

SCRUTINY COMMISSION FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES

TUESDAY 26 MARCH 2013
7.00 PM

Bourges/Viersen Room - Town Hall

AGENDA

Page No

1. **Apologies for Absence**

2. **Declaration of Interest and Whipping Declarations**

At this point Members must declare whether they have a disclosable pecuniary interest, or other interest, in any of the items on the agenda, unless it is already entered in the register of members' interests or is a "pending notification" that has been disclosed to the Solicitor to the Council.

Members must also declare if they are subject to their party group whip in relation to any items under consideration.

3. **Minutes of the Meeting Held on 14 January 2013**

1 - 8

4. **Flood and Water Management Activities Undertaken by Peterborough City Council**

9 - 12

5. **Passenger Transport and Bus Services in Rural Areas**

13 - 16

6. **Notice of Intention to Take Key Decisions**

17 - 28



There is an induction hearing loop system available in all meeting rooms. Some of the systems are infra-red operated, if you wish to use this system then please contact Paulina Ford on 01733 452508 as soon as possible.

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Committee Members:

Councillors: D Over (Chairman), D Lamb (Vice Chairman), D Sanders, McKean, E Murphy,
D Harrington and N Sandford

Substitutes: Councillors: S Allen, J R Fox and Sylvester

Further information about this meeting can be obtained from Paulina Ford on telephone 01733
452508 or by email – paulina.ford@peterborough.gov.uk

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
SCRUTINY COMMISSION FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES
HELD IN THE
BOURGES & VIERSEN ROOMS, TOWN HALL, PETERBOROUGH
ON
14 JANUARY 2013**

Present: Councillors D Over (Chairman), D Lamb (Vice-Chairman), D McKean, D Harrington, E Murphy and N Sandford

Officers in Attendance: Peter Wightman Interim Director, Primary Care
Richard Godfrey ICT and Transactional Services Partnership Manager
Jonathan Lewis Assistant Director of Education and Resources
Dania Castagliuolo Governance Officer

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Sanders and Leonie McCarthy

2. Declarations of Interest and Whipping Declarations

There were no declarations of interest

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 17 September 2012 and 19 November 2012

The minutes of the Scrutiny Commission for Rural Communities meetings held on 17 September 2012 and 19 November 2012 were approved as true and accurate records.

4. Educational Attainment/School Transport in Rural Areas

This report was requested by the committee and covered the following key points:

- School Places
- Education Attainment
- Capital Improvements in Rural Schools
- Transport Policy and Rural Schools

The report highlighted the nine maintained primary schools and one secondary school within rural areas which were:

- Barnack Primary (Voluntary Controlled)
- Castor Primary (Voluntary Aided)
- Eye Primary (Voluntary Controlled)
- John Clare Primary School (Community)
- Newborough Primary (Voluntary Controlled)
- Northborough Controlled (Community)
- Peakirk cum Glinton Primary (Voluntary Aided)
- The Duke of Bedford Primary (Community)
- Wittering Primary (Community)
- Arthur Mellows Village College (Academy)

The Commission was requested to review the information presented and request any further explanation or information required to understand the delivery of education in the rural communities in Peterborough.

Observations and questions were raised and discussed including:

- Members requested clarification on the abbreviations on page 15, Appendix 1. *The Assistant Director of Education and Resources informed the Commission that:*
 - ❖ *FSM = Free School Meals*
 - ❖ *EAL = English as Additional Language*
 - ❖ *MENA = Minority Ethnic New Arrivals*
 - ❖ *SEN = Special Education Needs*
- Members queried why Eye Primary School had received an Ofsted report requiring improvement if it was being monitored regularly. *Members were advised that the Department for Education and Ofsted worked on the basis of published data therefore the report was based upon data from 2010/11. Members were informed that there was a programme in place called Monitoring Support Partnership where a team of experts in school improvement visited the school on a half termly basis to monitor their performance.*
- Members queried what measures were going to be put in place around the growth of Eye with regard to the primary school. *The Commission was informed that the growth of Eye was concerning although the only year group that was over subscribed was year 1 and there were currently spaces in all of the other year groups. Further capacity would be introduced if required.*
- Members queried whether the schools would have enough teachers to support the amount of pupils registering. *Members were informed that the Council was working with schools to provide enough staff to support the pupils.*
- Members queried whether there was much difference in performance between rural and city schools. *Members were informed that the top three performing primary schools in Peterborough were all urban schools. The success of the school depended on what interventions were taking place. On average rural schools were outperforming city schools but they had different types of challenge.*
- Members commented that some schools would push to get pupils to register for free school meals. *Members were informed that at one stage the city was below the national average for free school meals.. The Council had also pushed to get pupils to register for free school meals and now Peterborough was above the national average.*
- Members queried whether the Council supervised the Government Pupil Premiums to identify how schools had spent the money. *The Commission was advised that the Government Pupil Premiums were supervised by Ofsted and the Council, schools also had to publish on their websites how the money had been spent.*
- Members queried what the overall concerns were with schools in rural areas. *Members were informed that the main concern was around funding mechanisms for schools in rural areas as there was no recognised funding for rural schools.*
- Members queried whether the rural primary schools were improving. *Members were advised that schools in rural areas were improving rapidly and the only challenge was how to deal with children who did not speak English although a lot of time and effort was being invested in to this.*
- Members queried why pupils from Lincolnshire were coming to the rural schools. *Members were advised that there were two issues 1) Lincolnshire had reorganised its secondary schools which had created some turbulence and uncertainty among parents. 2) The reputation of some of the rural schools was outstanding and parents preferred their children to attend these schools.*
- Members suggested that the Council should be cross charging for pupils from Lincolnshire to come to Peterborough schools. *The Commission was advised that schools already received £5,000 per student for education therefore they did not receive extra resources for taking children in from outside of the area.*

- Members queried whether the Education Department liaised with the Planning Department to make provisions for growth within the budget. *Members were advised that the Education Department worked closely with the Planning Department to understand the type of developments that would take place including numbers of developments and size. They would then work out how many children would be yielded from a development and this would be applied to the area of the development. The difficulty would be estimating the ages of children who would potentially move in to the new developments. Funding for schools was a direct grant and did not come from Local Government therefore sometimes growth was not easy to fund.*
- Members queried whether there were any statistics on the uptake of the Cycle Purchase Scheme. *The Assistant Director of Education and Resources advised the Commission that he did not have information on the figures around the Cycle Purchase Scheme but he would obtain this information and send it out to members.*
- Members queried the age of the children that the Cycle Purchase Scheme was available to. *Members were informed that there was no age limit on the Cycle Purchase Scheme although they would only qualify if they lived more than two miles away from the school*
- Members queried whether there had been any consideration on restoring public transport in rural areas as it had been reduced significantly in the past. *Members were advised that the Council had been proactive in making sure some of the bus routes they provided were there to support the public. Some routes that were previously school only routes had now been made public which had connected some of the rural communities together. Options were being looked in to.*
- Members commented that the Youth Councillors had previously raised concerns regarding the lack of school transport in rural areas and queried whether the Council was consulting with members of the Youth Council. *Members were informed that Youth Council meetings were attended regularly and officers got challenged on transport. Megariders were now being issued to young people in order for them to use public transport to get to school and back and it also gave them more flexibility with using public transport.*
- Members were concerned that there were not enough pre school places in Eye. *Members were advised that this information would be provided at a later date. Early years provision was run by the private and voluntary sector and the Council was only the commissioner of early year's provision not the provider.*

ACTION AGREED

The Commission requested that the Assistant Director of Education and Resources provide the Commission with the following information:

- statistics on the up take of the Cycle Purchase Scheme
- details on the position of Eye Pre-school with regard to capacity

5. Update on Superfast Broadband

The purpose of this report was to provide the Commission with an update on Superfast Broadband within rural areas following the last report to the Commission in July 2012.

The two main aims of the project were:

1. The Demand Registration Piece
2. The procurement of Broadband and of the supplier

Since July 2012 there had been a number of campaigns that had taken place in Peterborough to increase the Demand Registration take up across the area, these included:

- E-mails sent to all Citizen Panel members (850+) and contacts at the hospital, Fire and Police Authorities, Peterborough City College, Serco, Vivacity, Enterprise Peterborough, Peterborough Environment City Trust and Perkins to add to their internet sites for their staff to view.
- Numerous press releases in the Peterborough Telegraph
- 12,100 leaflets sent to residents in white areas
- A3 posters distributed to Supermarkets, Doctors surgeries, libraries and community centres
- Adverts placed on Facebook and Twitter
- Full page articles in The Viewer, The Hampton Viewer and the Hampton Gazette
- Links added to the Council's website to Connecting Cambridgeshire
- Links on the Council's internal website
- Serpentine Green and East of England Showground display stands
- Mobile text messages to over 1000 Council handsets promoting the campaign
- Display stands at Business Focus group and the Parish Conference
- Display stands at the Council's Chief Executive staff briefings
- Display stands at the Greater Peterborough Partnership Annual Forum
- Broadband Champions meeting with Fengate representatives
- Leaflet distribution to all premises within Fengate
- Posters and leaflets delivered to all primary and secondary schools in the 'white areas'
- Resource pack containing vital information handed to all Parish Councils within the 'white areas' at the Parish Conference

The final figure for Demand Registration across Peterborough and Cambridgeshire was 23,676 of which 3158 (13.34%) of the registrations were from Peterborough. The Demand Registration Campaign ran through to 31 December 2012. The procurement process and evaluation was still underway and the preferred supplier of the Broadband would be appointed early in the New Year.

The Commission were requested to endorse the work undertaken as part of the Connecting Cambridgeshire to Superfast Broadband.

Observations and questions were raised and discussed including:

- Members commented that the House of Lords Communications Committee had carried out an enquiry into superfast broadband. Whilst they were supportive of the Government's initiative in trying to extend broadband they also stated that Government Policy had become too preoccupied with the delivery of high speed broadband and not that broadband was as widespread as possible. Members asked if the Council were happy that the Superfast Broadband Project addressed these concerns. *The ICT and Transactional Services Partnership Manager advised the Commission that he was confident that all concerns had been covered within the project.*
- Members queried a press release that they had recently seen which reported that Cambridge had received a Government Grant for superfast broadband and asked how that affected the overall number on the Demand Register, had that been taken in to account with the current tenders and was the rural area still being prioritised. *Members were informed that the funding Cambridgeshire had been granted was for a different project. The Demand Registration figures were for across the entire county therefore it would not make any difference to the figures.*
- Members queried whether Lincolnshire villages were being funded by Cambridgeshire's successful bid. *Members were advised that the agreement needed to be adhered to in order to obtain Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK) funding, which stated that there was a ten kilometre overlap in to each county.*

- Members queried whether the BT Broadband stickers that had been appearing on cabinets lately were associated with the Superfast Broadband Project. *Members were informed that it was completely separate. Every year BT advertised the areas they were moving in to and the areas they were not moving in to would be deemed 'white spots' where the Superfast Broadband Project could intervene. BT put stickers on the green cabinets because they were not only trying to promote the fibre going in to the area but also their services.*

ACTION AGREED

The Commission noted the report.

6. Provision of Primary Care in Rural Areas

This report was presented at the request of the Commission to provide further detailed information relating to the current commissioned Primary Care Services in the rural area of Peterborough.

The following key points were highlighted:

- The main GP Practices in the rural areas of Peterborough were Ailsworth and Thorney Medical Practices.
- Ailsworth Medical Practice's total patient list size as at 1 October 2012 was 2338. Thorney Medical Practice's total patient list size as of 1 October 2012 was 7531.
- A branch of Ailsworth Medical Practice was at Newborough which currently had a patient list size of 650.
- Castor was a small branch of Park Medical Centre which provided minimal services in Castor.
- Eye Surgery was a branch of the Thorney Medical Practice.
- Patients were able to access services at the main practices when the branches were closed.
- In the event that practices wished to close they would be required to inform the Primary Care Trust of their intention and consideration would be given to the impact of the closure.
- The rural practices currently had lists open to new registrations and there was no indication that this position would change.
- There were community pharmacies located in Thorney, Eye and Newborough.
- Many pharmacies provided home delivery services for patients.
- NHS Peterborough commissioned Primary Dental Services using NHS regulations and contracts.
- There was one dental practice located in Eye Village from which NHS Peterborough commissions dental services.
- Patients who did not attend a dental practice and were seeking care were advised to contact PALS who held the most up to date information regarding the practices which currently had capacity.
- There were no longer registered lists of patients attached to dental practices and it was possible for patients to access dental practices closer to where they lived.
- In the case of patients living in rural areas they could choose to seek dental services from practices located in Whittlesey, Ely, March, Huntingdon and the Isle of Ely.
- NHS Peterborough commissioned other dental services from Cambridgeshire Community services which included:
 - ❖ Community Dental Services for patients with special needs
 - ❖ Domiciliary Dental Services which were accessible to Peterborough patients meeting specific clinical criteria
 - ❖ Dental Access Centre in Midgate Peterborough

- ❖ For those patients resident outside of Peterborough City, Cambridgeshire Dental Access Centres operated at three locations in Cambridge, Huntingdon and Wisbech
- Private dentistry was not commissioned by NHS Peterborough and therefore they were, unable to provide information on the location of any Dental Practice that solely provided private dental services.
- There were no Opticians located in Peterborough Villages although there were a number of Opticians who provided domiciliary services.
- For patients with access to IT, NHS Choices provided comprehensive information relating to GP's and Dentists, which included location, opening hours and services offered.
- There were no planned changes to the services located in the Peterborough rural areas.
- Responsibility for commissioning Primary Care services transferred to the National Commissioning Board on 1 April 2013.

Observations and questions were raised and discussed including:

- Members queried what action was going to be taken with regard to full patient lists and the growth of Eye and Thorney. *The Interim Director of Primary Care advised the Commission that the Primary Care Trust relied on GP Practices to highlight any areas of concern that had not already been highlighted as they only had a small team working with one hundred GP Practices in Peterborough.*
- Members commented that some of the partners within rural practices were close to retirement and queried what action was being taken to ensure the practices continued running. *Members were informed that there was not a clear plan for Ailsworth Medical Practice with regard to retirement although through the Primary Care Strategy Process a second partner had been formalised and a succession plan was in place. Thorney Medical Practice had three partners who were not at retirement age therefore they were not showing as a danger and they also had a recruitment profile in place.*
- Members were concerned that Newborough would have no growth and queried if the practice would remain open if they did not have enough patients. *Members were informed that when the Primary Care Trust handed over to the National Commissioning Board they would advise them to keep the Newborough practice although it would be their decision with regard to the future of practice. There had been no word of capacity issues in Thorney and Eye Practices but they would be contacted to clarify.*
- Members queried whether patients really did get a choice as to which surgery they attended as practices operated in a restricted manner in rural areas. *Members were informed that every practice had an area identified to indicate where they could accept patients from. This was largely driven by the practicalities of home visiting and patients could register with the practice if they were in the catchment area. Rural practices had tighter geographical reaches due to the practicalities of home visiting.*
- Members queried what the terms Provider, Performer and Registrar indicated within the report when referring to Doctors. *Members were advised that the provider related to the contract holder, the Performers were the salaried Doctors within the practice and the Registrars were Doctors in training.*
- Members commented that the Council had three defibrillators but nobody was trained to use them. They suggested that regular training was needed in order to use them and it was important to have people trained on how to deal with the onset of strokes and heart attacks.
- Members commented that Eye had brought two refurbished defibrillators with part of their CLF funding this year and were currently training people on how to use them,

there was also a first responder initiative starting in Eye on a voluntary basis. This could be something that other rural areas could be interested in.

ACTION AGREED

The Commission requested that the Interim Director of Primary Care provide the Commission with the following information:

- The geographical reach of the surgeries in rural areas.
- Whether there was still a defibrillator Scheme in place.

The Interim Director of Primary Care to contact Eye and Thorney surgeries to enquire whether they had reached capacity and report back to the Commission.

RECOMMENDATION

The Commission recommends that the Scrutiny Commission for Health Issues looks into the provision of Community First Response and first aid provision in rural areas.

7. Notice of Intention to Take Key Decisions

The Committee received the latest version of the Council's Notice of Intention to Take Key Decisions, containing key decisions that the Leader of the Council anticipated the Cabinet or individual Cabinet Members would make during the course of the following four months. Members were invited to comment on the Plan and, where appropriate, identify any relevant areas for inclusion in the Committee's work programme.

ACTION AGREED

The Committee noted the Notice of Intention to Take Key Decisions and agreed that there were no items for further consideration.

8. Work Programme

Members considered the Commission's Work Programme for 2012/13 and discussed possible items for inclusion. Members requested that the Public Transport in Rural Areas item due to be presented at the meeting in March include the following three aspects of public transport:

1. The commercial bus service
2. The bus service provided by the Council
3. Call Connect

ACTION AGREED

To confirm the work programme for 2012/13 and the Governance Officer to include any additional items as requested during the meeting.

9. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 26 March 2013

The meeting began at 7.00pm and ended at 8.50pm

CHAIRMAN

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SCRUTINY COMMISSION FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES	Agenda Item No. 4
26 MARCH 2012	Public Report

Report of the Executive Director of Operations

Contact Officer(s) – Julia Chatterton, Flood and Water Management Officer

Contact Details – 01733 452620

FLOOD AND WATER MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 This report is being presented to inform the Commission of the work being carried out by the city council within the area of water management and to assist with raising awareness of flood risk and water management issues within Peterborough.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Commission is requested to note the report, endorse the services being provided and offer suggestions for inclusion in the work programme.

The Commission is asked, following the meeting, to utilise any future opportunities as Councillors to raise awareness of the need for residents and businesses to prepare for severe weather events (e.g. flood risk and drought).

3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

- 3.1 Managing all elements of water (resources, efficiency, growth, infrastructure, flood risk, water quality and aquatic habitats) contributes towards the following priorities and outcomes of the Sustainable Community Strategy:

Creating the UK's Environment Capital:

- Conserving natural resources
- Making Peterborough cleaner and greener

Delivering substantial and truly sustainable growth:

- Building the sustainable infrastructure of the future

Creating strong and supportive communities:

- Empowering local communities

4. BACKGROUND

4.1 Responsibilities

Peterborough City Council has worked for many years with partner organisations to plan for water infrastructure related to growth. As a Local Planning Authority and a Highway Authority it has always been important to ensure that sufficient infrastructure will be in place for new development and that properties will not be at risk of flooding.

The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 brought about an expanded set of responsibilities and priorities for the city council including many statutory duties. Peterborough City Council automatically became a 'Lead Local Flood Authority' with responsibility for the co-ordination of flood risk management related to the following flood sources:

- Surface run-off
- Groundwater
- Ordinary watercourses

The Environment Agency continues to manage flood risk from main rivers and the sea, water companies continue to manage foul sewerage systems and existing surface water systems and Internal Drainage Boards continue to manage water levels in Fen areas. The city council has a role to play in co-ordinating flood risk management activities across each of these other water management partners.

The new responsibilities under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 include the future duty to (a) approve and (b) adopt surface water drainage systems within new developments:

- (a) The design of surface water drainage systems is changing to use more natural features [sustainable drainage systems' (SuDS)] and less traditional piped methods. Once the Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs commences the final part of the Act (expected April 2014) Peterborough City Council will be a 'SuDS Approving Body' to which developers will need to apply for approval of their drainage systems before any construction can start on site.
- (b) Once a drainage scheme is approved and constructed in accordance with the approved designs, the city council is obliged to adopt the scheme. The adoption of non-highway drainage systems is a new area of work for the city council.

The Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC is a piece of EU legislation which requires Members States to improve water quality and the quality of aquatic habitats. This Directive requires that 'good ecological status' is achieved in all water bodies by 2027 and that no water bodies experience any deterioration in condition. There are some exceptions for watercourses that have been heavily modified by human intervention for crucial purposes such as flood risk management. The Directive places a duty on all organisations which manage water bodies. This includes Peterborough City Council which is responsible for overseeing work on smaller watercourses. It is the city council's intention to work proactively with this legislation to ensure Peterborough's watercourses are better environments overall for residents and visitors to enjoy, as well as to benefit wildlife.

Recent flood events

Water levels in the local environment have been very high. In November and December 2012 Peterborough's rivers experienced very high water levels. This led to Flood Warnings being issued by the Environment Agency for the River Nene. The Emergency Planning Team and Flood and Drainage officers acted quickly to prepare the incident control room, monitor the flood levels with partner organisations, communicate with Councillors and residents and prepare rest centres should evacuation be needed. Thankfully no properties flooded internally. We were very pleased with the response of the city council and its partners during the flood events and we have received many comments of praise. Nevertheless there are areas that we could improve upon and useful lessons learnt from the event are being developed into improved processes to help the city council prepare for future emergency situations.

5. IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The report covers Peterborough-wide issues and is for information only. There are no new implications as a result of this report.

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1 The city council now actively engages with residents of Peterborough on issues such as:
 - Awareness of local flood risk
 - How to protect properties from flood risk and deal with insurance queries
 - Water efficiency for drought management

- Local watercourse improvements

Peterborough City Council works with a wide range of water and risk management organisations in this area. These organisations include the Environment Agency, Anglian Water, Welland and Deepings Internal Drainage Board, North Level District Internal Drainage Board, Middle Level Commissioners, Whittlesey and District Internal Drainage Board, the Highways Agency, Cambridgeshire Police, Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue and neighbouring local authorities.

The city council has adopted a Flood and Water Management Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) to guide developers with on-site flood risk, drainage and water habitat work. This document was consulted on through the formal processes for SPDs and was adopted by Cabinet on 10 December 2012.

7. NEXT STEPS

- 7.1 This report will not progress forward to another committee following review by the Scrutiny Commission for Rural Communities. However, the work of the Drainage Team, the Climate Change Team, the Natural Environment Team and the Emergency Planning Team will continue along the lines described in this report.

The water-related work of these teams will be formalised and monitored through a developing Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. This strategy will demonstrate Peterborough's approach to flood risk and related water management and include an action plan of short, medium and long term actions for the council and partners. The strategy is currently being developed.

8. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

- 8.1
- Flood and Water Management Act 2010
 - Water Framework Directive – 2000/60/EC
 - Peterborough Flood and Water Management Supplementary Planning Document

9. APPENDICES

- 9.1 None.

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SCRUTINY COMMISSION FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES	Agenda Item No. 5
26 March 2013	Public Report

Report of the Executive Director of Operations

Contact Officer(s) – Mark Speed

Contact Details – Telephone: 01733 317471 Email: mark.speed@peterborough.gov.uk

PASSENGER TRANSPORT AND BUS SERVICES IN RURAL AREAS

1. PURPOSE

1.1 The commission requested information regarding the following topics:

- **Any developments with Call Collect**

There are no recent developments regarding call connect however as part of the bus service review options around expanding existing demand response transport (including call connect) is being considered. An officer will attend the scrutiny meeting and answer any questions that members may have regarding this item.

- **A description of rural services as they stand**
- **Likely problems and development**

Councillors have received an invite to make an appointment to come and speak to one of my team or me, regarding any concerns you may have regarding the reduction in subsidised passenger transport services resulting of budget changes adopted on the 6th of March at full Council.

We are in a position to provide you with the following information at these individual appointments:

- Current Service (both Commercial and Supported, post 10th Feb commercial change)
- What is at risk?
- Information about who travels and why
- Possible Mitigations & Alternatives

An officer will however attend the rural commission and discuss with Councillors any general queries they may have regarding this agenda item. A detailed analysis of this subject matter is available by appointment with the team, as stated earlier.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Councillors are asked to consider the report and the discussion at the commission meeting and feedback any comments to officers.

Councillors are recommended to make an individual appointment with the team to discuss this item in detail.

3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

3.1 Community strategy links:

- Delivering substantial and truly sustainable growth; through providing the best possible affordable subsidised service
- Creating the UK's environment capital; by supporting, as far as practicable, sustainable transport modes.

4. BACKGROUND

4.1 Current situation

As you are aware, the council has been committed over the past decade to encouraging people to use our public transport under our Travelchoice initiative.

However, there are still many underused bus services in the city. Currently these services are only able to continue to run because the council subsidises them. If they were not subsidised then some bus services would not exist and other services would not run at certain times at nights, on Bank Holidays or Sunday evenings.

The council currently spends £1.1m subsidising public passenger transport.

Among the services we subsidise are:

- Some of Stagecoach's weekend and evening buses
- Local Link 401/401A,404,406,407,408,410 and 411 Enterprise
- Local Link 413 Centrebus
- Community Link and Dial-a-Ride

The local link services contracts are due to expire in March 2013 and an independent assessment has identified that the cost of these services is likely to increase by **£535k** which means we would need to spend £1.6 million for services to continue as they are.

The budget adopted at Council on the 6th of March means that we are to deliver a service with an indicative cost of £600K. This requires that we make a saving £500K from the existing £1.1m budget (as this is our best estimate for the amount required to meet our statutory duties to vulnerable people).

At present, no decision has been taken on what services will be provided as we are undertaking a review, however, 2013/14 would be a transitional year for the service. We aim to continue to offer the same service as we do now from April 2013 for up to 6 months, accepting the short-term cost increases while we procure a new service and pattern of service. Then after 6 months, we propose to start to run the £600K service.

5. KEY ISSUES

5.1 For information Item, no key issues at this stage.

6. IMPLICATIONS

6.1 No implications at present, this is information only item on the committee's agenda.

7. CONSULTATION

7.1 An invite has been set for member to discuss the current situation with officers.

8. NEXT STEPS

8.1 The committee to consider the information provide by officer at the meeting.

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

9.1 None

10. APPENDICES

10.1 None

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SCRUTINY COMMISSION FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES	Agenda Item No. 6
26 MARCH 2013	Public Report

Report of the Solicitor to the Council

Report Author – Paulina Ford, Senior Governance Officer, Scrutiny

Contact Details – 01733 452508 or email paulina.ford@peterborough.gov.uk

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO TAKE KEY DECISIONS

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 This is a regular report to the Scrutiny Commission for Rural Communities outlining the content of the Notice of Intention to Take Key Decisions.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Commission identifies any relevant items for inclusion within their work programme.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The latest version of the Notice of Intention to Take Key Decisions is attached at Appendix 1. The Notice contains those key decisions, which the Leader of the Council believes that the Cabinet or individual Cabinet Member(s) can take and any new key decisions to be taken after 8 April 2013.
- 3.2 The information in the Notice of Intention to Take Key Decisions provides the Committee with the opportunity of considering whether it wishes to seek to influence any of these key decisions, or to request further information.
- 3.3 If the Committee wished to examine any of the key decisions, consideration would need to be given as to how this could be accommodated within the work programme.
- 3.4 As the Notice is published fortnightly any version of the Notice published after dispatch of this agenda will be tabled at the meeting.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 Details of any consultation on individual decisions are contained within the Notice of Intention to Take Key Decisions.

5. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

None

6. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Notice of Intention to Take Key Decisions

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PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL'S NOTICE OF INTENTION TO TAKE KEY DECISIONS

PUBLISHED: 7 MARCH 2013

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO TAKE KEY DECISIONS

In the period commencing 28 days after the date of publication of this notice, Peterborough City Council's Executive intends to take 'key decisions' on the issues set out below. Key decisions relate to those executive decisions which are likely to result in the Council spending or saving money in excess of £500,000 and/or have a significant impact on two or more wards in Peterborough.

If the decision is to be taken by an individual cabinet member, the name of the cabinet member is shown against the decision, in addition to details of the councillor's portfolio. If the decision is to be taken by the Cabinet, it's members are as listed below:
Cllr Cereste (Leader); Cllr Lee (Deputy leader); Cllr Scott; Cllr Holdich; Cllr Hillier; Cllr Seaton; Cllr Fitzgerald; Cllr Dalton; Cllr Walsh.

This Notice should be seen as an outline of the proposed decisions for the forthcoming month and it will be updated on a fortnightly basis. Each new notice supersedes the previous notice and items may be carried over into forthcoming notices. Any questions on specific issues included on the Notice should be included on the form which appears at the back of the Notice and submitted to Alex Daynes, Senior Governance Officer, Chief Executive's Department, Town Hall, Bridge Street, PE1 1HG (fax 01733 452483). Alternatively, you can submit your views via e-mail to alexander.daynes@peterborough.gov.uk or by telephone on 01733 452447.

Whilst the majority of the Executive's business at the meetings listed in this Notice will be open to the public and media organisations to attend, there will be some business to be considered that contains, for example, confidential, commercially sensitive or personal information. In these circumstances the meeting may be held in private, and on the rare occasion this applies this is indicated in the list below. A formal notice of the intention to hold the meeting, or part of it, in private, will be given 28 clear days in advance of any private meeting in accordance with The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

The Council invites members of the public to attend any of the meetings at which these decisions will be discussed (unless a notice of intention to hold the meeting in private has been given).

You are entitled to view any documents listed on the notice, or obtain extracts from any documents listed or subsequently submitted to the decision maker prior to the decision being made, subject to any restrictions on disclosure. There is no charge for viewing the documents, although charges may be made for photocopying or postage. Documents listed on the notice and relevant documents subsequently being submitted can be requested from Alex Daynes, Senior Governance Officer, Chief Executive's Department, Town Hall, Bridge Street, PE1 1HG (fax 01733 452483), e-mail to alexander.daynes@peterborough.gov.uk or by telephone on 01733 452447. For each decision a public report will be available from the Governance Team one week before the decision is taken.

All decisions will be posted on the Council's website: www.peterborough.gov.uk/executive/decisions. If you wish to make comments or representations regarding the 'key decisions' outlined in this Notice, please submit them to the Governance Support Officer using the form attached. For your information, the contact details for the Council's various service departments are incorporated within this notice.

KEY DECISIONS FROM 8 APRIL 2013

KEY DECISION REQUIRED	DECISION MAKER	MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER (IF ANY OTHER THAN PUBLIC REPORT)
Short Breaks Service - KEY/08APR13/01 Approval to award a contract for the provision of short break services for families with children and young people with disabilities.	Councillor Sheila Scott OBE Cabinet Member for Children's Services	N/A	Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities	Relevant internal departments.	Oliver Hayward Commissioning Officer - Aiming High Tel: 01733 863910 oliver.hayward@peterborough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.

PREVIOUSLY ADVERTISED DECISIONS

Moy's End Stand Demolition and Reconstruction - KEY/03APR/12 Award of Contract for the Demolition of the Moy's End Stand and Reconstruction	Councillor David Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources	N/A	Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital	Internal and External Stakeholders as appropriate.	Richard Hodgson Head of Strategic Projects Tel: 01733 384535 richard.hodgson@peterborough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.
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<p>Delivery of the Council's Capital Receipt Programme through the Sale of Dickens Street Car Park - KEY/03JUL/11 To authorise the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Solicitor to the Council, Executive Director – Strategic Resources, the Corporate Property Officer and the Cabinet Member Resources, to negotiate and conclude the sale of Dickens Street Car Park.</p>	<p>Councillor David Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p>	<p>Consultation will take place with the Cabinet Member, Ward councillors, relevant internal departments & external stakeholders as appropriate.</p>	<p>Richard Hodgson Head of Strategic Projects Tel: 01733 384535 richard.hodgson@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Rolling Select List - Independent Fostering Agencies - KEY/01 JUL/12 To approve the list for independent fostering agencies.</p>	<p>Councillor Sheila Scott OBE Cabinet Member for Children's Services</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities</p>	<p>Internal and external stakeholders as appropriate.</p>	<p>Oliver Hayward Commissioning Officer - Aiming High Tel: 01733 863910 oliver.hayward@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Mental Health Services at Clare Lodge - KEY/13NOV12/05 Undertake a tender to secure Mental Health Services for Clare Lodge Secure Unit.</p>	<p>Councillor Sheila Scott OBE Cabinet Member for Children's Services</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities</p>	<p>Internal and External Stakeholders as appropriate.</p>	<p>Oliver Hayward Commissioning Officer - Aiming High Tel: 01733 863910 oliver.hayward@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Clare Lodge Service Review Outcome - KEY/13NOV12/06 To approve the outcome of the service review of Clare Lodge Secure Unit.</p>	<p>Councillor Sheila Scott OBE Cabinet Member for Children's Services</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities</p>	<p>Internal and External Stakeholders as appropriate.</p>	<p>Oliver Hayward Commissioning Officer - Aiming High Tel: 01733 863910 oliver.hayward@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>

<p>Residential Approved Provider List - KEY/13NOV12/08 Create a compliant Approved Provider List for Residential units for children and young people.</p>	<p>Councillor Sheila Scott OBE Cabinet Member for Children's Services</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities</p>	<p>Internal and external stakeholders as appropriate.</p>	<p>Oliver Hayward Commissioning Officer - Aiming High Tel: 01733 863910 oliver.hayward@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Future of Children's Play Services - KEY/13NOV12/09 To determine the future of Play Services in the city</p>	<p>Councillor Sheila Scott OBE Cabinet Member for Children's Services</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities.</p>	<p>To be undertaken with key stakeholders.</p>	<p>Oliver Hayward Commissioning Officer - Aiming High Tel: 01733 863910 oliver.hayward@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Care and Repair Framework Agreement - KEY/18DEC12/01 To approve a framework agreement and schedule of rates to deliver disabled facility grant work. specifically providing disabled access to toilet and washing facilities and associated work in domestic properties.</p>	<p>Councillor Peter Hiller Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Planning</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Strong and Supportive Communities</p>	<p>Relevant Internal Departments.</p>	<p>Russ Carr Care & Repair Manager Tel: 01733 863864 russ.carr@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Capital Programme of Works - KEY/18DEC12/02 To agree the Capital Programme of Works for 2013-14.</p>	<p>Councillor Peter Hiller Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Planning</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p>	<p>Members of public, external stakeholders and internal departments.</p>	<p>Mark Speed Transport Planning Team Manager Tel: 317471 mark.speed@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>

Award of Contract for the 413 Bus Service - KEY/27DEC12/01 Award of Contract for Route 413 (Maxey to City Centre) from 1 April 2013.	Councillor Peter Hiller Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Planning	N/A	Sustainable Growth	Relevant internal departments and external stakeholders.	Mark Speed Transport Planning Team Manager Tel: 317471 mark.speed@peterborough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.
Award of Insurance Contract - KEY/10JAN13/01 To authorise the awarding of the contract for provision of the Council's insurances for the next five years.	Councillor David Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources	N/A	Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital	Relevant Internal Departments.	Sue Addison Insurance Manager Tel: 01733 348560 sue.addison@peterborough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that any further documents will be required.
Extension to various Highways Related Contracts to July 2013 - KEY/24JAN13/01 To extend the existing Highways Maintenance, Professional Services, Street Lighting and Gully Cleansing Contracts until July 2013 pending the review of alternative procurement options.	Councillor David Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources	N/A	Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital	Consultation with senior officers has been undertaken including the Director of Operations and Head of Business Transformation.	Simon Machen Head of Planning, Transport and Engineering Services Tel: 01733 453475 simon.machen@peterborough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.
Environment Capital Action Plan - KEY/24JAN13/02 Approve the Plan for public consultation.	Cabinet	YES	Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital	Four week public consultation.	Charlotte Palmer Climate Change Team Manager charlotte.palmer@peterborough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.
Risk Based Verification Policy - KEY/24JAN13/03 To approve the policy for online Housing/Council Tax Benefit claim forms.	Cabinet	NO	Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital	Relevant Internal and External Stakeholders.	Amanda Stevens Head of Shared Transactional Services Tel: 01733 317941 amanda.stevens@peterborough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.

<p>Fletton Parkway Junction 17 to 2 improvement scheme - KEY/24JAN13/07 To agree funding is brought forward between 2012 and 2015 in Medium Term Financial Strategy and the contract awarded for the works.</p>	<p>Councillor Peter Hiller Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Planning, Cabinet Member for Resources</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p>	<p>Relevant internal and external stakeholders.</p>	<p>Mark Speed Transport Planning Team Manager Tel: 317471 mark.speed@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Eco Funding and Community Energy Program - KEY/07MAR13/01 Authority to enter into Heads of Terms with a utility company to develop local funding arrangements.</p>	<p>Councillor Gr. Uff. Marco Cereste Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Growth, Strategic Planning, Economic Development, Business Engagement and Environment Capital</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p>	<p>Relevant internal stakeholders.</p>	<p>John Harrison Executive Director-Strategic Resources Tel: 01733 452398 john.harrison@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Hampton Leisure Facilities - KEY/07MAR13/02 To approve the financial model and lease option for the Hampton Leisure Centre.</p>	<p>Councillor Matthew Lee Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Culture, Recreation and Strategic Commissioning</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p>	<p>Relevant Internal and External stakeholders.</p>	<p>Dominic Hudson Strategic Partnerships Manager Tel: 01733 452384 dominic.hudson@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>

<p>Affordable Housing Capital Funding Policy - KEY/07MAR13/03 Revision to the Affordable Housing Capital Funding Policy</p>	<p>Cabinet</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p>	<p>Relevant Internal Departments.</p>	<p>Richard Kay Policy and Strategy Manager richard.kay@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Sale of Craig Street Car Park - KEY/25MAR13/01 To approve the sale of land known as Craig Street Car Park.</p>	<p>Councillor David Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p>	<p>Relevant Internal and External Stakeholders and ward councillors.</p>	<p>David Gray Capital Projects Officer Tel: 01733 384531 david.gray@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Restructure of Neighbourhood Services - KEY/25MAR13/02 To approve the details of the restructure in order for it to contribute to the financial savings required and to further enhance service delivery arrangements.</p>	<p>Councillor Peter Hiller Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Planning</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Strong and Supportive Communities</p>	<p>Relevant Staff and internal departments.</p>	<p>Adrian Chapman Head of Neighbourhood Services Tel: 01733 863887 adrian.chapman@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Local Welfare Provision - KEY/25MAR13/03 To approve the establishment of the new Local Welfare Provision offer which replaces the Department for Work and Pensions Social Fund.</p>	<p>Councillor David Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Strong and Supportive Communities</p>	<p>Relevant Internal Departments and External Stakeholders.</p>	<p>Adrian Chapman Head of Neighbourhood Services Tel: 01733 863887 adrian.chapman@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Supporting People Programme - KEY/25MAR13/04 To approve service reductions.</p>	<p>Councillor Peter Hiller Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Planning</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Strong and Supportive Communities</p>	<p>Relevant internal departments and external stakeholders.</p>	<p>Adrian Chapman Head of Neighbourhood Services Tel: 01733 863887 adrian.chapman@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>

<p>Library Services - KEY/25MAR13/05 To agree the outcome of the consultation on proposals to revise the library opening hours at Bretton, Orton, Werrington and Central Libraries and proposals to revise the frequencies and stopping times for the mobile library service.</p>	<p>Cabinet</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Strong and Supportive Communities</p>	<p>Will be undertaken with members of public and relevant stakeholders.</p>	<p>Dominic Hudson Strategic Partnerships Manager Tel: 01733 452384 dominic.hudson@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Redesign of the Direct Intervention Service - KEY/25MAR13/06 To approve the re-design of the Direct Intervention Service to enable the realisation of the savings as detailed in the Medium Term Financial Plan.</p>	<p>Councillor Sheila Scott OBE Cabinet Member for Children's Services</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities</p>	<p>Direct Intervention Service staff, Legal Services, Human Resources and Finance.</p>	<p>Lou Williams Head of Commissioning, Specialist Services Tel: 01733 864139 lou.williams@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that any further documents will be used.</p>

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DEPARTMENT Town Hall, Bridge Street, Peterborough, PE1 1HG

Communications
Strategic Growth and Development Services
Legal and Governance Services
Policy and Research
Economic and Community Regeneration
HR Business Relations, Training & Development, Occupational Health & Reward & Policy

STRATEGIC RESOURCES DEPARTMENT Director's Office at Town Hall, Bridge Street, Peterborough, PE1 1HG

Finance
Internal Audit
Information Communications Technology (ICT)
Business Transformation
Strategic Improvement
Strategic Property
Waste
Customer Services
Business Support
Shared Transactional Services
Cultural Trust Client

CHILDRENS' SERVICES DEPARTMENT Bayard Place, Broadway, PE1 1FB

Safeguarding, Family & Communities
Education & Resources
Strategic Commissioning & Prevention

OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT Director's Office at Town Hall, Bridge Street, Peterborough, PE1 1HG

Planning Transport & Engineering (Development Management, Construction & Compliance, Infrastructure Planning & Delivery, Transport)
Commercial Operations (Strategic Parking and Commercial CCTV, City Centre, Markets & Commercial Trading, Tourism)
Neighbourhoods (Strategic Regulatory Services, Safer Peterborough, Strategic Housing, Cohesion, Social Inclusion, Neighbourhoods)
Operations Business Support (Finance)

ADULT SOCIAL CARE Director's Office at Town Hall, Bridge Street, Peterborough, PE1 1HG

Care Services Delivery (Assessment & Care Management; Integrated Learning Disability Services and HIV/AIDS; Regulation)
Strategic Commissioning (Mental Health & Integrated Learning Disability; Older People, Physical Disability & Sensory Impairment)
Compliance
Quality, Information and Performance (Performance & Information; Strategic Safeguarding; Business Support & Governance)
Quality and Workforce Development)