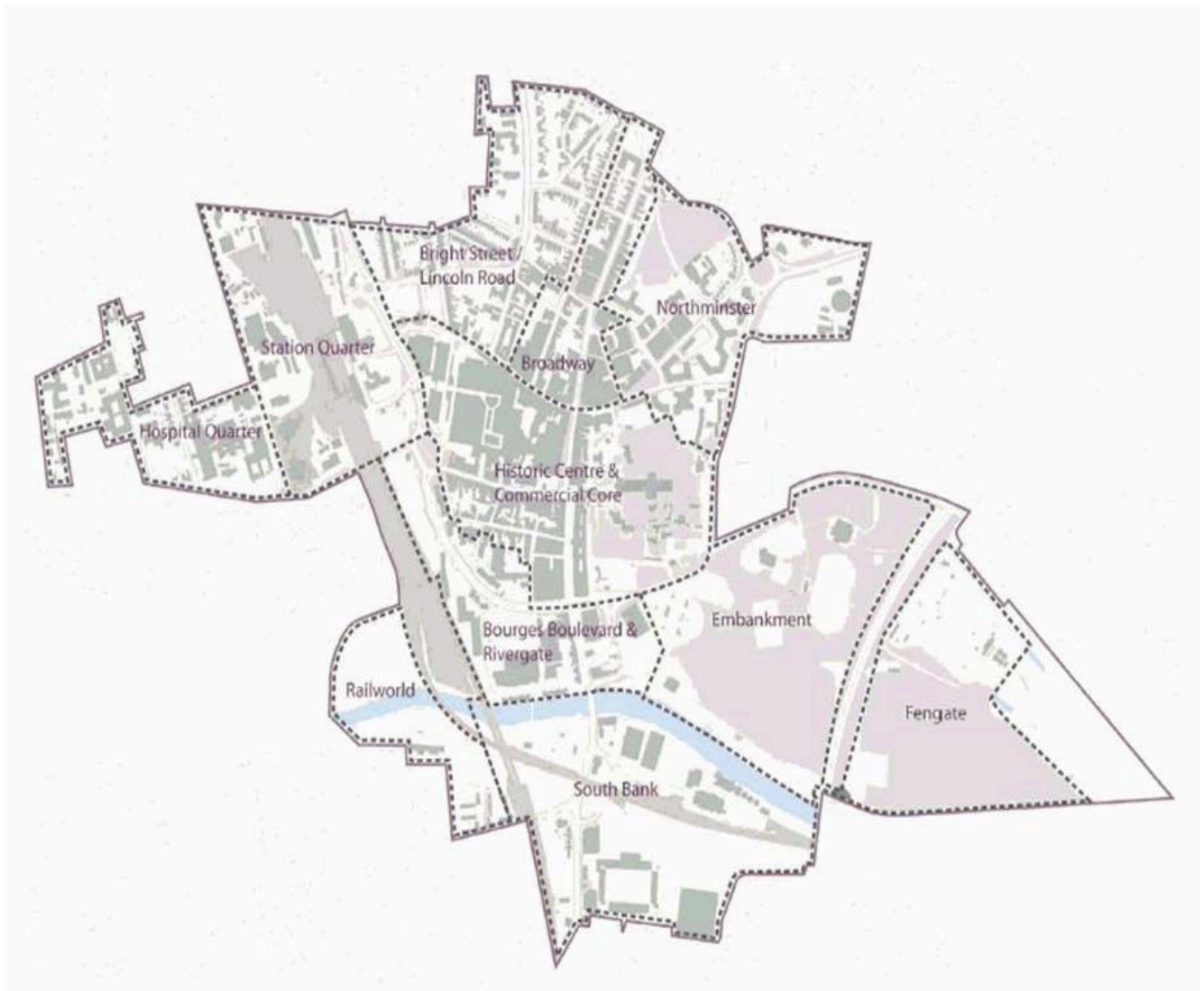
Other examples around the country e.g. Milton Keynes and Kings Lynn have all demonstrated that a focus on city centre regeneration has led to wider economic growth by creating a flagship 'label' for the city. This focus does need to be kept in balance with wider opportunities, but without it, the cultural, retail, leisure, residential and other key economic drivers are not in place.

3.6 Key proposals include:

- An expanded centre with a greater number and range of retail uses, businesses and facilities
- An accessible centre with high quality public transport and a safe, convenient environment for pedestrians and cyclists
- A greater role for the key attractions of the Embankment, the River Nene, the Cathedral Precincts, Stanley Recreation Ground and Cathedral Square
- A major increase in city centre living
- Focus areas of potential regeneration and enhancement to enable these objectives, most critically at South Bank, the City Hospital site, the Railway Station area and the Northminster commercial area.

- 3.7 Infrastructure costs will be significant. The provision of public sector funding will be important for delivery given the marginal or commercial nature of several of the schemes.
- 3.8 The city centre boundary is shown below.

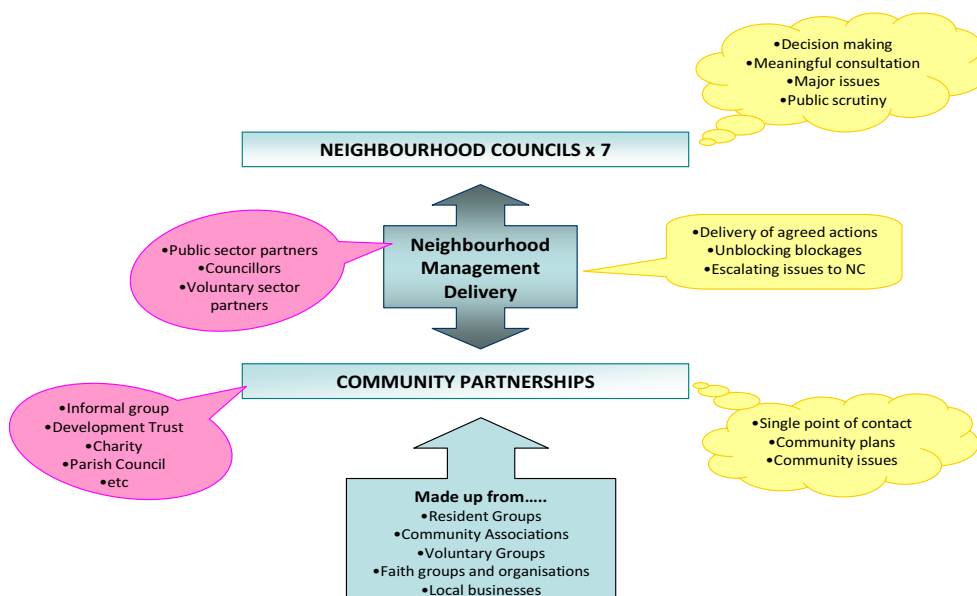
Figure 8-1 : City Centre Opportunity Areas



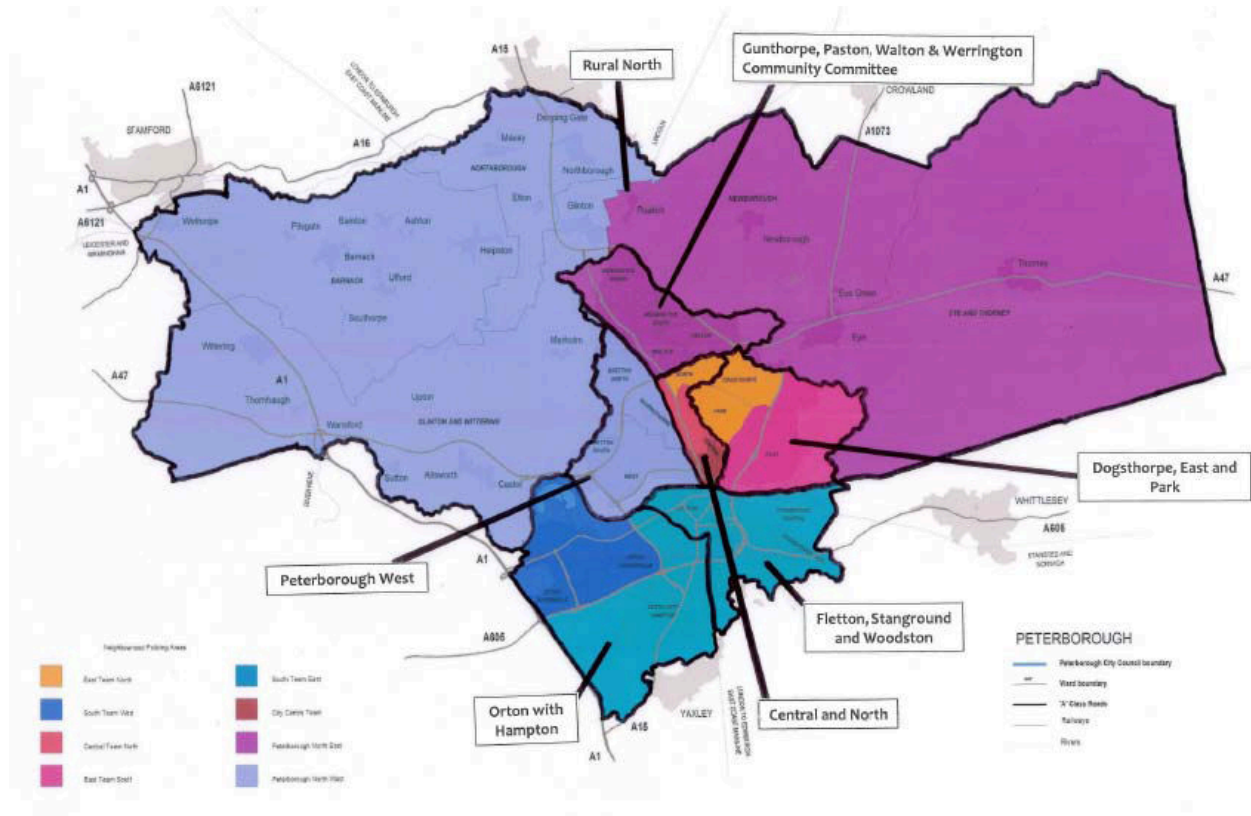
Spatial Package: Neighbourhood Areas

- 3.9 Significant growth during the 1970s-80s at the time of the New Town Development Corporation was focused around the creation of new “townships”; namely Bretton, Orton and Werrington. The “township” label fell away and was replaced by ‘district area’, which was more flexible in accommodating both existing areas and the ‘new’ township areas of Peterborough.
- 3.10 Peterborough has five district areas; the three mentioned above plus the existing area of Millfield and the most recent area known as Hampton.
- 3.11 Neighbourhood Management Areas were developed as a mechanism to manage and support communities in the context of the growth agenda, with the aim of preparing neighbourhood management plans for each area in partnership with the local community to identify key interventions for future growth.

- 3.12 As originally conceived, the districts were fashioned as almost 'self-contained' areas where people could live, play and shop. Subsequently, the decline in family size and increase in mobility has gone some way to reducing the viability of a number of the older district centres. However, there are opportunities to revitalise the districts and enable the existing areas to feel the benefits that the growth agenda will bring. It has been identified within the IGS and emerging Core Strategy that this can be achieved through the intensification and re-development of those existing communities.
- 3.13 These areas of Peterborough have therefore been identified as having the capacity for significant growth through the exploitation of in-fill sites, increased density, redevelopment of existing-use sites (surface car parks) and market and policy-led residential development.
- 3.14 **Neighbourhood Councils:** On 18 May 2009 PCC approved the appointments of Chairmen of Neighbourhood Councils. There are 7 Neighbourhood Councils across the city aligned to the new Neighbourhood Management model. The first public meetings were in October 2009.
- 3.15 Neighbourhood Councils are made up of elected members, with standing invitations being issued to Parish Councils, Youth Council, Police Authority, Fire Authority, members of the public and other relevant local bodies, such as schools and community and voluntary groups. There will be the opportunity for such groups to take part in the meetings and express their views, but they will not have voting rights.
- 3.16 Neighbourhood Councils are a mechanism to devolve decision making to local areas. The meetings are held quarterly in each locality, allowing local communities greater opportunity to become involved in planning future provision and services and influence decisions made affecting their area. Community Groups and residents are involved in the development of Neighbourhood Plans which will determine development need, actions and priorities for the short, medium and long term. Neighbourhood Councils provide the strategic lead in the delivery of the Plans, whilst providing local communities the opportunity for meaningful consultation before recommendations and decisions are formally taken. Community Partnerships are being developed to drive the operational delivery and ensure the link between the community and Neighbourhood Councils is robust. (See below diagram).



The plan below shows Peterborough's Neighbourhood Council areas



Spatial Package: Urban Extensions

- 3.17 The spatial pattern of growth needed to achieve the City's growth targets requires a select number of urban extensions.
- 3.18 Depending on the location(s) chosen, new settlement extension(s), plus new business extension(s) would require significant initial infrastructure development. A significant proportion would be met by the developer directly. It is, however, envisaged that a degree of wider infrastructure provision will be required in order to unlock such key and significant growth and funding for this need to be identified and secured. In addition it is important to ensure other parts of Peterborough benefit from the growth and opportunities associated with this.
- 3.19 The emerging Core Strategy identifies major urban extensions at Stanground South, Paston Reserve/Norwood and Great Haddon. These urban extensions could offer much in terms of delivering sustainable growth at scale. Consolidated, rather than dispersed, urban extension(s) could become demonstration sustainability projects in their own right: a single large extension could be self-sustaining, achieve high levels of environmental sustainability (quasi-eco town) and even offer enhanced facilities for neighbouring communities. It could also offer the opportunity for enhanced public transport systems and encourage the expansion of the Green Wheel network.
- 3.20 Urban extensions also offer the potential for greater speed of delivery with land coming forward more readily and fewer inherent constraints and issues.

Spatial Package: Other Growth (city infill and other settlements)

- 3.21 In addition to focussed growth in the city centre, urban extensions and via the ‘neighbourhood’ initiatives, other growth will come forward in the city, as well as growth in outlying settlements and rural areas. These, either singularly or cumulatively, will have significant infrastructure implications.
- 3.22 By their very nature, it is hard to be specific about what those demands will be or quantify precise infrastructure needs or costs. As such, only estimates of costs and needs can be made, and often can not be spatially specific in where they will be needed. Through the remaining part of this chapter and elsewhere in this LIP, we have attempted to make reference to this ‘other growth’ and associated infrastructure need, but express caution at its use. It is likely to be an underestimate of need, rather than over estimate, reflecting the difficulties in predicting the ‘unknown’.

Thematic Package: Transport

Introduction

- 3.23 The development of the Transport element of the LIP has been influenced by the emerging national policy agenda for transport and Peterborough’s SCS. Towards a Sustainable Transport System (TaSTS), Dft 2008, sets out the Government’s response to the recommendations of Stern on the economics of climate change, and Eddington on transport’s contribution to economic growth and productivity. TaSTS set out the Government’s proposed approach to strategic transport planning to 2014 and beyond, and identified five broad goals for transport:
- Tackle climate change;
 - Support economic growth;
 - Promote equality of opportunity;
 - Contribute to better safety, security and health;
 - Improve quality of life and promote a healthy natural environment.
- 3.24 Proposals for putting this approach into practice were set out in the subsequent document Delivering a Sustainable Transport System (DaSTS), DfT Nov 2008. DaSTS identified the challenges to delivery of these five goals on the national, international and cities and regional networks. It also identified cross network challenges. The underlying principle of DaSTS is to understand the role of transport in supporting strong economic growth in a low carbon world.
- 3.25 Final Guidance (July 2009) for local authorities on preparing their third Local Transport Plan (LTP3) indicates that the DaSTS goals will replace the shared priorities for transport set out in LTP2 guidance. The City Council is currently working towards LTP3 and the challenges, vision and transport options could change as we develop that LTP3. Full details will be published in April 2011, though emerging LTP3 proposals are now being consulted upon and are available separately.

Peterborough’s Transport Challenges

- 3.26 The transport issues facing Peterborough, both now and in the future as a result of the growth agenda, have been assessed and mapped against the DaSTS goals. This has allowed the transport challenges against each issue to be identified.

Transport Vision (Note: this work is still under consideration by the City Council)

3.27 Development of the Transport Options is allowing a Transport Vision for Peterborough to be developed: a Vision that would address the many challenges facing Peterborough whilst meeting the goals of Developing a Sustainable Transport System (DaSTS). The vision under consideration is set out under the following headings, with full details to be announced shortly:

- **Smart Choices:** “Smart Choices” is a way of giving the necessary travel information about alternative ways of making a journey, particularly by an alternative mode.
- **Walking / Cycling:** Peterborough will be a “connected city”, with the walking and cycling network enhanced to remove or at least minimise barriers to travel.
- **Public Transport:** Frequent buses, high quality bus station, park and ride and potentially a wider range of solutions such as tram, cable car, parry people movers, transport modules, driverless taxis and Light Rapid Transit.
- **Highway:** A wide variety of improvements, from maintenance to speed control to information
- **Rail:** Various improvements to the train station, possible new stations and a possible rail freight are under consideration
- **Freight:** plans being drawn up with the aim of directing the flow of extraneous HGV traffic from Peterborough’s urban roads onto the parkway network

Thematic Package: Education

Introduction

- 3.28 There are three aspects: provision for Children, for Young People and for Adults.
- 3.29 Provision for Children and Young People includes: full day care, pre-school education and Children's Centres for under 5s; primary, secondary and special schools for 5 – 16 years olds; school sixth forms, sixth form and skill centres for 16 – 19 year olds; play facilities, extended schools, before and after school and holiday clubs; social care and additional facilities for those children who need extra support; youth provision for out of school activities for 13 – 19 year olds; Connexions for careers advice and more targeted support.
- 3.30 The increasing population in Peterborough is leading to a shortage of school places at both primary and secondary level. Investment in school buildings has led to 130 additional reception places being delivered by September 2011, and at least a further 60 by September 2012. Expansion is also planned for the secondary sector, with on former school building being re-used and other schools increasing their capacity.
- 3.31 Ormiston Bushfield Academy has managed to retain planned investment under Building Schools for the Future. Plans for the Orton Longueville and Stanground are on hold, following the suspension of the BSF programme. Arthur Mellows has changed its status to become an Academy.

Multiversity Initiative : Our vision ... your opportunity

- 3.32 Peterborough's education, public and private sector leaders are united behind a credible plan to achieve a significant expansion in further and higher education provision over coming years.
- 3.33 Rather than relying on a 'single entity' university approach to achieve this goal as exists at present, Peterborough will develop a 'multiversity' model. This means that it will attract the best resources from a range of institutions to provide business-relevant knowledge and skills to support the economic growth of local companies.
- 3.34 Peterborough represents significant potential growth in students numbers for higher education institutions in a declining home market experienced in other parts of the country. Over the next decade, it is aimed to attract over 10,000 higher education students to Peterborough – there are currently fewer than a thousand students. The factors that underpin and support this target are:
- 1) no decline in the number of 18-year-old school leavers over the next decade
 - 2) creation of 25,000 new homes
 - 3) creation of 20,000 new job.
- 3.35 Businesses have an opportunity to help shape the design of higher education courses so that they reflect their own commercial requirements. This means that students will qualify with skills and knowledge that are immediately usable, giving employers a valuable commercial advantage in increased productivity and profitability.

- 3.36 Students will enjoy the vibrant lifestyle and leisure benefits available in the Peterborough area, with study centres located close to the heart of the city's attractions.
- 3.37 Higher education will help residents achieve their full potential, giving them the skills and knowledge to secure rewarding careers and their lifestyle aspirations.
- 3.38 While take-up of formal higher education in Peterborough is lower than average, the area is home to world-class expertise in diverse business sectors, including environmental, engineering and financial services. The EnviroCluster initiative, established in 2002, exploits the expertise of the UK's largest cluster of companies offering environment-related goods and services. Peterborough is a city committed to stimulating the creation and growth of new businesses supplying environmental products and services.
- 3.39 Other major employers play significant roles in the operations of multi-national businesses in areas such as engineering, financial services, agriculture and good manufacturing and media services. These and many other local businesses place a high premium on the value of up-skilling their people. In many cases, employers seek further education training in association with Peterborough Regional College and City College Peterborough, (formerly Peterborough College of Adult Education).
- 3.40 Recent research among 120 companies revealed strong support for a 'Skills Pledge' while 35% of respondents expressed interest in setting the skills agenda for Peterborough. This emphasis on skills development represents a rich market for higher education and other training institutions. Peterborough's 'multiversity' approach represents 'bankable' benefits for higher education and other training institutions and for the 70,000 plus businesses and one million people living in the sub-region.
- 3.41 Institutions can quickly and cost-effectively develop new opportunities targeting a virtually untapped market of more than one million people living in a higher education 'cold zone' within a 40 minute drive time radius of Peterborough. Potential partner HEIs will have limited and controlled financial exposure with opportunities to negotiate framework agreements and memoranda of understanding to ensure clarity of purpose. Private sector partners and developers can agree procurement and development partner models that meet their needs such as special purpose or asset backed vehicles.
- 3.42 Growth in higher education provision in Peterborough will inevitably attract further inward investment and expansion opportunities, leading to additional returns on investment. Potential higher education partners offer secure risk options and potential for flexibility in design and uses of assets. The design and operation of facilities also offers early entry points for 'seed-corn' funding contributions, providing the basis for longer term, profitable public-private partnerships.
- 3.43 The business community is encourage to help design and deliver Peterborough's 'multiversity' proposals because the education and training programmes will focus on delivering graduates with valuable, work ready skill. The programmes will offer knowledge transfer, research, bespoke tuition and other business support opportunities that will contribute to business success.
- 3.44 This commercial focus will be emphasised further through the encouragement of innovative new business ventures, with space made available to nurture start-up and grow-on enterprises. We believe that our visionary multiversity approach needs first class facilities from which these new educational and training opportunities can be delivered.
- 3.45 Integral to this vision will be a 5,000 sq m state of the art facility occupying a prime location on the South Bank of the River Nene in Peterborough city centre. This iconic facility will offer a range of complementary services, including high quality professional training, conference, events and business meeting accommodation, supported by outstanding social and leisure opportunities.

- 3.46 The multiversity will build upon existing provision. A joint venture between Anglia Ruskin University and Peterborough Regional College – with the support of Peterborough City Council – secured £9 million funding for the construction of a 3,000 sq m University Centre Peterborough (UCP), which opened in October 2009. UCP offers a range of full and part-time higher education programmes designed to equip student with work ready skills to support local businesses. This investment also supports the growth in numbers of local people following degree level studies and is increasing the number of students progressing from further education to higher education.
- 3.47 In addition, Anglia Ruskin University plans to open a refurbished facility in the south of Peterborough to deliver a range of health-related professional tuition courses that are currently provided at the Peterborough District Hospital. These programmes include midwifery, radiography, physiotherapy and veterinary science.

Universities@Peterborough: a multiversity strategy to the accelerated development of higher education

- 3.48 Peterborough’s vision is to establish and develop higher education provision that encompasses teaching, research and business support activities across a broad range of academic disciplines that fully meets the needs of both its residents and businesses, both within the city but also, over time, within its hinterland which is the largest and deepest HE ‘cold zone’ for the take up of HE in the country. Furthermore, Peterborough will become the recognised destination of choice for HE students not only residing in the sub region but also nationally and internationally with the ultimate objective of significantly contributing to general wealth and social well being of the area, in addition to providing greater opportunity for all.
- 3.49 To achieve this, a ‘multiversity’ partner strategy has been adopted (a single provider approach not being viable in the current public funding climate) – initially six universities have agreed to work within a collaborative and complimentary framework to deliver the HE provision required. The multiversity approach aims to combine the strengths and specialism’s of partner providers which will result in them deliver more than the sum of their individual parts.

Aims and objectives

- 3.50 The multiversity proposal for Peterborough and surrounding region seeks to address the issues and meet the objectives listed below:-
- Reduce the number of young people leaving the region to go university (Peterborough and surrounding region is a net exporter of students – people leaving to go off to university rarely return resulting in the lowering of the number of higher skilled young people for employment in local businesses)
 - Accelerate the growth in student numbers studying in the City
 - Provide more choice of provision to learners
 - Increase the range / level of HE provision
 - Provide a choice of HE provider
 - Create world class ‘centres of excellence’ for teaching, research and development
 - Enhance and widen funding opportunities
 - Meet the needs of local learners with a variety of learning modes
 - Be adaptive and respond to changes in market demand (new providers can be added as required)
 - Be flexible with providers varying provision as appropriate
 - Combine resources and lower costs
 - Provide support, advice and knowledge exchange opportunities to local businesses

3.51 Funding

- **Revenue:** The project is 'pump primed' by the Peterborough City Council. This funding covers the costs of a dedicated Project Manager, certain advertising and promotional events and materials.

Going forward, the on going day-to-day costs of HE delivery will be met by each individual institution, as is normal, with assistance from Peterborough City Council as required.

Upon creation of the partnership into a single financial entity, income, expenditure and the cost of future development will be met within this mechanism.

- **Capital:** Recognising the limitations of attracting public funding for this initiative, Peterborough City Council is embracing the challenge and opportunity to build the foundations of its university on well proven commercial models.

- 3.52 A developer will be selected and appointed that will create a university campus similar to that of 'Regis' style office accommodation i.e. reception, library, catering, student services will provided centrally and form part of the 'service' charge whilst rooms and other areas are rented, leased or hired as required by users. This model offers HEI partners a low cost entry option and forward costs in step with use / income.

Thematic Package: Environment and Green Infrastructure

Environment Capital

- 3.53 Peterborough continues to build on the Environmental City status awarded in 1991 and has committed itself to creating the UK's Environment Capital by adopting this as one of the key priorities in its SCS 2008 - 2011.
- 3.54 This priority is also referred to in the LDF and plays a key role in ensuring that environmental sustainability is central to the city's growth plans.
- 3.55 Peterborough's cluster of low carbon and environment goods and services is one of the largest in the country. It embraces a wide range of businesses from consultancies (such as Royal Haskoning, Roulton and LDA) and government agencies (Natural England, JNCC) through to major environmental engineering giants such as Dresser Rand. UKCEED, the UK's Centre for Environmental and Economic Development is based at the city's Eco-Innovation Centre, which has already reached capacity (with 35 businesses) and is looking to grow further in 2011.
- 3.56 Peterborough is also leading the way in innovative new ways of ensuring sustainability. Its Integrated Growth Study was a seminal assessment of how a city can grow in a sustainable way, and this has been the foundation of the City Visualisation system ('the Peterborough model'): a pioneering web-based platform created by a partnership of IBM, Royal Haskoning, Opportunity Peterborough, Peterborough City Council and Green Ventures. This has received international coverage and several major cities are looking to exploit its structure and tools.
- 3.57 The city has recently launched its 'Home of Environment Capital' campaign, which is receiving coverage among major national media outlets. It is vital that this claim is supported by substance, and this LIP seeks to underpin the aspiration through the nature and delivery of its growth agenda.

- 3.58 Both economically and in the provision of new housing, Peterborough can lead the way in environmental performance, and through the City Visualisation model, measure and demonstrate that performance. Economically, the city will focus on developing its environmental sector: the recently commissioned LCEGS (Low Carbon and Environmental Goods and Services) study identifies those parts of the sector 'ripe' for growth. These include advanced manufacturing, the development of bio-renewable technologies, and potentially electric car systems, development, manufacturing and maintenance. Peterborough is also leading the way in water management research and technology, through its cluster, government agencies and Anglian Water. All of these initiatives will not only provide jobs growth and re-profile the city but offer opportunities for joint working with major Higher Education institutions, thus underpinning the city's skills agenda.



Peterborough's Eco-Innovation Centre – launched 2008

- 3.59 Environment City status (leading to 'Home of Environment Capital') in and of itself is as much a 'state of mind' as to how a city approaches sustainability issues. For example, having adopted the initiative, Peterborough also became one of three Sustainable Travel Demonstration towns, working with all local developers and employers to seek to reduce their car-borne trips to work along with other initiatives.
- 3.60 Specific sectors were not targeted under this initiative: there is a balance to be struck between environmental aspirations and economic realities. Logistics and distribution is a key sector for employment in the city, and this should not be undermined: rather, the companies involved in that have been supported (through initiatives such as Travel Choice) to adjust their working patterns.
- 3.61 The environment sector itself is a particular strength for Peterborough – providing a high profile cluster to support inward investment campaigns and also providing opportunities to develop the higher skilled economy that Peterborough is seeking to rebalance (ref. Peterborough Integrated Growth Study – Economic Scenario testing).

Green Infrastructure

- 3.62 Access to quality open space and biodiversity is a key factor in prompting community well being, health and maintaining a high quality of life. The Peterborough IGS has identified that in order to ensure that existing and new communities can maintain appropriate access to green infrastructure, an additional 182ha of open space and 47ha of local natural reserves are required as a minimum for the amount of development proposed.
- 3.63 In addition to this, is the protection and enhancement of the Green Grid Network for both recreational and leisure uses as well as for its nature value. For all of these types of spaces the issue of ownership is important to ensure and maintain public access.
- 3.64 A Green Grid Strategy was produced in 2007. The strategy draws up a strategic framework and action plan for green space provision throughout the Greater Peterborough area, to ensure that Peterborough's growth goes hand in hand with the protection and provision of quality green infrastructure. The Strategy seeks to provide a comprehensive vision to improve the quality, quantity and connectivity of the area's green spaces and to identify proposals for capital projects that will be realised in the short medium and longer term.

Public Realm

- 3.65 The overarching vision for public realm improvements is to create a vibrant and sustainable city centre scene. Changing the pattern of movement through it; capitalising on great assets such as the river and historic buildings including the Cathedral; and facilitating a huge expansion in the number of visitors and residents in the city centre making it much more of a 24 hr location for activity.
- 3.66 Realising the vision is dependant upon following a programme of phased delivery of public realm improvements.
- 3.67 The implementation of Phase 1 of the public realm enhancements has already proved hugely successful. With assistance from a wide range of bodies, including HCA (EP as was), CLG and EEDA, the city council and OP instigated a major £12m transformation programme, which included the removal of the unsightly and obstructive 'Corn Exchange Building', clearance of the main square of clutter and the installation of fountains, floodlighting, bespoke furniture and high-quality shared surface stone pavements.
- 3.68 The work has been included by national organisation, English Heritage, in a forthcoming publication on exemplary work in conservation areas, and has been held up by regional bodies as an example of best practice. It is underpinning major marketing campaigns for the city and is sparking genuine interest among investors.



The new Cathedral Square, illuminated at night

Thematic Package: Utilities and Services

Introduction

- 3.69 In order to achieve “a bigger and better Peterborough”, there will be an increasing demand placed on the utilities within Peterborough particularly energy use and supply, water infrastructure, waste management and digital connectivity. This package identifies the additional infrastructure requirements, highlighting those that will require public sector intervention.
- 3.70 Whilst indicative, the most important investments within this package are (with full details in the IGS):
- Water - Capacity increases for Flag Fen waste treatment works to process the city’s waste water and sewerage output within environmental constraints. Without this occurring Peterborough cannot meet or approach its growth targets for dwellings numbers and new employment locations. This element of infrastructure is managed by an external partner, Anglian Water.
 - Energy - Provision of a city ESCO to deliver not only the energy requirements needed for the planned growth within the city but to do so in a way that reduces CO₂ emissions linked to Peterborough and also reduces the costs associated with the massive investment in electricity network that is currently required for growth to be achieved. This infrastructure requires public intervention.
 - Waste - Provision of an Energy from Waste (EfW) facility, an Anaerobic Digestion facility and improved recycling facilities in Peterborough. Collectively these will encourage more dry recycling, divert waste from landfill, turn food waste into fertiliser and create renewable energy that could help to heat or power nearby areas of the City.
 - Digital Connectivity – Create a digital infrastructure for the unitary authority, to ensure that Peterborough remains a competitive location for businesses in addition to enabling the improved delivery of public services and an enhanced standard of living for local residents.

Thematic Package: Employment

- 3.71 Peterborough needs strong economic development delivery. There is broad agreement that the city has significant economic potential. Opportunity Peterborough (OP) has now been refocused to deliver key economic development services. OP's refreshed business plan sets out how the company needs to focus its activities to provide maximum support during the remainder of the 2010/11 financial year.
- 3.72 There are a clear number of priorities that OP needs to take forward successfully over the remainder of 2010/11. This section seeks to identify key priorities that will be taken forward:
- a) Delivering a strong, visible, memorable marketing programme for the city
 - Encourage partner's to own and promote the City's brand via e.g. Peterborough Bondholder scheme, weblinks, corporate literature and in the media
 - Deliver visible marketing campaigns to attract prospective investors
 - Support the delivery of the city's environmental ambitions across the media
 - Work with local businesses to reinforce their 'successes' within the media
 - Use multimedia to promote Peterborough effectively (including delivery of Biz Map)
 - b) Supporting local business ambitions
 - Implement a 'business engagement' framework that will guide the range of agencies that interact with business
 - Support key sectors – OP will deliver/facilitate and support measures via the Cambridgeshire Enterprise Service legacy grant
 - Support businesses to resolve 'growth blockages' – such as skills and planning
 - Proactively attract new investment and business – targeting growth sectors and companies
 - Secure investment to improve the attractiveness of the City
 - c) Creating the conditions to increase skills level across our communities
 - OP will gain a firm understanding of the skills agenda; both current and future needs
 - Champion 'skills' with local business to increase partners knowledge of future needs
 - Work with providers to encourage targeted delivery that meets business demand
 - Support partners in delivering improved access to higher/further education
 - d) Increase our knowledge of the local economy and utilise intelligence effectively
 - Produce a Local Economic Assessment for the City
 - Use economic data to drive decision making
 - Work with local businesses to ensure OP understands wider economic activity
- 3.73 Relative to both the national and regional picture, Peterborough is comparatively less reliant on its public sector employment (Source: Annual Business Inquiry, Workplace Analysis, Employees, SIC 2003,2008). Clearly this will be impacted by public sector cuts at local authority level. In Peterborough, there are likely to be in the region of 280 redundancies (although regrettable in every sense, this represents only a little over 1% of the public sector employment numbers). Implications of the Coalition Government's proposed restructuring of the health service are still unknown at this stage: although it is intended to lead to greater performance quality, choice and efficiency, it is unclear how that will be delivered in practical terms and therefore its impact on staff numbers.

- 3.74 Attracting Government departments to the city cannot be seen as a panacea to this employment issue. It offers opportunities, however, not only in terms of direct employment (on average, only 50% of existing staff move with a department when it relocates, providing 50% of staffing numbers for local recruitment initiatives) but also in ‘service’ industries to support the new arrival (through education for the children of incoming employees, to retail and food sales for overall staff contingent).

Thematic Package: Community Infrastructure

Health and Well Being

- 3.75 The following key drivers are seen as change agents for the future delivery of health and well being services for the Peterborough population over the next 10 years:

- Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- Living Longer: Living Well – NHS Peterborough Five Year Strategic Plan
- Strategic Service Development Plan – SSDP
- Older Persons Accommodation Strategy
- Greater Peterborough Health Investment Plan
- Carbon Management Strategy
- Commissioners Investment Asset Management Strategy
- Putting People First – national concordat for adult social care

Adult Social Care:

- 3.76 The City Council and PCT are working to review and replace over time Council owned care homes to meet the changing needs of local people. The assets released as a result of this project will be either sold or in some cases the sites will be retained with a view to existing building being replaced with new build re-provision through working and investment partnerships.

Culture, Sport and Recreation

- 3.77 A growing and vibrant area depends in part on all residents having access and opportunity to participate in a range of cultural sporting and recreational facilities and activities. Culture and sport is recognised as having broad ranging benefits of enabling communities and individuals to come together in a positive and non threatening environment. Participation can help them grow and achieve physically, mentally, socially and academically. It is Peterborough’s aspiration to ensure true access for all in society to a broad range of facilities and activities. We will work to update our existing programmes and infrastructure as well as develop in new and innovative directions.

Thematic Package: Housing and Affordable Housing

Affordable Housing

- 3.78 Affordable housing has played a significant part in the growth of new housing in Peterborough. The number of market homes being built in Peterborough has continued to fall since the housing market peaked in 2007. Despite this trend, the overall number of homes built across the authority continued to rise, mainly due to an increase in the number of affordable homes being built. The table below shows the increasing contribution that affordable housing has made to annual new build housing figures in recent years.

Year	Total number of completions	Number of affordable completions	Affordable, as percentage of total completions
2005/6	862	91	11%
2006/7	1265	231	18%
2007/8	999	234	23%
2008/9	1049	446	43%
2009/10	1125	708	63%

- 3.79 The figures for last financial year clearly demonstrate that affordable dwelling completions dominated the housing market locally, accounting for over 60% of the total completions. This surge in RSL completions, in a recession year, led to Peterborough bucking the national and regional trend for housing completions, which showed an approx 40% fall on the 2001-2009 average.

Investments between 2005 and 2010

Key investments in Peterborough over the past 5 years are shown in the table below (including some units which are funded but not yet delivered).

Investment in the delivery of new homes

Investor	Capital Funding	Outputs delivered (to be delivered)
HCA	£65,374,850	1590
Joint HCA and PCC	HCA - £15,174,442 PCC – £2,500,499	390
PCC only	£4,178,000	111
S106 (developer contribution) and nil grant	£0	99
Kickstart and Homebuy Direct	£8,942,258	433
Total	£96,170,049	2623

3.80 Meeting Housing Need

Peterborough City Council's proposals for meeting housing needs are set out in the Core Strategy Proposed Submission. This sets a target for 30% affordable dwellings and 20% of dwellings to Lifetime Homes standards on housing sites delivering 15 or more units, plus an additional requirement to deliver 2% of units as wheelchair adapted homes on sites delivering 50 or more dwellings. These requirements take into account current and future need as identified through the SHMA and also economic viability as calculated by the Affordable Housing Viability Study 2009. The study does acknowledge the impact on costs arising from the requirements for Lifetime Homes standards and provisions for wheelchair adapted properties and suggests that 'it is an area that needs to be kept under review in terms of practicalities, costs and impacts - as part of the overall expectations from schemes.' The affordable housing target provides a balance between the requirements of need and viability that will ensure the delivery of affordable housing to meet the need of the current and future residents of Peterborough.

3.81 The tenure split for affordable housing provision recommended by the Core Strategy is 70% social rented and 30% intermediate housing. The evidence to support and justify the required tenure split originates from the SHMA completed in March 2008. This tenure split was reaffirmed as appropriate by the Affordable Housing Viability Assessment 2009 and more recently by the SHMA update report completed in July 2010. However, the Coalition Government's plans for radical reform to the social housing system including planned levels of investment in affordable housing, future tenure types and rent levels for social housing, will present significant challenges for the council and its Registered Provider partners to delivering this tenure split. The 'Local decisions: a fairer future for social housing' consultation paper proposes that all local authorities will be required to publish a Strategic Tenancy Policy. The function of this policy will be to set out the broad objectives to be taken into consideration by social landlords regarding their individual policies on the grant and reissue of tenancies. The council recognises that it is vital that we engage with all our Registered Provider partners to ensure a mutual understanding of strategic priorities relating to the future of affordable housing in Peterborough in response to these proposed reforms. Discussions are underway with our partners in response to the proposals and we will use the Affordable Housing Provider's Forum as a means of pursuing this dialogue as planned legislation is introduced

3.82 Affordable Housing Programme of Development

Peterborough's Affordable Housing Programme aims to ensure the sustainable delivery of affordable and specialist housing, which will make significant in-roads to meeting the needs of those in unsuitable accommodation and those looking to set up their own home who can't afford to meet their housing needs on the open market.

3.83 The affordable housing programme for Peterborough anticipates delivery of 330 units of affordable housing during 2010/11 with a planned expenditure of £16,422,333 on the schemes that will complete during the year. In addition to this, it is expected that private developers will provide an additional 90 Homebuy Direct homes during the year as a result of allocations from the Kickstart programme. While this still remains a substantial affordable housing programme in the current economic climate, it represents a significant reduction in the number of RSL dwelling completions when compared to the previous financial year. This reduction in affordable homes completions is expected to impact on the total number of completions in the city in 2010/11.

3.84 To ensure that growth in Peterborough continues to focus on creating mixed and sustainable communities, affordable housing need to maintain a strong role in the future housing market and securing funding for new schemes will be fundamental to this objective.

- 3.85 Peterborough City Council will actively explore with its Registered Provider partners, the potential for using publicly owned land as a catalyst for the delivery of new homes, within a robust financial context. A dialogue has already been initiated by the council, to set up a collaboration agreement with interested Registered Provider partners with the aim of bringing forward new housing projects in the city that would provide a range of property types and tenures including affordable homes.
- 3.86 The Council also has an affordable housing capital fund which is funded from resources received on an annual basis as a result of the agreement for a Large Scale Voluntary Transfer of council housing stock to Cross Keys Homes (CKH) in October 2004. The terms of that transfer agreement provide that during the first ten years following the stock transfer the Council will receive part of the sale proceeds from Preserved Right to Buy transactions. The Council's Capital Strategy states that whilst these receipts form part of its overall corporate resources, the Council is committed to using it to pump-prime opportunities for future affordable housing schemes, in partnership with Registered Social Landlords.
- 3.87 **Future Affordable Housing Programme**
The Peterborough Strategic Housing Market Assessment update 2010 identified a need for 1008 new affordable homes per year. In order to meet the breadth of need identified in the SHMA, the future affordable housing programme needs to encompass a range of tenures, units sizes and unit types across a variety of sites. Four themed priorities have been identified to ensure the delivery of Peterborough's affordable housing preferred options.
- 3.88 These priorities aim to include the full scope of affordable housing schemes that the council is working with its Registered Provider partners to provide both now and in future, to meet the need and growing demand for affordable housing in the city as part of Peterborough's sustainable growth agenda.
- 3.89 The delivery of BME housing schemes has not been identified as a separate theme for our affordable housing preferred options. Our existing approach of working with our RP partners is to ensure the provision of a wide range of affordable property types and sizes and the delivery of schemes in a variety of locations across Peterborough's neighbourhoods. This includes areas with a strong localised ethnic identity.
- 3.90 This approach to delivery along with the Peterborough's choice based lettings (CBL) housing allocations policy (which operates a single housing register administering all RP lettings within the Peterborough area) means that housing applicants can choose to bid for property based on its size, type and location and will be considered for that property based on their identified level of need. In this way, the range of needs and cultural preferences within the community can be addressed within the priority themes identified below without designated culturally specific schemes that may or may not be selected by housing applicants through the CBL process.
- 3.91 Approximately a third of applicants on the Peterborough Homes housing register are from applicants from BME groups. As of January 2011, around 32.4% of the 7,116 live applications were from BME households. The breakdown of applicants by ethnicity is shown in the table below. The BME group with the highest representation is 'other white background'; a category which will include many of the migrant households that have moved to Peterborough since the accession of the A8 countries to the European Union in 2004.

Ethnicity	Number of apps	% of total	Ethnicity	Number of apps	% of total
African	164	2.3%	Other Asian background	259	3.6%
Bangladeshi	7	0.1%	Other Black background	58	0.8%
British	4796	67.3%	Other White background	892	12.5%
Caribbean	38	0.5%	Other Mixed	49	0.7%
Chinese	4	0.1%	Pakistani	183	2.6%
Indian	35	0.5%	Portuguese	209	2.9%
Irish	48	0.7%	Traveller	3	0.04%
Italian	28	0.4%	White and Asian	9	0.1%
Kashmiri	2	0.02%	White and Black African	8	0.1%
Not Stated	15	0.2%	White and Caribbean	17	0.2%
Other	292	4.1%	Total BME (exc British + 'not stated')	2,310	32.4%

3.92 The following table shows the breakdown of lettings through Peterborough's CBL scheme by ethnicity for the period 1 April to 31 December 2010. In the quarter Oct- Dec 2010 the percentage of total lettings to BME households very closely reflects the current level of BME applicants on the housing register.

Lettings by Ethnicity

Ethnicity	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	Apr-Jun 10		Jul-Sep 10		Oct-Dec 10	
African	6	2.14%	9	2.67%	11	3.75%
Bangladeshi	0	0%	1	0.30%	0	0%
British	207	73.93%	256	75.96%	197	67.26%
Caribbean	0	0%	0	0%	1	0.34%
Chinese	0	0%	1	0.30%	0	0%
Indian	1	0.36%	1	0.30%	1	0.34%
Irish	3	1.07%	0	0%	1	0.34%
Italian	0	0%	1	0.30%	3	1.02%
Kashmiri	1	0.36%	1	0.30%	0	0%
Not stated	1	0.36%	2	0.59%	2	0.68%
Other Asian	8	2.85%	11	3.26%	10	3.41%
Other Black	3	1.07%	0	0%	2	0.68%
Other	14	5.00%	11	3.26%	12	4.10%

Other Mixed	1	0.36%	1	0.30%	1	0.34%
Other White	18	6.43%	29	8.60%	34	11.60%
Pakistani	6	2.14%	4	1.19%	6	2.05%
Portuguese	10	3.57%	8	2.37%	11	3.75%
White Asian	0	0%	1	0.30%	0	0%
White and Black Caribbean	1	0.36%	0	0%	1	0.34%
		100.00%		100.00%		100.00%

3.93 Delivery of Affordable Housing on Urban Extensions

As already identified, the development of urban extensions has a major role to play in delivering Peterborough's aspirations for growth. Urban extensions have the capacity to deliver not only housing, but complete sustainable, inclusive, mixed use communities that provide infrastructure, transport, education and community facilities.

3.94 The capacity for substantial provision of affordable homes on urban extensions makes them key to the delivery of Peterborough's future affordable housing programme. The urban extensions at Hampton, Paston Reserve and Stanground South are already delivering units and contributing to the growth of Peterborough. Hampton and Paston Reserve have already provided 681 additional affordable homes during the 3 year period up to 31st March 2010. This equates to 48% of the overall provision of affordable housing during this period. Stanground South has started to deliver its first affordable housing during this financial year with an anticipated total of 40 affordable homes being delivered on this site by the end of 2010/11.

3.95 Detailed below are all the identified urban extension sites which between them could deliver approximately 17,800 dwellings of which around 5,340 could be affordable homes.

Urban Extension	Total number of units	Indicative number of affordable units	Affordable units delivered 07/08 -09/10
Hampton	7500	2250	641
Paston Reserve	1200	350	40
Stanground South	1500	440	
Great Haddon	5300	1600	
Norwood	2300	700	

3.96 The scale of development on urban extensions provides the opportunity to deliver a range of unit types that can cater for different types of identified need, such as extra care housing provision, larger family homes or bungalows.

3.97 Government funding through the Kickstart Delivery Programme was awarded for two tranches of the Hampton urban extension. This will enable the delivery of a further 221 homes (including 3 affordable and 92 Homebuy Direct units) up to March 2012.

3.98 Peterborough City Council's commitment to the delivery of affordable homes on urban extension sites is has been demonstrated by the award of capital funding to a partner Registered Provider to enable the delivery of 80 affordable homes on the Stanground South urban extension in the next three years.

3.99 Delivery of Affordable Housing on other Urban ‘ Infill’ Sites

The delivery of infill development in Peterborough’s urban, neighbourhood and city centre areas plays an important part in the supply of additional new-build affordable homes in Peterborough. Planning policy requires 30% provision of affordable homes on sites of 15 or more units. Infill development sites enable a range of affordable units types to be provided in a range of locations throughout Peterborough delivering rural, city centre, high density, low density or suburban affordable homes. Infill development sites tend to be accessible, close to amenities, served by public facilities and generally appropriate infrastructure already exists. These benefits mean that infill sites can enable the development of specialist need affordable homes within existing communities.

3.100 In Peterborough, during recent years, infill development has transformed the appearance of sites across the city such as a former sewerage works, derelict buildings, under utilised land, vacant factories/warehouses and garage parking courts. This type of development needs to be sensitive to their existing surrounding area. Alongside the visual improvements which infill residential development can create, there can also be a number of social benefits which the regeneration can deliver including a reduction of crime/antisocial behaviour and improved social interaction between different sections of the community. As well as generating homes, they can also provide enhanced community facilities including investment in local infrastructure such as schools and improvements to existing services such as bus routes.

3.101 The city council works closely with its partner Registered Providers to deliver schemes led by the RP which generate 100% affordable housing. These schemes often enable the delivery of specialist units, such as adapted wheelchair units, to meet a specific need. The delivery of 100% affordable housing schemes is of particular importance as it delivers affordable units on sites where planning policy does not require any affordable units.

3.102 Delivery of Affordable Housing in Rural Areas

The delivery of affordable housing in Peterborough’s rural areas is vital to ensuring the sustainability of our rural communities.

3.103 The proposed allocation in the Core Strategy of approximately 1500 dwellings in rural locations (of which around one third are already committed) in the period of the strategy up until 2026, is divided between the three tiers of rural settlement size identified in Peterborough;

- approximately 600 dwellings between Peterborough’s two largest villages identified as key service centres with the greatest capacity for expansion
- approximately 450 dwellings between the eight villages identified as having the capacity for limited growth
- approximately 50 dwellings in the remaining small villages.

3.104 The site size threshold for requiring affordable housing on residential schemes in Peterborough’s rural areas is 15 units or more, as in its urban areas. Due to the size and scale of development in rural areas, many schemes are below the threshold and therefore are not required to provide affordable housing.

3.105 A comparison between estimated gross need and supply of affordable housing in rural areas, indicates that in Peterborough’s larger key service centre rural settlements, levels of need are 7 times higher than existing supply and in the smaller villages levels of need are around 14 times higher. This largely reflects the lack of supply in affordable housing in the rural areas and the low turnover of affordable housing stock. This is demonstrated by the level of rural properties let through Choice Based Lettings during the period April 2008 and October 2010. A total of 4678 properties were allocated during this

period and of these, only 184 were rural lettings. Furthermore, 115 of the rural lettings were made in the two key rural service centres, Eye and Thorney. This means that on average only 1 in every 25 affordable homes allocated in Peterborough were in a rural area.

3.106 Peterborough's first Rural Housing Strategy adopted in 2010 identifies increasing the supply of affordable housing in rural areas as a key priority. The strategy acknowledges that delivery of affordable housing in rural areas will largely depend upon provision through s.106 obligations or development of small sites by Affordable Housing Providers. As a means of increasing the supply of affordable homes in rural locations, the objectives of the strategy include promoting the development of rural exception sites and exploring the potential of Community Land trusts. As a result, Peterborough has now set up a Rural Housing Partnership with two RSL partners and Cambridgeshire Acre, a charitable local rural enabling agency. This partnership is currently undertaking consultation with local parishes to identify those interested in developing affordable housing through exception sites.

3.107 Peterborough is also currently working with Foundation East, a charitable to establish what role they can take in the promotion of Community Land Trusts as a means of developing housing in Peterborough's rural and urban communities.

3.108 Delivery of Supported Housing Schemes

To ensure an increasing range of choice and diversity of housing provision that can contribute to addressing specialist housing need, the emerging Core Strategy recommends that 20% of dwellings on sites of 15 or more units are built to Lifetime Homes standards and that on sites of 50 or more dwellings there will be an additional requirement to provide 2% of the units as wheelchair adapted homes.

3.109 Addressing the needs of vulnerable groups requiring specialist housing is one of the considerations discussed with our RSL partners when agreeing the type and tenure of affordable housing provision on sites throughout the city.

3.110 The accommodation needs of all people who come into contact with the health and social care services provided by NHS Peterborough will be evidenced in the emerging Health and Social Care Accommodation Strategy. This strategy will replace a number of existing strategies such as the Older People's Accommodation Strategy and NHS Peterborough's Extra Care Housing Strategy and will provide a holistic approach to meeting the needs of a wide range of client groups including elderly, physically disabled and mentally disabled.

3.111 The existing Peterborough Older Persons Accommodation Strategy (OPAS) sets out a requirement to build 500 units of extra care' accommodation in Peterborough by 2016 in order to meet the needs of an ageing population and the projected growth in dementia. The provision of extra care housing is identified as a strategic priority in the Housing Strategy and also the Supporting People strategy. There are currently 179 units of extra care housing provision in Peterborough with a further 52 units on target for completion in March 2011. The target for Extra Care provision set out in the OPAS is very challenging but remains a priority for Peterborough City Council and its partners. The target of 500 units was informed by Joint Strategic Needs Assessment carried out in 2007. This target is in the process of being reviewed as part of the development of the emerging Health and Social care Accommodation Strategy. This target will need to balance the need for older persons accommodation in Peterborough with the reality of access to funding for future extra care provision.

- 3.112 The draft Vulnerable People's Accommodation Strategy produced by NHS Peterborough (to be replaced with the emerging Health and Social Care Accommodation strategy) identifies the housing issues facing people with a learning disability and/or mental health issues in Peterborough.
- 3.113 Current housing provision in Peterborough for people with learning disabilities and/or mental health issues falls into 4 categories:
- Residential Care Homes
 - Independent Living (in the community equated to a tenancy in self contained accommodation where the person lives alone or with an on-site care provider)
 - Group Homes (renting a room in a shared house with others and receiving support, either floating or on site.
 - Supported Housing (accommodation within a complex with support staff either on site 24/7 or during the day)
- 3.114 Under provision of supported and independent living options for these needs groups within Peterborough has resulted in a significant number of adults and also young people being accommodated outside of the area. This is not only an unsatisfactory arrangement for those people forced to live outside the area but is also a costly solution to individual housing needs. Gap analysis has identified a need for more provision of all categories types of housing required for people with a learning disability and/or mental health issues.
- 3.115 A review of applicants on the Housing Register who have been identified as having a medical priority that affects their housing needs is currently underway. To date the review has confirmed that 31 households with a member who is full time wheelchair user and 43 households with a member who is a part time wheelchair user have been identified as needing suitably adapted and accessible accommodation. Depending on individual circumstances accommodation needs range from houses with downstairs bedroom and bathroom facilities, ground floor flats and wheelchair adapted bungalows.
- 3.116 The emerging Housing Strategy for 2011-12 has identified addressing specialist housing need as a key theme.
- 3.117 **The Coalition Government's Housing Initiatives and impact on future delivery**
The coalition government are in the process of introducing a range of housing initiatives and policies which will have significant implications for the future delivery of affordable housing and meeting housing need.
- 3.118 **Outcome of the Comprehensive Spending Review**
The Comprehensive Spending Review, announced in October 2010, included a number of significant changes that will affect both housing development and housing need. Besides the 50% cut in central government funding for affordable housing, one of the biggest announcements in terms of finance was the 'New Homes Bonus'. Under this scheme, for every new home built the local authority will receive a 'bonus' that is the equivalent to six years in council tax receipts. This un-ring fenced grant is designed to act as an incentive for local authorities and communities that encourage housing growth. Local authorities will also receive an improved 'bonus' for every affordable home that is built, and every empty property that is bought back into use. Peterborough City Council welcomes the introduction of the New Homes Bonus, and in particular the way it recognises the additional financial and environmental pressures that high growth locations undergo as a result of the growth. However,

the New Homes Bonus will not in itself be the only source of government support needed to help facilitate and enable growth to occur. With other financial support removed (such as Planning and Housing Delivery Grant and Growth Area Funding), combined with falling land values and reduced development viability, means that finding funds to provide infrastructure to facilitate major growth remains a major challenge.

3.119 The council’s Medium Term Financial Plan to 2015/16 has estimated the following levels of grant for Peterborough arising from the new bonus. Please note that the figures take into account the ‘loss’ the council will incur due to a reduction in Formula Grant. Therefore the figures stated indicate an assumed ‘net gain’.

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
New Homes Incentive	£1.182m	£1.493m	£1.681m	£1.681m	£1.681m

3.120 Another major announcement was the introduction of a cap upon the amount of housing benefit that a household can claim. Although this change is unlikely to directly affect those already renting in Peterborough, the city may experience inward migration as families that are priced out of London seek more inexpensive accommodation within easy reach of the capital. Other changes to the housing benefit entitlement for single persons under the age of 35 will also have a significant impact upon the demand for shared house-type accommodation across Peterborough.

3.121 The government also used the CSR to announce the introduction of new ‘flexible tenancies’. If adopted, the proposals would replace the current policy that sees social landlords only award lifetime tenancies for people moving into social housing. Councils and RSLs would have the flexibility to offer new social housing tenants minimum contracts of two years.

3.122 These new tenancies will feature rents described as ‘affordable rents’ and that are charged at around 80% of the market rate.

3.123 The table below based on some initial local research, sets out the potential implications for different property sizes and types where affordable rents are applied. It provides average rents for seven areas of the city by property size and type in January 2011. Each average rent has been calculated by taking two random properties from the higher, middle and lower price brackets on rightmove.co.uk. 80% of each market rent has then been calculated in order to give a maximum figure that would be charged for each property type in each of the areas under the new ‘affordable rent’ tenure.

3.124 The average local social rent for each property type has then been calculated using current Choice Based Lettings property details and then the difference between the 80% rent and the social rent has been calculated to provide the ‘mark up’ that RSLs would generate from the new affordable rent tenure.

3.125 These figures indicate that the cost of larger accommodation would substantially increase in some areas of Peterborough, whereas for smaller accommodation the difference would be considerably smaller. Also note the difference in rental prices between areas. Under the new tenure, Hampton would become a considerably more expensive area to live in than the other areas analysed here.

	One Bed Flat	Two Bed Flat	Two Bed House	Three Bed House	Four Bed House
Hampton	£464	£601	£608	£719	£842
80% of market rent	£371	£480	£486	£575	£674
Average RSL social rent	£269	£327	£325	£340	£372
Rental 'headroom'	£102	£153	£161	£235	£302
Dogsthorpe	£416	n/a	£561	£586	n/a
80% of market rent	£333	n/a	£449	£469	n/a
Average RSL social rent	£269	£327	£325	£340	£372
Rental 'headroom'	£64	n/a	£124	£129	n/a
N Bretton	£385	£473	£550	£574	£650
80% of market rent	£308	£378	£440	£459	£520
Average RSL social rent	£269	£327	£325	£340	£372
Rental 'headroom'	£39	£51	£115	£119	£148
Werrington	£385	£400	£518	£604	£575
80% of market rent	£308	£320	£414	£483	£460
Average RSL social rent	£269	£327	£325	£340	£372
Rental 'headroom'	£39	-£7	£89	£143	£88
Fletton	£395	£493	£537	£545	n/a
80% of market rent	£316	£394	£430	£436	n/a
Average RSL social rent	£269	£327	£325	£340	£372
Rental 'headroom'	£47	£67	£105	£96	n/a
Orton Goldhay	£300	n/a	£477	£524	£565
80% of market rent	£240	n/a	£382	£419	£452
Average RSL social rent	£269	£327	£325	£340	£372
Rental 'headroom'	-£29	n/a	£57	£79	£80
Paston	£412	£596	£525	£590	n/a
80% of market rent	£330	£477	£420	£472	n/a
Average RSL social rent	£269	£327	£325	£340	£372
Rental 'headroom'	£61	£150	£95	£132	n/a
Average	£394	£513	£539	£592	£658
Average 80% of market rent	£315	£410	£432	£473	£526
Average RSL social rent	£269	£327	£325	£340	£372
Rental 'headroom'	£46	£83	£107	£133	£154

3.126 It is the intention of the Coalition Government that the implementation of affordable rents will enable RSLs to use this model to agree an investment plan with the HCA for the delivery of new affordable homes. This plan will be based on the future rental income stream from the ‘headroom’ figure over an agreed period of time. Research already undertaken by various RSLs and Hometrack has shown that the level of extra receipts at the disposal of RSLs varies significantly depending on where their housing stock is located. In terms of Peterborough’s main providers, the following table sets out the percentage of their total stock that is located in Peterborough. This may have implications for their capacities to generate funding from the new delivery model.

RSL	Current stock	Number of units in Peterborough	Peterborough stock as % of total stock
Accent Nene	18547	1637	8.8%
Axiom	2058	1081	52.50%
BPHA	16011	480	3%
CKH	9862	9772	99%
Hyde	45000	1145	2.50%
Longhurst	7972	128	1.60%
Total	99450	14243	14.3%

The role of affordable rents in delivering homes to meet housing need in Peterborough will be discussed by partners and set out in the council’s Strategic Tenancy Policy in due course.

3.127 Community Right to Build

Due to be announced in the forthcoming Localism Bill, the Community Right to Build scheme will grant groups of local people the power to give consent to new homes or community amenities. With an initial focus upon rural development, the ‘Community Right to Build’ scheme will allow communities to grant outline planning consent for development where 75% of the local population approve of the proposals. The full details of the scheme, including the likely impact upon delivery rates, are still unclear. However, what is evident is that the Community Right to Build scheme represents a noteworthy change to the existing planning system, and if adopted is likely to have a significant impact upon rural housing delivery during the lifetime of the Local Investment Plan.

4. GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE ARRANGEMENTS

Summary of Governance / Delivery Arrangements

- 4.1 The governance and management arrangements for growth currently sit with the Deputy Chief Executive's department and subsequently under the Head of Peterborough Delivery Partnership (PDP).
- 4.2 Moving forward, our Governance arrangements will be more focussed on a programme of projects to kick start delivery. The development of a Peterborough Delivery Partnership has been put in place with key partners.
- 4.3 Peterborough, through its city council and urban regeneration company, has built exceptionally good relationships with local landowners (such as Milton Estates, O&H, and the Church Commissioners) and property agents (Savills, BSM, Carter Jonas). This means that we are well-placed to develop leads, broker deals and bridge the private and public sector interests. This will only be enhanced by, and enhance, alternative funding arrangements and assist in identifying opportunities for true partnerships and joint ventures.

Finance Arrangements - Introduction

- 4.4 Having set out the issues, opportunities, needs and governance arrangements to deliver growth and associated infrastructure, it is necessary to briefly refer to the finance arrangements underpinning all of these matters.
- 4.5 In essence, the finance arrangements need to be as simple as the regulations and governance arrangements permits, but there is no hiding from the fact that getting the right funding, at the right time, from the right organisations will be complex.
- 4.6 There are broadly four sources of funding to deliver the growth and infrastructure:
 1. *Direct Private Sector spend* (including developers and utility companies)
 2. *Private Sector contributions to the Public Sector* in order for the Public Sector to spend it
 3. *'Public' spend* i.e. the spending of funding (grants, loans or other forms) received from: Europe, Government, government agencies, Lottery, etc
 4. *Joint Ventures* between Private and Public Sector

Direct Private Sector Spend

- 4.7 The vast majority of financial investment in the City will be private sector funds spent directly by the private sector. This could be from developers (i.e. building houses, employment premises, retail premises etc, together with associated on-site infrastructure) or via (the former public, but now privatised) utility providers (i.e. water, energy, telecommunication companies etc).
- 4.8 Where agreements on such contributions are not easily determined or are stalling, it is becoming more frequent for 'open book' negotiations to take place. This gives the public sector the opportunity to scrutinise the 'costs' which the developer is undertaking overall on delivering the site, so that a greater understanding can be reached by all parties on what may be a reasonable (and viable) contribution the private developer can make to wider infrastructure needs.
- 4.9 The city council endorses such open book arrangements in appropriate circumstances, and sees considerable benefits in doing so for both parties. It is also likely to speed up conclusions on appropriate financial contributions to be made.

- 4.10 This LIP is a good source of reference for the private sector (including the utility providers) in order for them to plan for their financial commitments in the City.

Private Sector contributions to the Public Sector

- 4.11 It is now common practice for developers to make financial (as well as other) contributions to the public sector in order for wider infrastructure needs to be delivered. These contributions, via a formal legal agreement (a 'Planning Obligation' agreement), have traditionally been agreed on a site-by-site basis. As part of its enabling function, council officers liaise with officers within the Planning Services team to provide comments and suggestion in relation to planning applications for housing development, specifically relating to the provision of affordable housing. In accordance with the Council's planning policy, occasionally it is agreed between the Council and a landowner/developer that rather than providing on-site affordable housing as part of a development scheme, the landowner/developer agrees to pay, via a s.106 Planning Obligation, a sum in lieu of on site affordable housing provision. The amount of any commuted sum agreed with the council's S106 monitoring team is determined by taking into account the value of the affordable housing required by planning policy and the viability of the scheme. Funds generated from commuted sums are invested in affordable housing projects within the locality of the planning application site from which the payment was triggered. However, a move towards standard charges for certain items (eg school places, libraries, etc) has become common place, and this has been taken forward further by some authorities towards an overall 'standard charge' or 'tariff' arrangement.
- 4.12 The City Council has been exploring the issue of a standard charge for sometime, and commenced such a process in 2009, based on the Council's draft 'Planning Obligations Implementation Scheme' (POIS) SPD. The final version of this SPD was adopted by Council in February 2010.
- 4.13 All funds collected via the standard charge is being pooled, and then spent on infrastructure items in accordance with arrangements set out in the POIS.
- 4.14 Whether a payment of a standard charge is made by a developer remains optional and negotiable.
- 4.15 The actual standard charges set out in the POIS reflect the infrastructure needs of the City as set out in this LIP. The charge is only a contribution to the overall infrastructure costs, and needs to be supported by substantial public sector investment. The viability of the charge on the development proposal is an important consideration.
- 4.16 Full details of the arrangements are set out in the POIS.
- 4.17 Government is planning to overhaul the 'standard charge' process, with the introduction of a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). Whilst similar to a standard charge in that there will be a locally agreed fee a developer will have to pay for each unit of development built, the CIL, if implemented by a local authority, is non-negotiable on a site-by-site basis. This will considerably streamline the process and gives considerably more certainty to developers and the public sector alike. However, on the downside, the lack of negotiation ability may result in certain sites becoming unviable.
- 4.18 The City Council is currently exploring whether it wishes to introduce a CIL.

- 4.19 The policy framework for overseeing the contributions made by developers will be in the Core Strategy and the POIS. The following emerging policy was put forward by the Council to the Secretary of State, and is currently subject to examination by an independent inspector.

Policy CS 12: Developer Contributions to Infrastructure Provision

Where a planning obligation is required in order to meet the principles of policy CS10 'Infrastructure' then this may be negotiated on a site-by-site basis. However, to speed up and add certainty to the process, the City Council will encourage developers to enter into a planning obligation for contributions based on the payment of a standard charge. Subject to arrangements to be set out in a separate Planning Obligations LDD, contributions received via this standard charge may be assembled into pools at an authority-wide level and to the relevant Neighbourhood Management Area (as described in policy CS 8).

The use of a standard charge approach will ensure that any contribution is reasonably related to the scale and type of development that is proposed. The Planning Obligations LDD will set out detailed arrangements for the operation of the standard charge and formulae based upon needs assessments, viability studies and associated business plans, which will be kept under review. The LDD will include the level of the charge for different types of development, by unit of development, and the basis for the calculation of that level of charge; any minimum size thresholds which will apply; any arrangements for pooling, including the split between the pools; any arrangements for staged payments; long-term management and maintenance of infrastructure; any arrangements to address collection and management of pools; and inflation proofing measures.

The City Council will be prepared to negotiate a variation from the standard charge(s) in cases where actual provision of neighbourhood or strategic infrastructure is provided as part of the development proposals or other material consideration. The LDD will include an explanation of where exemptions from or variations to the charge may occur.

Additional contributions may also be negotiated to mitigate a significant loss of a facility on the site, such as public open space.

In the event that the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is fully enacted and Government regulations are put in place, then the City Council may adopt such a CIL to replace the standard charge arrangements set out in this policy.

(Source: Draft Pre-Submission version of the Core Strategy, October 2009)

Public Funding

- 4.20 Recognising that the private sector will not, either directly or indirectly, fund all necessary infrastructure, the public sector must make significant financial contribution to enabling growth and infrastructure provision. The sources of such funding are wide, and range considerably in terms of access to such funds by a particular locality.
- 4.21 Examples of sources of funding are as follows:
- European funding (particular for major transport schemes or tackling deprivation)
 - Central Government Funding (such as for transport, green infrastructure, community infrastructure, health care, schools, culture. Such funding is either 'ringfenced' for direct spend on a specific item of infrastructure or (more increasingly) 'non-ringfenced', which devolves decisions on precisely what the funding is spent on to the local level)
 - Government Agencies and Quangos (such as Homes and Communities Agency)
 - The City Council's own financial resources and capital programmes
 - Lottery Funding
- 4.22 Some of these funds are automatically awarded to the City Council, though the level of fund may be determined by need or past performance. The National Affordable Housing Programme (NAHP) for 2008-2011 saw considerable HCA funding allocated for the provision of affordable housing schemes in Peterborough. As a part of the funding allocation process, the council was consulted on all bids submitted to HCA by affordable housing providers. Where scheme addressed an identified need and contributed towards the council's strategic priorities we liaised with the HCA to offer support for the proposed scheme. The new affordable housing funding regime proposed by the Coalition Government from April 2011 will not only see a major reduction in the levels of funding available for affordable housing, but also a considerable change to the relationship between the HCA and RSLs in terms of finance provision and expectations regarding the capacity of RSLs to cross subsidise and invest in new affordable homes. This change in relationship will also impact upon the role of local authorities in attracting HCA funding to the city. The Local Investment Plan and the proposed Local Authority strategic policy on tenancies will form the basis to inform both the HCA and RSL partners of Peterborough's affordable housing priorities and expectations in terms of tenure, rent levels and affordable housing allocations in Peterborough.
- 4.23 Other funding is secured via 'bidding' processes, where only selected authorities receive funding based on the bid submitted. The City is generally good at securing funds through such 'bids' and this is being strengthened by the creation of a new 'Central Bidding Team' at the City Council, which has a remit to:
- research what non-statutory grant opportunities are available
 - create a library of templates and case studies to help staff successfully bid for grants
 - identify what the city's unique selling points are to help cash in on our strengths
 - ensure each bid is commercially sound, e.g. ensuring a good return on investment
 - decide the best approach on who will apply – department, central funding unit or jointly
 - ensure each bid is written and branded consistently
 - evaluate each bid to ensure we learn from mistakes to enable successful bids in the future

- 4.24 The City Council and its partners are committed to maximising its income via all available public sources, and then effectively joining up such funds with funding from other (private) sources so that effective and efficient delivery of infrastructure can be delivered.

Joint Ventures

- 4.25 The council is looking actively at the benefits to be achieved from a range of joint ventures with the private sector, to deliver growth in the City. Work is underway, to scope the projects which may benefit from a joint venture and would otherwise be stalled.

'Tomorrow's Growth' Development Programme

1. THE PROJECT SCHEDULE AND MOVING FORWARD

- 1.1 At section 3.2 of this LIP, we identified a package approach to our programme of growth and investment needs, namely:

Spatial Packages of:

City Centre
Neighbourhood Areas
Urban Extensions
Other Growth

And ***Thematic Packages*** of:

Transport
Education
Environment
Utilities and Services
Employment / Economy
Community Infrastructure
Housing and Affordable Housing

- 1.2 This part of the LIP now takes those Packages and sets out the proposed projects for the initial 3 year 2011-2014 which will help to deliver on those package needs.
- 1.3 The schedule is intended to be the more 'live' element of the LIP, in that it can be updated quickly and frequently as and when projects are confirmed for addition to or removed from the programme. It will be refreshed from time to time, possible annually.
- 1.4 The schedule sets out and details the proposed projects for the initial 3 year 2011-2014 priority programme. These are the specific projects and project themes for which funding is sought.
- 1.5 The IDP provides an overview of the infrastructure and support Peterborough needs for the longer term period beyond 2014 up to around 2030. This document was adopted in Dec 2009 and it is intended that it will be subject to periodic refresh to ensure that it remains fit for purpose as part of the delivery programme.

- 1.6 The project themes identified below for the delivery of Peterborough’s affordable housing preferred options reflect the priorities for the thematic package for affordable housing set out in chapter 3 of this plan. These project profiles provide a more focussed explanation of how these priority themes can deliver Peterborough’s demonstrated need for a range of affordable homes. They do not identify specific schemes for potential funding on the basis that the council and its partners do not wish to constrain the potential for development to sites identified at this stage. Each of the project themes for affordable housing has been designated as a high priority for Peterborough. The findings of the recently updated SHMA re-affirms that Peterborough has a high level of housing need and that affordable housing is required across the range of tenures, property sizes and locations within the city to address this need. To enable Peterborough to maximise its potential for sustainable growth that meets the aspirations, demand and need of all of its residents, it is vital that affordable housing provision reflects the full scope of evidenced need for affordable housing in the city. Our close working relationship with our Registered Provider partners means that we maintain a clear and informed understanding of the range of sites and schemes with the potential to deliver affordable housing in Peterborough. This information along with our understanding of the housing market and housing need in the city (informed by the recently updated SHMA findings) forms the evidence behind the themes selected for the affordable housing projects. It is intended that this plan should remain fluid and responsive to the changes and opportunities that arise.
- 1.7 Following on from the housing projects identified in the schedule are a set of projects regarding proposed improvements to the City’s transport infrastructure. The primary purpose of these proposals would be to facilitate important tracts of potential development land, which would in turn lead to significant increases in housing unit numbers.
- 1.8 All of the projects put forward at this stage are major high priority growth delivery proposals. In principle the Council would like to see all of them happen, as they are all evidenced as being desirable and necessary. Prioritising between these projects would be a set of decisions that would have to be made by senior council officers and members.
- 1.9 As the LIP is intended to be a very fluid document, the specific project inclusions may be altered, added to, or deleted as considered appropriate over time.

PROJECT 1: DELIVERY OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING ON URBAN EXTENSIONS

Location

Urban extension sites have been identified at Hampton, Paston Reserve, Stanground South, Great Haddon and Norwood.

Priority

High

Description of the project

The identified urban extensions have the potential to deliver 14,000 homes of which over 4000 units could be affordable. The core strategy proposed submission identifies the tenure and unit type of affordable home which are required to reflect the demand identified in the SHMA update.

Need for the project

The Peterborough Strategic Housing Market Assessment identifies a need within Peterborough to deliver 1008 units of affordable housing per annum. The delivery of affordable homes on urban extensions is identified as a major source of future affordable housing provision. This is demonstrated by the role of urban extensions in the provision of affordable housing in recent years. They account for 48% of the overall supply of affordable housing during the last 3 years (April 2007 – March 2010).

Lead organisation

Peterborough City Council

Partner organisation involved

Registered Providers

Private Developers

Land owners

Status / stage of the project

The urban extensions at Hampton, Paston Reserve and Stanground South are already delivering units and contributing to the growth of Peterborough. The sites at Great Haddon and Norwood are less advanced but are likely to deliver growth within the timescales of this Local Investment Plan.

Project cost Estimates/Funding

Project costs will vary depending on property types and tenure and the capacity to achieve economies of scale. Estimated average cost of £115,947 per unit on a s.106 development based upon average costs from previous urban extension development where grant was provided for a mix intermediate and social rented tenure affordable units. Funding may be sought from the HCA. Other avenues of funding including the lead and partner organisations will also be explored to ensure best value for the future development of affordable housing on urban extension sites.

Outputs and outcomes

Output:

- Potential for the delivery of up to 200 affordable homes on urban extension sites per year based on previous outputs

Outcome:

- Delivery of mixed and sustainable sites.
 - Reduce number of households in housing need.
 - Meet the demand for affordable housing.
 - Provide a range of affordable tenure, unit types and sizes.
 - 10% of homes delivered will meet Lifetime Homes standard.
 - 2% of affordable homes delivered will be accessible for wheelchair users.
-

Deliverability and timescales

There are no specific obstacles to delivery of units on the sites at Hampton, Stanground South and Paston Reserve, all of which have outline planning consent. However, there is a degree of reliance on private sector partners implementing schemes to ensure infrastructure is in place to deliver affordable tranches.

The next phase of development on Paston Reserve is currently seeking planning approval. Anticipated start on site during 2011/12

The sites at Great Haddon and Norwood are deliverable within the longer term timescale of this plan.

Key risks

1. Sites with existing planning consents will be unable to deliver the agreed mix of tenure if grant input is not available.
2. Delivery is dependent upon the land owners being willing to service the land and release the affordable housing tranches.
3. The delivery of units at Stanground South and Paston Reserve is likely dependent on the involvement of a private sector delivery partner.
4. The current economic climate could prevent significant private sector investment which is required to instigate growth at Great Haddon and Norwood.

Steps taken to mitigate principle risks

1. Ongoing liaison with all key stakeholders to identify barriers to development and assist with solutions where possible
2. A flexible scheme by scheme approach to viability issues

Alignment with the vision

Delivering substantial and truly sustainable growth:

Creating better places to live – so that we provide better places to live for both new and existing communities, ensuring the highest environmental standards of new building.

Alignment with the LDF and other strategies

Sustainable Communities Strategy
Peterborough Core Strategy – proposed submission
Housing Strategy 2008-11

PROJECT 2: DELIVERY OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING ON OTHER URBAN 'INFILL' SITES

Location

In Peterborough's city centre, urban and neighbourhood areas, a wide range of infill developments either have planning permission or have been identified in the site allocations document as being appropriate for residential development.

Priority

High

Description of the project

Planning policy requires 30% affordable housing on all developments delivering 15 or more units and this will enable substantial numbers of new affordable homes. Alongside this, the city council is working with partner Registered Providers to deliver smaller 100% affordable housing schemes to meet specific local needs.

Need for the project

The Peterborough Strategic Housing Market Assessment identifies a need within Peterborough to deliver 1008 units of affordable housing per annum. Through S106 planning agreements the council is seeking a mix of tenure and unit types on these sites to reflect the housing demand identified in the SHMA update.

The delivery of affordable homes on infill developments accounted for 52% of the overall supply of affordable housing during the last 3 years (April 2007 – March 2010) and therefore the delivery of affordable housing on infill developments plays an essential role in the overall affordable housing programme.

Lead organisation

Peterborough City Council

Partner organisation involved

Registered Providers
Private Developers
Land owners

Status / stage of the project

Peterborough City Council's Housing Trajectory identifies a range of sites with existing outline or detailed planning consent and if developed these sites could deliver 163 new affordable homes.

Project cost Estimates/Funding

Project costs will vary depending on property types and tenure and the capacity to achieve economies of scale. Estimated average cost of £115,947 per unit on a s.106 development based upon average costs from previous urban infill development where grant was provided for a mix intermediate and social rented tenure affordable units. Funding may be sought from the HCA. Other avenues of funding including the lead and partner organisations will also be explored to ensure best value for the future development of affordable housing on urban infill sites.

Outputs and outcomes

Output:

- Delivery of a range of affordable homes on a variety of sites within Peterborough

Outcomes:

- Delivery of mixed and sustainable developments.
-

- Reduction in the number of households currently in housing need.
- Provide a range of affordable tenure, unit types and sizes.

Deliverability and timescales

The delivery of affordable units on infill sites is controlled by private sector developers who must facilitate the delivery of the affordable units by providing access to the site and relevant infrastructure. There are sites within the city with existing planning consents therefore anticipate delivery during 2011/12.

The tenure splits set out in existing s.106 agreements may need to be varied subject to the priorities to be set out in the forthcoming requirement for the council to prepare a Strategic Tenancy Policy in response to the Government's funding and tenure reforms.

To further enhance affordable housing delivery, the city council works closely with partner Registered Providers to encourage the delivery of full affordable housing schemes where this can be facilitated on smaller sites in the ownership of RP partners.

Key risks

1. Sites will be not deliver the agreed mix of tenure set out in the planning consents if grant input is not available.
2. The delivery of units is dependent on the involvement of a private sector delivery partner to service the site and provide necessary infrastructure.

Steps taken to mitigate principle risks

1. Ongoing liaison with all key stakeholders to identify barriers to development and assist with solutions where possible
2. A flexible scheme by scheme approach to viability issues

Alignment with the vision

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Alignment with the LDF and other strategies

Sustainable Communities Strategy

Peterborough Core Strategy – proposed submission

Housing Strategy 2008-11

PROJECT 3: DELIVERY OF RURAL HOUSING SCHEMES

Location

Peterborough City Council's site allocations document identifies a number of sites in rural areas which are suitable for residential development.

Priority

High

Description of the project

This project will see the delivery of affordable housing units which are required from PCC planning policy which expects 30% affordable housing on all sites which deliver 15 or more units. Additionally the council is actively pursuing the delivery of rural exception sites, which provide 100% affordable housing, through its partnership with Cambridgeshire Acre.

Need for the project

The Peterborough Strategic Housing Market Assessment identifies a need within Peterborough to deliver 1008 units of affordable housing per annum. The delivery of affordable housing on rural sites is crucial to the delivery of a varied affordable housing programme. Additionally the levels of need for affordable housing in rural areas surrounding Peterborough are significantly higher than the current supply.

The Peterborough Rural Housing Strategy has an objective to increase the supply and methods of delivery of affordable housing in rural areas.

Through S106 planning agreements the council is seeking a mix of tenure on qualifying sites to reflect the housing demand identified in the SHMA update.

Lead organisation

Peterborough City Council

Partner organisation involved

Registered Providers
Rural Housing Partnership
Cambridgeshire Acre (rural enabling agency)
Land owners
Private developers

Status / stage of the project

A number of sites within villages have existing planning consents and the affordable units may be deliverable with grant input.

Additionally, Cambridgeshire Acre is currently liaising with Peterborough's rural communities to enable the delivery of rural exception sites.

Project cost estimates/funding

Project costs will vary depending on property types and tenure. Estimated average cost of £94,101 per unit on a s.106 development based upon average costs from previous rural development where grant was provided for a mix intermediate and social rented tenure affordable units. Funding may be sought from the HCA. Other avenues of funding including the lead and partner organisations will also be explored to ensure best value for the future development of affordable housing on rural sites.

Outputs and outcomes

Output:

- Increased delivery of affordable homes in rural communities.
- Delivery of 100% affordable housing units on rural exception sites.

Outcomes:

- Delivery of mixed and sustainable developments.
- Reduction in the number of households currently in housing need.
- Provide a range of affordable tenure, unit types and sizes.

Deliverability and timescales

Sites with detailed planning consents could be delivered as there are no known obstacles to delivery. However, as the sites are controlled by private sector developers the delivery of the units is not within the council's control. The council continues to work closely with private sector delivery partners to enable the delivery of much needed market and affordable accommodation in rural areas.

Two grant free rural schemes are due to start on site during 2011/12.

The tenure splits set out in existing s.106 agreements may need to be varied subject to the priorities to be set out in the forthcoming requirement for the council to prepare a Strategic Tenancy Policy in response to the Government's funding and tenure reforms.

Key risks

1. Due to uncertainty regarding future grant levels, registered providers who are seeking to deliver rural housing sites with existing planning permissions are looking at options to ensure delivery without grant. If it is possible to deliver affordable rural units without grant it is likely that the tenure split which has previously been agreed will be altered to make the scheme viable and this could lead to the delivery of units which do not meet the most pressing needs of the community.
2. The delivery of units on some sites is dependent on the involvement of a private sector delivery partner to service the site and provide necessary infrastructure.
3. Failure to locate suitable sites for rural exception schemes could hamper the ability to deliver rural units.

Steps taken to mitigate principle risks

1. Ongoing liaison with all key stakeholders to identify barriers to development and assist with solutions where possible
2. A flexible scheme by scheme approach to viability issues

Alignment with the vision

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Creating better places to live – so that we provide better places to live for both new and existing communities, ensuring the highest environmental standards of new building.

Alignment with the LDF and other strategies

Sustainable Communities Strategy
Peterborough Core Strategy – proposed submission
Peterborough Housing Strategy 2008-11
Peterborough Rural Housing Strategy 2010-13

PROJECT 4: DELIVERY OF SUPPORTED HOUSING SCHEMES

Location

The delivery of supported housing accommodation can be achieved across a range of sites identified as eligible for affordable housing in Peterborough's urban and rural areas. Two sites have already been identified as appropriate for the delivery of additional extra-care accommodation.

Priority

High

Description of the project

The accommodation needs of all people who come into contact with the health and social care services provided by NHS Peterborough will be evidenced in the emerging Health and Social Care Accommodation Strategy. This strategy will replace a number of existing strategies such as the Older People's Accommodation Strategy and NHS Peterborough's Extra Care Housing Strategy and will provide a holistic approach to meeting the needs of a wide range of client groups including elderly, physically disabled and mentally disabled. The emerging Health and Social Care Accommodation Strategy will also inform the direction of the council's emerging Housing Strategy.

The nature of housing which is required to fulfill this project is varied and could include small clusters of units or large extra care housing villages. Some of this need could be met through planning policy and the requirement to provide 30% affordable housing on all sites of 15 or more units.

Need for the project

The existing Peterborough Older People's Accommodation Strategy sets a target to secure land and funding to deliver 500 extra care units by 2016. The extra care housing programme is intended to help older people achieve greater independence and well being by giving them more choice over housing and care options as well as reducing admissions to residential care homes or hospitals.

The Peterborough Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMS) identifies a need within Peterborough to deliver 1008 units of affordable housing per annum.

The Housing Needs survey associated with the SHMA identified that 18.9% of households in Peterborough contain one or more member who is within a special needs group. Of these households 19% are living in unsuitable housing and 47% do not contain any older people. Therefore the delivery of supported housing units, not solely provided for older people, is a priority.

A review of the housing register has identified 31 households with a member who is a full time wheelchair user currently living in unsuitable accommodation.

Lead organisation

Peterborough City Council

Partner organisation involved

NHS Peterborough – Primary Care Trust
Registered Providers
Land owners
Private developers

Status / stage of the project

The council is currently in liaison with land owners and Registered Providers to deliver extra care schemes in Peterborough.

The council is working closely with Registered Providers to encourage the delivery of supported housing units on small infill developments.

Project cost Estimates/Funding

Project costs associated with the delivery of supported housing schemes can fluctuate depending on the nature and scale of development. Estimated average cost of £114,955 and £158,382 per unit for supported housing and extra care housing respectively, on a s.106 development based upon average costs from previous supported housing and extra care development where grant was provided for social rented tenure affordable units. Funding may be sought from the HCA. Other avenues of funding including the lead and partner organisations will also be explored to ensure best value for the future development of affordable housing on supported housing and extra care sites .

Outputs and outcomes

Output:

- Delivery of additional extra care units to meet the target of the OPAS
- Delivery of additional supported housing units to meet identified need

Outcomes:

- Delivery of mixed and sustainable developments.
- Reduction in the number of households currently in housing need.
- Improve the supply and nature of accommodation for older people in Peterborough.

Deliverability and timescales

Some sites have been identified through s.106 agreements for the delivery of supported housing schemes. However, it might not be feasible to deliver them without grant input. Subject to the changes outlined in the Health and Social Care Bill 2011, the priorities of the forthcoming Strategic Tenancy Policy and innovative funding solutions we aim to deliver further supported housing schemes during the period 2011/12 – 2013/14.

Key risks

Supported housing schemes can be more expensive to deliver if the units must be built with specific features. Without grant, it will be difficult to deliver supported housing units.

Where site provision for supported housing is linked to s.106 conditions , lack of funding could jeopardize delivery and the site could ultimately be developed by the land owner for market accommodation.

Steps taken to mitigate principle risks

- 1.Ongoing liaison with all key stakeholders to identify barriers to development and assist with solutions where possible
2. A flexible scheme by scheme approach to viability issues

Alignment with the vision

Delivering substantial and truly sustainable growth:

Creating better places to live – so that we provide better places to live for both new and existing communities, ensuring the highest environmental standards of new building.

Alignment with the LDF and other strategies

Sustainable Communities Strategy

Peterborough Core Strategy – proposed submission

Peterborough Housing Strategy 2008-11

Peterborough Rural Housing Strategy 2010-13

Peterborough Older People's Accommodation Strategy

NHS Peterborough Extra Care Housing Strategy

PROJECT 5: A1139 FLETTON PARKWAY JUNCTION 1 TO JUNCTION 2 PARKWAY WIDENING

Location:

A1139 Fletton Parkway Junction 1 to Junction 2 Parkway Widening

Priority

High

Description of the project

The A1139 Fletton Parkway was constructed as part of the New Town phase of Peterborough's development in the 1970s. It is a Primary Route and forms part of the Parkway network of dual carriageway roads in and around Peterborough, which benefit the city in keeping long distance and through traffic out of the central and residential areas. Fletton Parkway also provides a link from the A14 (via the A605) and the A1 to the west of the city with the A16 and A47 to the east.

The project would involve widening the A1139 Fletton Parkway between Junction 1 and Junction 2, over a length of approximately 3 km, from two lanes in each direction to three. The additional lanes would be gained by extending and connecting the on and off slip roads between junction 1 and 2. There may be a need to carry out strengthening on the existing carriageway to allow an acceptable tie in between the new and existing carriageway and this work would form part of the scheme. This section of road forms a key element of Fletton Parkway, and is a critical gateway for both traffic travelling within the region and traffic travelling into Peterborough.

Need for the project

The Peterborough Strategic Housing Market Assessment identifies a need within Peterborough to deliver 1008 units of affordable housing per annum. The emerging Core Strategy proposes 30% of new housing should be affordable.

The A1139 Fletton Parkway between Junction 1 and Junction 2 carries some 60,000 vehicles per day. Planned growth will push this link beyond its existing capacity.

It is intended that the Hampton development site will eventually build around 7,500 homes located to the south of Fletton Parkway and the planned Great Haddon proposal will build around 5,000 houses, to be located between Hampton to the east and the A1M to the west.

The Great Haddon proposal will increase the pressure on Fletton Parkway and the Integrated Development Programme has identified that the developers of this project will have to contribute, if not entirely build, this widening scheme to ensure that there are no detrimental impact to the highway network in Peterborough which could compromise the economic performance of the Region.

A LIP contribution to the widening of Fletton Parkway will ease the financial constraint resulting from the infrastructure required to release development land. A contribution would allow negotiation on levels of contribution from the developers and allow them to bring forward the desirable number of affordable housing within Great Haddon development at an early stage.

Lead organisation

Peterborough City Council

Partner organisation involved

Private developers

Status / stage of the project

The planning application for Great Haddon has been submitted and negotiations for developer contributions is underway and the A1139 Fletton Parkway junction 1 to junction 2 parkway widening project is currently under investigation.

Project cost Estimates/Funding

Indicative project costs are currently estimated to be in the region of £15m. Funding is hoped to largely come from the key private developers involved in the Great Haddon proposals. Funding may also be sought from the Regional Development Fund and the HCA.

Outputs and outcomes

Output:

- Delivery of approximately 1600 affordable homes

Outcome:

- Delivery of mixed and sustainable sites
- Reduce number of residents with a housing need
- Meet the demand for affordable housing
- Provide a range of affordable tenure, unit types and sizes
- Improved access to the city centre and new employment ,leisure and other economic opportunities

Deliverability and timescales

It is anticipated that the project will state on site between 2011 and 2013, and that the works will last from 9 – 12 months.

Key risks

- The A1139 Fletton Parkway adjoins a SSSI/SCA site on its southern boundary, which could prolong the design process.

Steps taken to mitigate principle risks

- Work closely with the English Nature to mitigate the risk to the SSSI site. The wide central reservation at this location offers an opportunity to reduce or eliminate land take from the verge in the vicinity of the SSSI/SCA. It should be noted that the SSSI/SCA site also adjoins Fletton Parkway between Junction 2 and Junction 3 where the key risks were successfully mitigated.

Alignment with the vision

Delivering substantial and truly sustainable growth:

Creating better places to live and work – so that we provide better places to live for both new and existing communities, ensuring the highest environmental standards of new building.

Alignment with the LDF and other strategies

Sustainable Communities Strategy
Peterborough Core Strategy – proposed submission
Housing Strategy 2008-11

PROJECT 6: SIGNALISATION OF A47T/A15 JUNCTION 20

Location

Junction 20, located to the north-east of Peterborough at the intersection of the A47 Trunk Road and the A15 Paston Parkway Primary Route.

Priority

High

Description of the project

The scheme is to implement full signalisation of Junction 20 and increase approach widths and circulatory lanes as this is the most effective solution to mitigate the impact of allocated residential development in the surrounding area.

Need for the project

There are a number of residential developments proposed in the vicinity of Junction 20 that will build approximately 3000 properties, in particular Paston Reserve and Norwood. Junction 20 would be the primary point of access on to the parkway system and Trunk Road network for the majority of those households.

A contribution to the improvement of J20 will help to unlock the land for development and assist the planning case officer negotiate with the developers to bring forward the desirable number of affordable housing with in the vicinity of Junction 20.

Lead organisation

Peterborough City Council

Partner organisation involved

Highways Agency, Private Developers

Status / stage of the project

An initial sketch design has been prepared but requires further work

Project cost Estimates/Funding

Indicative project costs are currently estimated to be in the region of £10m. Funding is hoped to largely come from the key private developers involved in the development proposals at the adjoining land and from the Highways agency. Funding may also be sought from the HCA.

Outputs and outcomes

Output:

- Delivery of a fully signalised Junction
- Construction of additional approach lanes and circulatory carriageway

Outcome:

- Improved capacity at major route intersection
 - Improved journey time reliability
 - Reduced congestion
 - Improve road safety leading contributing to reduced accidents
 - Reduce rat running on unsuitable local roads
 - Unlock development land
 - A possible increase in the number of residential properties built in the vicinity of Junction 20
-

Deliverability and timescales

It is anticipated that the project will start on site between 2012 and 2014.

Key risks

1. Problems acquiring additional land to accommodate widening.
2. Scheme may not be delivered within scheme budget or funding window.
3. Increased congestion and reduced journey time reliability if the scheme is not delivered.
4. CRA land required to accommodate improvement

Steps taken to mitigate principle risks

1. Design of scheme altered to ensure no third party land required
2. The funding bid is based on a detailed estimate of the scheme and includes contingency optimism bias
3. Work closely with Highways Agency to agree a joint approach to the design process
4. Early involvement of HCA to address any CRA land issues

Alignment with the vision

Delivering substantial and truly sustainable growth:

Creating better places to live and work by making best use of existing infrastructure and supporting growth through transport solutions.

Alignment with the LDF and other strategies

Sustainable Communities Strategy

Peterborough Core Strategy – proposed submission

Housing Strategy 2008-11

PROJECT 7: SOUTH BANK RAIL AND RIVER BRIDGES

Location:

South Bank Development Site

Priority

High

Description of the project

The provision of two pedestrian and cycle bridges across the River Nene and East Anglia railway will build on the 'carbon challenge' ethos of the South Bank site while supporting Peterborough's ambition to achieve Environment Capital status. The bridges will achieve this by reducing the traffic impact of the development by encouraging short journeys from the South Bank Development and connected surrounding residential areas to city centre to be undertaken by sustainable travel modes. The railway bridge connects the carbon challenge site to Fletton Quays, while the river bridge continues the route on to the city centre.

Need for the project

The Peterborough Strategic Housing Market Assessment identifies a need within Peterborough to deliver 1,008 units of affordable housing per annum. The Peterborough Integrated Growth Study proposes 35% of new housing should be affordable.

The bridges will ensure the cohesion and integration of the new development and prevent the isolation often associated with socially affordable housing by linking it with Fletton Quays, which is proposed to be a vibrant mixed use development. The improved accessibility will also provide the opportunity for better lifestyle choices for South Bank residents.

The scheme will unlock 1,100 homes for development on the South Bank Site (designated a key centre for development and change). Through improved access to the city centre the structures would support the delivery of the wider city centre development which aims to re-incorporate the River Nene back into the heart of the city centre to take full advantage of the pristine waterfront available for development. A contribution to the bridges will help to unlock the land for development and assist the planning case officer negotiate with the developers to bring forward the desirable number of affordable housing.

Lead organisation

Peterborough City Council

Partner organisation involved

Private Developers – Network Rail, Environment Agency, East of England Development Agency (EEDA), EDF Energy, Homes and Communities Agency, Morris Homes to the south of the Railway, unknown private developer to the north of the Railway

Status / stage of the project

This scheme is currently under investigation. A feasibility study has been undertaken to ensure a structure could be accommodated over the railway within the existing and proposed restraints.

Project cost Estimates/Funding

Indicative project costs are currently estimated to be in the region of £15.5m. Funding is hoped to come from the key private developers and from the HCA who are involved in the proposals at South Bank.

Outputs and outcomes

Output:

- Delivery of approximately 330 affordable homes

Outcome:

- Delivery of mixed and sustainable sites
- Reduce number of households in housing need
- Meet the demand for affordable housing
- Provide a range of affordable tenure, unit types and sizes
- Improved access to the city centre and new employment and leisure opportunities
- Promotion of sustainable modes of transport Link between new and existing communities such as the South Bank, riverside uses and beyond to the city centre
- Improve community safety through design of the streetscape

Deliverability and timescales

A planning application for the Carbon Challenge site (south of the railway) was submitted during the summer of 2010 and is expected to be determined in February 2011. An initial feasibility study has been undertaken to confirm that a bridge over the railway can be accommodated within the restraints that exist and those that are expected to be imposed by the development of the Carbon Challenge site, this study also considered potential alignments for the River Bridge which will be an iconic structure on the city centre landscape. It is anticipated that the project will start on site between 2012 and 2013.

Key risks

1. Private developers do not submit a planning application for the development to the north of the railway.
2. The majority of the land within the South Bank area is owned by public bodies that are all signed up to the re-development of this area. However, there are sections of land to the south of the river which are privately owned, this may result in protracted negotiations.
3. The planning brief for the South Bank is subject to change.
4. Track possession over the rail line will be required and could take a minimum of 18 months to secure.
5. There is a high voltage power cable running across the site parallel to the railway line. This places a considerable restraint on the location and alignment of the railway bridge; however an initial feasibility study has shown that a structure can still be accommodated.
6. Environment Agency flood risk requirements will place constraints on the design of the structures.
7. Network Rail negotiations likely to be protracted due to the involvement of a private developer.
8. The structures are developed in piecemeal fashion due to funding or a slow start on the Fletton Quays development, this would result in a compromised solution.

Steps taken to mitigate principle risks

1. Work closely with developers from the initial stages.
2. If planning powers were at risk, the scope of the scheme would be reviewed to minimise environmental impact, reduce land-take or third party concerns.
3. The South Bank masterplan has been developed in tandem with the CCAAP which will include the requirement for a pedestrian and cycle bridge over the railway line and the River Nene.
4. Communications with both Network Rail and EDF Energy undertaken during both design and construction can mitigate the potential time delays caused, early dialogue with Network Rail and EDF Energy to identify programme constraints with Peterborough City Council taking the lead.
5. The bridge span can be designed to accommodate flood risk requirements, early dialogue with Environment Agency will be undertaken to identify design constraints.

Alignment with the vision

Delivering substantial and truly sustainable growth:

Creating better places to live and work – so that we provide better places to live for both new and existing communities, ensuring the highest environmental standards of new building.

Alignment with the LDF and other strategies

Sustainable Communities Strategy

Peterborough Core Strategy – proposed submission

Housing Strategy 2008-11

PROJECT 8: WEST-EAST STATION PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLE BRIDGE

Location:

Station Quarter Development Site

Priority

High

Description of the project

The provision of a pedestrian and cycle bridge from the west of the Station to the east. The bridge would connect the western and eastern sides of the Peterborough Station Quarter.

Depending on the option chosen to be taken forward the bridge may have provision for retail development integrated into the structure.

The bridge would incorporate both passenger and public movement. The bridge would also provide a strategic cycle and pedestrian link between the east and west of the city.

Need for the project

The bridge would allow :

- Access to the station from the west for rail users, the site of a future multi storey car park (and hence reduce city centre car trips by early interception before Crescent Bridge)
- Access for pedestrians and cyclists between the Peterborough Hospital Development site/Station Quarter West and the City Centre
- Access between station quarter east and west

The bridge is vital for the station quarter development, the Peterborough District Hospital development site and providing access both to and across the station from the western side of the city. The bridge would ease congestion on Crescent Bridge as people will exit Thorpe Road before crescent bridge and be able to access the station from the western side, and this will help cater for the predicted growth in rail travel. The bridge would also add the use of sustainable modes of travel from new development sites.

Lead organisation

Peterborough City Council and Network Rail

Partner organisation involved

Private Developers –Environment Agency, East of England Development Agency (EEDA), Homes and Communities Agency.

Status / stage of the project

WYG Engineering has carried out an option report through Network Rail GRIP Stage 1-3 (1. Output definition, 2. Pre-feasibility 3. Option selection).

Project cost Estimates/Funding

Indicative project costs are currently estimated to be in the region of £15 – 27m, depending upon which of a number of options are chosen for this linkway. Funding is hoped to come from private developers, Network Rail, other rail companies and the HCA.

Outputs and outcomes

Output:

- Delivery of approximately 75 to 195 affordable homes
- Unlocks Station Quarter West development potential

Outcome:

- Delivery of mixed and sustainable sites
- Reduce number of households in housing need
- Meet the demand for affordable housing
- Provide a range of affordable tenure, unit types and sizes
- Improved access to the city centre and new employment and leisure opportunities
- Promotion of sustainable modes of transport link between the east and west of the city
- Improve community safety through design of the streetscape
- Improve access to the following proposed development sites: Station Quarter, Peterborough District Hospital .

Deliverability and timescales

Discussions have been had with developers and Network Rail. WYG Engineering has carried out an option report through Network Rail GRIP Stage 1-3 (1. Output definition, 2. Pre-feasibility 3. Option selection) for the pedestrian and cycle bridge. It is anticipated that the project will start on site between 2014 and 2015.

Key risks

1. Private developers do not submit a planning application for the developments
2. A number of different developers and landowners are involved in the development of these sites
3. The design layouts are drawn against a background formed from a combination of historical topographical information and OS tile data. The layout design will need to be further developed against current and accurate topographical data to ensure the structure will fit at the preferred location and that the required minimum clearances can be achieved.

Steps taken to mitigate principle risks

1. Work closely with developers from the initial stages
2. Facilitate communications between developers to gain the best possible outcomes
3. Work closely with designers to ensure that a solution can be found

Alignment with the vision

Delivering substantial and truly sustainable growth:

Creating better places to live and work – so that we provide better places to live for both new and existing communities, ensuring the highest environmental standards of new building.

Alignment with the LDF and other strategies

Sustainable Communities Strategy

Peterborough Core Strategy – proposed submission

Housing Strategy 2008-11

CABINET	AGENDA ITEM No. 6
21 MARCH 2011	PUBLIC REPORT

Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Councillor Hiller: Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Planning	
Contact Officer(s):	Paul Phillipson Executive Director Operations Mark Speed Transport Planning Team Manager	Tel. 453455 Tel. 317471

LONG TERM TRANSPORT STRATEGY AND LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM: Joint Scrutiny - Environmental Capital, Sustainable Growth and Rural Commission.	Deadline date : 13 April 2011
(i) That Cabinet considers the Peterborough Long Term Transport Strategy (2011-2026) and the Local Transport Plan (2011-2016) and makes any changes where appropriate	
(ii) That Cabinet recommends to Council the adoption of the Peterborough Long Term Transport Strategy (2011-2026) and the Local Transport Plan (2011-2016)	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report is submitted to Cabinet following a Joint Meeting of the Environment Capital and Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committees and Scrutiny Commission for Rural Communities.

A full version of the draft Long Term Transport Strategy and Local Transport Plan can be viewed via the following link:

<http://ltp3.org.uk/>

Please note that the document has been sent electronically to save paper. However if you require a hard copy please email mark.speed@peterborough.gov.uk.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 This report is being submitted as part of the democratic process leading to the adoption of the Peterborough Long Term Transport Strategy (2011-2026) and Local Transport Plan (2011-2016) at Full Council in April 2011.
- 2.2 This report is for Cabinet to consider under its Terms of Reference No 3.2.1 'To take collective responsibility for the delivery of all Strategic Executive functions within the Council's Major Policy and Budget Framework and lead the Council's overall improvement programmes to deliver excellent services'.

Is this a Major Policy Item/ Statutory Plan?	YES	Cabinet Meeting	21 st March 2011
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Date for relevant Council meeting	13 April 2011	Date for submission to Government Dept	Department for Transport Following adoption of the LTP
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3. LONG TERM TRANSPORT STRATEGY AND LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN

- 3.1 Improving transport for everyone who lives, works or travels in Peterborough is a priority for the City Council. To provide the best possible transport service in and around the city, the Council produce a Local Transport Plan (LTP) every five years which sets out how we will tackle existing and future transport issues.
- 3.2 The LTP supports Peterborough's Core Strategy and City Centre Area Action Plan and sets out how the city's transport system will support the future growth and development of Peterborough.
- 3.3 The LTP therefore sets out what the Council aspires to achieve and the mechanisms that will be considered to help meet those objectives.

The Long Term Transport Strategy (LTTS) has been produced to:

- Align with the Core Strategy document which covers the time period up to 2026
- Support the long term growth and employment aspirations
- Give a long term vision for transport so a consistent approach can be adopted for transport through out the Core Strategy
- Support the long term environmental aspirations of the Council to become Home of the Environment Capital

4. CONSULTATION

Long Term Transport Strategy

- 4.1 The LTTS reflects the views of our residents and key stakeholders as far as practical. To achieve this, a number of consultations have been undertaken during its development including:
- A workshop held on the 1st April 2009 with stakeholders to discuss problems, issues and opportunities, together with the objectives of the LTTS
 - Dialogue with the Transport Partnership
 - Ongoing consultation with stakeholders from across Peterborough City Council
 - Workshop held on the 4th March 2010 when the LTTS was discussed
 - Cabinet Policy Forum 24th May 2010
- 4.2 In addition, a wider group of people and organisations and stakeholders have been contacted directly and asked to give us their views in relation to the development of the LTTS and the LTP.
- 4.3 The LTTS document was used as the basis for the consultation process and development of the LTP.

Local Transport Plan

- 4.4 The consultation process for the Peterborough third Local Transport Plan (LTP3) started in the summer of 2010. Overall a very wide range of consultation methods have been used.
- 4.5 In July all councillors were invited to attend a three day consultation 'drop in' event which was held at the Town Hall.

- 4.6 The consultation has been a well publicised event, in August an interview took place with BBC Radio Cambridgeshire and in September a television interview took place with BBC Look East. The consultation was also mentioned numerous times in the local newspaper, The Peterborough Evening Telegraph. **All media coverage was very positive.**
- 4.7 A LTP leaflet was distributed in the Your Peterborough magazine to **all households** within Peterborough informing them of the ideas the council was proposing to include in the LTP. A copy of the leaflet and questionnaire were also made available online.
- 4.8 255 stakeholders and interest groups were written to directly to give them an opportunity to participate in the consultation.
- 4.9 During September, council officers attended Neighbourhood Council meetings (please see following table), where a dedicated session was held to give everyone a chance to discuss the LTP with the officers:

Neighbourhood Council Meetings

Neighbourhood Council	Venue	Date
Dogsthorpe, East and Park Neighbourhood Council Meeting	Millennium Centre, Dickens Street	1 September 2010
Fletton, Stanground and Woodston Neighbourhood Council Meeting	Riverside Pavilion, Candy Street	2 September 2010
Rural North Neighbourhood Council Meeting	John Clare Primary School, Helpston	16 September 2010
Central and North Neighbourhood Council Meeting	Peterborough Sports and Leisure Club, Lincoln Road	21 September 2010
Gunthorpe, Paston, Walton & Werrington Community Committee Neighbourhood Council Meeting	Ken Stimpson Community College, Staniland Way, Werrington	22 September 2010
Orton with Hampton Neighbourhood Council Meeting	Matley Primary School, Orton Brimbles	23 September 2010
Peterborough West Neighbourhood Council Meeting	Jack Hunt School, Ledbury Road, Westwood	29 September 2010

- 4.10 On September 11th and 12th a two day public exhibition was held at the Queensgate Shopping Centre, where officers were available for questions. From October to December officers also attended meetings with various stakeholders and interest groups.
- 4.11 Full Council forms the last part of the process for this document. The consultation process has been robust and has far exceeded the minimum required for this document so no further consultation is recommended.

5. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES

- 5.1 That Cabinet will support the submission of these documents to Full Council for consideration and adoption in April 2011.

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 The statutory requirement of this document requires that it is submitted to Full Council for adoption and therefore the Cabinet is asked to support the submission of this document to Full Council for consideration and adoption in April 2011.

7. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 7.1 The only other option considered was that the Council would not write and publish a LTP. This was rejected as the LTP is a statutory document and the Council is required to prepare and publish the plan.

8. IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The document sets out the transport strategy for Peterborough for the next 15 years with a detailed policies and plan for the next 5 years. Some of the key implications are summarised below:

Financial

- 8.2 The document contains an indicative 4 year spending programme for transport funds.

Legal

- 8.3 The document has been checked for legal implications.

Corporate Priorities

- 8.4 The document has been written in line with the corporate priorities. The corporate priorities have been adopted as the priorities for transport in the document.

Environment Capital

- 8.5 The document identifies the achievement of Home of the Environmental Capital as a key aspiration. The document has had a Strategic Environment Assessment and a Habitats Regulation Assessment.

Community Safety

- 8.6 Road safety and reducing the fear of crime are key goals of this document.

Discrimination and Equality

- 8.7 The document has had an Equality Assessment carried out on it. No negative issues were raised as part of this process.

- 8.8 The document has implication city-wide and is a Statutory and Key document for the Council

Cross-Service Implications

- 8.9 Transport impacts on all departments and as such a rigorous consultation process has been undertaken. (See consultation section in this report).

9. RISK ASSESSMENT

- 9.1 The key risks to a bringing forward the transport interventions and achieving the outcomes of the LTTS and LTP are:

Development dependency

- 9.2 The implementations of some transport interventions are reliant on the expected growth on coming forward as set out in the Core Strategy. Some transport schemes reliant on specific developments coming forward. If the development does not come forward then neither will the transport scheme

Landownership

- 9.3 If third party land is required, not in the control of either the highway authority or developer then Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) powers might be required to acquire the land. However, if a development is wholly dependant on the acquisition of such land then a ransom equal to a third of the value of that development might be payable (whether or not

such a transport scheme would be in the public interest, necessary to enable CPO powers to be used).

Planning Consent

- 9.4 A transport scheme might require planning consent and / or necessary traffic regulation orders.

Priority

- 9.5 A specific transport scheme contained in the plan might be found to be unacceptable, given the balance of other non transport issues.

Funding

- 9.6 Funding might not be available, given other competing transport priorities both locally and nationally.

Smarterchoices

- 9.7 Continuation and success of increasing Smarterchoices is essential to meet the objectives of this plan.

10. ANNEXES

- 10.1 A copy of the notes from the Joint Scrutiny Meeting between the Environmental Capital and Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committees and the Scrutiny Commission for Rural Communities has been attached to this report at Annex 1.

Consultation with Scrutiny at the Joint Meeting of the Environment Capital and Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committees and Scrutiny Commission for Rural Communities held on 28 February 2011

ISSUE	COMMENT	RESPONSE GIVEN AT MEETING
General		
Accessibility of Document	Councillor Sandford raised concerns that the consultation document had been password protected on a website and that hard copies had not been circulated.	The comment on password protecting a consultation document was noted and would not happen in future consultations. However the process had not been a breach in the Access to Information rules as hard copies of the document had been made available at the Town Hall Reception and libraries and would also have been supplied upon request.
CHAPTER ONE - INTRODUCTION		
Core Bus Routes – Primary Public Transport Corridors	It was highlighted that the diagram of the Core Bus Routes only showed Stagecoach services and not PCC services.	The diagram only showed the core, strategic routes but the comment would be taken away to see how more information could be added.
CHAPTER TWO – TRANSPORT POLICY & WIDER CONTEXT		
No Comments		
CHAPTER THREE – TRANSPORT ISSUES AND CHALLENGES		
Summary of Discussion at the April Workshop	The last bullet point made reference to bus services being adversely affected as congestion increased, leading to reduced reliability and increased operating costs, which would impact on fares and patronage levels. This was a situation which was already happening e.g. if passengers travelled early in the day the buses tended to travel as they should do, but after 5pm, often two or three buses turned up at the same time. This situation reinforced the need to shift people out of cars.	The bullet points from the workshop highlighted areas which we wanted to deal with. There were a number of issues to deal with as part of bus services including congestion, road works and Stagecoach’s ability to adapt if a number of buses arrived at the same time. There was work we could do but they also had a responsibility.

Use of Fossil Fuels	How would the reliance of fossil fuels be reduced as bio fuels would not be sustainable in the long term?	We were already engaged in a project for plug in points for electric vehicles.
Electric Vehicles	Why were you advocating the use of electric/rechargeable vehicles as a large percentage of them still used fossil fuel for the production of electricity?	Production of electricity was moving on and the Government was looking at the energy production side e.g. use of wind turbines. The Plan was not just about cars and was about getting people in to other modes of transport.
	There was some concern that the Plan had a chapter on electric vehicles when it was not a proven technology. A report in a magazine had recently said that there was no difference between electric vehicles and the most effective combustion engines. The Plan made no reference to trams which were a proven success where they had been installed.	Research that officers had seen was supportive of electric vehicles. LTP3 was a suite of measures which needed to be balanced around sustainability. The LTTS made reference to a light rapid transit system which would include trams but this would be a very expensive option, around £50m-100m, and would require a much larger population than we currently had.
Trams	Did the estimates for a transit system assume the need to lay down additional tracks?	The estimates did include the laying of tracks as we had already had discussions with Nene Valley who had indicated that they would not be interested in developing this.
Freight	How would you be able to ensure that freight stayed on the parkway system?	We would work with the transport companies and also ensure that SatNavs etc were updated regularly. Automatic Plate Recognition could be widened out throughout the network which would lead to greater enforcement.
Magna Park	How would the extra freight from the Magna Park development be handled? It was important that the quality of life for residents in the area was maintained.	We would look at a quality partnership e.g. allocating priority lanes for the vehicles when needed. A transport assessment would need to be done for Magna Park but as a planning application had not yet been submitted this had not yet happened. We would look at the application very carefully.
HGVs	A big problem with HGVs was them laying up at night. Where would they be expected to park as we did not have a HGV park in the City?	We were looking for a secure parking area for them as we currently did not have parking available. A possible option could be using future park and ride sites in the evening and we would make sure that this was included.

Transport Information	There was a lack of transport information available to the public as the Travelchoice Centre in Queensgate only opened between 9am and 12noon.	A staffing restructure was currently underway which would lead to better and more appropriate staffing hours.
Cycling and Walking in Rural Areas	The Plan states that we want to encourage more cycling and walking but in the rural areas this could be very unsafe as a lot of roads did not have footpaths. We needed to make a decision in the future about laying more footpaths as some of the B roads were very dangerous.	
CHAPTER FOUR – TRANSPORT VISION		
Speed Limits outside Rural Schools	Why was it not planned to put 20mph speed limits outside all schools and just rural ones?	The evidence showed that the speed limits could not be enforced properly and that people did not slow down. There was no proven safety record and the recommendation made by the Scrutiny Commission for Rural Communities was made against officer advice.
CHAPTER FIVE – THE TRANSPORT OPTIONS		
No Comments		
CHAPTER SIX – ASSESSMENT AND APPRAISAL		
Link between Railworld and East Coast Mainline (ECML)	There was already a link between Railworld and the ECML which would be a good way of getting people to the station. It would also be good value for money as the infrastructure was already there.	It would cost a lot of money to link the Nene Valley Railway to the ECML. The land was currently protected so at the moment it fell out of the cost benefit ratio.
CHAPTER SEVEN – LONG TERM TRANSPORT STRATEGY AND INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLAN		
No Comments		
CHAPTER EIGHT – LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN 3		
Transport User Hierarchy	The Transport User Hierarchy was noted but it was felt that the projects contained in the Plan did not reflect the Hierarchy as the total for walking and cycling projects for next year only added up to £100k.	The Transport User Hierarchy was a guide and was used to see if we could solve a problem by integrating walking and cycling but not all transport problems could be solved with walking and cycling.

Great Haddon Development	The public transport priority measures for the proposed Great Haddon Development had now been dropped from the planning application.	The Great Haddon application was still being looked at.
CHAPTER NINE – TRANSPORT POLICY AND STRATEGY		
Bus Priority Measures	What were the bus priority measures?	It was about building extra infrastructure, e.g. perhaps giving up a lane on the network for buses to use when needed.
	Some members advised that they would not like to see one of the lanes on Bourges Boulevard given up to buses as it would be a waste of the highway.	This was just one of the options we were looking at. Bourges Boulevard split the City and would be looked at as part of the City Centre Area Action Plan.
School Travel Strategy	How many schools had now completed their school travel plans?	Officers believed it was nearly 100% but would clarify.
Rural Transport Strategy	There was support for moving people in rural areas from their cars but there were also issues around public transport, e.g. in Newborough the last bus out of the village was at 3.15pm. Would officers be looking again at the bus provision in rural areas?	It was dependent on funding and viability. The Call Connect service was proving to be an effective alternative.
Bus Strategy	The LTP2 gave an aspiration for ½ hourly evening bus services but this now appeared to be dropped. Reference to fares had also been dropped. It would be short sighted if the commitment we already had was dropped around evening bus services.	This had been reviewed due to lack of use of buses in the evenings.
	The idea to move the bus station to where the train station was had received negative feedback from Stagecoach as they had stated that most of their passengers actually wanted to go to Queensgate.	We were looking to improve the links between the bus and train stations. This still had to be discussed and we would look at the wording in the document.
Water Bus Strategy	Had water buses been subjected to the same degree of assessment as other schemes?	Water buses had been included as it was believed that some parts of the strategy could be delivered in the next five years. There was a wider Waterways Strategy being developed by the Environment Agency.

	How long had work on provision of a water bus been going on?	The idea had been around for a number of years.
Car Parking Strategy	Previously there had been a clear strategy about parking charges to try and encourage short term parking only.	We were in competition with private providers and pricing required a lot more work.
CHAPTER TEN – MAJOR AND MINOR SCHEMES		
Glington/Junction 23	With a Park and Ride site at Glington indicated in the LTP3 the dualling of the A15 was vital. If we did not address the public transport corridor then there would be no advantage in using park and ride. There needed to be more emphasis on the public transport corridor at the same time as park and ride.	It was all dependent on where the park and ride site was put but officers believed that the Lincoln Road corridor would also need to be looked at.
Lincoln Rod Bus Priority Corridor	The Lincoln Road Bus Priority Corridor had been in LTP2 and had not happened and had now been included in LTP3. There was a concern that policies did not translate into projects.	
Park and Ride	What was the strategy for Park and Ride? The Plan implied an all year service but did not show it. The proposed site near Werrington was close to the Spalding Railway line.	We would be looking to integrate all modes of transport not just the traditional car to bus model. Key areas where we thought we could justify sites had been identified but had not yet gone through detailed analysis.
CHAPTERS ELEVEN – SIXTEEN		
No Comments		
OTHER COMMENTS		
Parking on Grass Verges	Parking on grass verges was a major issue in some areas of the city but the Plan did not address this. An order in Dogsthorpe had proven to be very successful so why was there not a city wide order?	<p>We were well ahead of some cities on verge parking. We were aware that this was an area where residents had concerns but enforcement was difficult. A letter had now been received from the Secretary of State for Transport which should clarify the situation.</p> <p>We were looking to develop a strategy across the whole of the City outside of this process which would include</p>

		looking whether the CCTV system could help with enforcement. A report would be brought to the Environment Capital Scrutiny Committee in due course.
	Councillor Sandford advised that the Walton Ward Councillors had used some of their Community Leadership Fund to plant trees to prevent verge parking.	
	There would be strong opposition in the new town developments if no parking on verges was introduced as some areas did not have parking spaces provided. In some of these areas more parking spaces needed to be developed.	There would be full consultation before any scheme was introduced. The process needed to be managed effectively as it was acknowledged that this would be a contentious issue. The Executive Director of Operations would be commissioning a piece of work by the Neighbourhood Managers to see how a scheme could be developed. It was accepted that some areas would be better suited than others.
	The Council often gave planning permission for developments with insufficient parking.	National policy was that there should be 1.5 parking spaces for each household.

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