

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**MONDAY 23 JULY 2012
7.00 PM**

Bourges/Viersen Room - Town Hall

AGENDA

| | Page No |
|--|----------------|
| 1. Apologies for absence | |
| 2. Declarations of Interest and Whipping Declarations | |
| <i>At this point Members must declare whether they have an interest, whether personal or prejudicial, in any of the items on the agenda. Members must also declare if they are subject to their party group whip in relation to any items under consideration.</i> | |
| 3. Minutes from the meeting held on 11 June 2012 | 1 - 10 |
| 4. Call In of any Cabinet, Cabinet Member or Key Officer Decisions | |
| <i>The decision notice for each decision will bear the date on which it is published and will specify that the decision may then be implemented on the expiry of 3 working days after the publication of the decision (not including the date of publication), unless a request for call-in of the decision is received from any two Members of a Scrutiny Committee or Scrutiny Commissions. If a request for call-in of a decision is received, implementation of the decision remains suspended for consideration by the relevant Scrutiny Committee or Commission.</i> | |
| 5. Portfolio Progress Report from the Cabinet Member for Children's Services | 11 - 14 |
| 6. Children's Services Improvement Programme | 15 - 18 |
| 7. Children's Centres | 19 - 22 |
| 8. Poverty Reduction Strategy | 23 - 48 |
| 9. Forward Plan of Key Decisions | 49 - 64 |
| 10. Work Programme | 65 - 70 |
| 11. Date of Next Meeting | |

Monday, 10 September 2012



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: S Day (Chair), C Harper (Vice Chairman), N Arculus, B Rush, J Shearman, B Saltmarsh and D Fower

Substitutes: Councillors: J R Fox, M Nadeem and N Thulbourn

Education Co-optees: Jane Austen (Roman Catholic Church Representative), Mr Frank Smith (Church of England Representative), Alastair Kingsley (Parent Governor Representative), Brian Opie, (Parent Governor Representative),
The Revd Canon Tim Elbourne, (Director of Education & Training), Diocese of Ely

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
CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE
BOURGES & VIERSEN ROOMS, TOWN HALL, PETERBOROUGH
ON 11 JUNE 2012**

Present: Councillors S Day (Chairman), Harper, J Peach, B Rush, B Saltmarsh, J Shearman and D Fower

Also present Alastair Kingsley Parent Governor Representative

Officers in Attendance: Malcolm Newsam Executive Director, Children's Services
Adrian Chapman Head of Neighbourhood Services
Belinda Evans Customer Service Manager
Mark Sandhu Head of Customer Services
Paulina Ford Senior Governance Officer, Scrutiny
Catherine Berriman Lawyer

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Arculus. Councillor Peach attended as substitute.

2. Declarations of Interest and Whipping Declarations

There were no declarations of interest or whipping declarations.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 12 March 2012

The minutes of the meetings held on 12 March 2012 were approved as an accurate record.

4. Call In of any Cabinet, Cabinet Member or Key Officer Decisions

There were no requests for Call-in to consider.

5. Introduction to Children's Services

The Executive Director of Children's Services introduced the report and gave a presentation to the Committee which informed Members of the key areas covered by Children's Services. The following key points were highlighted:

Safeguarding, Families and Communities: Lead Officer - Assistant Director, Sue Westcott

Services provided within this area:

- Safeguarding
- Looked after Children
- Children with Disabilities
- Fostering
- Adoption
- Youth Offending Services

Key Challenges for 2012:

- Improve safeguarding
- Increase placement choice and adoptions
- Strengthen range of targeted preventative services

Education and Resources: Lead Officer - Assistant Director, Jonathan Lewis
Services provided within this area:

- School Improvement and Governance
- Special Educational Needs
- Attendance, Behaviour and Pupil Referral
- Finance, Projects and Workforce Development
- School Place Planning and Buildings
- City College

Plus finance, capital and budget monitoring

Key Challenges for 2012:

- Implement new approaches to transform standards
- Improve outcomes for children with SEN
- Improve attainment for vulnerable learners

Commissioning and Prevention: Lead Officer – Assistant Director Wendi Ogle-Welbourn
Services provided within this area:

- 8 – 19 Services
- Early Years and Children's Centres
- Children's Residential and Respite Care
- Commissioning prevention and early intervention

Key Challenges for 2012:

- Put in place systems that co-ordinate early intervention and prevention services
- Strengthen the Children's Trust
- Set up joint commissioning arrangements with health

Observations and questions were raised and discussed including:

- Members were concerned that as the Council did not run the schools now how they were going to achieve the key challenge of implementing new approaches to transform standards. *Members were informed that the objective was to implement new approaches to transform standards. There was clarity about why the standards were low but less clarity about the strategies across the school community. This provided an opportunity to bring a new focus on what could be done and dispense with the things that did not have any impact. All authorities were being asked to reshape themselves in light of the new legislation. The statutory responsibility for raising standards still fell within the remit of the Director of Children's Services and there was a need to ensure collaboration across the city between the local authority and schools.*
- How would the authority refocus to raise attainment? *Members were advised that there was a need to refocus the way the local authority was structured in light of the new legislation. A much clearer strategy was needed around children with Special Educational Needs. There was also a big issue in Primary Schools regarding inward migration and this needed to be looked at.*
- Do you have any plans to implement a strategy for recruiting good quality school governors? *A good school improvement strategy would look at what was needed to get good school governance in place. If the local authority could influence the selection and training of governance and provide good support to governors it would improve the*

process. The Director of Children's Services advised that he would bring a strategy to the Committee at a future date.

- Alistair Kingsley proposed that Councillor Shearman and he work with the Head of School Improvement again to understand and present the 2012 examination results as this had proved beneficial to the Committee last year. The Chair and Members of the Committee agreed to this proposal.
- What was happening with regard to the appointment of a permanent Director of Children's Services? *Members were advised that the recruitment process would commence shortly to ensure someone was in place when the interim Director left.*

ACTIONS AGREED

That the Committee note the report and

- (i) That a report on the action being taken on the nine Key Challenges identified within the presentation be brought to the committee at a future meeting. The Chair and Group Representatives to manage this through the work programme.
- (ii) That the Director of Children's Services bring to the Committee at a future meeting a strategy on recruitment and selection of school governors as part of the improving attainment programme.
- (iii) Alistair Kingsley, Co-opted Parent Governor Representative on the Committee and Councillor Shearman to work with the Head of School Improvement in presenting the 2012 Examination results to the Committee in September.

6. Poverty Reduction Strategy and Action Plan

The Head of Neighbourhoods introduced the report and advised members that the report provided details of an updated Poverty Reduction Strategy and Action Plan which had been requested by the Committee at a meeting on 16 January 2012. The Child Poverty Act 2010 required local authorities to combat the causes and consequences of child poverty in local areas. Peterborough had chosen to deal with Child Poverty by addressing 'family poverty'. The poverty reduction objective was part of programme 2 in the Single Delivery Plan – Safeguarding the Most Vulnerable Families. The Peterborough Strategic Development Plan for poverty reduction and social mobility was continually being refined but activity had started to deliver outcomes in early intervention, financial inclusion and decent homes. The approach being taken had been three fold:

1. A short term hard hitting approach around working with targeted families where income may be an issue
2. Promotion of resilience; looking at skills that can be given to families and building a sense of community and a sense of pride
3. Developing longer term chances – looking at what sort of jobs needed to be created, what sort of opportunities were needed to help people to get themselves out of poverty.

The Head of Neighbourhoods went through the seven Strategic Objectives and Key Deliverables of the plan and advised that it would be brought back to the Committee again with further detail for approval.

Observations and questions were raised and discussed including:

- The Chair commented on the complexity of the plan and was concerned at how it might be achieved in reality and suggested that each member of the Committee may wish to assign themselves to one of the strands.

- Who are the members of the Poverty Executive Team? *Members were advised that there had been a need for a strong sense of leadership from officers within the authority and therefore a small but strong Executive team was pulled together consisting of Adrian Chapman, Head of Neighbourhoods (Chair), Wendi Ogle-Welbourn, Assistant Director of Commissioning and Prevention and Leonie McCarthy, Social Inclusion Manager.*
- Members commented that there was no indication of the work that was already being undertaken and which objectives had already been started. There were also no timelines as to when the work would be completed. *The Head of Neighbourhoods confirmed that a lot of work was already being undertaken within the plan and suggested that a performance dashboard could be created for the seven strands to show the Committee how the plan was progressing.*
- The Child Poverty Act became law on 25 March 2010. Why had progress been so slow in providing a Poverty Strategy and Action Plan. *Members were advised that it had taken an immense amount of time to capture in one place all of the activity that was going on and there was still more work to do on this. It was a very complex agenda and the current plan was much more robust.*
- Members commented that there was a clear link between poverty and poor diet and poor diet and poor performance at school. *Members were informed that with regard to the health impact the plan went hand in hand with work being done in regard to the transition of the Public Health services to the Local Authority from April 2013. The Local Authority would have a statutory responsibility for insuring the health of its population and would have a much stronger influence in shaping interventions and in supporting healthy lifestyles.*
- Members commented that teenage conception rates had always been a problem in Peterborough. What objective within the plan did teenage pregnancies come under? *Members were advised that it cut across strand 4 improved education and personal development and strand 6 which included the promotion of healthy lifestyles.*
- Members were pleased to note that the Local Authority had been successful in a bid to be part of a pilot to increase the free two year old early education places and that it would provide 58 more places in the more deprived areas of Peterborough. Can you advise where these places will be? *Members were advised that the announcement had only been made a few weeks ago and that work would need to be done with DfE colleagues to establish the best use of the money.*
- Members had been advised that there had been some teething problems when the new organisations Barnardos and Spurgeons had taken over the commissioning of the children's centres. Had these problems been sorted out? *The Director of Children's Services believed that they had been resolved but if Members became aware of anything he requested that they let him know.*
- Members wanted to know how many families and young people in crisis were being provided with temporary housing. *The Head of Neighbourhoods advised that he did not have the information with him but would provide it after the meeting.*
- Could more detail be provided as to why the six Lower Super Output Areas mentioned in the report had seen a significant move in the Indices of Multiple Deprivation and an explanation of what this meant? *The Head of Neighbourhoods advised that he would provide details to the committee outside of the meeting as he did not have the information with him.*

The Chair suggested that if the Committee thought of any further comments after the meeting they should email the Head of Neighbourhoods with the comments so that he could take note of them for the next draft of the plan.

The Chair requested that the comments made by the Committee were noted and that the draft Peterborough Strategic Development Plan for poverty reduction and social mobility with any amendments come back to the Committee in July for approval.

As it was the start of the new municipal year and there was a new draft Peterborough Strategic Development Plan for poverty reduction and social mobility the Chair proposed that

a new Poverty Champion be elected to take it forward. The Chair also proposed that this be an annual appointment. The Chair asked for nominations. Cllr Shearman was nominated by Cllr Fower and seconded by Cllr Saltmarsh. Cllr Day was nominated by Cllr Harper and seconded by Cllr Peach.

At this point Cllr Shearman who was the current Poverty Champion addressed the Chair to bring to her attention that there was nothing in the Constitution that covered the appointment of the post of Poverty Champion and asked the Senior Governance Officer for clarification as to whether it was a Council appointment. The Senior Governance Officer confirmed that the post of Poverty Champion was not a Council appointment and that it was an appointment of the Committee. The appointment of a Poverty Champion to act on behalf of the committee was made in January 2012 under an agenda item on Child Poverty Action. Cllr Shearman sought clarification as to why there should be a new appointment of a Poverty Champion at the beginning of the new municipal year. The Chair responded that it was because there was now a new draft Poverty Reduction Strategy and Action Plan in place along with a new lead Officer and it was therefore appropriate to offer the appointment to other Members of the Committee and for it to become an annual appointment. After a short discussion Cllr Shearman withdrew his nomination. There being no other nominations Councillor Day therefore accepted the role of Poverty Champion for the Committee for the municipal year 2012-2013.

The Chair proposed that each member of the Committee should champion one of the seven strands within the Poverty Reduction Strategy and that when the Strategy returned to the Committee in July this could be discussed further.

ACTIONS AGREED

- (i) The Committee requested that a final draft of the Poverty Reduction Strategy come back to the Committee in July for final approval.
- (ii) That a performance dashboard be created for the seven strands to show the Committee how the plan was progressing.
- (iii) The Head of Neighbourhoods to provide the Committee with the number of families and young people in crisis that were being provided with temporary housing.
- (iv) The Head of Neighbourhoods to provide the Committee with details of what was meant by the six Lower Super Output Areas mentioned in the report had seen a 'significant move' in the Indices of Multiple Deprivation.

7. Children's (Social Care) Services Statutory Complaints Process (Children Act 1989) Annual Report 2011/2012

The Customer Services Manager introduced the report and explained that the statutory complaints process covered in the report applied to complaints presented by or on behalf of 'children in need' or 'looked after' children as defined by the Children Act 1989. The complaints process aimed to provide additional safeguards for children and young people and to empower them to express their views about services they received. The report provided information on complaint volumes and performance.

Observations and questions were raised and discussed including:

- The complaints received are up from last year but there is no comparative data. Could you provide the previous year's data to compare? Do you have any national comparatives or bench marking data from neighbouring authorities? *Members were informed that it was difficult to provide the previous year's data as the reporting process had changed this*

year and was therefore not comparable. Work was being carried out with complaint managers from the Eastern Region with regard to benchmarking. When the information had been collated it could be shared with the Committee. It may be difficult to compare like with like as some of the other authorities were much larger and had different numbers of children in care.

- How can officers take confidence in the data and know that there was an improvement if previous year's data to compare or comparative data was not available. *Members were advised that there was data available from the previous year but not in the same format and not as robust as the current data. This could be provided to the Committee.*
- With regard to Table 2 in the report. It states that the average number of days to respond to referral and assessment complaints were 44 when the target was 20 and the average number of days to respond to Children In Need was 30. Had this improved? *The Director of Children's Services informed the committee that the report was reporting on last years performance when the referral and assessment team and family support team were chronically under resourced and struggling to keep on top of their case loads and case work. The improvement plan was tackling this and current data would show a totally different picture to last year.*
- Members noted that there had been an incremental improvement in response rates and wished to acknowledge the Director of Children's Services involvement in making this improvement and the support from officers in turning things around.
- The Head of Customer Services addressed the Commission and also acknowledged the support that had been given to the customer services team from Senior Management in Children's Services.
- Members requested further detail with regard to the classification of 'a child in need'. The Customer Service Manager advised that she would provide this via email to members of the Commission.

ACTIONS AGREED

The Commission noted the report and agreed that the Customer Service Manager provide the Committee with the following information:

- (i) Last year's data for complaints volumes and performance.
- (ii) Information detailing what the classification was of 'a child in need'.

8. Children's Services Improvement Programme – Progress Report

The Executive Director of Children's Services introduced the report. The report informed the Committee on progress that had been made on the Children's Services Improvement Programme which had been put in place following an Ofsted Inspection in August 2011. The progress report had been a regular report to the committee and the last update to the committee had been in March 2012. Members were advised that significant progress had been made against the core strategy and the 10 key steps which focused on tackling those areas of greatest risk first. Phase Two of the Improvement Programme would focus around seven steps:

- 1) Ensure initial and core assessments are completed on time to an adequate quality and ensure all cases are allocated appropriately
- 2) Focus on raising the quality of casework through
 - i. Implementing the QA framework
 - ii. Monthly audit programme of case work
 - iii. Mock inspection of the contact referral and assessment service
 - iv. Audits of multi-agency practice
 - v. Assurance exercise in long-term teams

- vi. Develop an “inspection ready programme” to prepare for the next full Ofsted inspection
- 3) Put in place a range of preventive services to avoid unnecessary family breakdown
 - i. Put in place an Access to Services Panel
 - ii. Commission high level family support
 - iii. Commission an adolescent intervention service
 - iv. Improve commissioning of all tier two and three services
 - v. Strengthen CAMHS and well-being services for young people
 - 4) Improve care planning and outcomes for Looked after Children (LAC)
 - i. Audit of care plans for all LAC
 - ii. Increase numbers of adoptions and Special Guardianship Orders
 - iii. Improve the supply and choice of adoption and fostering placements
 - iv. Monitoring of minimum standards:
 1. statutory visits
 2. recording for LAC cases
 3. Improving health care assessments for LAC
 - v. Early access to CAMHS provision
 - vi. Monitoring of Personal Education Plan for all LAC
 - vii. Strengthen voice of LAC in policy procedures and decision making
 - viii. Mock inspection of LAC service
 - 5) Strengthen the multi-agency use of the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) and the Team around the Child
 - i. Establish Multi-agency Support Panels (MASG)
 - ii. Set up monthly monitoring of uptake and outcomes including use of CAF
 - iii. Strengthen preventive alternatives available at tiers two and three
 - iv. Put in place a review process for all vulnerable children in MASG process
 - v. Review CAF access and allocation processes
 - 6) Put in place a permanent management structure and workforce
 - i. Restructure divisions and appoint new heads of service
 - ii. Recruit permanent social workers
 - iii. Recruit permanent Director of Children’s Services
 - 7) Improve the impact of partnerships
 - i. Strengthen monitoring and scrutiny role of Peterborough Safeguarding Children’s Board
 - ii. Develop a Joint Commissioning Group to replace the Children’s Trust
 - iii. Set up a Joint Commissioning Unit with the PCT and Clinical Commissioning Group

Observations and questions were raised and discussed including:

- How many permanent social workers do you have in place and how many were temporary. *The Director of Children’s Services advised that he did not have the exact figures with him but could provide the information later. There were approximately two real vacancies but about 20 to 22 agency staff within the compliment of 81 social workers. It was a high number of agency staff but they were required at this moment in time as they were of a high quality and had been with the department for some time. Ideally the aim was to have a full compliment of permanent staff who were going to make a career in Peterborough in place as soon as possible.*

- Are you going to take any of the agency staff on as permanent employees? *Members were informed that all of the agency staff had been written to and had been encouraged to consider applying for a permanent role.*
- Was there any correlation between families needing social care and those in poverty? *Members were advised that many families that live in poverty do not need a social care service but poverty could make a family vulnerable. There may be a correlation but there was no statistical evidence to show this.*
- What could be done to attract and keep social workers in Peterborough? *Members were advised that the elements that would attract and retain staff were:*
 - *Development, training and career opportunities*
 - *Reasonable workload*
 - *Managers that supported and advised their team**This would provide a long and sustainable workforce. Training was being provided for new social workers and there were currently four going through the training programme and this could possibly extend to eight. There was a need to have a balance of newly qualified social workers and established social workers.*
- Were the salaries offered to social workers in Peterborough comparable to other authorities? *Members were advised that Peterborough offered a competitive rate of pay.*
- The Chair commented that the Task and Finish Group had started a series of visits to the department and were continuing to monitor the ten core tasks.

Members wished to pass on their thanks to all the social workers for their commitment and all the work that they had done over this difficult time.

ACTIONS AGREED

- (i) The Committee noted the Safeguarding Improvement Plan and the progress that had been made.
- (ii) The Director of Children's Services to provide the Committee with the number of permanent social workers and temporary social workers currently in employed.

9. Review of 2011/12 and Work Programme for 2012/13

The report provided the Committee with:

- a review of work undertaken during 2011/12 and recommendations made
- the terms of reference for the Committee and
- a draft work programme for 2012/2013 for consideration

After consideration of the items within the report the Members of the Committee requested that in addition to items already on the work programme the following items should be considered:

- School development programme
- Looked after Children
- Children with disabilities and services provided for them

ACTION AGREED

The Committee agreed that the Senior Governance Officer work with the Chair and Group Representatives to manage the work programme of the Committee and programme in requested items.

10. Forward Plan of key Decisions

The Committee received the latest version of the Council's Forward Plan, 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 Forward Plan and requested clarification on the Award of a Framework for Temporary Staff for Children's Services – KEY/04MAR/12. The Director of Children's Services provided clarification to Members.

11. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 23 July 2012

The meeting began at 7.00pm and ended at 9.25

CHAIRMAN

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| CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE | Agenda Item No. 5 |
| 23 JULY 2012 | Public Report |

Report of the Cabinet Member for Children’s Services

Report Author – Cllr Sheila Scott

PORTFOLIO PROGRESS REPORT

1. PURPOSE

To provide Members with a progress report from the Children’s Services Portfolio Holder

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to scrutinise the progress made on the Cabinet Members’ Portfolio by providing challenge where necessary and to suggest ideas and initiatives to support improvements in performance.

3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

One of the priorities contained within the Sustainable Community Strategy is Creating Opportunities, Tackling Inequalities, which is within the remit of this Committee.

4. BACKGROUND

This report focuses on the progress we have made across my portfolio.

5. KEY ISSUES

This report provides the Committee with an overview summary of the service’s performance since my last report in November 2011.

5.1 Children’s Social Care

This Committee has received regular updates on progress against the improvement plan and I am grateful to Members of the Task and Finish Working Group for the attention they have given to this issue. I will, however, summarise our main achievements over this period and highlight the key risks as we move forward.

- In January, we brought in the peripatetic team to act as an additional pod in the Referral and Assessment Teams. This additional capacity was a major contributor to clearing up the entire outstanding initial and core assessments. By March, their work complete, the staff were absorbed into vacant posts and we resumed to working within our establishment numbers. We also introduced the Early Intervention Service which has successfully diverted families into the 8-19 service and the early years’ service.
- The Council approved an additional £1.3 million to increase the number of social workers in the service. This, alongside the clearing up of backlogs has had a dramatic impact on workloads - reducing the caseloads in Referral and Assessment from on average 30 per worker to 15 and in Family Support from 27 to 20.

- We quickly appointed two new and experienced Assistant Directors, Wendi Ogle-Welbourn and Sue Westcott, who commenced at the end of March/early April. They have made a huge and positive impact since their arrival.
- We have been immensely successful at attracting permanent staff. By the end of June our new recruitment campaign had attracted nine new starters and a further 18 staff with firm offers, who are due to start in July and August.
- As part of the strategy to develop early intervention services, three support panels have been introduced:
 - The Peterborough Access to Support Panel (PASP). This panel meets weekly. This panel deals with all high level requests for support around care proceedings, out of county placements, high-level family support, alternative education and specialist therapeutic provision.
 - The Joint Agency Support Panel (JASP) - every fourth week the above panel extends to include health professionals and considers children and young people with high level health care needs.
 - The Multi-Agency Support Groups (MASG). The MASGs will commence in September and will meet fortnightly in three localities. They will be made up of managers from the main local organisations and will provide access to multi-agency packages of support. Access is via the Common Assessment Form (CAF) with consent from young person or parent. We have recently simplified the form and this has reduced from 16 pages to 4.
- We have successfully implemented the Liquidlogic ICS product and provided additional dedicated administrative support as well as floor walkers to support the introduction of the new system. Again, I am grateful for the interest members of this Committee have shown in supporting these developments.
- Given the progress we have made on phase one of the improvement programme, Committee will be aware that we are now engaged with Phase Two, providing a new focus to accelerate us to the next stage. This second phase is a tougher challenge addressing the root causes of poor performance. It will fundamentally focus on the quality of case work and support services and on putting in place long-term sustainable improvement.
- We have made a good start to Phase Two. In April and May we completed 99% of initial assessments within the 10 day statutory timescale and 92% of core assessments within 35 days. We have completed nearly 750 "Assurance" audits primarily on long-term cases. This has identified 14% of inadequate cases which are now receiving attention. We have launched the Social Work Forum and the opening meeting was attended by the Leader of the Council. The Peterborough Access to Services Panel commenced in April and has been well received by practitioners. We have commenced the commissioning of high level family support and allocated £200,000 to meet this demand.
- I am extremely proud of these achievements and would like to record my appreciation and thanks to the staff and managers in the service who have responded so well to these challenges. I am nonetheless acutely aware that there remains much to do. I have always said that it will take 18 months to address the weaknesses identified by Ofsted in August 2011 but I am pleased at the rate of progress we have made to date and I expect this pace to continue.

5.2 Two Year Old Funding Pilot Status

I am delighted to report that Peterborough City Council was one of ten successful authorities in the UK to bid for an additional £253,000 of funding in 2012 to trial the scheme in a different way. This will focus on the Voyager area of the city (consisting of Bretton North, Paston and Walton wards) which is expected to face great challenges and pressures for places for 2 year olds when the expansion of the offer is delivered in 2013. The trial will enable preparation for this expansion by working with the childcare sector to increase quality places for 2 year olds, to test the proposed new criteria based on Free School Meals and the increased entitlement offered and to also improve management/administrative systems to facilitate the scheme on this much larger scale.

5.3 Young People's Drug and Alcohol Services

A newly commissioning Young People's Drug and Alcohol Service was launched in January 2012. Children and young people's drug and alcohol services have been previously delivered as two separate and independent services. The service was re-commissioned during 2011 as an integrated service with one provider commissioned to deliver both drug and alcohol services to young people. Drink & Drug sense commenced the new service on 3 January 2012. The service has a 'whole system approach' which means that young people referred will be seen for a range of problems that impact on their drug misuse. Further development to the service is being considered through an agreement with the Safer Peterborough Partnership. It is proposed that the Safer Peterborough Partnership will manage the young people's drug and alcohol service in line with adult drug and alcohol services. This will allow Peterborough City Council to streamline activity, maximise resources and creatively ensure seamless pathways to services and work in a more joined up way.

5.4 Children's Centres

Committee are aware that our Children's Centre contracts were re-tendered prior to the end of the existing contract on 31 March 2012. Twenty-one bids were submitted. The quality of the submissions was extremely high and the evaluation scores for the submissions were very close. However, after thorough evaluation the decision to award contracts for Lot 1 to Barnardos, Lot 2 to Spurgeons and Lot 3 to Spurgeons was reached.

Both organisations bring a large amount of experience to Peterborough Children's Centres with the capacity to improve the quality and consistency of services. Both organisations are committed to engaging fully with the local communities to ensure the services delivered meet the needs of local residents and provide a community facility that can benefit children and families.

6 IMPLICATIONS

It is anticipated that the Scrutiny Committee will comment on and make recommendations relating to the updates provided in this report in order that delivery potential is maximised for the benefit of children and families.

7 CONSULTATION

No consultation has taken place with regard to this report.

8 EXPECTED OUTCOMES and NEXT STEPS

Comments and recommendations made by Scrutiny Committee members will be considered as part of the ongoing development and delivery of children's services.

9 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

None

10. APPENDICES

None

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| CREATING OPPORTUNITIES & TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE | Agenda Item No. 6 |
| 23 JULY 2012 | Public Report |

Report of the Executive Director of Children's Services

Contact Officer(s) – Malcolm Newsam
Contact Details - 863606

CHILDREN'S SERVICES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME

1. PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on the Improvement programme.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 To note the progress made on the core strategy

3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

3.1 The Sustainable Community Strategy identifies "Improving Health" and "Supporting Vulnerable People" as priorities. Improvement in Children's Social Care is key to the delivery of these priorities.

4. BACKGROUND

4.1 Following an Ofsted Inspection in August 2011, the Council has engaged in a programme to secure rapid improvement. This improvement will be driven by three key elements:

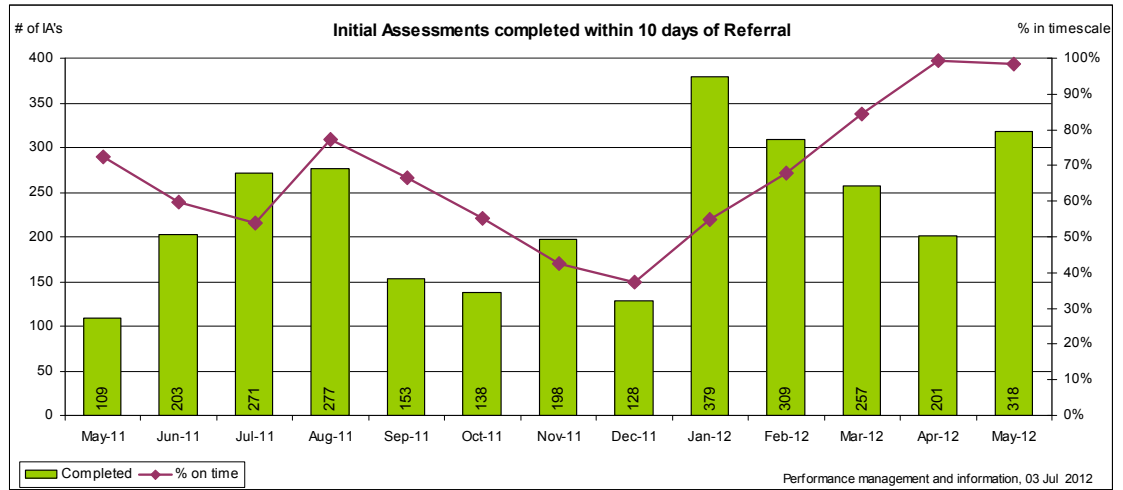
- The Children's Services Improvement Programme
- The Core Strategy which focuses effort on what we must prioritise
- The leadership of Members and officers in delivering the required changes

4.2 The Council's progress is closely monitored both internally and externally by this Committee, the Scrutiny Task and Finish Group and the External Improvement Board.

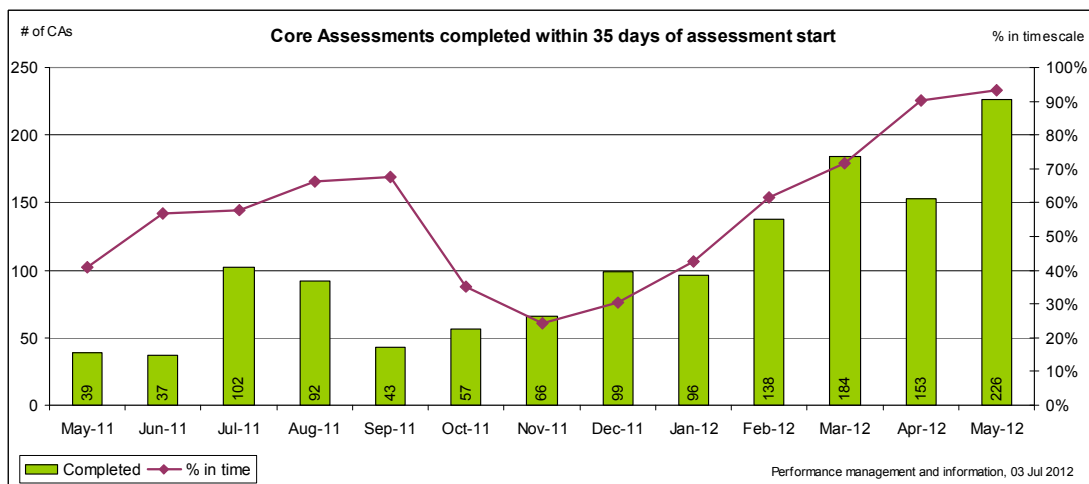
5. KEY ISSUES

5.1 As highlighted in the Cabinet Member's report we have continued to make good progress on Phase Two of the programme:

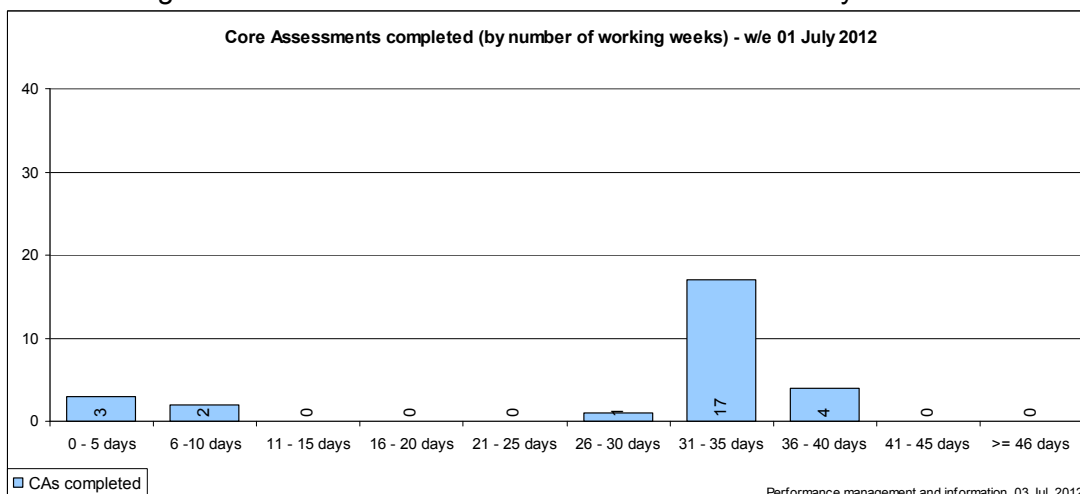
- In April and May we completed 99% of initial assessments within the 10 day statutory timescale. The target set within the Improvement Notice is 75.2%.



We also completed 92% of core assessments within 35 days. The target set within the Improvement Notice is 85.5%.



The following chart shows the distribution of core assessments by the time taken to complete them.



5.2 The service has been pleased to host a review visit from Jane Held, the Independent Chair of the External Improvement Board and she has provided a progress report to the Minister, Tim Loughton. Jane Held concludes in her report back to the Minister:

“The Council has continued to progress its improvement activity robustly and swiftly. This is demonstrated, not only by the data, but by what social workers are saying ‘on the ground’. There is a clear understanding politically of the tasks ahead and the determination to sustain the trajectory.”

6. IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The cost of the improvement programme can be met from within existing budgets. Resources are available to secure improvement in the immediate and longer term.
- 6.2 The Secretary of State has the power to issue a statutory notice if he is not satisfied that sufficient progress is being made.

7. CONSULTATION

- 7.1 Partner agencies, parents and children will be involved in the improvement activity.

8. NEXT STEPS

- 8.1 This Committee will continue to receive a regular update on progress and the Task and Finish Group will meet monthly to support the improvement.

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

- 9.1
 - Ofsted Inspection of Safeguarding: Peterborough 6th September 2011
 - Ofsted Unannounced Inspection of contact referral and assessment arrangements 3rd March 2011
 - Ofsted Safeguarding and Looked after Children Inspection: Peterborough 21st May 2010

10. APPENDICES

- 10.1 None

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| CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE | Agenda Item No. 7 |
| 23 JULY 2012 | Public Report |

Report of the Executive Director of Children's Services

Report Author – Wendi Ogle-Welbourn
Contact Details – 01733 863749

CHILDREN'S CENTRES

1. PURPOSE

To provide Members with a progress report on the commissioning of Children's Centres and implementation of the new children's centres contracts.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to scrutinise the progress made on the new children's centres arrangements by providing challenge and to suggest ideas and initiatives to support the children's centres development.

3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

One of the priorities contained within the Sustainable Community Strategy is Creating Opportunities, Tackling Inequalities. The Children's Centres have been created to support young children and their families and fully support priorities in the Sustainable Community Strategy including improving health, supporting vulnerable people and improving skills and education.

4. BACKGROUND

4.1 Children's Centres are part of the Government's agenda to improve outcomes for children – providing a place where families with children under 5 years can access a range of services which include: early learning services; parenting and family support including relationship support; outreach services and information and support for families; child and family health services; and adult learning and employment support.

4.2 Children's Centres now have a statutory basis. The Childcare Act 2006 imposed duties on local authorities to improve the well-being of young children in their area and reduce inequalities between them and to make arrangements to ensure that early childhood services are provided in an integrated way in order to improve access and maximise the benefits of those services to young children and their parents. The Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 goes further. It inserted new provisions into the Childcare Act 2006 so that the Act now defines Sure Start Children's Centres in law. It places duties on local authorities in relation to establishing and running children's centres.

4.3 On March 31st Cabinet Members agreed to the contracts for children's centres delivery to be awarded to Spurgeons and Barnardo's. These contracts covered the Central and East area, South locality and North West and Rural.

Central and East area comprises of Fulbridge, First Steps, Gladstone and East Children's Centres; the South locality comprises of Hampton, Orton, Fletton (Brewster Avenue) and Stanground; and the North West and Rural locality comprises of Bretton, Paston, Raventhorpe and East Rural Children's Centres.

5. KEY ISSUES

5.1 Barnardo's and Spurgeons – about the new providers in Peterborough

Barnardo's

Barnardo's is now delivering children's centres in the Central Locality of Peterborough. The centres are East, First Steps, Fulbridge and Gladstone Children's Centres.

Barnardo's is a large and well known organisation which delivers over 800 Government funded contracts supporting 180,000 children, young people and their families every year. Barnardo's vision is that the lives of all children, young people and families should be free from poverty, abuse and discrimination. Their purpose is to help the most vulnerable children and young people transform their lives and fulfil their potential. The work of Barnardo's is supported by research and an evidence base that underpins the work and engagement with policy at government level. Summary of other work includes:

- Managing 131 children's centres across the country
- A Strategic Partner to DfE for Improving Outcomes for Families
- Participation on the ACEVO Early Years Task Force, currently examining how payment by results can be applied to children's centres
- Managing 13 Family Intervention Projects on across the UK, Hull and Blackpool where they are piloting *Working Families Everywhere*

Barnardo's vision for Peterborough is to provide a community resource for families consisting of innovative, integrated children's centres that serve as hubs for families to access the services they need. Their aim is to create one service across the central locality, creating a new joint identity for staff while remaining a known and trusted provision for parents and families.

Barnardo's will build on the best of current provision and through a process of consultation and analysis, refocus services to improve outcomes for those young children and their families that need it most.

Barnardo's bring experience in raising the consistency of service delivery through shared resource, expertise and best practice as well as a level of expertise in engaging and working with vulnerable children and families. This will be integrated into the children's centres in the central locality, using innovative methods to engage with children and families who may not seek services but have high need with outreach work as a priority.

Barnardo's is committed to empowering service users to participate – their experience demonstrates that solutions that are owned by the child and family have far more impact and are more closely aligned to need. Children and families therefore will be involved in the design and delivery of services. Barnardo's will facilitate parents to run services and recruit and support volunteers from the wider community to assist with groups and individual families. This will free up skilled staff to focus and engage on families and children with the highest need. Barnardo's brings its long history of supporting volunteers into children's centres.

Spurgeons

Spurgeons is now delivering children's centres across the South Locality, Brewster Avenue, Hampton, Orton and Stanground as well as the North, West and Rural locality, comprising Bretton, East Rural, Paston and Ravensthorpe.

Founded in 1867, Spurgeons have been working with marginalised and disadvantaged children and young people for over 140 years. The organisation strives for positive, lasting change for children and young people. They manage over 70 projects across England, reaching over 35 000 children and young people. Their projects include:

- Children's Centres
- Children and Young People affected by Imprisonment
- Family support and interventions
- Targeted support for young people

Spurgeons works closely with central government, local authorities and other organizations in the design, development and delivery of services for children and young people. It is an outcome focused, child centred organisation passionate about making a difference to the lives of children and their families. Their Strategic Vision for the leadership and service delivery of Children Centres in Peterborough is to align delivery of the current core offer with more targeted service provision in order to effectively identify and reach the most disadvantaged families in the locality, to reduce inequalities in child development and school readiness and achieve outcomes which improve parenting capacity and aspirations, self esteem, health and wellbeing and economic wellbeing.

Spurgeons operate a model of Children's Centres based on the principle that a Children's Centre is not just a place where families walk through the door to receive services. It is a complex network of interagency partnerships and a matrix of mainstream, specialist, commissioned and community services working to shared objectives, which, combined with harnessing the strengths and resources of families, improves outcomes for young children. Spurgeons is also committed to engaging with the local community, not only to increase the reach and registration figures but also to embed Children's Centres in each community, opening up opportunities for increased support, volunteering, added value and sustainability.

Both organisations bring a large amount of experience to Peterborough Children's Centres with the capacity to improve the quality and consistency of services. Both organisations are committed to engaging fully with the local communities to ensure the services delivered meet the needs of local residents and provide a community facility that can benefit children and families.

Both organisations also bring significant experience of safeguarding and have robust safeguarding policies and procedures.

5.2 Progress to date

The transition to the new providers is only at the very early stages, being less than three months into the 3 to 5 year contract period. In fact the contract required both organisations not to make any significant changes to front line services for the first four months of delivery. This period was to ensure sufficient time had been allowed for any new organisation to evaluate current practice, transition staff to their organisation and consult with service users, potential service users and stakeholders as to service development. Significant changes have to be agreed with the Local Authority prior to implementation.

Current activity includes:

- Inducting staff into their respective organisations
- Working through the restructure of the services
- Stakeholder/user events to present the organisational vision, timetable and future plans
- Assessment/review of current practice

All existing services are being delivered during this period of change.

5.3 Future Monitoring Arrangements to Ensure Quality Services

Processes have been established to ensure that the contracts are being monitored and the outcomes achieved, in terms of impact on children and families. These will be measured through a number of means:

- Submission of quarterly contract reports – looking at the quarterly statistics relating to activity in the centre, along with submission of qualitative information around the impact of service provision
- Quarterly contract meetings – to discuss the quarterly contract reports and any issues arising
- Quality visits to children's centres, to support the centres and assess the services being delivered

- Annual conversations with each of the children's centres – a conversation between the provider of the children's centre, the Local Authority and other key partners to consider progress of the children's centre and to discuss priorities for the centre.
- Ofsted inspections – the children's centres are subject to Ofsted inspections. 7 centres have already been inspected by Ofsted. 8 centres have yet to have their first Ofsted inspection. Of these, 1 has achieved an outstanding, 3 were rated as good and 3 rated as satisfactory.
- The numbers of children registered with each children's centre varies from centre to centre. At the time of the commissioning of the centres the average number registered for each centre was 69.6% of the total population of children under 5 years registered with their local children's centre, which ranged from 35.2% to 95%. In terms of the most vulnerable children 33% of the children on the Child Protection register are known to the local children's centre.

6 IMPLICATIONS

It is anticipated that the Scrutiny Committee will comment on and make recommendations relating to the updates provided in this report in order that delivery potential is maximised for the benefit of children and families.

7 CONSULTATION

No consultation has taken place with regard to this report.

8 EXPECTED OUTCOMES and NEXT STEPS

Comments and recommendations made by Scrutiny Committee members will be considered as part of the ongoing development and delivery of children's centres.

9 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

None

10. APPENDICES

None

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| CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE | Agenda Item No. 8 |
| 23 JULY 2012 | Public Report |

Report of the Executive Director of Children's Services

Contact Officer(s) – Wendi Ogle-Welbourn Assistant Director Strategy, Commissioning & Prevention

Contact Details – 01733 863688

POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide the committee with the final draft of the Poverty Reduction Strategy for consideration.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 For the committee to make final comment on the Poverty Reduction Strategy and advise of future reporting requirements.
- 2.2 To identify committee members to take the lead on the various strands of the strategy on behalf of the Committee.

3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

- 3.1 Safeguarding the Most Vulnerable Families.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Poverty Reduction Strategy is part of programme 2 in the Single Delivery Plan – Safeguarding the Most Vulnerable Families.
- 4.2 Progress in developing the action plan which supports the strategy was reported to the All Party Policy planning meeting on the 28th June.

5. POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY

- 5.1 The Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities Scrutiny Committee have previously considered drafts of the Poverty Reduction Strategy. The Committee is now asked to make any final comments prior to formal approval of the strategy.
- 5.2 Councillor Shearman, as the nominated Poverty Champion for the Committee from January to June 2012 will give a verbal report at the meeting on the work that he has undertaken during that time.
- 5.3 Given the breadth of work required to reduce poverty and that there are seven strands within the strategy members are invited to put themselves forward to be the lead member on behalf of the committee for one of the strands.

6. IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 None

7. CONSULTATION

7.1 During the development of the Poverty Reduction Strategy there was wide consultation with partner agencies.

8. NEXT STEPS

8.1 The Poverty Reduction Action Plan will be monitored regularly through the Greater Peterborough Partnership.

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

9.1 None

10. APPENDICES

10.1 Poverty Reduction Strategy.

Peterborough Strategic Development Plan for poverty reduction and social mobility

Adopting a 'Think Poverty' approach



June 2012
Final Draft

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DRAFT

National Context

The Coalition government's commitment to eradicate child poverty builds on the work of the previous Labour government, the result of which was the Child Poverty Act 2010. This Act placed a number of duties on local authorities and named partners, including the Local Strategic Partnership, to meet four income targets. The purpose of this strategy is to set out plans proposed by Peterborough partnerships to fulfil our duties under the Child Poverty Act and to tease out actions that we feel can combat the causes and consequences of family poverty in the local area.

For the purpose of this strategy, we have determined that 'family poverty' is a more appropriate way of conceptualising Child Poverty. We have therefore adopted this term as the focus for our work. Childhood experiences in **families** suffering from high levels of worklessness, in work poverty or reliance on benefits restricts choices or imposes severe hardships; childhood experience in **deprived neighbourhoods** where opportunities to participate in society through social interaction, leisure or support networks are undermined compounds disadvantage; and childhood experience in **cities** with a legacy of low levels of attainment, skills and productivity, where local economies lack dynamism or quality of life, impacts on aspirations for all. The context in which children are growing and living lays the foundations for later life.

This document sets out our Phase 1 (2011-2014) plan for a city wide set of strategic aims and actions. It represents our joint commitment to try and provide opportunities to all,

Defining Poverty

1. Income Targets

The most common definition of Child Poverty in England relates to the proportion of children living in families in receipt of out of work benefits...

The numbers of Job Seekers' Allowance (JSA) male benefit claimants (March 2011) in Peterborough was 6.5% compared to 4.1% in the East of England. For females, the figures were recorded as 2.9%, compared to 2.5% in the East of England.

... or tax credits where the reported income is less than 60% of the equivalent median income...

The median gross weekly pay for a full time worker in Peterborough (2011) was identified by NOMIS as £376.30 for a female worker and £498.90 for a male worker. These figures were amongst the lowest when compared to the East of England identified as £450.60 and £541.90 respectively. This might indicate a female in full time employment in Peterborough earning just £225.78 a week.

Families experience severe poverty where they have access to less than 50% median income and experience material deprivation. The numbers who fall into this category in Peterborough are projected to be approximately 3,500.

2. Social Mobility

More recently, the drive to eradicate poverty embodies a broader aim which is the promotion of social mobility¹ (strengthening families, achievement, aspiration and opportunities) and social justice² (providing support for the most vulnerable).

¹ HM Government, April 2011. [Opening Doors, Breaking Barriers: A Strategy for Social Mobility](#)

² Social Justice

This strategy is founded on the understanding that a new approach³ to tackling poverty and securing social justice in the decade ahead needs to be adopted. Eradicating poverty must address immediate financial concerns for many families and also build the life chances of children by increasing opportunity, supporting families and raising aspiration.

Developing our vision

A life in poverty means risks to health, educational attainment, life expectancy, choices and opportunities that have short and longer term consequences. Yet, despite such pressures, it was notable from extensive consultation that stigma remains a significant barrier to families in sourcing and accepting help. A key aim of our work will be to mitigate against such sentiment. Across the workforce we will work to ensure sensitivity, responsiveness and a well developed understanding of how poverty might impact on households.

A key transformation in our approach will be a model of work that supports families over a life span, alongside our commitment to focus on improving life chances. This is in line with Central government's planned response to the Field⁴, Munro⁵, Allen⁶ and Tickell⁷ Reviews. The Marmot Review⁸ of Health Inequalities has also drawn attention to the role of health in shaping life chances by drawing our focus to those earliest beginnings, for example, outcomes for low birth weight babies.

³ HM Government, April 2011. [*A New Approach to Child Poverty: Tackling the Causes of Disadvantage and Transforming Families' Lives*](#)

⁴ HM Government, December 2010. [*The Foundation Years: preventing poor children becoming poor adults – the report of the Independent Review on Poverty and Life Chances by Frank Field*](#)

⁵ Department for Education, May 2011. [*The Munro Review of Child Protection: Final Report*](#)

⁶ HM Government, January 2011. [*Early Intervention: The Next Steps*](#) by Graham Allen MP

⁷ Dame Clare Tickell, March 2011. [*The Early Years : Foundations for life, health and learning – An Independent Report on the Early Years Foundation Stage*](#)

⁸ Strategic Review of Health Inequalities, February 2010. [*Fair Society, Healthy Lives: The Marmot Review*](#)

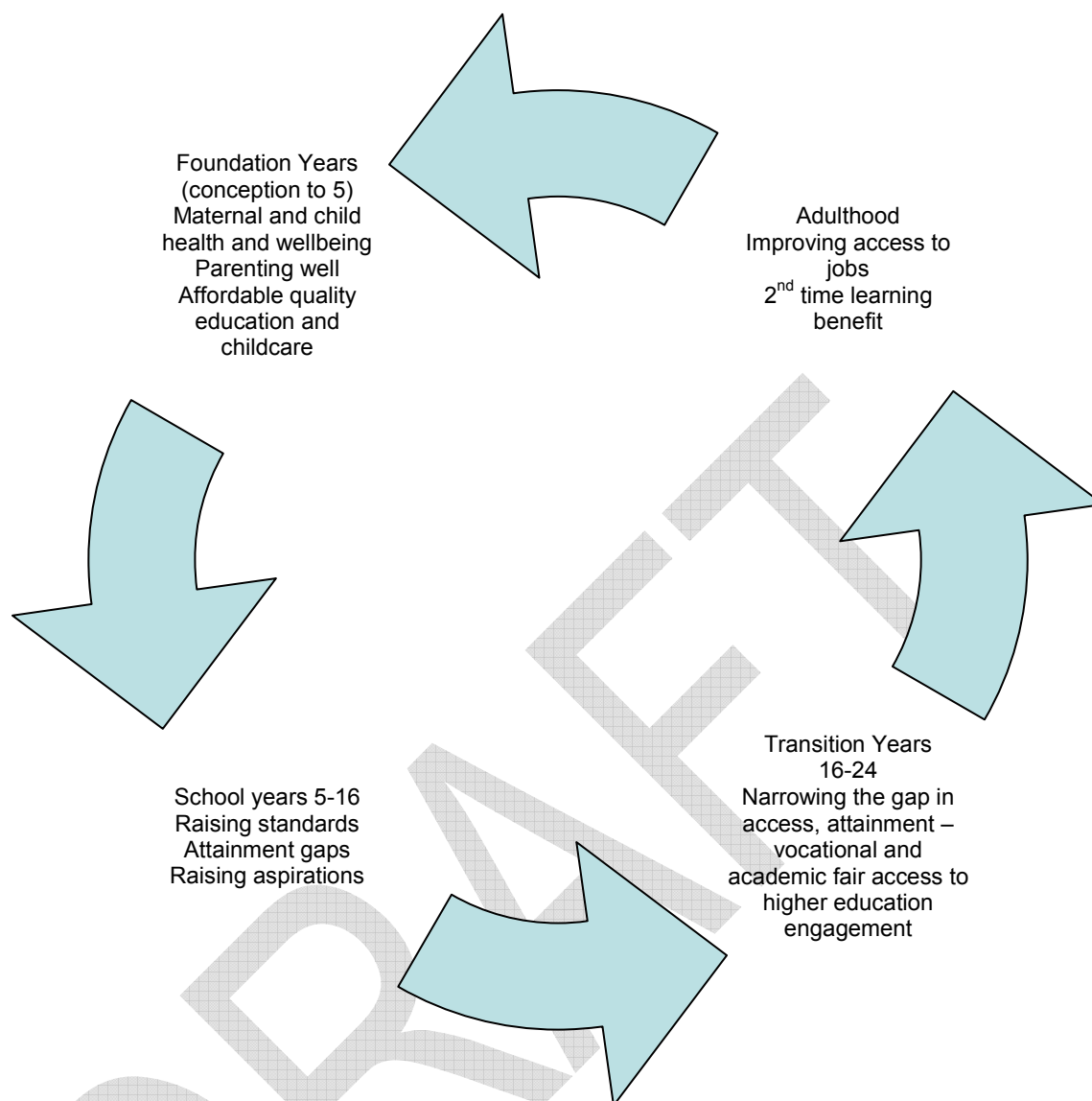


Diagram 1: Social Mobility across the life cycle

There may be difficult challenges ahead. We know more than ever before about the causes and consequences of poverty. Short term monetary poverty approaches produce more immediate effects, often within the lifespan of a project but will be challenged by planned welfare reform (see Appendix A). We need to balance this alongside longer term goals and investment in capacity building projects designed to tackle the cyclical nature of poverty.

To make change happen each one of us must recognise our role in challenging poverty. As a city we must recognise that it is **‘Everybody’s Business’** to act. We must acknowledge our underlying shared purpose which is to work together to achieve change.

Key Messages

Child poverty is relatively high in Peterborough (25.3%), compared to 16.4% in the East of England region and 21.6% nationally, and rising year on year.

Peterborough's population has a high proportion of children and young people compared to the rest of England.

'In work' poverty and low income levels impact on a significant proportion of our local families at a higher rate than the national average.

Peterborough has a higher percentage of children living in families receiving out of work benefits than the national average.

The percentage of adults qualified to Level 2 is lower than the national average.

Peterborough's average weekly rent is much higher than both the national average and when compared to one of our statistical neighbours.

The take-up of the childcare element of working tax credits among eligible parents in Peterborough has fallen and is below the national average.

Peterborough has a higher rate of children in care per 10,000 population than both the statistical neighbour and national averages.

Peterborough has a higher number of houses of multiple occupation than the two of its statistical neighbours with the closest overall population figures.

Peterborough has a lower percentage of students achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs with English and Maths than both the statistical neighbour and the England averages.

Everybody has a part to play in reducing child poverty

The purpose of this document is to identify where opportunities exist to effect positive change.

We welcome the opportunity to develop a strategy for the city that allows all partners to contribute to our work in tackling poverty and achieving social mobility.

We believe by aligning work across partnerships, we can ensure a co-ordinated response and a better use of valuable resources.

The **Sustainable Community Strategy 2008-2021** sets out the overarching agenda for Peterborough and places significant emphasis on pursuing growth and regeneration, increasing prosperity and improving skills, education and health, all of which are critical to tackling poverty in the city.

The **Housing Strategy 2011-15** sets out the council's housing-related agenda over the next four years. It's contribution to the tackling poverty agenda include actions to reduce fuel poverty, improve local housing stock, prevent rough sleeping and provide support for vulnerable people and those experiencing housing difficulties.

The **Peterborough Local Economic Assessment** (April 2011) identified the challenges facing the city including high levels of benefit claimants, unemployment and long term worklessness. It's recommendations to raise skill levels, innovation and enterprise, increase inward investment and tackle worklessness will play a significant role in lifting local families out of poverty.

The **Safer Peterborough Partnership Plan 2011-14** sets out a number of actions to reduce crime, tackle anti-social behaviour and hate crime and build stronger communities. This work contributes to the tackling poverty agenda by protecting vulnerable groups, improve local neighbourhoods (by reducing crime), strengthening local communities and supporting people to move away from crime.

The **Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2011** highlights, among other issues, that the quality and sustainability of Peterborough's childcare market can be considered good enough and stable enough to support a sufficient market place, although the market will need to keep pace with the growing city. It also highlights potential to increase knowledge of support options (including financial support information) for families and employers, while focus groups held with parents of children with additional needs identified some concern about the lack of provision as children get older, with a significant reduction at age 14. Working to

address these issues will support people into work and improve outcomes for children, demonstrating the relationship between childcare and poverty.

All these elements have a role to play in improving local lives. We believe this strategy provides the means to encourage an effective and joined up approach to eradicate poverty.

Evidence based approaches indicate that work with families who experience inter generational deprivation and worklessness leads to improvements where multi professional teams work together.

...Jointly we can make progress and support change.

What success looks like?

Improved life chances amongst out most vulnerable children.

Young people and parents assisted to get into, and stay in. work that pays.

Services that can reflect the needs of differently disadvantaged communities.

Families who know how to access information, advice and guidance and understand what it might mean for them.

Support for families to take those first steps so as to benefit from expertise and services already operating in Peterborough.

What will it take to eradicate child poverty?

A whole family approach.

Connectivity and collaboration amongst partners.

Co-operation amongst services to promote and share data that will improve the co-ordination of services and help us to monitor the outcomes.

Commitment of front line staff to tackle poverty.

Engagement of communities and parents in strategies that effect change and transformation.

Commissioning of evidence based approaches and integrated pathways.

The cost of child poverty

The case for investing in a local poverty and social mobility strategy

In Peterborough, families face multiple risk factors, including persistent, deep seated poverty, as well as additional barriers that make employment difficult for many families to access, such as:

- Disability
- Communication / language needs
- Mental health needs
- Households with members who undertake 'caring' responsibilities

'It has long been recognised that local government is a key player in creating the conditions for material wellbeing. It does this through increasing employment opportunities, regenerating the physical environment and strengthening the local economy. But more recent evidence also highlights the importance of nurturing well being in local populations so that all residents can reach their potential and live a good life'

(HM Government, March 2010. [New Horizons: Confident communities, brighter futures: a framework for developing well-being](#))

Notwithstanding the poor outcomes associated with living in poverty, child poverty is expensive both in terms of direct costs to services during and after childhood, and in costs to the economy when children grown up. Some estimates put the costs at £25 billion a year.

Moving all families above the poverty line will not instantly balance the books, but an ever increasing demand against services might be prevented through early intervention and awareness.

Drawing on Government published statistics, data might indicate that in Peterborough the scale and distribution of poverty looks something like this:

22% of all children in relative poverty = 10,560
17% of all children in both low income and material deprivation = 8,160
12% of all children were in absolute poverty = 5,760
12% of all children were in persistent poverty (3-4 years) = 5,760

Our needs assessment (March 2011) demonstrated that currently 25.3% (12,144) of our children aged under 19 years, are recorded as living in relatively low income households. Locally, this means we have considerable work to achieve the government target of eradicating poverty by 2020. Retrospectively, local figures may well increase. Our direction of travel and agreed actions will need to reflect a shifting context which to some degree is beyond our immediate control.

Areas where Peterborough does well

- MMR immunisations
- Early years childcare
- Placement stability
- Sports participation rates
- Short Breaks for families with disabled children

Areas for concern and action

- Admission rates for injury
- Childhood obesity
- NEET
- First time entrants to the youth justice system
- Child mortality
- Teenage conceptions
- Hidden pockets of poverty in areas of new housing
- Public transport issues
- Gaps in health inequalities and educational attainment between children from poorer backgrounds and their better off peers
- Debt issues and access to appropriate financial support
- Families experience of private rented accommodation
- Adult smokers
- Adult Skill Levels

Risks and poverty

The strategy also acknowledges that we cannot do everything. Difficult decisions had to be made to focus our efforts.

‘Everybody has a part to play in reducing child poverty’

The purpose of this document is to identify where opportunities exist to effect positive change.

1. Who is most at risk?

Local consultation mirrors national findings where those identified at greatest risk of disadvantage and poor outcomes were:

New birth households, particularly lone-parent families⁹

Children in households where there are no members in full time employment

Households comprising members of Pakistani, Black African and Bangladeshi minority ethnic communities¹⁰

Households with a disabled child or adult

Households where there are more than three children

2. Where in Peterborough is poverty most likely to be experienced?

The link between poverty and deprivation is well established. 'Communities' who may experience particular difficulties in accessing services are often termed 'hard to reach'. Area based approaches have tended to signal where services have needed to target much of their work. Historically, activities focused on improving accessibility, making services more user friendly, and meeting language and communication needs, as models of work to designed to increase the take up of services and to secure relationships within those communities. Data does indeed reveal a stark contrast in experience dependent upon where you live in the city. Using nationally derived data, Dogsthorpe, Central and East are wards identified as areas with significant levels of child poverty. Using locally interpreted data, our top five most deprived wards include Dogsthorpe, Central, East, Orton Waterville and Paston.

⁹ Peterborough has a much higher fertility and birth rate than both the national average and the East of England average. During 2008, there were 2,987 live births in Peterborough. Of these, 55% were to married women. (Information provided by the Performance Management and Information Team)

¹⁰ 4.5% of Peterborough's population were Asian Pakistani compared to the England figure of 1.8% using 2007 statistics. (Performance Management and Information Team)

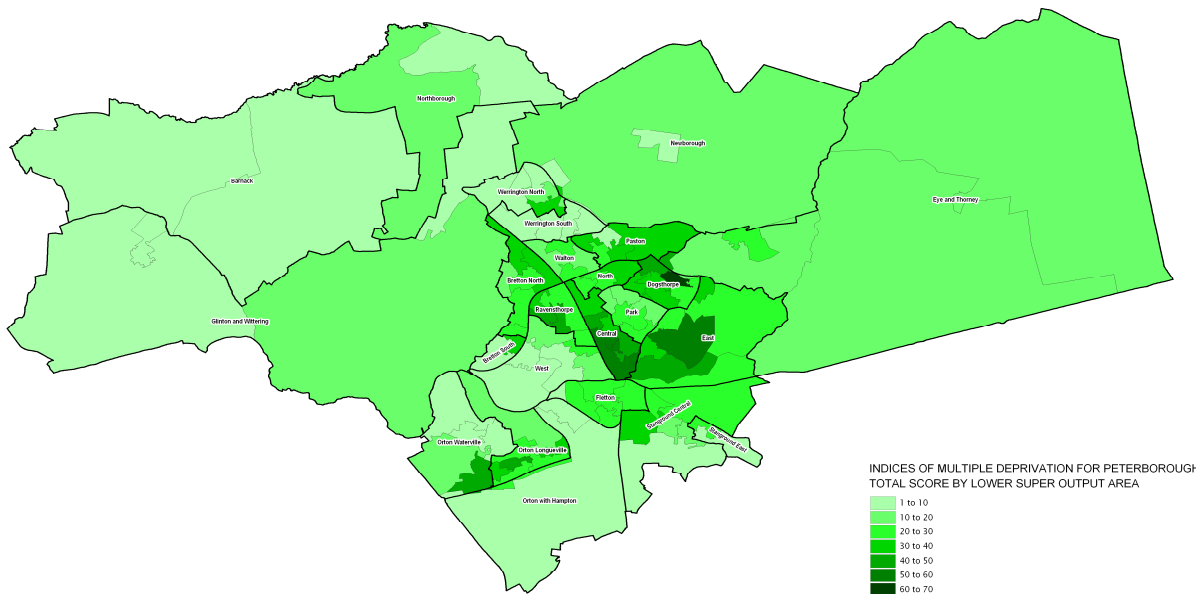


Diagram 2: Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) for Peterborough by Ward (2007)

A shifting picture

There has been significant population change, increased mobility and growth of transient communities within Peterborough. Taken together these factors begin to suggest a new picture of deprivation in the locality. Hidden pockets of deprivation are emerging across the city, such as Orton with Hampton. Likewise, six LSOAs¹¹ have seen a significant move in the IMD ranking (i.e. more than 10%). These areas include: Bretton, North, Newborough, Orton with Hampton, Park and Werrington South.

¹¹ Lower Super Output Areas – [LSOAs](#) have between 1,000 and 3,000 people living in them with an average population of 1,500 people. There are 32,482 LSOAs in England, with 1 being the most deprived and 32,482 the least deprived.

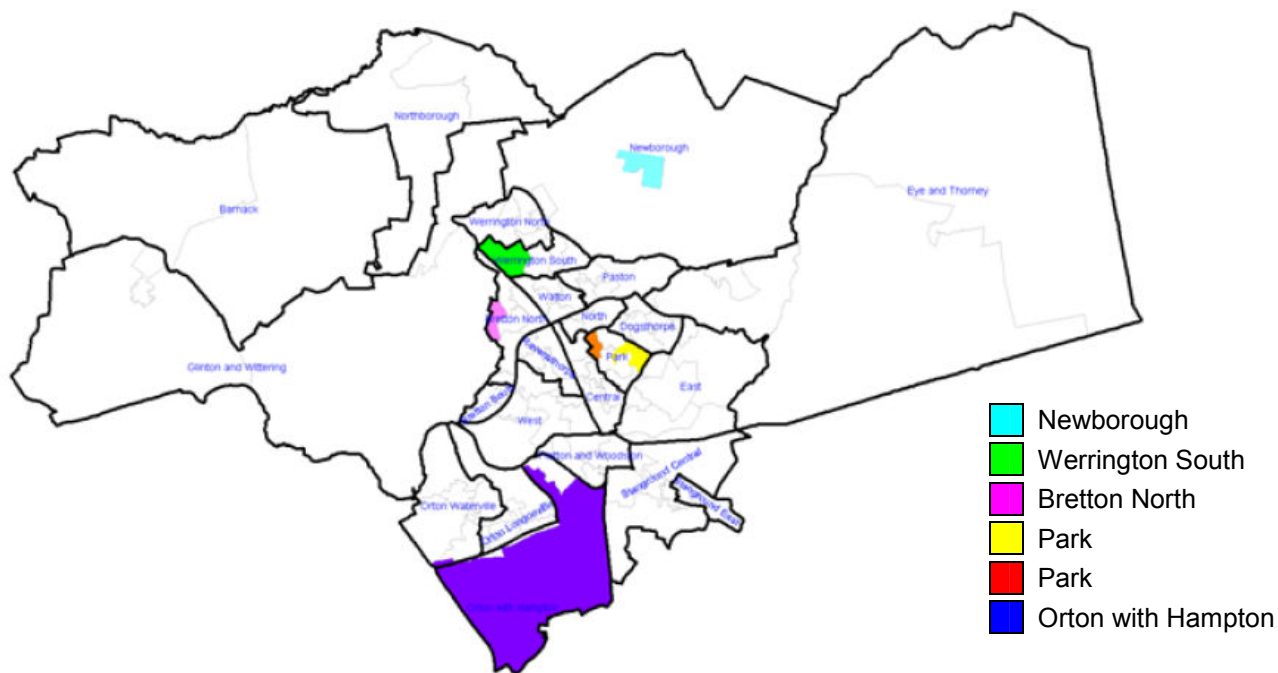


Diagram 3: Lower Super Output Areas for Peterborough

First read analysis by the Performance Management and Information Team indicates that the most common reasons underpinning change, differs within each locality:

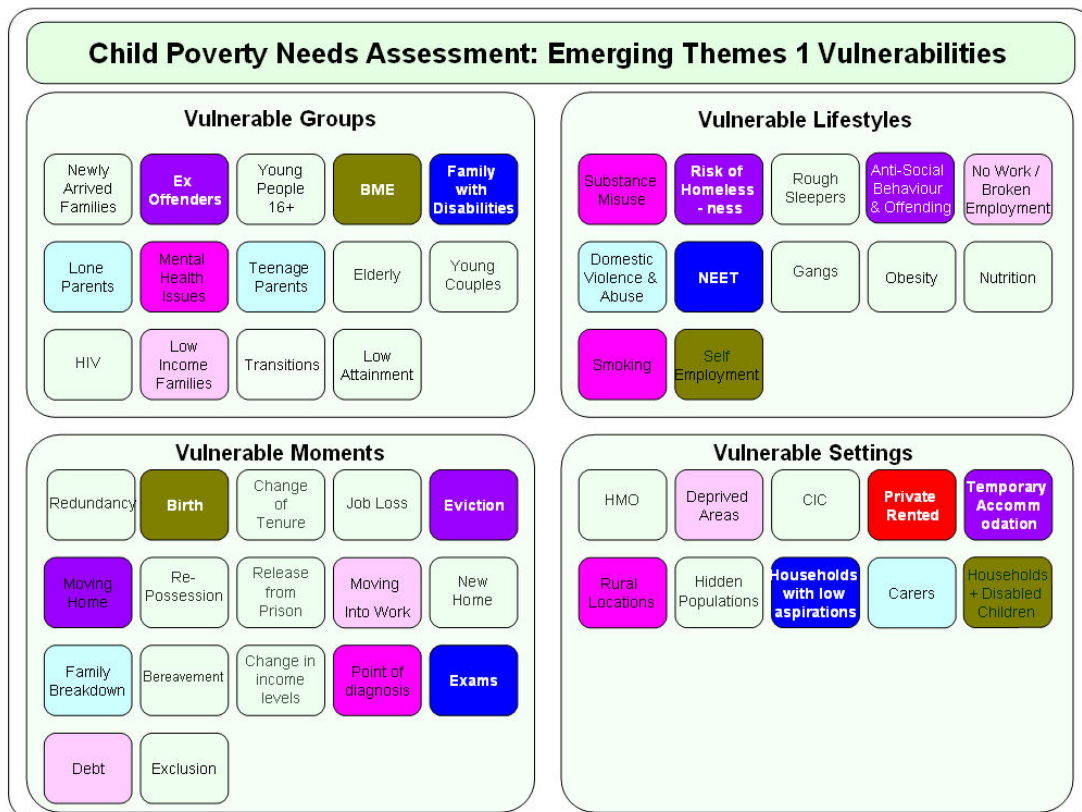
- Bretton North – Education
- Newborough – Housing
- Orton with Hampton – Housing, closely followed by Crime
- Park – Housing, Education, closely followed by Crime
- Park – Employment, Health
- Werrington South – Income, Health and Housing have moved significantly

The ward that has changed the most is Orton Waterville, which has dropped 4,197 places in rankings.

To some degree, understanding and tackling deprivation depends on our ability to contextualise this data. By using our data well, we can begin to see the need for different models and approaches to reflect localised change happening across the city. More importantly, we can consider factors that increase vulnerabilities for individual households within locations not generally associated with poverty.

Priority needs in Peterborough

The Poverty Needs Assessment suggests the first steps we can take together, to make a positive difference to quality of life in Peterborough and was developed through extensive consultation. There was a consensus that our local focus should be on Family Poverty, reflecting our desire to work holistically and adopting a ‘think family’ type approach.



Since the production of this table the special circumstance of families with no recourse to public funds has been acknowledged as a significant area for examination.

There is acknowledgement that creative solutions and targeted work to support communities with significant need is already happening. The strategy aims to build on that work where possible.

However, to only focus on those already experiencing extreme difficulties will not necessarily reduce vulnerabilities in the population, where the complex causes of problems and inequalities remain the same. Eradicating poverty needs more work to be done at the population level to limit the future impact of difficult circumstances through early intervention

and preventative work. We need to focus on streamlining our objectives, integrating pathways and aligning budgets.

The emphasis of this strategy is to highlight key areas which we believe will impact positively on poverty and social mobility and against which the partnership can take action.

Five broad objectives have been identified:

Supporting vulnerable groups

Supporting individuals with vulnerable lifestyles

Supporting individuals during vulnerable moments and circumstances that tip them over the edge

Supporting individuals in vulnerable settings

Improving the way we work

What national poverty pilots suggest is working

1. Validated Practice

- Family based support for early learning to improve children's attainment
- Access to high quality support and information to engage families likely to be excluded from children's centres
- Mentoring for 5-11 year olds with behavioural difficulties
- Partnership working with Jobcentre Plus
- Integrated multi agency services
- Community entrepreneurs linking deprived communities
- Partnerships with welfare rights organisation to improve benefit take up amongst families with special needs
- Equitable access for vulnerable children to access community paediatric services

2. Promising Practice

- Social Innovation Bulk Buying Project
- Staying together
- Partnership approaches to address fluctuations in pupil members due to temporary accommodation demands
- Tailored mentoring for 5 – 11 year olds at risk of offending

Our approach

Adopting poverty and social mobility as a strategic priority will lead to gains for all statutory and the wider communities of Peterborough.

Eradication of child poverty is considered to be a core priority for Peterborough. It is closely linked to a wider vision for the city stimulating the local economy, supporting job growth, skills and education, crucial to develop strong and supportive communities. Our partnerships are well developed, and have the key ingredients for successful collaboration. Partnerships have clear views on the guidance and support they need to drive their work forward but are concerned about how they will turn their strategic planning into effective action, and whether their strategies will have a positive impact on families and children.

Partnerships can make a difference if they focus on direct intervention with families rather than macro-economic issues.

The focus of our work is two-fold. The dynamics of poverty mean it is necessary to support families to 'escape poverty' as well as develop a preventative framework, to stop them from 'falling into poverty'. These are the two distinct but overlapping fields of work. Persistent, transitional and recurrent poverty may produce similar income effects but need differential approach to meet a broader conceptualisation of poverty where family, home environment, health and education are crucial factors. We are also directed by National Government towards meeting the needs of those experiencing severe poverty. It is anticipated that this category will become a stronger focus over time.

A whole system approach will make better use of existing and planned budget lines: Community Budgets, New Social Fund, Early Intervention Grant, Pupil Premium and a raft of other initiatives planned by central government.

Our strategic plan will dovetail with the overarching aims of the National Strategy where it reflects local interest.

Ensure, as far as possible, that poverty and disadvantage in childhood does not translate into poorer outcomes for children as they move into adulthood.

Support more parents to be in work that pays, or pays better.

Ensure the child's environment supports them to thrive.

Target financial support to be responsive to family situations.

Extensive consultation has highlighted a number of questions:

Should our strategy reflect short term, medium term or longer term objectives?

Should we look to achieve immediate results by targeting resources towards income maximisation or softer outcomes such as capacity building?

Should we prioritise longstanding, generational poverty or support those experiencing change and transitional arrangements?

Poverty is complex and longstanding. We are also facing unprecedented challenges in terms of national economic change and public expenditure cuts. There are no dedicated resources to meet this identified need. With this in mind, this strategy acknowledges that the most significant impact we can have is by adopting a 'think poverty' approach to all our work together with close partnership working. The priorities reflect that the greatest resource we have to hand is the commitment, skills and competencies of our workforce.

By working differently we can achieve our goals...

Model of work

We have adopted a model of work that ensures a multi-dimensional approach:

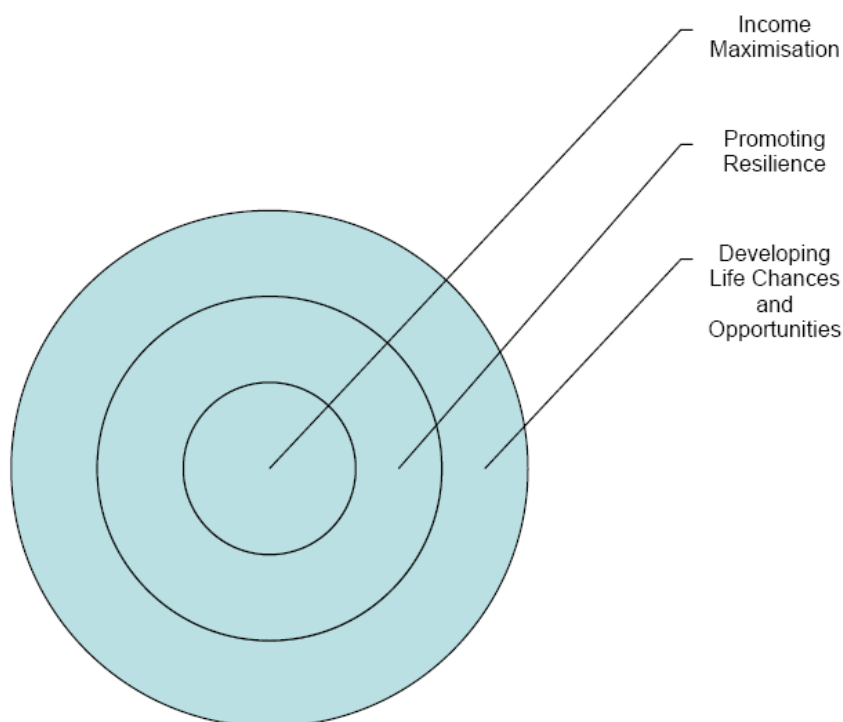


Diagram 4: Challenging Family Poverty on 3 dimensions

Strand 1: Income Maximisation – families with low incomes are supported to maximise income generation through actions that increase benefit take up, encourage families to manage money and avoid debt and/or support access into employment where appropriate.

Strand 2: Promoting Resilience – a model of work responding to vulnerable moments and tipping points. Short terms interventions with the potential to address risk factors before the need for services arise and prevent challenging family circumstance from escalating.

Strand 3: Developing Life Chances¹² and Opportunities – parents / guardians are supported to ensure children grow in households where employment, aspiration and attainment are priorities, reducing the gap between rich and poor.

¹² Life Chances are qualified by Government to be Intergenerational Social Mobility (the extent to which people's success in life is determined by who their parents are) and Relative Social Mobility (the comparative chances of people with different backgrounds ending up in certain social or income groups). (HM Government, April 2011. [Opening Doors, Breaking Barriers – A Strategy for Social Mobility](#))

Our strategic approach combines these three strands to encompass a broad and comprehensive set of **drivers of poverty**. Poverty is considered as specific incomes domains alongside multidimensional frameworks and particular movements in time. Adopting this approach allows us to re-orientate our focus away from prioritising one group over another to consider how we might approach our work differently.

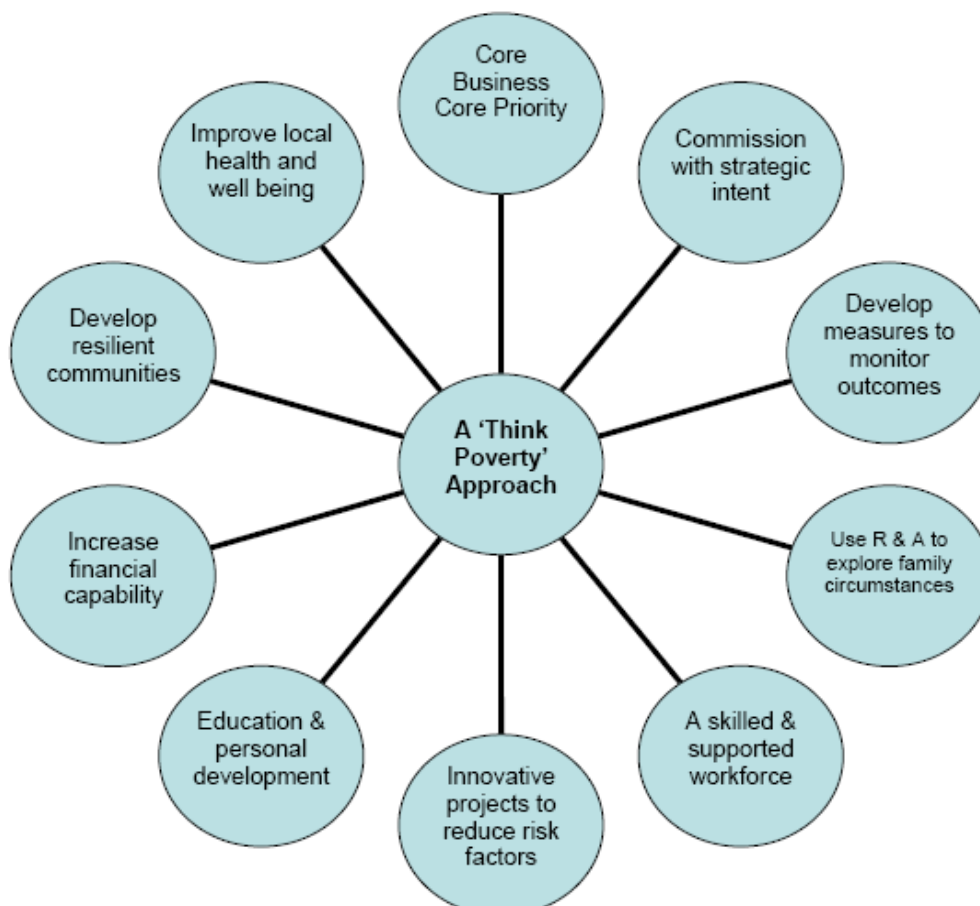
Moving forward

How might we support individuals or communities to cope positively with change, challenge and adversity?

How can we design an approach to services that benefits the maximum number of people?

Undertaking a think poverty approach from front line service to scrutiny will make a difference.

A Think Poverty Approach



Strategic Objectives and Key Deliverables

A reduction in headline Child Poverty statistics by 2014 – lifting approximately 2,000 children above the poverty line

Strategic Objective 1: Partners who use their influence to embed systems and processes within their organisations that can really make a difference

Strategic Objective 2: Excellence at the first point of contact

Strategic Objective 3: Models of work that identify risk factors, intervene early and enable communities to develop resilience

Strategic Objective 4: Improved education and personal development of all children and young people to narrow the gap in achievement between the poorest children and the rest

Strategic Objective 5: Increased financial capability, employability and take-up of benefits amongst families

Strategic Objective 6: Improved mental health within the local population to reduce the gap in health inequalities and to promote healthy lifestyles

Strategic Objective 7: Creation of inspirational places to live and cohesive communities

Governance and timelines

The planning, policy and procedural implications underpinning this strategy will be co-produced by experts in the field. Action plans broadly embracing professionals from Children's Services and Health, together with partners from Jobcentre Plus, Citizens' Advice Bureau, and voluntary and community sectors will convene around key work streams to overlay existing work plans with any newly identified strategic priorities. This way we can recognise that much good work is already underway. This strategy will encourage partners to adopt a 'think poverty lens' to services that they are already delivering or intend to commission. Chairs from each workstream will act as champions.

Single Delivery Plan (SDP)

Progress will be reported to the Greater Peterborough Partnership (GPP) through one of its thematic partnerships – **Supporting the most vulnerable families and tackling causes of poverty.**



SDP Guiding Principles for

- **Outcomes**, not organisations
- Addressing the **root causes** of issues – a preventative agenda
- **Innovation** – doing things differently for less
- **Prioritisation** – clear focus, not everything we do
- Big Society – a vehicle for **joint delivery by / with all**

The Single Delivery Plan represents the short term actions the Greater Peterborough Partnership will take to deliver the Sustainable Communities Strategy therefore...

Performance management (PM) should concentrate on the delivery of the Sustainable Communities Strategy

and...

PM will take into account the interrelated nature of the programmes and projects, as opposed to projects in isolation.

The Peterborough Children Commissioning Partnership Board and Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board will have a role in monitoring and implementation of this strategy.

DRAFT

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE | Agenda Item No. 9 |
| 23 JULY 2012 | 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

FORWARD PLAN OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 This is a regular report to the Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities Scrutiny Committee outlining the content of the Council's Forward Plan.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

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

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The latest version of the Forward Plan is attached at Appendix 1. The Plan contains those key decisions, which the Leader of the Council believes that the Cabinet or individual Cabinet Member(s) will be making over the next four months.
- 3.2 The information in the Forward Plan 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 A new version of the Forward Plan will be issued on 17 October and copies will be tabled at the meeting.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 Details of any consultation on individual decisions are contained within the Forward Plan.

5. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

None

6. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Forward Plan of Executive Decisions

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PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL'S FORWARD PLAN 1 JULY 2012 TO 31 OCTOBER 2012



FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS - 1 JULY 2012 TO 31 OCTOBER 2012

During the period from 1 July 2012 To 31 October 2012 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.

This Forward Plan should be seen as an outline of the proposed decisions and it will be updated on a monthly basis. The dates detailed within the Plan are subject to change and those items amended or identified for decision more than one month in advance will be carried over to forthcoming plans. Each new plan supersedes the previous plan. Any questions on specific issues included on the Plan should be included on the form which appears at the back of the Plan 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.

The Council invites members of the public to attend any of the meetings at which these decisions will be discussed and the papers listed on the Plan can be viewed free of charge although there will be a postage and photocopying charge for any copies made. All decisions will be posted on the Council's website: www.peterborough.gov.uk. If you wish to make comments or representations regarding the 'key decisions' outlined in this Plan, 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 plan.

NEW ITEMS THIS MONTH:

Delivery of the Council's Capital Receipt Programme through the Sale of Dickens Street Car Park - KEY/03JUL/11
Delivery Strategy for South Bank & Surrounding Areas - KEY/04JUL/12
Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule (PDCS) - KEY/01SEP/12

JULY

| KEY DECISION REQUIRED | DATE OF DECISION | DECISION MAKER | RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE | CONSULTATION | CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS | REPORTS |
|---|------------------|---|--|--|---|---|
| <p>Sale of surplus former residential care home - Eye - KEY/01OCT/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 for Resources, to negotiate and conclude the sale of a former care home now surplus to requirement - The Croft, Eye.</p> | July 2012 | Cabinet Member for Resources | Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital | Consultation will take place with the Cabinet Member, & Ward councillors, as appropriate | Simon Webber Capital Receipts Officer Tel: 01733 384545 simon.webber@peterborough.gov.uk | A public report will be available from the Governance team one week before the decision is taken. |
| <p>Section 75 agreement with Cambridge and Peterborough Foundation Trust - KEY/03OCT/11 To approve the section 75 agreement with CPFT for the provision of mental health services.</p> | July 2012 | Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care | Health Issues | Internal and external stakeholders as appropriate. | Terry Rich Executive Director Adult Social Services (interim) Tel: 01733 758444 terry.rich@peterborough.gov.uk | A public report will be available from the Governance Team one week before the decision is taken. |

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|--|------------------|--|---|--|--|--|
| <p>Peterborough's Transport Partnership Policy for pupils aged 4-16 years - KEY/01NOV/11 To approve the new policy for September 2012.</p> | <p>July 2012</p> | <p>Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University</p> | <p>Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities</p> | <p>Internal and public consultation</p> | <p>Isabel Clark Head of Assets and School Place Planning Tel: 01733 863914 isabel.clark@peterborough.gov.uk</p> | <p>A public report will be available from the Governance team one week before the decision is taken.</p> |
| <p>Traffic Signals LED Project - award of contract - KEY/03SEP/11 Contract to replace all traffic signal head lamps in Peterborough with LED Heads.</p> | <p>July 2012</p> | <p>Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Planning</p> | <p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p> | <p>Internal and external stakeholders as appropriate</p> | <p>Amy Wardell Team Manager - Passenger Transport Projects Tel: 01733 317481 amy.wardell@peterborough.gov.uk</p> | <p>A public report will be available from the Governance Team one week before the decision is taken.</p> |
| <p>Cowgate Enhancement Scheme - KEY/05JAN/12 To award the contract to undertake engineering works as part of the Cowgate Enhancement Scheme.</p> | <p>July 2012</p> | <p>Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Growth, Strategic Planning, Economic Development, Business Engagement and Environment Capital</p> | <p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p> | <p>Relevant internal and external stakeholders</p> | <p>Stuart Mounfield Senior Engineer Tel: 01733 453598 stuart.mounfield@peterborough.gov.uk</p> | <p>A public report will be available from the Governance Team one week before the decision is taken.</p> |

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|---|------------------|---|---|---|--|--|
| <p>All Saints Junior School - Extension of Age Range - KEY/03FEB/12 To commission a new all through Voluntary Aided Primary School to enable the extension of the age range of All Saints Junior School.</p> | <p>July 2012</p> | <p>Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University</p> | <p>Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities</p> | <p>Relevant internal stakeholders as appropriate.</p> | <p>Alison Chambers Principal Assets Officer (Schools) Tel: 01733 863975 alison.chambers@peterborough.gov.uk</p> | <p>A public report will be available from the Governance team one week before the decision is taken.</p> |
| <p>Award of Contract - Bus Shelter Provision and Maintenance - KEY/01APR/12 Award of contract for the provision, installation, cleaning and maintenance of Bus Shelters.</p> | <p>July 2012</p> | <p>Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Planning</p> | <p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p> | <p>Internal and external stakeholders as appropriate.</p> | <p>Darren Deadman Travel Information and Monitoring Officer Tel: 01733 317464 darren.deadman@peterborough.gov.uk</p> | <p>A public report will be available from the Governance Team one week before the decision is taken.</p> |
| <p>Award of Transport Contracts - KEY/02APR/12 To award contracts for Mainstream, Special Educational Needs and Children in Social Care.</p> | <p>July 2012</p> | <p>Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University</p> | <p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p> | <p>Internal departments as appropriate.</p> | <p>Mark Speed Transport Planning Team Manager Tel: 317471 mark.speed@peterborough.gov.uk</p> | <p>A public report will be available from the Governance Team one week before the decision is taken.</p> |

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| <p>Moy's End Stand Demolition and Reconstruction - KEY/03APR/12 Award of Contract for the Demolition of the Moy's End Stand and Reconstruction</p> | <p>July 2012</p> | <p>Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University, Cabinet Member for Resources</p> | <p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p> | <p>Internal and External Stakeholders as appropriate.</p> | <p>Richard Hodgson Head of Strategic Projects Tel: 01733 384535 richard.hodgson@peterborough.gov.uk</p> | <p>A public report will be available from the Governance Team one week before the decision is taken.</p> |
| <p>Clare Lodge – additional four lounge areas - KEY/04APR/12 To award the contract for the construction of four new lounge areas.</p> | <p>July 2012</p> | <p>Cabinet Member for Children's Services</p> | <p>Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities</p> | <p>Relevant internal stakeholders as appropriate</p> | <p>Sharon Bishop Assets Officer Tel: 01733 863997 sharon.bishop@peterborough.gov.uk</p> | <p>A public report will be available from the Governance Team one week before the decision is taken.</p> |
| <p>Energy Services Company - KEY/05APR/12 To consider potential future developments of energy related products</p> | <p>July 2012</p> | <p>Cabinet</p> | <p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p> | <p>Internal and external stakeholders.</p> | <p>John Harrison Executive Director-Strategic Resources Tel: 01733 452398 john.harrison@peterborough.gov.uk</p> | <p>A public report will be available from the Governance Team one week before the decision is taken.</p> |

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| <p>Organic and Food Waste Treatment Services Contract - KEY/01MAY/12 To Award a contract for Organic and Food Waste Treatment Services.</p> | <p>July 2012</p> | <p>Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Culture, Recreation and Strategic Commissioning</p> | <p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p> | <p>Internal and external stakeholders as appropriate.</p> | <p>Amy Nebel Recycling Contracts Officer Tel: 01733 864727 amy.nebel@peterborough.gov.uk</p> | <p>A public report will be available from the Governance Team on week before the decision is taken.</p> |
| <p>Bridge Street Public Realm Improvements - KEY/02MAY/12 To award the contract to undertake engineering works as part of the Bridge Street Public Realm Improvement works.</p> | <p>July 2012</p> | <p>Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Growth, Strategic Planning, Economic Development, Business Engagement and Environment Capital</p> | <p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p> | <p>Internal and external stakeholders as appropriate.</p> | <p>Andrew Edwards Head of Peterborough Delivery Partnership Tel: 01733 452303 andrew.edwards@peterborough.gov.uk</p> | <p>A public report will be available from the Governance Team one week before the decision is taken.</p> |
| <p>Energy from Waste Facility and associated works and services - KEY/01 JUN/12 To appoint a preferred bidder and award the contract for an energy from waste facility along with associated works and services.</p> | <p>July 2012</p> | <p>Deputy leader and Cabinet Member for Culture, Recreation and Strategic Commissioning; and Cabinet Member for Resources.</p> | <p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p> | <p>Internal and external stakeholders as appropriate.</p> | <p>Margaret Welton Principal Lawyer (Special Projects/Waste 2020) Tel: 01733 452226 margaret.welton@peterborough.gov.uk</p> | <p>A public report will be available from the Governance Team one week before the decision is taken.</p> |

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|---|------------------|---|---|---|--|--|
| <p>Street Lighting Efficiency Programme (2012/13 and 2013/14) and Street Lighting Column Replacement Programme (2012/13) - KEY/02JUN/12 To approve the award of a contract for Street Lighting Works.</p> | <p>July 2012</p> | <p>Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Planning</p> | <p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p> | <p>Internal and external stakeholders as appropriate.</p> | <p>Sally Savage Senior Project Support Worker sally.savage@peterborough.gov.uk</p> | <p>A public report will be available from the Governance Team one week before the decision is taken.</p> |
| <p>Opportunity Peterborough Business Plan - KEY/03JUN/12 To approve the Business Plan for Opportunity Peterborough for 2012/13.</p> | <p>July 2012</p> | <p>Cabinet</p> | <p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p> | <p>Relevant internal and external stakeholders.</p> | <p>Neil Darwin Director of Economic Development neil.darwin@opportunitypeterborough.co.uk</p> | <p>A public report will be available from the Governance Team one week before the decision is taken.</p> |
| <p>Roundabout Junction 5 and Boongate West Widening Scheme - Contract Award - KEY/04JUN/12 To approve the award of a contract for construction of the Roundabout Junction 5 and Boongate West Widening Scheme to the successful Midlands Highways Alliance (MHA) contractor (tbc).</p> | <p>July 2012</p> | <p>Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Planning</p> | <p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p> | <p>Consultation on scheme was carried out in 2010 /11 Financial Year and budget allocated in the Medium Term Financial Strategy for implementation in the 2012/13 Financial Year.</p> | <p>Stuart Mounfield Senior Engineer Tel: 01733 453598 stuart.mounfield@peterborough.gov.uk</p> | <p>A public report will be available from the Governance Team one week before the decision is taken.</p> |

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|--|------------------|--|---|---|---|--|
| <p>Rolling Select List - Independent Fostering Agencies - KEY/01 JUL/12 To approve the list for independent fostering agencies.</p> | <p>July 2012</p> | <p>Cabinet Member for Children's Services</p> | <p>Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities</p> | <p>Internal and external stakeholders as appropriate.</p> | <p>Wendi Ogle-Welbourn Assistant Director for Strategy, Commissioning and Prevention wendi.ogle-welbourn@peterborough.gov.uk</p> | <p>A public report will be available from the Governance Team one week before the decision is taken.</p> |
| <p>Consultation on the Review of the Older Peoples Accommodation Strategy and Options for the future of Care Homes in Peterborough - KEY/02 JUL/12 To approve the consultation on the outcomes of the review of the Older Peoples Accommodation Strategy and options for the way forward.</p> | <p>July 2012</p> | <p>Cabinet</p> | <p>Scrutiny Commission for Health Issues</p> | <p>Public consultation with all relevant parties.</p> | <p>Terry Rich Executive Director Adult Social Services (interim) Tel: 01733 758444 terry.rich@peterborough.gov.uk</p> | <p>Public report will be available from the Governance Team one week before the decision is made.</p> |

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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>July 2012</p> | <p>Cabinet Member for Resources</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@peterborou.gh.gov.uk</p> | <p>A public report will be available from the Governance Team one week before the decision is made.</p> |
| <p>Delivery Strategy for South Bank & Surrounding Areas - KEY/04JUL/12 To agree a refreshed delivery strategy for the regeneration of South Bank and surrounding areas.</p> | <p>July 2012</p> | <p>Cabinet</p> | <p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p> | <p>Internal and external stakeholders as appropriate</p> | <p>Andrew Edwards Head of Peterborough Delivery Partnership Tel: 01733 452303 andrew.edwards@peterborou.gh.gov.uk</p> | <p>A public report will be available from the governance team one week before the decision is taken.</p> |

AUGUST

There are currently no Key Decisions scheduled for August.

| SEPTEMBER | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|--|---|---|---|
| KEY DECISION REQUIRED | DATE OF DECISION | DECISION MAKER | RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE | CONSULTATION | CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS | REPORTS |
| Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule (PDCS) - KEY/01SEP/12 To approve the draft CIL for public consultation. | September 2012 | Cabinet | Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital | Six week public consultation including Planning and Environmental Protection Committee. | Richard Kay Policy and Strategy Manager richard.kay@peterborough.gov.uk | A public report will be available from the Governance Team one week before the decision is taken. |

| OCTOBER |
|---|
| There are currently no Key Decisions scheduled for October. |

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, Network Management, Passenger 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, Neighbourhood Management)
Operations Business Support (Finance)

ADULT SOCIAL CARE DEPARTMENT Town Hall, Bridge Street, Peterborough, PE1 1FA

Care Services Delivery
Strategic Commissioning
Performance, Quality and Information

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CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
WORK PROGRAMME 2012/13

| Meeting Date | Item | Progress |
|--|---|--|
| 11 June 2012 <i>Draft report 23 May</i> <i>Final report 29 May</i> | <p>Overview of Children's Services</p> <p>Contact Officer: Malcolm Newsam</p> <p>Poverty Action Plan</p> <p>To Scrutinise the Poverty Action Plan and make any recommendations.</p> <p>Contact Officer: Wendi Ogle-Welbourne</p> | <p>Items identified to be programmed into the work programme.</p> <p>Final draft to be brought back to the July meeting.</p> |
| | <p>Children's Services Improvement Plan – Progress Report</p> <p>To Scrutinise the progress of the Children's Services Improvement Plan and make any recommendations</p> <p>Contact Officer: Malcolm Newsam</p> | <p>Regular update noted.</p> |
| | <p>Children's (Social Care) Services Statutory Complaints Process (Children act 1989) Annual Report 2011</p> <p>To scrutinise the Children's (Social Care) Services Statutory Complaints Process (Children act 1989) Annual Report 2011 and make any necessary recommendations.</p> <p>Contact Officer: Lynn Chesterton</p> | <p>Report noted and comments made.</p> |
| | <p>Review of 2011/12 and Future Work Programme</p> <p>To review the work undertaken during 2011/12 and to consider the future work programme of the Committee.</p> <p>Contact Officer: Paulina Ford</p> | <p>Items from discussion to be programmed into the work programme.</p> |

| Meeting Date | Item | Progress |
|---|---|----------|
| <p>23 July 2011 <i>Draft report 5 July</i> <i>Final report 12 July</i></p> | <p>Portfolio Progress report from Cabinet Members relevant to the committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cabinet Member for Children's Services <p>To Scrutinise and comment on the progress of the portfolio of the Cabinet Member for Children's Services</p> <p>Children's Services Improvement Plan – Progress Report</p> <p>To Scrutinise the progress of the Children's Services Improvement Plan and make any recommendations</p> <p>Contact Officer: Malcolm Newsam</p> <p>Children's Centres Update</p> <p>To receive a progress report on the commissioning of Children's Centres and implementation of the new children's centres contracts.</p> <p>Contact Officer: Pam Setterfield</p> <p>Poverty Reduction Strategy</p> <p>To scrutinise and make comments on the final draft of the Poverty Reduction Strategy.</p> <p>Contact Officer: Contact Officer: Wendi Ogle-Welbourne</p> | |
| <p>10 September 2012 <i>Draft report 23 Aug</i> <i>Final report 30 Aug</i></p> | <p>Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2011-2012</p> <p>To Scrutinise the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2011-2012 and make any recommendations</p> <p>Contact Officer: Judy Jones</p> | |

| Meeting Date | Item | Progress |
|---|---|----------|
| | <p>Presentation of 2012 Unvalidated Examination Results, EYFS – Key Stage 4 – A Level To scrutinise the 2012 examination results, assess the impact of the action plan to improve educational results and make any necessary recommendations</p> <p>Contact Officer: Jonathan Lewis</p> <p>Portfolio Progress report from Cabinet Members relevant to the committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University <p>To Scrutinise and comment on the progress of the portfolio of the Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University</p> | |
| | <p>Children’s Services Improvement Plan – Progress Report To Scrutinise the progress of the Children’s Services Improvement Plan and make any recommendations</p> <p>Contact Officer: Malcolm Newsam</p> | |
| <p>12 November 2012 <i>Draft report 25 Oct</i> <i>Final report 1 Nov</i></p> | <p>Children’s Services Improvement Plan – Progress Report To Scrutinise the progress of the Children’s Services Improvement Plan and make any recommendations</p> <p>Contact Officer: Malcolm Newsam</p> <p>Respite and Home Support Unit – Children with Disabilities (Cherry Lodge)</p> <p>Contact Officer: School Improvement Strategy</p> <p>Contact Officer: Jonathan Lewis</p> | |

| Meeting Date | Item | Progress |
|---|---|----------|
| | <p>Fostering</p> <p>Contact Officer: Sue Westcott</p> | |
| <p>7 January 2013 <i>Draft report 14 Dec</i> <i>Final report 21 Dec</i></p> | <p>Children's Services Improvement Plan – Progress Report</p> <p>To Scrutinise the progress of the Children's Services Improvement Plan and make any recommendations</p> <p>Contact Officer: Malcolm Newsam</p> <p>Pupil Referral Unit</p> <p>Contact Officer:</p> <p>Youth Offending Service</p> <p>Contact Officer:</p> | |
| <p>9 or 21 January 2013 (Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions)</p> | <p>Budget 2013/14 and Medium Term Financial Plan</p> <p>To scrutinise the Executive's proposals for the Budget 2013/14 and Medium Term Financial Plan.</p> <p>Contact Officer: John Harrison/Steven Pilsworth</p> | |
| <p>11 March 2013 <i>Draft report 21 Feb</i> <i>Final report 28 Feb</i></p> | <p>Children's Services Improvement Plan – Progress Report</p> <p>To Scrutinise the progress of the Children's Services Improvement Plan and make any recommendations</p> <p>Contact Officer: Malcolm Newsam</p> | |

| Meeting Date | Item | Progress |
|--------------|---|----------|
| | <p>Presentation of 2012 Validated Examination Results, EYFS – Key Stage 4 – A Level Follow Up</p> <p>To scrutinise the 2012 examination results, assess the impact of the action plan to improve educational results and make any necessary recommendations.</p> <p>Contact Officer: Jonathan Lewis</p> | |

Items to be programmed in:

| Item | Referred from |
|--|------------------------|
| <p>Reports on the 9 Key Challenges:</p> <p>Safeguarding, Families and Communities: Lead Officer - Assistant Director, Sue Westcott</p> <p>Key Challenges for 2012:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve safeguarding • Increase placement choice and adoptions • Strengthen range of targeted preventative services <p>Education and Resources: Lead Officer - Assistant Director, Jonathan Lewis</p> <p>Key Challenges for 2012:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement new approaches to transform standards • Improve outcomes for children with SEN • Improve attainment for vulnerable learners <p>Commissioning and Prevention: Lead Officer – Assistant Director Wendi Ogle-Welbourn</p> <p>Key Challenges for 2012:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Put in place systems that co-ordinate early intervention and prevention services • Strengthen the Children’s Trust • Set up joint commissioning arrangements with health <p>A strategy on recruitment and selection of school governors as part of the improving attainment programme – Malcolm Newsam</p> | <p>11 June meeting</p> |