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PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL SUMMONS TO A MEETING

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Peterborough City Council, which will be held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Peterborough on

WEDNESDAY 17 DECEMBER 2014 at 7.00 pm

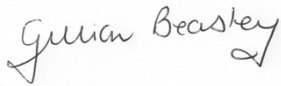
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**Papers to be circulated following the Cabinet Meeting on 15 December 2014*



Chief Executive

9 December 2014
Town Hall
Bridge Street
Peterborough

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<http://democracy.peterborough.gov.uk/documents/s21850/Protocol%20on%20the%20use%20of%20Recording.pdf>

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**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD
8 OCTOBER 2014**

The Mayor – Councillor David Over

Present:

Councillors Arculus, Ash, Brown, Casey, Cereste, Davidson, Day, Elsey, Ferris, Fitzgerald, Fletcher, Forbes, F Fox, JR Fox, JA Fox, Harper, Herdman, Hiller, Holdich, Jamil, Johnson, Khan, Knowles, Lamb, Martin, Maqbool, Miners, Murphy, Nawaz, North, Okonkowski, Over, Peach, Rush, Saltmarsh, Sanders, Sandford, Scott, Serluca, Shabbir, Shaheed, Sharp, Shearman, Stokes, Swift, Sylvester, Thacker, Thulbourn and Walsh.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Allen, Fower, Harrington, Iqbal, Lane, Lee, Nadeem and Seaton.

2. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Cereste stated he would not take part in the debate or vote on the motion put forward by Councillor Thulbourn regarding renewable energy projects, as he was a board member of Peterborough Renewable Energy Limited, which had been approached by the local authority to discuss one of the energy projects.

Councillor Holdich stated that he would not take part in the debate or vote on the motion put forward by Councillor Thulbourn regarding renewable energy projects, as his son-in-law was a board member of Peterborough Renewable Energy Limited.

Councillor Serluca stated that regarding the motion put forward by Councillor Ferris on the Green Back Yard, she was a board member of Peterborough Green Back Yard.

Councillor Saltmarsh stated that regarding the motion put forward by Councillor Thulbourn on fixed odds betting, her son was an employee of Corals the bookmakers.

3. Minutes of the meetings held on 23 July 2014:

(a) Extraordinary Full Council Meeting

The minutes of the Extraordinary Full Council Meeting held on 23 July 2014 were approved as a true and accurate record.

(b) Full Council Meeting

The minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 23 July 2014 were approved as a true and accurate record.

COMMUNICATIONS

4. Mayor's Announcements

Members noted the report outlining the Mayor's engagements for the period commencing 21 July 2014 to 5 October 2014.

The Mayor further announced that in 2013, the Council had launched a new reward and recognition scheme for council employees. The purpose of the scheme being to recognise the outstanding and consistent performance of individuals and teams in helping to achieve the Council's priorities or in demonstrating the Council's core values.

A staff panel had spent much time deliberating which of the 21 nominations received should be shortlisted and ultimately awarded with the accolades.

The Mayor introduced the Employee of the Year and the Team of the Year, this being Lisa Alexander and the Youth Offending Service respectively. Lisa had been chosen to receive the Employee of the Year award for increasing the number of young people in the city taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme. The Youth Offending Team had been chosen to receive the Team of the Year award as they had received a full joint inspection by the HM Inspectorate of Probation, Ofsted, the Care Quality Commission and the HM Police Inspectorate. In total nine inspectors had reviewed the work of the service. The inspection had been scored on a four-star model and the Service had received the maximum four stars in two areas and three stars in three areas.

The Mayor presented Lisa Alexander and the Youth Offending Team with their awards.

The Mayor further advised that the deadline was approaching for nominations for the city's Civic Awards. The closing date was Friday 31 October and the winners would be announced at the Council meeting due to be held on 3 December 2014.

5. Leader's Announcements

Councillor Cereste stated that he had met with Sir Robin Wales, the Mayor of Newham, at the Local Government Association conference in July 2014, with a view to undertaking work around FOBTs (gaming machines) and gaining cross council support in order for local authorities to request that Government give powers to local authorities to make their own decisions on the issue.

Councillor Khan stated that he was concerned that there had been no early warning of the announcement and requested that in future, more notice be given in order to allow Group Leader's to prepare questions.

Councillor Sandford endorsed Councillor Khan's comments.

Councillor Cereste responded and stated that he thought that group leaders had been informed, but apologised if they had not been in this instance and would make sure that advance notice would be given in future.

6. Chief Executive's Announcements

There were no announcements from the Chief Executive.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

7. Questions with Notice by Members of the Public

There was one question submitted by a member of the public, this was in relation to:

1. Safe off road horse riding in Werrington and Newborough.

The question and response is attached at **APPENDIX A** to these minutes.

8. Petitions

(a) Presented by members of the public

A petition was presented by residents of Helpston, requesting funding for the provision of a play area for under-5s within the village other than that which was provided on the school field, as this was not available for the children to utilise at all times.

(b) Presented by Members

Councillor Shaheed presented a petition requesting the introduction of traffic calming measures in Croyland Road, Walton.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS

9. Executive and Committee Recommendations to Council

(a) Cabinet Recommendation – Petitions Scheme

Cabinet at its meeting of 28 July 2014, received a report which sought its approval to adopt and recommend to Council the revised petitions scheme and associated levels of signatures to trigger debate at Full Council, Cabinet and Scrutiny and to authorise the Director of Governance to make minor, technical and procedural changes as considered necessary to ensure the Scheme met the standards of best practice in public administration.

Councillor Cereste introduced the report and moved the recommendations contained within, highlighting the key aspects of the new scheme. All aspects of the scheme had been agreed by the all-party constitution review group bar the numbers of signatures required to trigger a debate at Council or Cabinet. This had been put to Cabinet along with an overview of figures from other Council's, who had moved away from the prescribed scheme, advising of the numbers they had set as their trigger points. In general, it appeared that on average it was 1% of the population for trigger at Full Council, this being 2000 and a proportionate trigger direct to Cabinet or Scrutiny of 500 signatures.

Councillor Holdich seconded the recommendations and reserved his right to speak.

Councillor Sandford moved an amendment to the recommendations which lowered the proposed trigger thresholds for debate at Full Council to 500 and the threshold for debate at Cabinet to be 20. In moving his amendment, Councillor Sandford stated that members of the public should be encouraged to participate in the Council's meetings. There was no need for thresholds to be implemented, as the current procedure already allowed for petitions to be reported back to Cabinet, the changes would simple mean that individuals would be able to present their petition at the meeting. Resident's needed to be actively encouraged to participate, and this in turn would create more open and inclusive authority.

Councillor Shaheed seconded the amendment and reserved his right to speak.

Members debated the amendment and in summary raised points including:

- The report contained a number of errors, the reports should be proof read prior to distribution.

Councillor Shaheed exercised his right to speak and in doing so stated that the amendment would allow for smaller groups of individuals to be heard on issues that they felt of significant importance to them.

Councillor Cereste summed up and stated that allowing all petitions to be presented to Cabinet was unreasonable, and could disrupt the work of Cabinet,

Following debate, a vote was taken on the amendment (23 for, 23 against and 0 abstentions). The Mayor exercised his casting his vote against the amendment. The amendment was **DEFEATED**.

Members debated the recommendations as moved by Councillor Cereste and in summary raised points including:

- The numbers detailed within the report would prevent abuse of the system and would ensure that matters of significant importance were debated at Council;
- The numbers reflected a strength of feeling on an issue and its significant importance. It was the role of the Ward Councillor to represent those smaller communities;
- The petitions scheme presented was flawed as it had unreasonable thresholds;
- The threshold of 500 signatures for debate at the Full Council had existed for around three years and there only one petition submitted recently for debate. The proposals were trying to restrict the rights of people to have access to participate in proceedings of the council;
- Items of genuine significance at ward level, it was difficult to obtain a number of signatures on them. The chief aim of petitions was not just to get issues of a city-wide importance before the council, but also to represent ward issues;
- Members should take a flexible approach to the issue, and the numbers should be revised if not enough petitions were coming forward;
- The scheme should still take into account smaller wards, not having the numbers of residents. Cabinet should take a flexible approach to these areas;
- The proposed scheme would drive people away and make it harder for members of the public to have access to the Council; and
- It was requested that the Leader revise the figures in order to maintain the threshold contained within the amendment for Full Council but to increase the threshold in the amendment for Cabinet.

Councillor Holdich exercised his right to speak and requested that Council vote with the recommendations.

Councillor Cereste summed up as mover of the recommendations and stated that he appreciated that there was a clear divide on the issue and the importance of members of the public being involved in the democratic process, being accessible to the community. He further stated that if it was found that the scheme stifled the opportunity for the public to have their say, it would be revisited. Councillor Cereste further agreed a compromise in that anyone who brought a petition to Cabinet would be permitted to speak.

A recorded vote was requested and Members voted as follows:

Councillors For: Arculus, Brown, Casey, Cereste, Day, Elsey, Fitzgerald, Harper, Hiller, Holdich, Lamb, Maqbool, Nawaz, North, Over, Peach, Rush, Sanders, Scott, Serluca, Stokes, Thacker and Walsh.

Councillors Against: Ash, Davidson, Ferris, Fletcher, Forbes, F Fox, JA Fox, JR Fox, Herdman, Jamil, Johnson, Khan, Knowles, Martin, Miners, Murphy, Okonkowski, Saltmarsh, Sandford, Shabbir, Shaheed, Sharp, Shearman, Swift, Sylvester and Thulbourn.

Councillors Abstaining: There were no abstentions.

Following the vote (23 for, 26 against and no abstentions). The motion was **DEFEATED**.

(b) Cabinet Recommendation – Flood Risk Management Strategy

Cabinet at its meeting of 22 September 2014, received a report which presented the Draft Peterborough Flood Risk Management Strategy.

The purpose of the report was to recommend that Cabinet approved the Draft Peterborough Flood Risk Management Strategy for the purpose of it being publically consulted on during October and November 2014 and to support the proposal of the Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital Scrutiny Committee to include further explanatory text in the FMS prior to its publication and to further support the recommendation of the Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital Scrutiny Committee to amend the Constitution and thereby place the Flood Management Strategy as a Major Policy item.

Councillor Hiller introduced the report and moved the recommendations contained within, highlighting that under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, the Council was now a lead local flood authority and responsible for coordinating the management of flood risk from surface water, ground water and ordinary water courses. The Act also brought a number of new powers and duties, one being the preparation of a Flood Risk Management Strategy.

The draft Strategy had been well received by the Scrutiny Committee and they proposed that Cabinet recommend the Strategy to Council and for it to be incorporated as a Major Policy document.

Councillor Holdich seconded the recommendations and reserved his right to speak.

There was no debate on the matter. A vote was taken (unanimous) and it was **RESOLVED:**

That the Constitution be amended to reflect the Flood Risk Management Strategy as a Major Policy item.

10. Questions on the Executive Decisions made since the last meeting

Councillor Cereste introduced the report which detailed executive decisions taken since the last meeting, including:

1. Decisions from the Cabinet meeting held on 28 July 2014;
2. Decisions from the Cabinet meeting held on 22 September 2014;
3. Use of the Council's Call-In mechanism, which had not been invoked since the previous meeting.
4. Special Urgency and Waive of Call-In Provisions, which had not been invoked since the previous meeting.
5. Cabinet Member Decisions taken during the period 30 July 2014 to 24 September 2014.

Questions were asked about the following:

20mph Speed Limit

Councillor Shearman sought clarification as to whether further research had been undertaken into the reports which had now been published relating to the impact of the 20mph speed limits. Portsmouth City Council had produced a report which had demonstrated that there was a financial incentive to go ahead with the proposals and that it had reduced the number of accidents. Councillor Shearman also queried whether the budget consultation was the most appropriate forum for discussions on the 20mph speed limit proposals for the city. Councillor Cereste responded that the scheme had been looked into seriously and was a worthy aspiration for the Council but could not be afforded at the current time.

Councillor Ferris queried whether the Leader was aware that there were over 13m people who lived in local authorities which had adopted, or were in the process of adopting the policy of 20mph speed limits, furthermore was he content that cyclists, pedestrians and other road users, in some of the extremely crowded parts of the city, were safe with speed limits set at 30mph. Councillor Cereste stated that there was a cost to the issue and there were many other important matters for which decisions needed to be taken. If members of other political groups wished for the scheme to be incorporated within the budget, they needed to provide details of how the budget would be cut in other areas in order to balance the budget.

Councillor Sanders sought clarification as to whether it was felt that the police had sufficient numbers to enforce a 20mph speed limit. Councillor Cereste stated that he did not feel that they did.

Emergency Stopping Places

Councillor Miners requested that the Dogsthorpe community be given proper assurance that the sites close to the Dogsthorpe areas would be properly managed and would not be used more than 28 days a year or mixing of family units on the site. Councillor Hiller stated that he could give those assurances. The 28 day limit was a legal requirement. Mixing of families was not an issue which Councillor Hiller was able to respond to at the time, but stated that he would follow-up with Councillor Miners on this point.

Councillor Saltmarsh queried how long the trial would last. Councillor Hiller responded that the trial would last for an initial six-month period.

Councillor Ash sought reassurance that the site located near to Harebell Close would not have an adverse impact on residents. Councillor Hiller responded that he could offer this assurance, as the sites would be particularly well-managed, the individuals would be moved onto these sites for a short amount of time and still under eviction notice. The effect on local residents would be minimal and the rationale behind the choosing of the sites was to relieve the impact of illegal gypsy and traveller encampments on the city as a whole.

Councillor Jamil thanked the members of the working group and queried what would trigger a decision to move from trial sites onto other sites included within the document, if for example there were a large number of illegal encampments all at the same time. Councillor Hiller stated that the sites proposed would be used to move on the highest-profile unauthorised encampments. If there were two encampments, one encampment may have a slightly higher profile than the other and that one would be moved onto the ESP site.

Councillor Fletcher questioned how many days the emergency stopping places would be open in a single year. Councillor Cereste responded that they would be open for 28 days a year.

Councillor Davidson queried if there were measures in place around the times of year when there were a large influx of travellers into the city, for example the beer festival weekend. Councillor Hiller responded that the Emergency Stopping Place provision was for unauthorised, impromptu, high-profile gypsy and traveller encampments. It was not for instances such as the beer festival, a contained location and would not run for 28 days back-to-back.

Councillor Miners asked if all three top-priority emergency stopping places could run at the same time. Councillor Hiller stated that this was not the case. It would not necessarily be all unauthorised encampments which would necessitate the need to utilise an emergency stopping place, but only the highest-profile ones.

Councillor Murphy stated the Council should look further at transit site provision with planning permission. He queried whether there was a risk that the police would move individuals to the Council's emergency sites and further queried whether the Leader was aware that there was no documentation available within the Council with regards to consultation undertaken on the proposals. Councillor Hiller stated that he would take Councillor Murphy's comments on board and if he had any other locations in mind for Emergency Stopping Places, he could share these with Councillor Hiller.

Report of the Solar and Wind Energy Review Group

Councillor Murphy asked why, as a member of the working party, he had been informed that he was unable to attend the Cabinet meeting to speak. Councillor Cereste responded that Councillor Murphy was not the leader of the Labour group, and it was Cabinet policy to hear representations from Group Leaders.

The School Organisation Plan 2014-2019 – Delivering Local Places for Local Children

Councillor Miners queried how much money the local authority had put into the school building programme overall, has some of it been borrowed and if so what is the interest that the Council would have to pay back? Councillor Holdich stated that he would research the question and respond in writing.

Children's Services Update Report

Councillor Saltmarsh queried why the report contained such a large amount of acronyms and was it not sufficient to simply note the contents of the report. Councillor Cereste thanked Councillor Saltmarsh for her comments.

Petition relating to the re-introduction of the Local Link 406 bus service or similar

Councillor Davidson asked that, for those residents who used to use the 406 bus in Gunthorpe, could this be extended to the number 22 bus as residents in Gunthorpe would find this accessible. Councillor North responded stating that he would respond to Councillor Davidson in writing.

Review of Appointments and Nominations to External Organisations

Councillor Murphy asked that the Leader undertake that the external bodies are informed when Council Members are appointed to them and also the Members are invited to discuss what their roles and responsibilities are. Councillor Cereste responded that this process should be undertaken and he would ensure this happens in future.

Councillor Arculus queried whether the Leader was aware that there were still vacancies on the North Level Internal Drainage Board. Councillor Cereste stated that

he was not aware of this, but sometimes it was difficult to fill vacancies. He would deal with this as he well as he could.

Selection of Education Provider to Operate a New Secondary School

Councillor Murphy asked for clarification over this item as the recommendation did not appear to make grammatical sense. Councillor Cereste noted this error.

Councillor Shearman noted that this may be an error but asked if was appropriate for the Cabinet Member to make a decision for him to be a director of the board. Councillor Cereste responded and stated that information did need to be presented to Council in the appropriate way.

Award of Contract for the Extension of Thorpe Primary School

Councillor Khan sought clarification on this decision, as he believed that the planning permission had not been granted. Councillor Holdich stated that the decision was not relevant to the planning permission, this was a separate issue. The planning application had been adjourned at the request of the local ward councillors, however it was believed that a compromise had now been reached and the application was due to go back to the Planning Committee on 21 October 2014.

Councillor Arculus clarified that the ward councillors were not quite yet in agreement with regards to the officer proposals. Would Councillor Holdich continue to work with the Councillors to reach a compromise? Councillor Holdich responded that he could not comment on a planning application.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

11. Questions on Notice

(a) To the Mayor

(b) To the Leader or Member of the Cabinet

(c) To the Chair of any Committee or Sub-Committee

Questions (b) to the Leader or Member of the Cabinet; and (c) to the Chair of any Committee or Sub-Committee were raised and taken as read in respect of the following:

1. An alternative economic growth strategy;
2. Senior officer pay;
3. Cycling along Bridge Street;
4. The Living Wage;
5. Burford Lawns Estate;
6. Conditions for open space provision;
7. Cycling along the one way street off Hall Lane and Church Street, Werrington;
8. Central Government cuts; and
9. The libraries consultation.

Owing to the time limit being reached for this item, questions on the following were to be responded to in writing:

10. Works near the shops at Central Avenue;
11. The Living Wage;
12. The use of electric cars by social workers;
13. The plans for an incinerator;
14. Refuse lorries and oil spillages;

15. The Hallfields Lane Recreation Centre;
16. Parishing in the city;
17. Remuneration for Members;
18. Roadworks in the Western Avenue area of Dogsthorpe;
19. The consultation relating to cycling along Bridge Street; and
20. Traffic and parking issues along Thistle Moor Road.

A summary of all questions and answers raised within agenda item 11 are attached at **APPENDIX A** to these minutes.

12. Motions on Notice

1. Motion from Councillor Nick Sandford

1. That Council notes that successive local transport plans issued by Peterborough City Council since 1999 have contained a Transport User Hierarchy, which states that:

In all matters of land use and transportation planning, consideration will be given where practical to the needs of user groups in the following priority order:

- *Pedestrians and those with mobility difficulties;*
 - *Cyclists;*
 - *Public transport including coaches and taxis/private hire vehicles (PHV) (higher priority for electric and low emission vehicles);*
 - *Motorcycles (higher priority for electric and low emission vehicles);*
 - *Rail freight;*
 - *Commercial and business users including road haulage (higher priority for electric and low emission vehicles);*
 - *Car borne shoppers and visitors (higher priority for electric and low emission vehicles); and*
 - *Car borne commuters (higher priority for electric and low emission vehicles).*
2. In a period of budgetary cutbacks, Council believes that it is even more important to ensure that spending and operational decisions reflect clearly the policy priorities of the Council.
 3. Council therefore requests the Cabinet and the Cross Party Budget Working Group to carry out a full review of the transport projects in the Council's Capital Programme to ensure that these priorities are being delivered.
 4. Given recent concerns about issues relating to cycling in the City Centre and recognising its high position in the Transport User Hierarchy, Council asks the Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee to carry out a review of all measures designed to encourage or restrict cycling and make any recommendations it thinks appropriate.

In moving his motion Councillor Sandford stated that in order to face up to the challenges of climate change, one of the key areas to address was transport and making it more sustainable. Transport accounted for around 20% of the carbon

emissions produced by the United Kingdom and it was also a vital part of the city's aspiration to become environment capital.

Further key points highlighted included an overview of the Transport User Hierarchy and whether this was working; the number of schemes within the Council's Capital Programme; statistics from the department of transport showing a drop in car travel; the work being undertaken in other cities across the country and the investment in sustainable transport; the importance of the issues around cycling and the levels of cycling being significantly less than other cities and the subject of cycling should be looked at in more detail.

Councillor Davidson seconded the motion and reserved her right to speak.

Members debated the motion and in summary raised points including:

- Peterborough did aspire to be an environment capital and the hierarchy in the motion should be respected where possible. The problem with the motion was it was used as a form of opposition to cycling measures being implemented in Bridge Street. That was legitimate, but it should be raised as an individual issue and not wrapped up into a larger motion;
- A scrutiny review would be a wasted exercise as the issue was being looked into in any event;
- The hierarchy should be supported. The motion was not about Bridge Street, but was about the Council doing the right thing in a city with a history of cycle ways. The cycle ways in the city were not properly maintained and cycling in the city needed to be improved, as did the provision for pedestrians;
- There had been inherited problems which made it difficult for bus routes to cover certain areas. A rapid transit system for Peterborough did need to be explored, but a trolley bus system was perhaps not the best solution for the city;
- The city had a good pedestrian and cycle network which it should be proud of. The motion was therefore unnecessary;
- The cycle ways in the city were of a good standard, but they could be improved. The Leeds trolley bus scheme cost £250 million, and the council could therefore not afford a tram system;
- The Council was facing budgetary problems and a full review of the transport projects was a lower priority at the moment;
- The Green Wheel was very well used and cycling was increasing; and
- All capital projects were being reviewed and it was a struggle to deliver the ones the Council already had. Some things just would not happen as the Council did not have the money at the current time.

Councillor Davidson exercised her right to speak and in so doing advised that the motion aimed to ensure that sustainable transport was delivered by the Council. The Leader had stated he wished to ban cycling along Bridge Street. Cycling was booming around the country, but in Peterborough it was not, and the motion sought to rectify that. A full review was required to look at what the Council was doing in relation to cyclists and to encourage more of them.

Councillor Sandford summed up as mover of the motion and in so doing concurred that the Bridge Street issue could be dealt with separately, however added that its inclusion had been due to it being symbolic of what was happening around the city. He further stated that what was happening in Peterborough was the reverse of what was happening in cities such as Leeds. The Capital Programme should be looked at, as most schemes the Council was paying for had nothing at all to do with sustainable transport. The city was growing, however the assumption was all around car transport.

Following debate, a vote was taken (18 for, 25 against, 2 abstentions) and the motion was **DEFEATED**.

2. Motion from Councillor Richard Ferris

1. That this Council notes that the Green Backyard, a registered charity with objects to improve the life chances of the socially and economically disadvantaged and promote sustainable lifestyles, has been recognised as one of only two assets of community value in our city, and is a greatly valued and well-managed green space that delivers a raft of benefits to the city and exemplifies what being an aspiring Environment Capital should be about.
2. This Council believes that we should assist the Board of the Green Backyard in identifying external funding in order to transfer this asset to the community, and consider a discounted valuation on the basis of its significant added value.

In moving his motion, Councillor Ferris advised that the Green Backyard was the last remaining piece of open space within Fletton and Woodston Ward. It was unused for 16 years until 6 years ago and since then the site had been transformed to a flourishing community asset, recognised as an asset of community value.

Further key points highlighted the valuable relationships forged between communities, residents and beyond; its success in bringing together diverse people for the greater benefit of the city; the activities undertaken on the site; the facilities being utilised by local schools and charities; it being a great advert for the environment capital aspirations; the benefits that it had brought to the city and the health benefits of the site to residents in the city; the success and reputation of the site and the awards won by the site; the integral part played by the site in assisting Council to reach its potential as Environment Capital.

Councillor Serluca seconded the motion and stated that it was the Council's duty as an aspiring Environment Capital to ensure the Green Backyard succeeded at its current location, being both visible and accessible. The site had the potential to be a flagship project with international reach, uniting diverse communities, creating apprenticeships, jobs and new businesses, educating pupils and promoting active citizenship. Supporting the motion would benefit not just the Green Backyard but also the residents of the city, present and future.

Members debated the motion and it was stated that there were issues around how the motion would be supported, however the motion should be supported.

Following debate, a vote was taken (unanimous) and the motion was **CARRIED**.

3. Motion from Councillor Nick Thulbourn

That this Council recommends that the Cabinet halt the solar farm project in Northborough, Thorney and Eye with immediate effect. With the overwhelming local opposition to this project and the political realities within the Department for Communities & Local Government it is now the consensus that the time is right to call a halt to this project. At a time of serious financial difficulties it is the right time to release council resources from a project that has been stalled for too long and is unlikely to be delivered at all.

In moving his motion, Councillor Thulbourn stated that it was the Council's role to direct the leadership of the Council that the projects needed to halt. The project had never had a consensus for or against, could not be delivered by the Council and was not financially sound.

Further key points highlighted included the length of time the project had been ongoing and the divide created within the community and the lasting effects of this.

Councillor Khan seconded the motion and reserved his right to speak.

Members debated the motion and in summary raised points including:

- The motion should be supported in order to draw a line under the issue for the sake of the tenant farmers;
- Proposals to cease Morris Fen and Newborough farms would come before Cabinet for decision;
- Most people in the city had not categorically stated whether they were in favour with solar farms or not. Suggesting that there was a lack of consensus could not therefore be correct;
- The farm sites were grade 1 and 2 agricultural land;
- The solar farms would lose money but could have potentially made money if they had been built earlier;
- Climate change was happening and all forms of renewable energy should be looked at in order to tackle it;
- The Cabinet would be right to terminate the two largest schemes, but America Farm was only a 7 megawatt project. £3 million had already been spent and the question was whether to abandon the project or pursue it; and
- There were no tenant farmers at America Farm.

Councillor Khan exercised his right to speak and stated that big projects did not seem to be deliverable by the current administration. The project would have needed consensus from residents, the government, the MP, and the authority itself, which it did not have. Furthermore, the difficulty in pursuing America Farm was that the government may force the local authority to abandon that too in any event.

Councillor Thulbourn summed up as move of the motion and stated that solar energy should be supported, but people needed to be involved in the decision-making process; this had not happened in the current instance. Regarding the financial side, resources did not just mean money but also included people's time, in order to retain focus on relevant issues. The Council would do much better with the budget setting if this project was ceased. The local authority had a duty to work with people and not to impose issues on people.

Following debate, a vote was taken (24 for, 4 against, 17 abstentions) and the motion was **CARRIED**.

4. Motion from Councillor Nick Thulbourn

Councillor Thulbourn moved the following motion:

1. That this Council believes that local authorities, including Peterborough, should be given the powers to protect the local amenities and the wellbeing of communities by stopping the proliferation of betting shops and by reducing the maximum stakes and slowing down the speed of play on Fixed-Odds Betting Terminals.

The London Borough of Newham is proposing to submit a proposal under the Sustainable Communities Act to reduce the maximum bet per spin on Fixed-Odds Betting Terminals (FOBTs) in on-street betting shops from £100 to £2.

The impact on the FOBTs within the City of Peterborough have been substantial and are a growing problem causing social problems, gambling addiction, concerns over crime and disorder. Unlike pubs, bingo halls and amusement arcades where stakes are limited to £2 per spin, gamblers can via cash or debit cards gamble £100 every 20 seconds on FOBTs, more than four times as fast as the rate of play in casinos.

Across Peterborough there are 33 betting shops, in 2013 alone there was £25 million pound gambled on these addictive machines with losses to residents of our city of £4.8 million. Because there is a restriction of 4 FOBT machines per shop, they are now opening multiple outlets to maximise the number of machines and revenue.

2. This Council requests that:

- i. The Council Leader and the Chief Executive writes to Helen Grant MP, Minister responsible for gambling, recommending a reduction in the maximum bet per spin to £2 on FOBTs.
- ii. The Council Leader and the Chief Executive writes to Sir Robin Wales, the Mayor of the London Borough of Newham, declaring this Council's support for their proposal under the Sustainable Communities Act, which calls on the Government to reduce the maximum bet per spin to £2 on FOBTs.

Councillor Thulbourn advised that following the earlier comments made by Councillor Cereste during his Leader's announcement, and following discussion, he was content to withdraw his motion or to accept agreement from Council. This was agreed by Council.

13. Reports to Council

(a) Changes to the Executive and Leader's Scheme of Delegation

Council received a report from the Leader, the purpose of which was for the Council to note the change to the scheme of delegations given to the Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Services in that he now has the additional responsibility of Rural Communities.

Councillor Cereste introduced the report and moved the recommendation contained within. This was seconded by Councillor Walsh, and she did not reserve her right to speak.

As there was no debate on the item, it was **RESOLVED**:

That Council note the change to the Leader's Scheme of Delegation for the Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Services.

(b) Update to the Treasury Management Strategy

Council received a report from the Cabinet Member for Resources, which sought Council's approval of an amendment to the Treasury Management Strategy, enabling an executive decision to be brought forward to allow the Council to invest directly into Axiom Housing, to further support the provision of housing in the area.

Councillor Cereste introduced the report and moved the recommendation contained within. This was seconded by Councillor Holdich who reserved his right to speak.

Members debated the recommendations and in summary raised points including:

- In the opening statement of the recommendation, clarification was sought by what was meant by “other bodies” and assurance was sought that these were not private companies seeking to make a profit from funding from the Council;
- The ‘other bodies’ were not defined. Passing the report on ‘Axiom’ was acceptable, but delegating power to give loans to ‘other bodies’ could not be supported without further reports on those ‘other bodies’;
- The geographical location of the other bodies was not clear, and whether authorisation should be given to invest in projects in other areas or even overseas;
- Concern was expressed at the scope of the recommendation. Money given to Axiom should be utilised to directly support people in Peterborough that needed housing;
- The purpose of the scheme was to provide more social housing, which could only be a good thing. The risks had been taken into account by officers and there could not be too much limitation placed on the geographic boundaries of the scheme, as it could benefit people in Peterborough;
- Concern was expressed that part of the document was exempt. How could Members vote on this without knowing the full implications;
- The scheme was not without risk;
- Social housing was extremely important, but Members were concerned about the meaning of ‘other bodies’ within the recommendations. £3 million had already been wasted on the solar farm project, so caution needed to be exercised in future cases. The words ‘other bodies’ needed to be removed; and
- If £30 million was being loaned, then the risk needed to be understood and there needed to be more clarity.
- All schemes would be subject to a Cabinet Member Decision Notice, and could be called-in if necessary.

Councillor Holdich exercised his right to speak and advised that Axiom were a well-respected organisation, providing houses for many years. The decision would enable properties to be built in the locality, which were needed.

Councillor Cereste summed up as mover of the recommendation and stated that he would be happy to remove the words ‘and other bodies’ from the motion, as any future schemes would be subject to Cabinet Member Decision Notices in any event.

Councillor Cereste therefore submitted an amendment to the recommendation to remove the words ‘and other bodies’. The Mayor accepted the amendment and the amendment was seconded by Councillor Murphy.

A vote was taken on the amendment (43 for, 3 against, 2 abstentions) and the amendment was **CARRIED**.

A vote was taken on the substantive motion (47 for, 1 against, 0 abstentions) and it was **RESOLVED**:

That Council approve the updates to the Council’s Treasury Management Strategy, providing the changes to approach to Minimum Revenue Provision statement to allow the Council to invest in Housing Associations.

(c) Submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England

Council received a report which recommended the approval of the submission to the

Local Government Boundary Commission for England for revised ward boundaries on behalf of Peterborough City Council. The Mayor advised that there had been a minor amendment to the ward boundary descriptions within the submission; these being the change of name of Central North Ward, to be amended to Central Ward, and North Ward, to be amended to Central North Ward.

Councillor Peach introduced the report and moved the recommendations contained within, along with the amendments as outlined by the Mayor. He thanked the officers and members of the cross party electoral review working group and advised that Peterborough's first plan had been submitted in April 2014 following a visit from the Local Boundary Commission for England, who had provided guidance on how best to draw up the submission.

The Commission had subsequently rejected Council's first plan and had released its own revised plan in July 2014. Following this, the electoral working group had been tasked with either making sense of the Commission's draft, as it broke many of the rules originally specified by the Commission itself, or by revisiting and enhancing Peterborough's first submission. The latter option was chosen and progressed and although it was to be acknowledged that this option would not satisfy all parties, it was believed that this was the best way forward.

The recommendations were seconded by Councillor Holdich who reserved his right to speak.

Members debated the recommendations and in summary raised points including:

- The submission was strong and well written by officers, this highlighted the lack of need for consultants to write reports;
- Although not perfect, the submission represented a vast improvement on the Boundary Commission's initial statement;
- The Boundary Commission's proposals lacked credibility and failed one of its own criteria, 'to reflect community identity'. However, the Council's submission was also lacking in credibility as it was simply a re-submission of proposals which had already previously been thrown out by the Boundary Commission;
- The Council's previous submission had been rejected for the under representation of Barnack Ward. Why was it still being singled out for one Member representation?
- There had been three months in which to come up with an alternative submission; and
- The Liberal Democrats had put in a revised submission, taking on board comments made by the Boundary Commission. The main contention being the Northern Area of Peterborough losing two Councillors, in the context of the area having significant growth in population.

Councillor Holdich exercised his right to speak and in so doing stated that the advice from the Commission had been to provide additional evidence for the proposals put forward and this had been undertaken. The Boundary Commission had also offered to revisit the Council once the consultation period had elapsed. It was further advised that single member wards had been approved by the Commission across the country and therefore there was no particular reason why Barnack could not be a single member ward.

Councillor Peach stated in summing up that he had nothing further to add.

Following debate, a vote was taken (42 for, 6 against, 1 abstention) and it was **RESOLVED** that:

The Council approve the submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England for revised ward boundaries on behalf of the Peterborough City Council.

(d) Approval of the Remuneration for the Post of Director of Public Health

Council received a report which recommended that Council approve the salary package for the post of Director of Public Health.

Councillor Lamb introduced the report and moved the recommendations contained within. It was advised that the role was a statutory one and currently reported to the current Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Health and Wellbeing. The post carried health protection responsibilities for all citizens, and obligations to NHS England and the Clinical Commissioning Group.

The Employment Committee had met to consider the appointment and the Terms and Conditions the role. This process was carried out jointly with Public Health England, acting on behalf of the Secretary of State. Following the meeting, the appointment had been made, however as the salary exceeded £100k, the Council was required to approve the salary package, as per the Council's Pay Policy Statement.

The recommendations were seconded by Councillor Fitzgerald who reserved his right to speak.

Members debated the recommendations and in summary raised points including:

- The Labour Group requested clarification as to whether the post had been offered to the post-holder or not;
- The Council was obliged to act responsibly on behalf of all its employees. The pay policy approved should reflect the financial climate and it would therefore be inappropriate to approve this pay package;
- The proposed pay package was far in excess of the 50th percentile because of market supplements, which should only be used in exceptional circumstances;
- The Conservative party's argument that people on lower pay scales should have pay freezes whilst those at the top needed high pay increases in order to attract talent was nonsensical and created a bad impression;
- Council officers were on a good wage compared to those in the private sector;
- The interviews should have taken place following an approval from Council for the post and salary;
- There had only been two applications for the job and by the appointment, the Council had saved £30,000. If no appointment had been made prior to Full Council, it would have presented a breach of statute as the Director of Public Health was a statutory position;
- The Legal Officer clarified that no offer had been made to the candidate prior to Full Council's approval of the salary package; and
- The right candidates should be attracted by the post, not merely by the salary.

Councillor Fitzgerald exercised his right to speak and advised that the appointment to the post was a legal requirement, furthermore the individual concerned was not simply a local government expert, but was also a medical expert and would be employed on NHS medical terms and conditions, not the Council's.

Councillor Lamb summed up as mover of the recommendation and stated that if not approved, the Council would have no Director of Public Health. The individual concerned had already been undertaking the role and would help to raise the profile of health in the city.

A recorded vote was requested and Members voted as follows:

Councillors For: Arculus, Brown, Casey, Cereste, Day, Elsey, Fitzgerald, JR Fox, Harper, Herdman, Hiller, Holdich, Khan, Lamb, Maqbool, Nawaz, North, Okonkowski, Over, Peach, Rush, Scott, Serluca, Sharp, Stokes, Swift, Thacker, Thulbourn and Walsh.

Councillors Against: Davidson, Ferris, Fletcher, Forbes, F Fox, Jamil, Johnson, Knowles, Martin, Miners, Murphy, Saltmarsh, Sandford, Shaheed, Shearman and Sylvester.

Councillors Abstaining: Ash, JA Fox, Sanders and Shabbir.

Following the vote (29 for, 16 against, 4 abstentions) it was **RESOLVED:**

To approve the salary packed for the Director of Public Health.

The Mayor
7.00pm – 11.00pm

FULL COUNCIL 8 OCTOBER 2014

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Questions were received under the following categories:

<u>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</u>	
7.	<p><u>Questions from members of the public</u></p>
1.	<p>Question from Ms Gill Flack</p> <p>To Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Services</p> <p>We need safe off-road horse riding in Werrington and Newborough, please can you confirm what the Council can do about this?</p> <p>Councillor Hiller responded:</p> <p>I'm certain most residents of Peterborough will be interested in the safe enjoyment of all leisure activities other residents choose to pursue, horse riding included. Regarding the specific areas cited I'm sure the respective ward Cllrs would be keen to engage in a dialogue with Ms Flack, as Councillor Fox already has, themselves to better understand her issue in their wards and, perhaps after that dialogue, we might meet to discover if indeed better provision could be investigated'. As a matter of interest, the Public Rights of Way definitive map is available to view on Hawkeye on the Council's website: - http://hawkeye.peterborough.gov.uk/hawkeye/default.aspx?X=517493&Y=300269&DatalayerID=195&Scale=19.843&CH=N&BM=SV</p> <p>Ms Flack asked the following supplementary question:</p> <p>We do have the use of car dyke but the other side of the bank does need restoring for walkers and horse riders, that is the area being fly grazed by gypsy ponies. And part of the Peterborough development corporation access for us, that needs re-opening properly. When they built the parkway they closed off the access to it by fencing it in.</p> <p>Councillor Hiller responded:</p> <p>It is very difficult for me to respond when I have very little knowledge of the areas. I am happy to talk to you and the ward councillors in order to ascertain whether any improvements can be made.</p>

COUNCIL BUSINESS

11. Questions on notice to:

- a) The Mayor
- b) To the Leader or Member of the Cabinet
- c) To the chair of any Committee or Sub-committee

1. **Question from Councillor Thulbourn**

To Councillor Cereste, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Growth

Myself and the Labour Party in Peterborough having been pushing for the past few years for a different economic growth strategy which will create a fairer, and more importantly, a balanced local economy which has the ability to define this city and set us apart.

This business centric and aspiration vision has over the past few months become central to organisations in the area including Opportunity Peterborough. Will the Leader and the Cabinet be changing their strategy to come into line with this vision that is now not only the goal of the Labour Party but most aspiration business leaders and business organisations?

Councillor Cereste responded:

I'm sure that I don't need to remind fellow Councillors that Peterborough is the fastest growing city in the UK, it is the second highest achiever for private sector jobs and that outperforms both London and Cambridge, and the fifth achiever in the whole of the country for housing growth, better than London and Cambridge. We have a clear and successful growth strategy that sets Peterborough apart. As I promised Council many years ago when you all said we wouldn't be able to deliver it, I said that we would deliver and the administration would deliver a Peterborough ahead of the game when the economy turned. That is exactly what we've been able to do. You only had to be at the recent Opportunity Peterborough bondholders dinner in the Cathedral with over 400 business were represented and you would have got the feel of excitement that evening within the business community.

The whole new city centre is completely revitalised. We have the lowest retail vacancy rates in the whole of the UK, and we're still investing in the city.

Peterborough Core, for those of you that don't know what that is – that's the gigabit development in our city. That means that every business and house in the city will have the opportunity to connect to 1000 megabytes of broadband to their homes. We will be ahead of most cities in the world delivering such infrastructure in Peterborough. And that's been done on the back of our policies for bringing this city into the 25th century, never mind the 22nd century. We have invested in the Fletton Parkway and the roads around the city, because infrastructure is incredibly important. There's no point in building new offices and new warehouses if people can't get to them. Peterborough DNA is part of our future cities programme, and that has put Peterborough on the map as one of the smart cities and some of our people are going to Barcelona to tell the world how we do it in Peterborough, and isn't that something fantastic.

And we've spent £200m in Peterborough schools and on our children, and I think that's an incredibly important.

Councillor Thulbourn asked the following supplementary question:

You didn't answer the question. The question was around economic development and the question was...when you've come to Scrutiny and you've spoken to me before, you've always pushed back on the idea of growth. This city, where the average salary is so low, it's time to do something about it. And across the board now, it seems to be a number of organisations are moving towards that Labour Party type policy of sector-driven...put your neck above the parapet, take a chance and let's drive it forward. All I hear is "growth" and just bland growth. All we're seeing is that the actual salaries of people are dropping and all we're doing is subsidising these salaries. Can you please answer the question? Do you agree with Opportunity Peterborough, and are you going to come to Scrutiny meetings in the future with the Council's plan to mirror that growth? Where you're going to put your neck on the line and say "we will go after that sector and we will get growth rather than bland growth – lots of warehouses, people earning no money. It's just not good enough.

Councillor Cereste responded:

The actual income per capita in this city has gone up by 50% in the last ten years. That 50% - it's a matter of fact. It's gone from below £10,000 to just under £15,000. That is a matter of fact. Now, you cannot say that Peterborough is any longer a low-wage society. Many of the new investments...the idea that logistics is poorly-paid, low-skilled society is nonsense. Logistics is actually now very highly-skilled, very highly-paid, and the problem with logistics is that they don't employ as many people as they used to as they're now using computers and they're using much better IT and therefore they need more highly-skilled, better people and being paid a lot better. So I'm quite happy to substantiate what I've said to you. The numbers...I know I'm right because I've checked it all out. I'm pleased that you brought the question to us, so I can actually tell the Council how well the Conservative Group has performed over the last 10 years in actually putting Peterborough on the right path, using growth as a way to create wealth for everybody and then investing that money in our schools for our children so that our children have got a future.

2. **Question from Councillor Sandford**

To Councillor Holdich, Vice Chairman of the Employment Committee on behalf of Councillor Nadeem, Chairman of the Employment Committee

At the April meeting of Full Council a number of concerns were raised about the large increases in pay being given to some Council directors and senior officers. It was agreed that the matter would be referred to the Employment Committee for further consideration.

Could the chair of the Employment Committee tell me when this issue is likely to appear as an agenda item for his committee and how he envisages the committee taking forward the promised review of senior officer pay. Given that there is massive public interest in this subject, could he also give an assurance that as much of the discussion as possible will take place in public, rather than in secret sessions with the press and public excluded as has often happened in the past?

	<p>Councillor Holdich responded:</p> <p>In Councillor Nadeem’s absence I will be responding to this. As you know, I did promise the Council that a review of senior manager’s pay would occur and this is now happening.</p> <p>At the Employment Committee held on 11 September 2014, a briefing took place with Committee Members about how they wished to approach the review.</p> <p>A full report will be presented to Employment Committee in public on 20 November 2014 following which, Employment Committee will make recommendations to Council.</p> <p>Can I also remind Council that these were not increases in pay. These were new jobs following a restructure of the Council’s senior management with new responsibilities. To the cost of £70,000 this Council saved £1 million. I think that’s good business.</p> <p>Councillor Sandford did not have a supplementary question.</p>
3.	<p>Question from Councillor Ash</p> <p>To Councillor Cereste, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Growth</p> <p>I note that some inconsiderate cyclists blatantly cycle along bridge street at busy times, weaving in and out of shoppers showing little consideration for pedestrians.</p> <p>Does the Leader agree with me that this presents a danger to people walking along Bridge Street particularly small children and those who are not agile, as does cycling on footpaths throughout the city.</p> <p>If so can he tell us what action is being taken to ensure that people can walk around in designated pedestrian areas and footpaths in safety.</p> <p>Councillor Cereste responded:</p> <p>Firstly, let me say that as a Council we fully support cycling in Peterborough. Through our success in attracting Government funding through the Local Sustainable Transport Fund, with a further £900k revenue secured for the next financial year, we will continue to invest in cycling.</p> <p>However, I must agree with Councillor Ash that there are some inconsiderate cyclists who continue to ignore the restrictions in Bridge Street which were put in place to protect the safety of pedestrians, and particularly children in what is now, due in no small part to the Council’s investment, a vibrant pedestrian street. We have recently undertaken public consultation on extending the existing restrictions to include Sundays and I will be discussing my proposals with group leaders before a final decision is made.</p> <p>We will be working closely with the police to make sure that should we go ahead with that, the existing cycling ban is enforced, and we are aware of successful enforcement campaigns in other cities such as Oxford that we can learn from.</p> <p>Councillor Ash did not have a supplementary question.</p>

4.	<p>Question from Councillor Murphy</p> <p>To Councillor Cereste, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Growth</p> <p>Low pay is a concern of many residents and staff, who will be striking on Tuesday 14th of October. Can the Leader advise me when he is planning to bring in the living wage and will he be attending the up-coming low wage conference that the MP is planning?</p> <p>Councillor Cereste responded:</p> <p>Since Full Council in January 2013, work has been undertaken to establish the financial impact of applying the Living Wage to Peterborough City Council employees and also staff employed in community schools. A final report has now been prepared and a meeting scheduled to consider the way forward in principle. We are supportive of adopting the living wage but also need to be mindful of the financial impact before a final decision is taken.</p> <p>A further meeting has been scheduled for the 27 October 2014.</p> <p>Councillor Murphy asked the following supplementary question:</p> <p>You haven't answered the bit about attending the meeting planned with the MP. Is that because you don't like the MP, or you don't like the living wage?</p> <p>Councillor Cereste responded:</p> <p>Thank you Mr Mayor, I love my MP and I fully support the living wage.</p>
5.	<p>Question from Councillor Saltmarsh</p> <p>To Councillor Elsey, Cabinet Member for Street Scene, Waste Management and Communications</p> <p>Last year, the Private Contractor employed by PCC, promised the residents of Burford Lawns Estate, Dogsthorpe, improvements to their Play area, located between Blandford Gardens & Wimborne Drive. After much promoting the Contractor has finally agreed to :-</p> <p>"Remove all items of equipment and the old safety surface. Supply and install new swing, slide, see-saw and whizzer. Supply and install new Jungle Mulch safety surfacing".</p> <p>Could the residents please be informed whether these works will start this financial year, or be delayed yet again?</p> <p>Councillor Elsey responded:</p> <p>We expect the work to start in the week commencing 3 November 2014.</p> <p>Councillor Saltmarsh did not have a supplementary question.</p>
6.	<p>Question from Councillor Swift</p> <p>To Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Services</p> <p>Would the Cabinet Member be kind enough to look into the question of</p>

conditions placed on developers to make open space land available, particularly play areas, when granting planning permissions. I have two areas in the North Ward that are currently causing residents, myself and Councillor Sharp grave concern. There is one area where the City Council gave land worth quarter of million to a housing association and the play areas now have been put up for sale. The gravest concern however is Christopher Close. When the estate was built in 1992, there was a condition that the open space land with trees, that had preservation orders, would be retained and a play area provided. This land is now been sold by the developers to a private individual and the open land is now nothing but an eyesore. I require assurances on behalf of my constituents that the planning conditions will be adhered to and the area will be cleaned up but above all that no permission for development of housing will be allowed.

Councillor Hiller responded:

Where public open space on housing developments has not been adopted by the City Council, in very rare circumstances that open space can be sometimes be sold by one private party to another. Open space enjoys protection through the Council's adopted planning policies and only in the most exceptional circumstances would planning permission be given for development on public open space. With regard to the public open space at Christopher Close, I am aware that the land has been offered at auction a number of times in recent years and was recently bought. During the time the land was advertised on the auction web site, the Council's planning officers consistently and properly advised potential purchasers that it was highly unlikely that any planning development would be granted planning permission.

The City Council's has powers through a Section 215 notice to require owners of untidy land to undertake necessary work to make good the area. A limitation of such notices is that should the area be made good within the timeframe specified within the notice and the land becomes untidy again, a further notice must be issued. I agree it's always sad when an area of open land is neglected and brings down the neighbourhood because of that inattention. I will ask officers to look at the state of this land, Councillor Swift, and share their report with you to determine the way forward here. Thank you, Mr Mayor.

Councillor Swift did not have a supplementary question.

7.

Question from Councillor Davidson

To Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Services

In Werrington, along the one way street which is situated off Hall Lane and Church Street, children are often seen cycling up the middle of the road, heading in the wrong direction as motorists turn from Hall Lane into it. This is an accident waiting to happen. Could the Cabinet Member please assure me that exploration will be undertaken into the implementation of appropriate signage for the area for both drivers and cyclists?

Councillor Hiller responded:

I can assure Councillor Davidson that officers will investigate the existing signage and ensure that any additional signage required is provided to inform all road users of the highway protocol at that site.

Councillor Davidson did not have a supplementary question.

8.	<p>Question from Councillor Miners</p> <p>To Councillor Cereste, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Growth</p> <p>Noting the recent sombre warnings of impending financial doom from the Leader, reported in the local media, could the Leader please confirm the extent of Central Government funding cuts to Local Government, particularly to Peterborough City Council, over the last four years?</p> <p>Councillor Cereste responded:</p> <p>During this parliament, local government funding will have almost halved since 2010/11 spending levels, as it plays its role in supporting government's deficit reduction programme.</p> <p>The Council supports actual overall grant reductions as it believes this provides a realistic interpretation of government grants to the tax payer and further excludes council tax assumptions. Taking all grants into account excluding additional pooled NHS funding, public health grant and by removing the New Homes Bonus as this grant is funded based on our growth, the actual picture is a grant reduction of £8.9m in 2014/15 and a further £12.3m in 2015/16. This represents approximately 28% and 39% reduction in council funding since 2010/11 spending levels. By 2015/16, the Council would have seen grant reductions of £44m since 2010/11.</p> <p>Looking ahead to next financial year, the Council will have to make some very difficult decisions.</p> <p>Councillor Miners asked the following supplementary question:</p> <p>Noting all the figures the Leader has quoted, does he in fact on reflection believe we would now be financially better off in Peterborough City Council if we had increased the Council Tax precept over the past few years to the maximum amounts allowed by the central government?</p> <p>Councillor Cereste responded:</p> <p>No, the answer to the question is, because actually the maximum we could have increased Council Tax was by about 2% and there had been monies placed into our baseline grant in order to balance that off. The question then arises – what happens in 2017/18? Since I don't have a crystal ball, I cannot answer that.</p>
9.	<p>Question from Councillor Fower</p> <p>To Councillor Serluca, Cabinet Member for City Management, Culture and Tourism</p> <p>Now that the library consultation has ended, could the relevant Cabinet Member please let me know how many people responded, and advise what the likely impact is now on people in my ward who use the Werrington Library, or others around the city?</p> <p>Councillor Serluca responded:</p> <p>The libraries and community centre fact finding consultation closed on Friday</p>

	<p>the 26 September, in total, we have received 5,100 responses</p> <p>I am delighted with the number of responses we have received to the consultation. This is testament to the hard work of our officers and councillors who have spent a great deal of time letting people know about the consultation and encouraging them to take part. It is also because the people of Peterborough care about their libraries and community centres.</p> <p>We will now be spending time looking at each of the questionnaires returned to be able to draw conclusions from what people have said. Given the large number of responses received, we expect this to take a number of weeks.</p> <p>A report will then go before the next Cabinet meeting on 3 November which will detail the results of the consultation.</p> <p>As we have said from the beginning, we know people value our library services and community centres but we also know that the way people are using them is changing. This consultation will help us to provide library and community centre services which meet the needs of our residents.</p> <p>Councillor Fower was not present to ask a supplementary question.</p>
10.	<p>Question from Councillor Ash</p> <p>To Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Services</p> <p>Is the cabinet member aware of delays to the works near the shops at Central Avenue which was originally promised to begin in July 2013. I am sure he will remember it was a subject of a question asked by Cllr Saltmarsh at a council meeting held in July 2013.</p> <p>Ward Councillors were eventually advised that the revised start date of September 2014 has been put back to early 2015.</p> <p>Can he explain why preparatory work such as procurement and costings for example, were not completed in time for the promised September start, and can he give assurances that the works will be carried out sooner rather than later.</p> <p>Does he also agree with me that these delays have the potential to give a poor impression to residents.</p> <p>Councillor Hiller may have responded:</p> <p>The original project due to be delivered in 2013 had to be halted due to budget availability but there is funding for the project to progress this financial year.</p> <p>When preparatory work recommenced on the project in April it was anticipated that works would commence on site in September. As design work progressed it became clear that significant utility diversions would be required and that this and other engineering issues would result in a time delay. I can confirm that the project will be delivered in this financial year.</p>
11.	<p>Question from Councillor Ferris</p> <p>To Councillor Cereste, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Growth</p>

	<p>Noting this Council's agreement to work towards implementation of the Living Wage for all of its employees (as per Council motion passed in January 2013), can the Leader of the Council update us on what progress has been made and when we might expect to see this implemented? Will he provide assurances that school staff will be included?</p> <p>Councillor Cereste may have responded:</p> <p>Since Full Council in January 2013 work has been undertaken to establish the financial impact of applying the Living Wage to Peterborough City Council employees and also staff employed in community schools. A final report has now been prepared and a meeting scheduled to consider the way forward in principle. We are supportive of adopting the living wage but also need to be mindful of the financial impact before any decision is taken.</p> <p>A further meeting has been scheduled for the 27th October 2014.</p>
12.	<p>Question from Councillor Davidson</p> <p>To Councillor Scott, Cabinet Member for Children's Services</p> <p>Whilst I fully support council employees making use of electric cars, a number of social workers currently utilise the Peterborough City Council logoed electric cars when they are undertaking home visits. Could the Cabinet Member for Children's Services advise me whether she believes that this in any way affects the confidentiality of the families being visited?</p> <p>Councillor Scott may have responded:</p> <p>Electric cars are not often used within social care because of this very reason.</p> <p>However the cars are sometimes used to visit families who welcome social care support, and there are many as seen in the recent BBC film.</p> <p>Recently I accompanied a social worker on a visit to an adoptive family.</p> <p>Where there is a problem with confidentiality and a car is used, the social worker will always park around the corner so as not to breach confidentiality.</p>
13.	<p>Question from Councillor Fower</p> <p>To Councillor Elsey, Cabinet Member for Street Scene, Waste Management and Communications</p> <p>Could the relevant Cabinet Member please advise as to why when neighbouring Norfolk have decided to scrap their plans to build an expensive incinerator and this local authority is continuing to look at introducing one, what the costs to date on the project are and the latest expected/planned overall cost are?</p> <p>Councillor Elsey may have responded:</p> <p>Firstly, Norfolk's reasons for deciding not to proceed with their facility in Kings Lynn were related to a failure to obtain planning permission, a risk for any proposed development and part of the reason Peterborough obtained planning permission for its facility in advance of beginning the procurement process.</p>

	<p>Secondly I would like to remind Councillor Fower of the regular progress updates provided in the members bulletin, the most recent in July 2014 edition showing that construction of the facility is well advanced. To suggest the Authority is merely considering introducing one appears to be somewhat out of touch with the established policy agreed by Council in 2007.</p> <p>Spend on the project to date is just under £31 million of the capital cost of £75.6 million. Conservative predictions show a saving in excess of £1 million per year on average saved from this facilities operation, on top of the significant environmental benefits already widely published.</p>
14.	<p>Question from Councillor Shaheed</p> <p>To Councillor Eley, Cabinet Member for Street Scene, Waste Management and Communications</p> <p>Having often walked the journey from Walton into town I regularly come across refuse lorries going about their weekly collection. Often, especially in the summer months, there is a disgusting stench along my journey which I believe is caused by old cooking oil, having been disposed of incorrectly, being tipped into the back of the lorries and subsequently just leaking all over the street in the direction the lorry is taking. Is there any way that the lorries could be fitted with a mechanism to prevent this or householders and - the more likely cause - takeaway and food outlets could be advised on the correct ways by which to dispose of the oils to alleviate the issue?</p> <p>Councillor Eley may have responded:</p> <p>We would be surprised if the smell is as a result of the lorries <i>leaking</i> old cooking oil. All of the food pods are sealed units and we have had no other reports of liquids seeping from the refuse fleet.</p> <p>The lorries are open freighters so there is always the potential for unpleasant odours arising from the contents of the bins that have been emptied.</p> <p>Of course, these lorries are only supposed to be collecting household waste.</p> <p>Takeaways or any other food outlet disposing of old cooking oil in household waste lorries would be in breach of their statutory duties to keep and dispose of waste properly and to hold documentation to prove this which must be available to be inspected upon request. The maximum fine in court for such an offence is £50,000. If anyone suspects any particular outlet of disposing of old cooking oil in this way, please let us know and we will investigate.</p> <p>Residents and businesses both to dispose of waste responsibly – this is one of a range of issues we will be addressing through the forthcoming Clean and Green campaign.</p>
15.	<p>Question from Councillor Shaheed</p> <p>To Councillor Eley, Cabinet Member for Street Scene, Waste Management and Communications</p> <p>Myself and Councillor Sandford recently conducted a site visit to Hallfields Lane recreation area with a couple of officers to review the areas designated for the biodiversity trial this summer. Bearing in mind part of the strategy was to review the effectiveness of encouraging wildlife to frequent these areas I asked the</p>

	<p>council officer how the effectiveness of this was to be measured. He said they don't really know! Could the relevant Cabinet Member either confirm this or otherwise? If this is true what measures are in place to actually review this aspect of the scheme effectively in the future?</p> <p>Councillor Elsey may have responded:</p> <p>In the first instance, we are reviewing the practical challenges that have arisen with the new biodiversity areas, given concerns that have been voiced in some locations <i>[including Gunthorpe and Werrington]</i>.</p> <p>We think some <i>relatively minor</i> variations in the precise areas involved and approach taken will enable us to both respond to residents' reasonable concerns and settle on (and potentially extend) the approach we've taken – to the benefit of wildlife.</p> <p>We do plan to measure the benefits for wildlife. For example, we are considering taking a sample from each area to record the number of flowering plants present, as well as the range of species encountered, such as butterflies, bees, small mammals and birds.</p> <p>Changes could then be reported back via the annual Biodiversity Strategy Update Report to the Sustainable Growth & Environment Capital Scrutiny Committee.</p>
16.	<p>Question from Councillor Sandford</p> <p>To Councillor North, Cabinet Member for Communities and Environment Capital</p> <p>Currently only around one third of the urban wards in Peterborough have parish councils. Given that next year areas with parish councils will be entitled to between 15 and 25% of the proceeds from the Community Infrastructure Levy, would he agree that parishing the rest of the urban area should be seen as a priority for the Council.</p> <p>Could he tell us what support the Council is currently giving to communities who wish to develop a parish council and what steps is he taking to ensure that if possible we end up with a co-ordinated and joined up network of parish councils and not a jumble of parished and unparished areas across the urban parts of the city?</p> <p>Councillor North may have responded:</p> <p>The Council are committed to supporting the formation of new Parish/Community Councils with local groups that are committed and interested in doing so. The community capacity team are currently working closely with CAPALC and existing Peterborough Parishes to promote this opportunity via a programme that is financed by DCLG.</p> <p>Local groups in the following urban areas are exploring this are:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Werrington Paston Walton Stanground West Town, Westwood & Ravensthorpe</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;">Dogsthorpe Fletton & Woodston</p> <p>The programme promotes how parish councils (new and existing) can have a greater say over how their local needs are met and how they could have a greater control over how money raised locally, via CIL and other means, is spent. These are some of the many benefits in parishing but it is not possible to direct where parishes could be formed as the decision and commitment to take this forward can only come from the community themselves.</p> <p>The council is committed to promoting and maximising all opportunities available to Parish Councils to ensure all can be done to support their long term viability and sustainability. The council facilitates bringing all Parish Councils together as a networking forum on a quarterly basis as well as supporting an annual conference, to share best practice and raise awareness on matters of mutual interest.</p>
17.	<p>Question from Councillor Murphy</p> <p>To Councillor Cereste, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Growth</p> <p>Question for the Leader. In Peterborough, remuneration is paid to a large number of your nominees; Cabinet Members, Advisors and Scrutiny Chairs the number of which is determined by the leader of the administration. Why have you continued to max out on the number of recipients you are allowed to pay this to and when and why did you decide to extend this payment to a member of another political party?</p> <p>Councillor Cereste may have responded:</p> <p>Cllr Murphy clearly doesn't know how the Council works. I, personally, haven't 'maxed out' on the number of recipients for these allowances. As a Council, you decide who chairs your Scrutiny meetings, not me. And as a Council we all decide how much to pay those Chairs. That decision is made each year following the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel.</p> <p>Cllr Murphy asks why I have agreed to pay a member of another political party for chairmanship of Scrutiny Committee. He should know that the decision to appoint the current chairs was agreed by us in June of this year, at the Annual Council meeting. We all agreed that the Chair of one of the Scrutiny committees would be held by an opposition member.</p>
18.	<p>Question from Councillor Miners</p> <p>To Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Services</p> <p>For the last two years, local residents living in the Western Avenue area of Dogsthorpe, and their local councillors, have been assured road resurfacing works would be taking place over some sections of the Western Avenue highway, particularly at the junctions with Chestnut Avenue and Birchtree Avenue. Alas, although the road repair markings have again been repainted, to indicate the works, there is still no word when these promised works will be completed. Can I ask "When will they be completed?"</p> <p>Councillor Hiller may have responded:</p>

	<p>Initially the work was issued on the former Ringway contract but regrettably they failed to deliver before the contract ended in September 2013.</p> <p>The work was reallocated to new contractors Skanska and they are expecting to complete the work in the next 3 to 4 weeks.</p> <p>Officers will ensure that ward members are updated when the final date of the works is confirmed.</p>
19.	<p>Question from Councillor Fower</p> <p>To Councillor Cereste, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Growth</p> <p>Following the consultation relating to the planned ban of cycling along Bridge Street on a Sunday, could the relevant Cabinet Member please update me and the chamber as to the results of the consultation, what is now planned and whether there are any plans to introduce a sensible solution of a cycle lane as a result?</p> <p>Councillor Cereste may have responded:</p> <p>We have recently undertaken public consultation on extending the existing cycling restrictions to include Sundays. We received 75 individual responses (42 against, 22 in support, and 11 that commented on the proposals without stating a preference), along with 125 signatories to a petition. The provision of a cycle lane solution did not form part of the consultation and this has not been considered as it is not a practical solution in such a busy, family focused street.</p> <p>I will be discussing my proposals with group leaders before a final decision is made. We will continue to work in partnership with the police to make the pedestrian area a safer environment for all users.</p>
20.	<p>Question from Councillor Swift</p> <p>To Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Services</p> <p>As a matter of extreme urgency would the Cabinet Member please ensure that the department concerned with traffic and parking issues look at Thistle Moor Road where the parking signs are illegible and where residents with parking permits cannot park during the day without getting a £60 fine at the Eastern end of the street. At the Western end, where there are 10 parking spaces for the shops in the area, these cannot be used. The parking spaces are permanently filled 24/7 by an adjacent garage by cars awaiting repair etc. This also applies to the laybys and also the entrance to the PSL sports field. In a nutshell there are something like 25-30 cars in the area that are taking up all of the available parking for residents. Weekends particularly are bad – you cannot even walk on pavements due to the cars.</p> <p>Councillor Hiller may have responded:</p> <p>The departments responsible for the traffic and parking issues will review the issues raised and take appropriate action accordingly. I have asked that they update you directly once the investigation has been completed.</p>

COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 4
17 DECEMBER 2014	PUBLIC REPORT

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT: FOR INFORMATION

- 1.1 This report is a brief summary of the Mayor's activities on the Council's behalf during the last meetings cycle, together with relevant matters for information.
(Events marked with * denotes events attended by the Deputy Mayor on the Mayor's behalf).

2. ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION – From 6 October to 14 December 2014

Attending	Event	Venue
Mayor and Mayoress	Visit from Glinton Beavers and Cubs	The Parlour and Council Chamber
Mayor and Mayoress	Best Practice Planning Study Visit by Members of Mid and East Antrim Council, NI	Park Inn Hotel
Mayor	Citizenship Ceremony	Council Chamber
Mayor, Mayoress, Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress	Opening of Bridge Fair and Annual Sausage Supper	Reception Room and Embankment
Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Planning meeting for Full Council Meeting	The Parlour
Mayor	Update meeting for Full Council Meeting	The Parlour
Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Full Council	Council Chamber
Mayor and Mayoress	Visit to Peterborough Combined Court	PE1 1EJ
Mayor and Mayoress	Official opening of HSBC Commercial Centre, Peterborough	HSBC Commercial Centre
Mayor and Mayoress	Celebrating Diversity in Peterborough	African Caribbean Centre
Mayor and Mayoress	Perkins Great Eastern Run	The Embankment
Mayor, Mayoress, Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress	Freedom of the City for Mrs Brenda Swift	Town Hall and Cathedral
Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress	Chairman of South Northamptonshire Charity Civic Dinner	The Great Barn
Mayor and Mayoress	Soroptimist International of Peterborough - Launch of Purple Teardrop Campaign	Outside the Peterborough Visitor Centre
Mayor and Mayoress	Diwali Celebration	Cathedral Square
Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress	City of Peterborough Symphony Orchestra Autumn Concert	Voyager Academy
Mayor	Judge poppy wreaths made by local schools	The Parlour
Mayor	Mayor's Charity Committee Meeting	The Parlour
Mayor	The Royal Society of St George Huntingdon Branch Autumn Dinner	Slepe Hall Hotel

Attending	Event	Venue
Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress	Maritime Supper	Town Hall, King's Lynn,
Mayor	Peterborough B2B exhibition	KingsGate Conference
Mayor and Mayoress	Open the Annual Card Shop for good causes	St Johns Church
Mayor and Mayoress	Prize winner from secondary school - Local Democracy week to have tea with the Mayor	The Parlour and Council Chamber
Mayor and Mayoress	Opening of new care service	Toll Bar House
Mayor and Mayoress	Peterborough Branch of the Royal Naval Association Annual Trafalgar Dinner	The Post Office Sports and Social Club
Mayor and Mayoress	Meal for the homeless	23 Royce Road
Deputy Mayor and Mayoress	Mayor's Charity Race Night – Mayor of Rushden	Heritage Chapel Hall
Mayor and Mayoress	Launch of the Peterborough Poppy Appeal	Outside Town Hall
Mayor and Mayoress	Charity Bag Pack	Tesco, Hampton
Mayor and Mayoress	The Romans of Fane Road Exhibition (HLF funded project)	The Paston and Gunthorpe Community Association Centre
Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress	ICA Dinner Dance	The Fleet
Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress	Chairman of East Northamptonshire Council - Afternoon Tea	The Bridge Hotel
Deputy Mayor	Citizenship Ceremony	Council Chamber
Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress	Celebration of opening of Waitrose	Waitrose
Mayor and Mayoress	OPERA BITES Concert	Key Studio Theatre
Mayor and Mayoress	The Big Draw	Railworld
Mayor and Mayoress	Firework Fiesta 2014	Peterborough Arena
Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress	HEAL India Night	The Cresset
Mayor and Mayoress	Re-dedication Service	St Mary's Church
Mayor	Visit by Peterborough Regional College	The Parlour / Council Chamber
Mayor	Visit from The Beeches School	The Parlour / Council Chamber
Mayor	Run through for Remembrance Sunday	The Cathedral
Mayor and Mayoress	Prize winner from Primary School - Local Democracy week	Reception Room / Council Chamber / The Parlour
Mayor and Mayoress	GCSE Awards Ceremony	The Peterborough School
Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress	Peterborough Gang show	Key Theatre
Mayor and Mayoress	Peterborough Town Annual Cricket Dinner	The Bull Hotel
Mayor and Mayoress	The Grand Opening of The Lounge Werrington	The Lounge, Staniland Way
Mayor and Mayoress	Rededication of the Co-op Funeral Home	Co-op Funeral Service
Mayor and Mayoress	The Deanery WW1 Commemorating Hedge - Planting Ceremony	The Deanery, Bretton
Mayor, Mayoress Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress	Remembrance Sunday	War Memorial and Cathedral

Attending	Event	Venue
Mayor, Mayoress and Deputy Mayor	Curry Lunch	TA Centre
Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Armistice Day	War Memorial
Mayor	Peterborough Volunteer Fire Brigade Annual Dinner	Bull Hotel
Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress	Peterborough Art Society Annual Art Exhibition Preview Evening	St Johns Church
Mayor	Youth Health Champion Charity Run Presentation	The Parlour
Mayor and Mayoress	Mayor's Charity Coffee Morning	Reception Room
Mayor and Mayoress	A Commemoration of both World Wars	Assembly Hall, Ken Stimpson Community School
Mayor and Mayoress	Connecting Classrooms visit by partner schools from North Sudan	The Parlour
Mayor and Mayoress	Romans Revisited Private View	Peterborough Museum
Mayor and Mayoress	Christmas Lights Switch-On	Cathedral Square
Mayor and Mayoress	Peterborough Choral Society Autumn Concert	St John's Church
Mayor and Mayoress	Peterborough Rotary Club Charter Lunch	The Holiday Inn (Peterborough West)
Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress	The Chairman of South Holland Civic Service	St Mary and the Holy Rood Church
Mayor	Agri-tech Conference	Italian Community Association Centre
Mayor	Meeting with Peterborough Fair Trade group	The Parlour
Mayor	Agri tech Formal Dinner	Riva Restaurant
Mayor	Mayor's Charity Committee Meeting	The Parlour
Mayor	Citizenship Ceremony	Council Chamber
Mayor and Mayoress	Visit by the 3rd Nene (Stanground) Beaver Colony	The Parlour and Council Chamber
Mayor	Meeting to discuss potential Mayor's Charity Event	Ibrahim Indian Restaurant
Mayor and Mayoress	Grand re-opening of the newly extended Aldi Supermarket	Whittlesey Road
Mayor and Mayoress	Peterborough Literacy Campaign launch event	Gladstone Children's Centre
Mayor and Mayoress	Launch of Extended Hands Organisation	Peterborough International Christian Centre
Mayor and Mayoress	Peterborough City Market Xmas Lights Switch On	Peterborough City Market
Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress	Reception and performance of High School Musical	The Cresset
Mayor and Mayoress	Mayor's Reception 2014 (Cambridge)	Large Hall, Guildhall
Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress	Unite 4 Humanity Charity Shop Opening	44 Broadway
Mayor and Mayoress	Presentation of Achievement: Highland Dancing	Dogsthorpe Community Centre
Mayor, Mayoress, Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress	The Rudolf Fund Xmas Party	Executive Suite. PUFC
Mayor and Mayoress	Visit by Peterborough Regional College	The Parlour / Council Chamber

Attending	Event	Venue
Mayor and Mayoress Cllr & Mrs Harper	Diwali Presentation	Reception Room
Mayor	Presentation by Richard Tilbrook	The Parlour
Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress	Welcome Dinner for Chinese Principal	Clarke's Restaurant
Mayor and Mayoress	Visit by Parkinsons UK Peterborough	The Parlour and Council Chamber
Mayor and Mayoress	D of E Presentation	Reception Room
Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress	Annual Thanksgiving Service and Pie Social event	The Chapel
Mayor	Meeting with Governance Director	The Parlour
Mayor and Mayoress	Investors in the Environment Awards 2014	Kingsgate Conference Centre
Mayor and Mayoress	Celebration of Students' Work: Exhibition and sale of work	City College Peterborough
Mayor and Mayoress	Mayor of Northampton Gala Dinner	The Guildhall
Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress	Netherton Friendship Club Christmas Sale	St Andrew's Church
Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress	The Royal British Legion Women's Section Cambridgeshire County Conference	RBL Club
Mayor and Mayoress	Mark the opening of Darassalaam Mosque	80-82 Alma Road
Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress	Mayor of Boston Charity Flog it Evening	St Thomas' Church Hall
Mayor and Mayoress	Mayor of Huntingdon's Charity Christmas Dinner	Town Hall
Mayor and Mayoress	Kidney Research UK Annual Advent Service and VIP reception	The City Club
Mayor and Mayoress	GO Outdoors Store Opening	Saville Road
Mayor	Charity committee meeting to discuss the Mayor's Ball	The Parlour
Mayor and Mayoress	Milfield Shopping Centre Window Judging	Lincoln Road
Mayor and Mayoress	Magistrates' Annual Reception	Reception Room
Mayor and Mayoress	Phoenix School Presentation	Phoenix School
Mayor and Mayoress	Mulled wine and mince pies afternoon	Philia Lodge Residential Home
Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress	Mayor of St Neots Christmas Carol Concert	St Neots Parish Church
Mayor and Mayoress	Christmas Jazz Breakfast	The Peterborough School
Mayor and Mayoress	Jack and the Beanstalk	Key Theatre
Mayor and Mayoress	Nativity Performance	Dogsthorpe Infant School
Mayor	Citizenship Ceremony	Council Chamber
Mayor and Mayoress	The Peterborough School Carol Concert	Peterborough Cathedral
Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress	Mayor of Huntingdon's Civic Carol Service	All Saints Church
Mayor and Mayoress	Mayor's Charity Coffee Morning	Reception Room
Mayor and Mayoress	Special preview of Hoarding Exhibition	City Gallery
Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress	Mayor of King's Lynn - At Home Reception	Town Hall, King's Lynn

Attending	Event	Venue
Mayor	Visit by students and teachers from 1250 School in Moscow	The Parlour
Mayor	Visit Faizan-e-Madina Mosque	Faizan-e-Madina Mosque
Mayor and Mayoress	Carol Service	Peterborough Cathedral
Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress	St Ives Mayor's Charity Carol Concert	Free Church
Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress	KingsGate Christmas Celebration	KingsGate Community Church
Mayor and Mayoress	A Community Christmas Celebration	The Salvation Army
Mayor and Mayoress	Northants & Hunts Freemasons Carol Service	Peterborough Cathedral

3. BACK GROUND DOCUMENTS (IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT 1985)

None.

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COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 9
17 DECEMBER 2014	PUBLIC REPORT

EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

(a) THE HOMELESSNESS REVIEW 2014 AND STRATEGY 2013-2018

Cabinet at its meeting of 24 November 2014, received a report following approval from the Strong and Supportive Scrutiny Committee on 3 September 2014.

The purpose of the report was for Cabinet to review and comment on the information contained in the Homelessness Review, to comment and agree on the broad strategic aims of the Homelessness Strategy (*as detailed within the record of executive decisions report at agenda item 10*) and to recommend the Strategy be taken forward and adopted by Council.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Council adopts the Homelessness Strategy.

(The original Cabinet report and Appendix follows this report)

(b) PETERBOROUGH CITY CENTRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT (VERSION FOR ADOPTION)

Cabinet at its meeting of 24 November 2014, received a report following Council's decision on 4 December 2013 to approve the Peterborough City Centre Development Plan Document (DPD) (Proposed Submission Version), also referred to as the City Centre Plan, for the purposes of public consultation and submission to the Secretary of State. Such consultation had taken place and the DPD was submitted to the Secretary of State on 1 April 2014. Subsequently an independent Planning Inspector, appointed by the Secretary of State had carried out a public examination into the document. The Inspector had sent her report to the Chief Executive setting out her conclusions on the Plan.

The purpose of the report was for Cabinet to note the conclusions of the Independent Inspector (*as detailed within the record of executive decisions report at agenda item 10*) and subsequently, to seek Cabinet's approval to recommend the City Centre Plan to Council for adoption.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Council adopts the Peterborough City Centre Development Plan Document, incorporating modifications as recommend by the Inspector (Main Modifications) and other minor editorial modifications (Additional Modifications).

(The original Cabinet report and Appendices follows this report).

(c) SENIOR MANAGEMENT PAY REVIEW

Employment Committee at its meeting of 20 November 2014 received a report following a referral from Council on 16 April 2014.

The purpose of the report was for the Committee to revisit the decision it made on senior officer's salaries at its meeting on 3 February 2014 and to make any recommendations on changes, as it saw fit, including reducing senior officer pay.

The Committee reviewed the decision and made recommendations to Council.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Council:

1. Notes that the decision of Employment Committee at its meeting on 3 February 2014 on senior officers' salaries had been revisited, and the review process and outcomes found to be satisfactory; and
2. Make no changes to senior officers' salaries.

(The original Employment Committee report follows this report).

Recommendations from Cabinet to be held on 15 December 2014, on:

- (d) Solar Panels on Rooftops; and**
- (e) Phase One Budget Proposals**

Will be circulated as a separate booklet following the Cabinet meeting.

ITEM 9(a) – FOR INFORMATION

CABINET	AGENDA ITEM No.
24 NOVEMBER 2014	PUBLIC REPORT

Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Cllr Peter Hiller, Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Services	
Contact Officer(s):	Adrian Chapman, Assistant Director, Communities and Targeted Services	Tel. 01733 863887

THE HOMELESSNESS REVIEW 2014 AND STRATEGY 2013-2018

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM : The Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing Services	Deadline date : 17 December 2014
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For Cabinet to note and comment on the activity of the Housing Needs Service over the last year; 2. For Cabinet to comment on the Homelessness Review; and 3. For Cabinet to agree on the broad strategic aims of the Homelessness Strategy and recommend that the Strategy be adopted by Council. 	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report is submitted to Cabinet following approval from the Strong and Supportive Scrutiny Committee on the 3 September 2014.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is for Cabinet to review and comment on the information contained in the Homelessness Review, to comment and agree on the broad strategic aims of the Homelessness Strategy and to recommend the Strategy be taken forward and adopted by Council.
- 2.2 This report is for Cabinet to consider under its Terms of Reference No. 3.2.1 'to take collective responsibility for the delivery of all strategic Executive functions within the Council's Major Policy and Budget Framework and lead the Council's overall improvement programmes to deliver excellent services'.

3. TIMESCALE

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	YES	If Yes, date for relevant Cabinet Meeting	24/11/2014
Date for relevant Council meeting	TBA	Date for submission to Government Dept <i>(please specify which Government Dept)</i>	n/a

4. The Homelessness Review 2014 and Homelessness Strategy 2013-2018

- 4.1.1 In the last year the Housing Needs team have undertaken a comprehensive review of the Peterborough Housing Register and made a number of changes to the Peterborough Allocations Policy. These changes were:

- Setting the entry criteria to the housing register to allow only those in the most urgent housing need to join, this includes; Homeless households, those who are threatened with homelessness, those living in insanitary or unsatisfactory housing conditions, those who need to move for social/welfare reasons or where failure to assist in moving will cause particular hardship.
- Only accept applications from those who have a local connection with Peterborough by; having lived in the area for 6 of the last 12 months or 3 of the last 5 years, those who are working in the city, those who need to move to the area for special reasons
- Excluding applicants who own suitable accommodation or those who have sufficient financial resources to secure suitable accommodation by other means from joining the housing register. (This will not apply to those over 55 and eligible for sheltered accommodation)
- Those who have behaved in an unacceptable manner continue to be excluded from applying. This will be determined by; The Council or RSL is satisfied that the applicant or a member of their household has previously been guilty of unacceptable behaviour which would make them unsuitable to be a tenant, or the applicant or member of the household has been served with an injunction by the council or their landlord to stop them behaving in a way which causes nuisance or annoyance to others, or the applicant or a member of the household has current tenancy arrears in excess of 8 weeks rent, or the applicant or a member of the household has any outstanding former tenant arrears.

4.1.2 Additionally, the bedrooms standards policy that has previously been more generous was changed and brought in line with the criteria that will be applied to housing benefit claims from April 2013.

4.1.3 In order to support the RSL's in managing the issue of the removal of the spare room subsidy ("bedroom tax") the allocation policy also made provision to give band 1 priority to those who were assessed as under occupying their social housing tenancy. This has been relatively successful, but the continued demand for 1 & 2 bedroom properties has meant that many households are still unable to move into smaller accommodation.

4.1.4 In addition to the above changes we also included a number of additional preference categories, which gave increased priority for those who had a long standing local connection with the city (through 5 years continuous residence), those making an economic contribution to the city through employment or voluntary work in the area and ex-servicemen and women who have been discharged from service in the last 5 years.

4.1.5 This has been a significant area of work, which has been completed with minimal interruptions to the provision of essential advice and homelessness services and with no additional resources.

4.1.6 The result of the review has been a significant reduction in the number of applications on the housing register from 9,703 in January 2013 to 2,688 at the end of October 2014.

4.2 Housing Advice Services

4.2.1 As well as the review of the housing register we have continued to offer advice services to those who contacted the service. In the last financial year we were contacted 25,009 times by clients for advice and assistance. Of which 5,418 were seen face to face by an officer in the Housing Needs team. The type of enquiries dealt with by the officers in the team were wide ranging and on a number of housing related subjects.

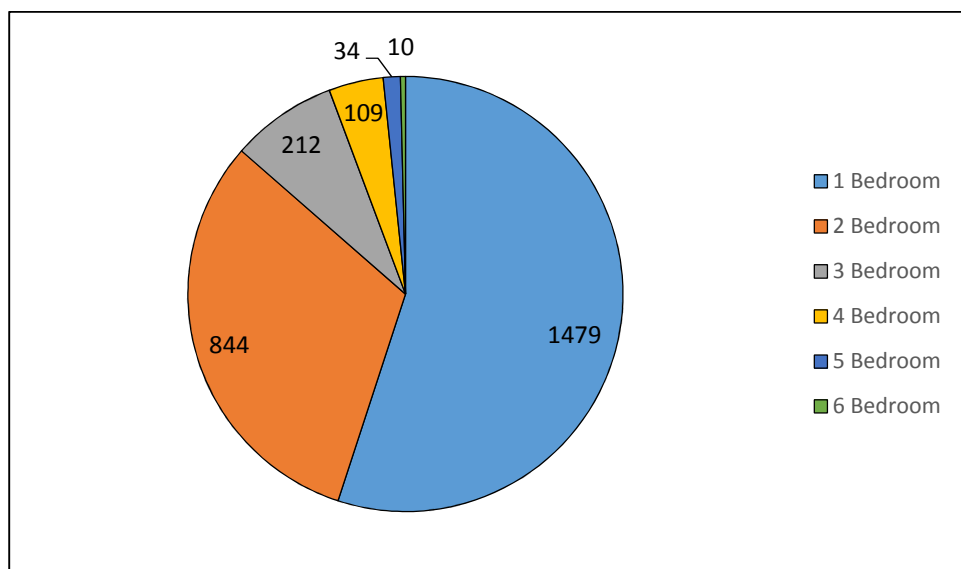
4.3 The Housing Register

4.3.1 As detailed previously the number of applicants who are now live on the housing register has reduced significantly, however the number of people who are approaching us for assistance is still as high as it has ever been. In the last 12 months we have seen 3517 clients face to

face who have either enquired about joining the housing register, had an application processed or amended a current application.

4.3.2 In the 12 months from April 2013 to March 2014 we accepted 965 new applications onto the housing register.

4.3.3 The total number of applicants on the housing register at the end of June 2014 was 2,688. The composition of these households varied, but the majority were either single applicants or couples with a one bedroom need. The chart below shows the current housing register broken down to show bedroom need.



4.4 Allocations

4.4.1 The Council still maintains its nominations agreements with the Housing Associations who have accommodation available in Peterborough and these properties continue to be allocated through the Council's choice based lettings scheme (Peterborough Homes).

4.4.2 Each week our partner Housing Associations advise us, which properties they have available to let and we advertise them to the people on our housing register. Applicants can then choose, which of the available properties they would like to be considered for.

Properties are then shortlisted by:

1. Who has expressed interest (eligible applicants)
2. Highest priority band
3. Who has been in their band longest
4. Who has been on the register longest

4.4.3 In 2013/14 we allocated 1217 properties through the choice based lettings scheme.

4.5 Homelessness Prevention

4.5.1 As detailed earlier in this report the Housing Needs Service adopts a housing options approach to clients who approach the authority for assistance and will seek to prevent a household's homelessness wherever possible. We have a number of options when preventing homelessness and have been successful in a large number of cases, which may have otherwise resulted in the household becoming homeless and the council having to accommodate in temporary accommodation, while seeking alternative accommodation.

We have done this by:

- Negotiating with householders/landlords to allow resolve the issues, which led to the threat of homelessness
- Liaising with Housing benefit to resolve payment issues
- Taking steps to improve security in the home to allow victims of domestic violence to remain in the home (Sanctuary Scheme)
- The Mortgage Rescue Scheme / Mortgage debt advice
- By supporting households to move to alternative affordable accommodation in the private sector

4.5.2 At the end of March 2014 we had completed on 24 mortgage rescues and had a small number, which were pending completion and funding had been agreed to ensure that these cases completed. We were the best performing authority in the East & South East areas and the reputation of the officer in the Housing Needs team was further enhanced by the HCA zone agent who referred a number of authorities to us for advice and guidance.

4.5.3 Unfortunately the Governments Mortgage Rescue scheme closed down on the 31 March 2014. However we still have a number of tools available to us to support households who find themselves in financial difficulty and where we are unable to keep them in their home we are able to support them to exit home ownership and move to alternative accommodation.

4.5.4 We continue to support both tenants and landlords in the private sector through our tenancy relations officer. We have now assisted 592 households and have been successful in the prosecution of 3 landlords who have been found guilty of illegal eviction and have 4 cases pending.

4.5.5 The Housing Needs Service continues to offer a Rent Deposit Scheme which enables persons to access an interest free loan to be used for the up front costs associated with securing a property in the private rented sector. This continue to be a successful option for the prevention and relief of homelessness and also increased access to permanent accommodation. In 2013/2014 a total of 232 households were assisted into private rented sector accommodation through this scheme totalling £100,521.

4.5.6 In addition the increased Discretionary Housing Payments fund (DHP) made available to all local authorities has been used to support households who were in receipt of housing benefits and may be at risk of homelessness to move to alternative private sector accommodation by paying up front fees such as deposits, rent in advance and reasonable administration fees. In 2013/2014 a total of 196 households were assisted into private rented sector accommodation through this scheme totalling £168,127.

4.5.7 Last year we reported to the Department of communities and local government that we were successful in preventing homelessness in 413 cases.

4.6 Homelessness

4.6.1 As well as the advice services offered by Housing Needs where a household approached us for assistance and we are satisfied that the applicant is homeless or threatened with homelessness within the 28 days we are under a duty to accept a homeless declaration and commence an investigation into whether the applicant is considered 'statutory homeless' and therefore owed a full housing duty.

4.6.2 In 2013/14 we accepted homelessness applications from 1095 households. This is marginally less than the previous 2 years, but remains considerably less than 4 years ago (1326). Of the 1095 applications, 250 were accepted as 'statutory homeless' and owed a full housing duty compared to a high of 395 in 2009/10. This is in contrast to the national picture, which has since slight increases in homelessness acceptances since 2010.

4.7 Rough Sleeping

- 4.7.1 2013/14 has been a challenging year in terms of dealing with rough sleeping in the city. We continue to offer support services to rough sleepers and the no second night out scheme, which was piloted in the city in partnership with Axiom Housing Association & Peterborough Streets, was successful in supporting those new to the streets into accommodation before they became entrenched. This resulted in the number of rough sleepers who were identified in Peterborough at the time of our annual rough sleeper count was lower than previous years.
- 4.7.2 The pilot has now drawn to a close and has been integrated into the daily work of Axiom's New Haven hostel and the Housing Needs team. Unfortunately the recent shock closure of Peterborough Streets has meant that the council has had to pick some additional work, but clients should not be adversely affected.
- 4.7.3 Most recently there is an apparent increase in street based activity, such as begging and rough sleeping, which we continue to address as and when it arises. Unfortunately some of more recent arrivals to the streets of Peterborough have migrated from other cities and do not have connections with Peterborough so are unable to access services here. While we continue to support rough sleepers by offering reconnections to the area from which they travelled many refuse our assistance as they are able to maintain their lifestyle from donations from members of the public. We will continue our work with the Police and anti social behaviour teams in order to address the issue with begging and rough sleeping in the city centre.

4.8 Homelessness Review 2014 & Homelessness Strategy 2013 - 2018

- 4.8.1 Cabinet is asked to review and comment on the attached documents (Appendix A) and give approval for the Homelessness Strategy to be taken forward to Council for adoption.

5. CONSULTATION

- 5.1 The revised action plan was compiled in consultation with the Homeless Strategy Steering Groups focus groups, held in November and December 2012. These focussed on the prevention of homelessness, increasing access to accommodation, rough sleeping and promoting settled lifestyles and sustainable communities. In addition the previous review document was presented to scrutiny committee and recommendations/amendments were made as a result.

6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES

- 6.1 Approval is sought from Cabinet to recommend the Strategy for approval and adoption by the Council.

7. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 The Homelessness review and strategy have been written to meet the requirements of Section 1 of the Homelessness Act 2002.

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 8.1 To not conduct the homelessness review and formulate a strategy. Section 1(4) requires housing authorities to publish a new homelessness strategy, based on the results of a further homelessness review, within the period of five years beginning with the day on, which their last homelessness strategy was published.

9. IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 While the Housing Needs team have been successful in managing the impact of welfare reform on homelessness numbers in city. The roll out of universal credit across the rest of the country and further improvements in the economic climate, which lead to a rise in the interest rate could result in the more homeowners being placed at risk of homelessness.

9.2 Continued investment in homelessness prevention activities is required in order to mitigate additional pressures on the council when meeting its statutory duty towards homeless households.

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

Housing Act 1996 (as amended by Homelessness Act 2002)

Homelessness Code of Guidance for Local Authorities

Local Authorities' Homelessness Strategies, Evaluation and Good Practice

The Homelessness Review 2014

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 - 1.3. Benefits of Preventing Homelessness Strategies
 - 1.4. Review of the Homelessness Strategy 2008 to 2013
 - 1.5. The New Review and Strategy Documents
 - 1.6. Methodology of the New Review and Strategy
 - 1.7. Consultation - Research & Information Gathering
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6. Partnership Working

7. The Future

Appendix A: The Homelessness Strategy Action Plan 2013-2018

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1. Introduction

1.1. Changing Context for Homelessness Services

Since the general election in May 2010, the government has implemented a programme of change and reform. The national reform agenda has meant that local homelessness services needed to adapt quickly to deliver services more efficiently, and to mitigate potential homelessness impacts arising from welfare reforms such as those affecting Housing Benefit and the impending introduction of universal credit.

The list of developments in national policy below pick out some of the key changes that have had, and will have, a direct impact on the way in which local housing authorities deliver allocations, lettings and homelessness services.

- Comprehensive Spending Review – October 2010
- No Second Night Out – July 2011
- Localism Act - November 2011
- Welfare Reform Act - March 2012
- Allocations Code of Guidance – June 2012
- Making Every Contact Count – August 2012
- The Allocation of Housing (Qualification criteria for Armed Forces) Regulations – August 2012
- The Homeless (Suitability of Accommodation) Order – November 2012
- The Housing Act 1996 (Additional Preference for former Armed Forces Personnel) – November 2012

1.2. Preventing Homelessness Strategies – The Legal Imperative

This is the third Homelessness Strategy for Peterborough City Council and it reviews the current situation in the district, looks back at the achievements since the last strategy and sets out the work we will carry out with other organisations to reduce and prevent homelessness.

The Homelessness Act 2002 placed a requirement on all councils to formulate a Homelessness Strategy every five years. Councils are required to carry out a homelessness review of their area and produce a strategy to:

- Address the causes of homelessness in the area;
- Introduce initiatives to prevent homelessness wherever possible;
- Provide sufficient temporary accommodation for those households that are or may become homeless; and
- Ensure that appropriate support is available for people who have previously experienced homelessness in order to prevent it from happening again.

1.3. Benefits of Preventing Homelessness Strategies

Homelessness has a detrimental effect on individuals, families and communities and can undermine social cohesion. Homelessness is linked to alcohol and drug abuse, poor physical & mental health, crime & anti-social behaviour, poor educational attainment, debt, unemployment and the breakdown of support networks. Tackling the effects of homelessness can be costly to the public purse when compared to the costs associated with proactively seeking to prevent homelessness in the first place.

The Department of Communities & Local Government (DCLG) continues to recognise the importance of preventing homelessness and set out 10 “local authority challenges” in the “Making Every Contact Count: A Joint Approach to Preventing Homelessness” report.

“So the vision of this report is simple, but bold. There is no place for homelessness in the 21st Century. The key to delivering that vision is prevention – agencies working together to support those at risk of homelessness” Grant Shapps, August 2012

1.4. Review of the Homelessness Strategy 2008 to 2013

The Council produced its first Homelessness Strategy in 2003 which was updated in 2008 with a strategy for the following 5 years. The Homelessness Strategy 2008-2013 identified four priorities around:-

- Service Standards
- Health & Emotional Wellbeing
- Education, Training & Employment
- Choice & Self Participation

The Previous Homelessness Strategy expired in 2013 and therefore an assessment of the current situation has been necessary to inform the strategic direction of the homelessness function for the next five years, 2013 - 2018.

1.5. The New Review and Strategy Documents

The Homelessness Review and Strategy 2013 - 2018 is contained within one document and provides an assessment of the current situation regarding homelessness, both nationally and locally, and a five year action plan for meeting the strategic objectives identified as part of the review.

The Homelessness Strategy is an annex to the Peterborough Housing Strategy 2011 - 2015.

Section 153 of the Localism Act 2011 came into force by commencement order on 7th June 2012 and prescribes the relationship between schemes and strategies that local authorities must have regard to in developing or modifying their local preventing homelessness strategies:

In formulating or modifying a homelessness strategy, a local housing authority in England shall have regard to—

- (a) its current allocation scheme under section 166A of the Housing Act 1996,*
- (b) its current tenancy strategy under section 150 of the Localism Act 2011*

1.6. Methodology of the New Review and Strategy

The review focuses on the following:

- Analysis of national and local homelessness trends and indicators of service user demands.
- An audit of existing provision e.g. use of temporary accommodation and provision of housing-related support.
- Review of current permanent accommodation options
- Review of demand
- An audit of advice and prevention services
- Using analysis and research to provide projections for how we anticipate homelessness is likely to manifest locally over the next 5 years.
- Insight from stakeholders eg. organisations we work with, members and local agencies.
- Review of partnership working
- The future provision

1.7. Consultation – Research & Information Gathering

We carried out a variety of desktop research on statistics held relating to homelessness, housing advice records and housing need in Peterborough. Data was also collated from children's services, national and regional research findings and local voluntary and supporting agencies and on demographics, housing and local incomes.

Partner/stakeholder focus groups took place during November 2012 dealing with all aspects of homelessness throughout the city. We approached voluntary and statutory organisations linked to homelessness to participate in the groups.

The Peterborough Homelessness Strategy Steering Group

As part of the Homelessness Strategy 2008 - 2013, a Homelessness Strategy Steering Group (HSSG) was established. One of the core functions of the group has been to lead on the

implementation of the strategic aims identified within the strategy and to monitor the outcomes and achievements. The steering group is made up of representatives from Peterborough City Council and other relevant statutory and voluntary organisations was established.

The members of the steering group are as follows:

Name	Role	Organisation
Denise Lewis	Manager	Peterborough Streets
Chris Mackett	Manager	St Giles Trust
Karen Chambers	Assistant Director Of Operations	Axiom Housing Association
Anne Keogh	Housing Strategy Manager	PCC
Pete Middlemiss	Manager	The New Haven Night Shelter
Kim Lawrence	Supported Housing Manager	Cross Keys Homes
Emma Foley	Advocate	Cambridgeshire Independent Advocacy (Ace Project)
Ali Manji	Area Manager	Cross Keys Homes
Sam Tucker	City Centre Policing	Cambs Constabulary
Allison Sunley	Head Of Commissioning And Targeted Services	PCC
Sister Mary Clare Mason		Faith & Cohesion Network
Alison Snelling	Service Manager	Aspire
Andy Barringer	Community Recovery Manager	Safer Peterborough Partnership
Sarah Hebblethwaite	Deputy Housing Needs Manager	PCC

2. Homelessness in Context

The Homelessness Act (2002) definition of homelessness remains the same as stated in the Housing Act (1996)

'Under s.175 a person is homeless he or she has no accommodation in the UK or elsewhere which is available for his or her occupation and which that person has a legal right to occupy. A person will also be homeless if where she or he has accommodation but cannot secure entry to it, or where he or she has accommodation that is a moveable structure (such as a caravan or house boat) and there is no place where it can be placed in order to provide accommodation. A person who has accommodation is to be treated as homeless where it would not be reasonable for him or her to continue to occupy it.'

In addition to the above local authorities will also have to consider whether households presenting to them are eligible for assistance (e.g. have a right to reside in the UK), in priority need (e.g. have dependent children or are assessed as vulnerable) and homeless unintentionally. Only once these criteria are satisfied is a household considered to be “statutorily homeless”.

2.1. The National Picture

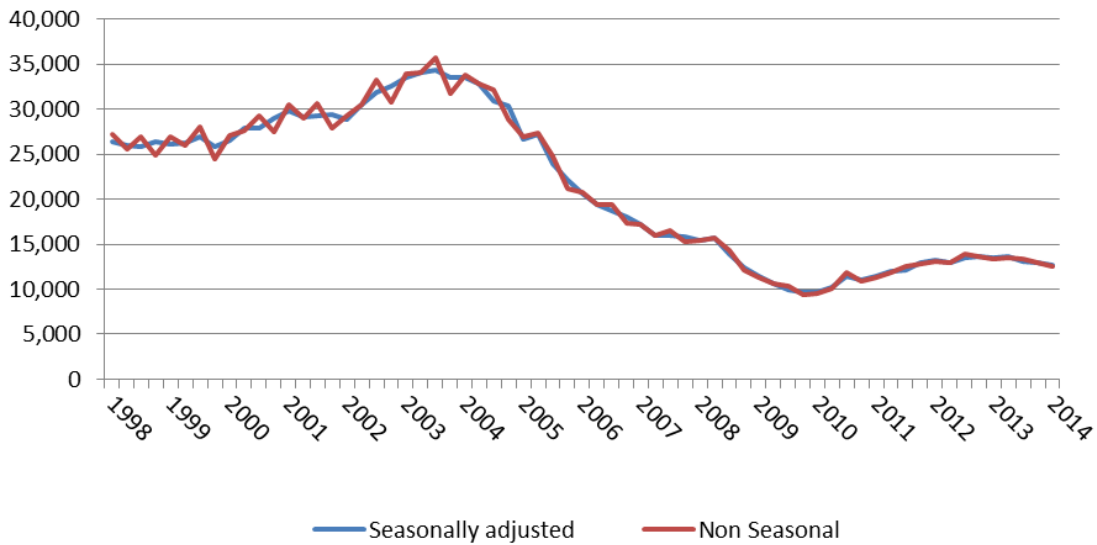
The number of households accepted as statutorily homeless by Councils in England peaked in 2003/04 at 135,430. Between 1997 and 2004 the number of households accommodated by Councils in temporary accommodation doubled, breaking the 100,000 mark in 2004.

Homelessness moved further up the political agenda with the recognition that urgent action had to be taken to address the housing crisis, in particular the rate of homelessness within the country and the number of households in temporary accommodation.

The government’s policy briefing released in June 2005 focused on ways of achieving this target, particularly the increased use of preventative measures and utilising the private rented sector as a source of settled accommodation. This drew together the examples of good practice where Councils had successfully introduced homelessness prevention measures and increased access to the private sector for many clients who may otherwise have been reliant on the limited stock of social rented housing.

The chart below shows the number of households who were accepted as “statutory homeless” and demonstrates that these measures had a significant impact in reducing the numbers of households who were accepted as homeless. However since the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) in 2010 numbers had been slowly increasing until a slight reduction this year.

CHART 1- Households accepted by local authorities as owed a main homelessness duty 1998 – 2014 (England)

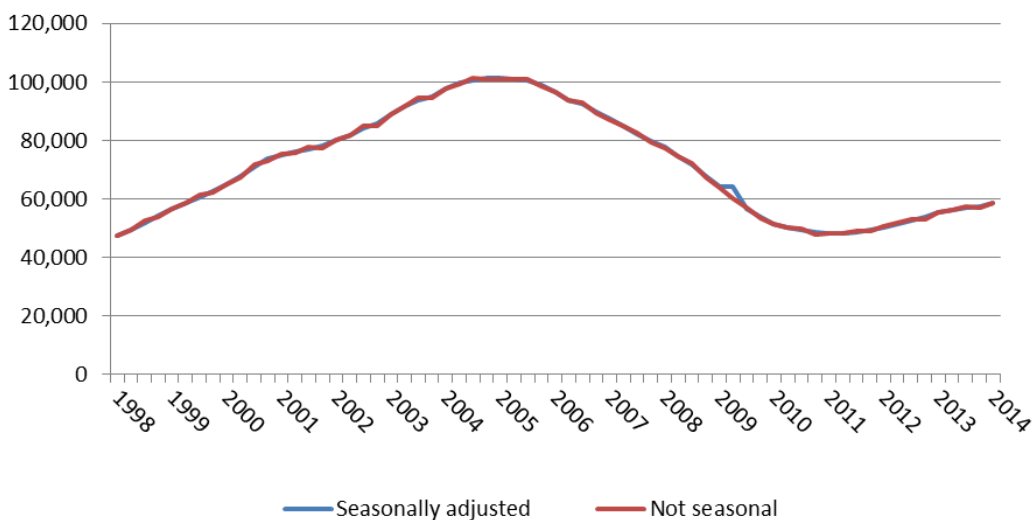


Source: DCLG Housing Statistical Release June 2014

2.1.1. Temporary Accommodation

In the last 4 years since the CSR demand for accommodation the increased demand for accommodation means it has become more difficult to secure suitable permanent accommodation for households who have presented to local authorities as homeless. The impact of this has meant that local authorities have had to spend increasing amounts of money on accommodating households in temporary accommodation while they wait for a suitable offer of accommodation to be made. The chart below shows the number of households that are currently accommodated in temporary accommodation and how that has slowly increased over the last 4 years.

CHART 2 – Number of households in temporary accommodation at the end of each quarter 1998 – 2014 (England)



Source: DCLG Housing Statistical Release June 2014

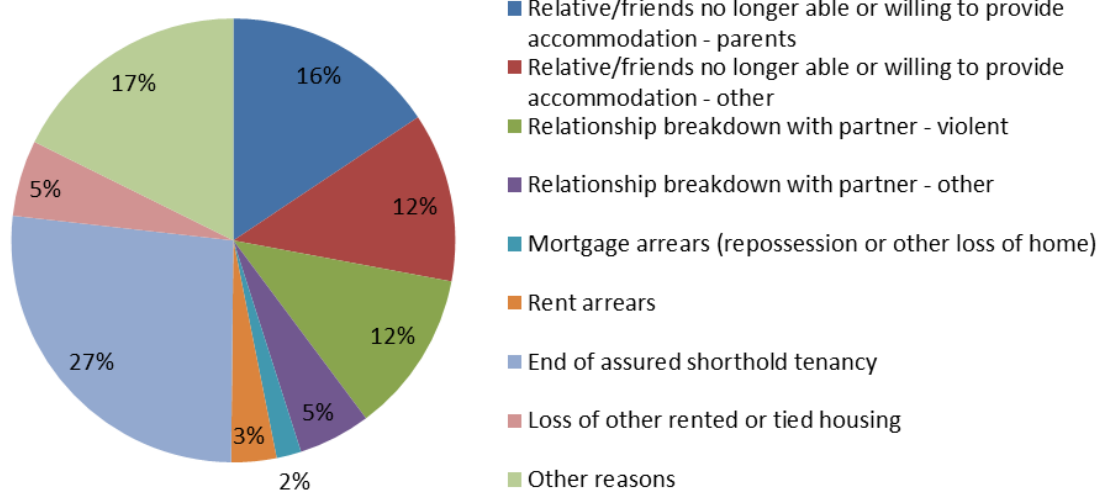
Of the 58,590 households in temporary accommodation on 31 March 2014, 12,430 (21%) were in accommodation in another local authority district. This is an increase of 36 per cent, from 9,130 (17%) at the same date last year.

Of the 12,430 accommodated in another local authority district, 11,540 were from London authorities (93% of the England total). This is an increase of 40% from the same date last year when 8,270 such households were in London.

2.1.2. Reasons for homelessness

Historically the main reason for homelessness amongst those who were accepted as statutory homeless was parents, relatives/friends not being able, or willing, to accommodate applicants any longer. However for the last 2 years this has changed and the most common reason is now the ending of an assured shorthold tenancy. The chart below illustrates the main reason for homelessness in the last quarter of 2013/14.

CHART 3 – The main reason for homelessness Qtr 4 2013/14



Source: DCLG Housing Statistical Release June 2014

2.2. The Local Picture

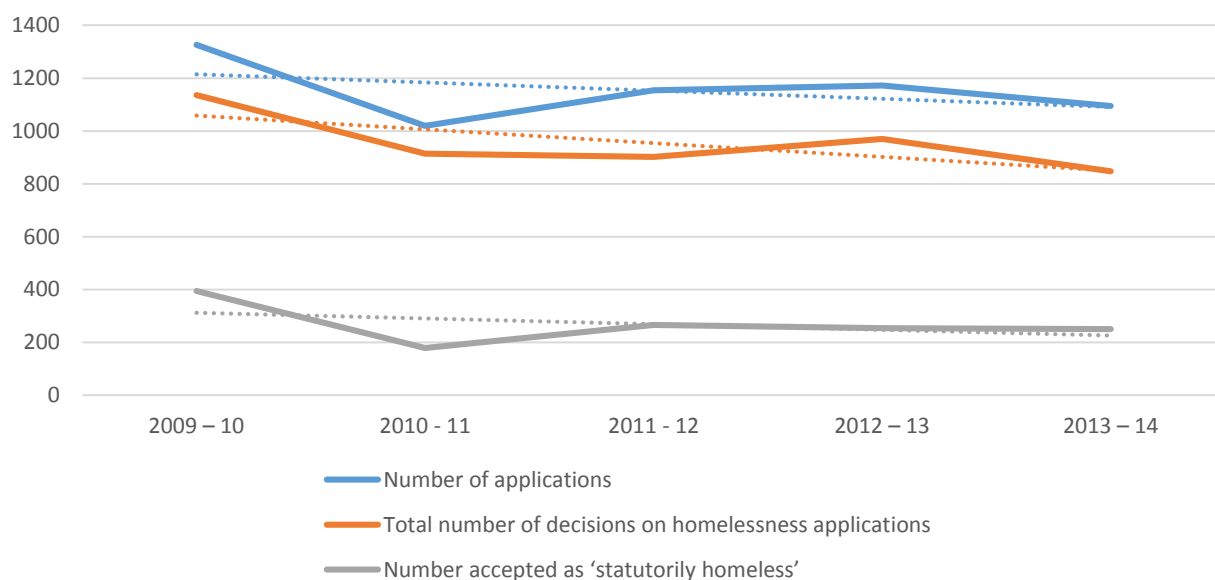
Peterborough has seen consistent population growth since 1971 and is the second fastest growing city in the country after Milton Keynes. The Census 2011 shows a further population growth from 156,059 (2001 census) to 183,961. Overall there has been a population growth of around 18% in Peterborough, whilst England and the East of England have seen a total growth of 8% and 9% respectively. According to the 2012 Sub national Population Projections the city's population is due to increase to around 230,000 by 2037 which is an increase of 25%.

Peterborough is a multi-cultural city. The 2011 Census identified that approximately 71% of Peterborough’s population classifies themselves as White British. The largest increases in ethnic minority groups were identified in White and Other White ethnic (10.6%) and Asian or Asian British, Pakistani (6.6%). Central and Paston wards have seen the largest increases to the proportions of Asian or Asian British Pakistani while Orton with Hampton shows the biggest increase in all of the ethnic groups.

In the period following the expansion of the European Union in May 2004 large numbers of Eastern European Nationals moved to Peterborough. These persons can be shown in the increase in White: Other White to 19,495.

Peterborough has seen consistent levels of homelessness throughout the lifetime of the previous homelessness strategy. The chart and table below show the number of homelessness applications, decisions and homelessness acceptances since 2009-10. The chart demonstrates a trend of slight reduction in all areas. This has been maintained against a national picture of slight increases in the same period of time.

CHART 4 - Number of applications, decisions and acceptances 2009 - 2014



	2009 – 10	2010 - 11	2011 - 12	2012 – 13	2013 – 14
Number of applications	1326	1019	1154	1172	1095
Total number of decisions on homelessness applications	1136	914	902	970	848
Number accepted as 'statutorily homeless'	395	179	266	254	250

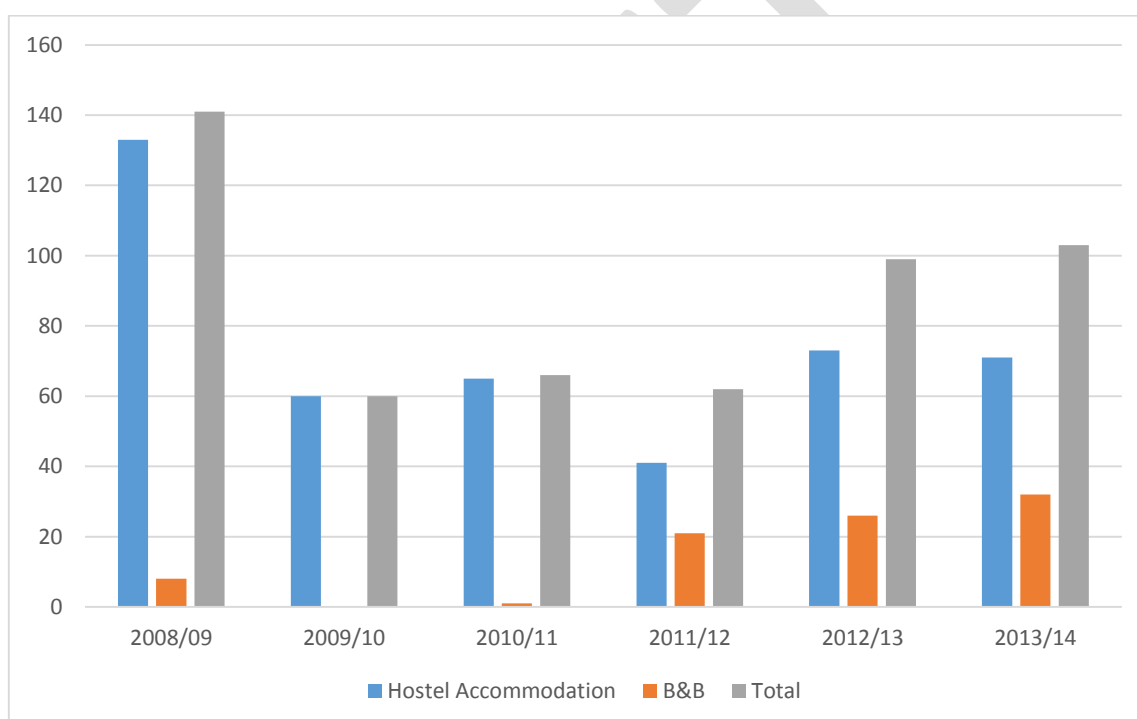
SOURCE – Local homelessness data

2.2.1. Temporary Accommodation

The council has been really successful in reducing the number of households who are accommodated in bed and breakfast from the highs of 2005/06 when expenditure on bed and breakfast accommodation peaked over 1 million pounds. We have been able to maintain numbers accommodated in temporary accommodation in much the same way that we have maintained homelessness presentation figures. The last 2 years have shown an increase in households provided with temporary accommodation, but these increases have been a seasonal high. The numbers have reduced soon after the end of March.

The table below shows the number of households accommodated by Peterborough City Council at the end of the financial year between 2009 – 2014

CHART 5 – TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION NUMBERS 2009 - 2014

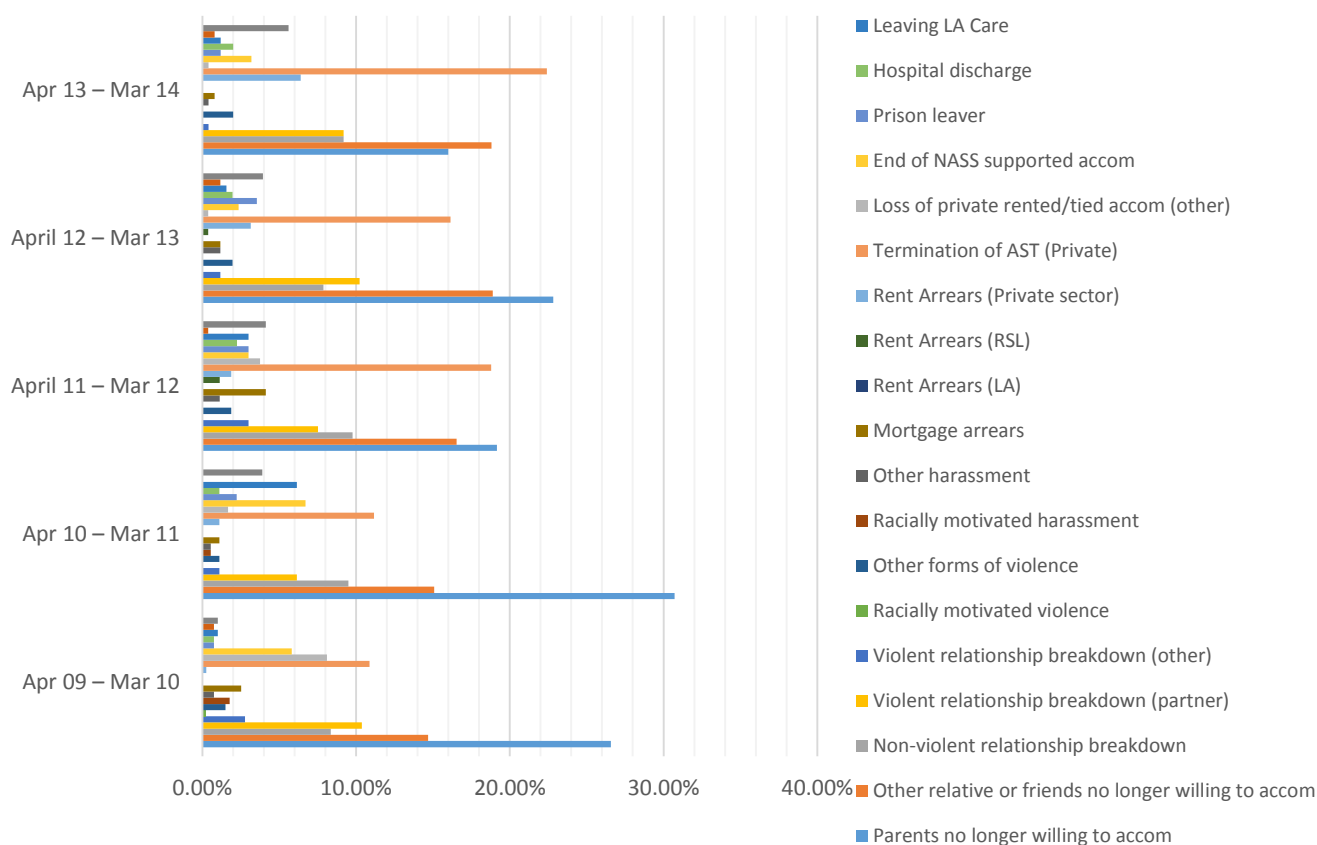


Peterborough City Council has not been placed into a position where we have had to find temporary accommodation outside of the city.

2.2.2. Reasons for homelessness

Peterborough has seen a similar trend to the national picture in terms of the reasons for households becoming homeless. The chart below shows the breakdown of reasons for homelessness and how that has changed over the last 5 years. The chart shows that over the last year the termination of an assured shorthold tenancy in the private sector has overtaken parents unable to continue to accommodate as the main reason for homelessness.

Chart 6 – Reasons for homelessness 2009 - 2014



SOURCE - LOCAL HOMELESSNESS DATA

While the approach of the Housing Needs service is to try and prevent homelessness where possible this can be difficult where private sector landlords are concerned. Many do not have the financial capital to be able to support a household who experience some form of income shock, when they have a change in employment status of a member of the household for example and have no option but to seek possession of their property. There is further work that could be done in terms of understanding the reasons for homelessness in this area to further develop the prevention tools we have in order to try and reduce the number of presentations from this area. Anecdotally, Housing Needs Officers reported that the most common reasons for the termination of an assured shorthold were:

- The Landlord wishing to take the property back for own use, or to sell.
- The non-payment or sporadic payment of rent.
- The property is in a poor state of repair.
- The tenant not conducting the tenancy satisfactorily.

2.2.3. Homelessness Household Composition

Peterborough is no different from the national picture when it comes to the type of households who are accepted as homeless. In the 1st quarter of 2014/2015 75% of households

had dependent children or were expecting their first child. Single people with either a physical disability or a mental illness accounted for 22%.

2.2.4. Rough Sleepers

The Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) requires local authorities to submit an annual figure indicating the numbers of people sleeping rough in their area. They can do this by means of an estimate or a count. Local Authorities can decide whether to count or estimate in order to determine their single figure and are encouraged to use the method that they think will reflect the number of persons sleeping rough in the local area.

In 2010 the Government widened the definition of rough sleeping to *'People sleeping, about to bed down (sitting on/in or standing next to their bedding) or actually bedded down in the open air (such as streets, in tents, doorways, parks, bus shelters or encampments). People in buildings or other places not designed for habitation (such as barns, sheds, car parks, cars, derelict boats, stations or 'bashes.')*

The general perception of rough sleeping is usually based on the numbers of people seen begging or sitting in doorways during the day or in the evening; this is not usually a true reflection of the numbers of people actually sleeping rough.

In November 2012 Peterborough City Council consulted with Cambridgeshire police, faith groups, Peterborough Streets Day Centre, HMP Peterborough, and Aspire through the Task and Targeting Group to reach a decision on whether to carry out a formal count or an estimate. A decision was reached that the most accurate figure would be achieved through an estimate. In autumn 2012 Peterborough City Council submitted a multi-agency lead Rough Sleeper Estimate to government of 12.

This estimate was reached with the guidance and support of Homeless Link. The estimate records a single figure for the number of people thought to be rough sleeping in the local authority area on a typical night between 01 October and 30 November. The figure should be as robust as possible and using the guidance provided will help to get the most accurate estimate. This approach was also adopted when we conducted the most recent count in November 2013 when the total number of rough sleepers was 11.

Rough Sleeper Outreach Service

Peterborough City Council employs a Rough Sleeper Outreach Officer to assist individuals who find themselves sleeping rough after losing their accommodation. The Rough Sleeper Outreach officer has made great strides in ensuring that those who are rough sleeping are assisted before they reach a point where they are entrenched. In 2010, Peterborough was highlighted in the national media as a rough sleeping hotspot, with reported figures in excess of 70 individuals sleeping rough on any one night. Following the set up of a Task and Targeting group and a joint approach this number was quickly reduced with many being assisted to find work and accommodation, or being assisted to return to their country of origin. This work is

continuing and we are now taking steps to tackle a hard core of long standing rough sleepers in the city who we are working to assist through a personalised approach to leave the streets.

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3. Audit of Existing Provision

3.1. Temporary Accommodation

Local Authority Provided Temporary Accommodation

The Council has a duty to provide certain homeless households with temporary housing whilst it assesses homelessness applications and attempts to help them resolve their housing difficulties. As with many high demand areas, the limited number of social rented properties available for letting and the increasing demands on these properties leads to homeless households having to spend longer than would be desirable in temporary accommodation.

As part of the housing stock transfer in October 2004, the Council managed hostels were transferred to Cross Keys Homes who continued to manage and maintain them for use by the council to accommodate homeless households. Temporary accommodation, and in particular bed and breakfast, is recognised as being unsatisfactory for households. In many cases it provides accommodation with shared facilities away from families' usual support networks at a cost to both the Council and household. As a result, reducing the use of temporary accommodation and minimising the length of time households have to stay in this accommodation will remain a key priority for the Council.

Unfortunately the Council still has to use temporary accommodation for households where limited notice of impending homelessness or lack of availability of suitable alternative accommodation would mean that the household would be street homeless without the provision of accommodation. Over the last few years we have maintained capacity in the hostels, but we have often had to rely on local B&B providers to support clients when there has been no vacancies in the hostel accommodation or the clients have been barred from the hostel accommodation due to previous behaviour.

At the end of June 2014 we were accommodating 58 households in hostel accommodation and 2 households in B&B accommodation.

Alternative Supported Accommodation

Although the council supports households who are considered to be homeless and are assessed as vulnerable and in priority need, households who do not meet this criteria are generally not provided with accommodation and will be referred to one of the direct access hostel settings in the city.

New Haven Night Shelter

The New Haven Night Shelter is the city's direct access hostel. The shelter is owned and managed by Axiom Housing Association and provides temporary accommodation for single homeless persons. There are 18 bed spaces and one crash bed as part of No Second Night Out Project within the shelter. There is a Learn Direct suite on site and residents are encouraged to participate in training, volunteering and work seeking. The most frequent reasons for

homelessness were; eviction from private sector tenancy, relationship breakdown and parents/friends no longer willing to accommodate. There is daily Drop Service that enables homeless persons or persons threatened with homelessness to be assessed and signposted to appropriate services.

The shelter is usually fully occupied and residents are supported to secure permanent accommodation by key workers before their stay comes to an end. The majority of persons accessing the shelter are supported into private rented sector accommodation or into a supported housing setting within the city. Unfortunately demand is high for bed spaces at the shelter. Persons are often turned away before they are able to secure a bed.

Fairview Court

Fair View Court is a supported housing project managed by Axiom Housing Association in Oundle Road, Peterborough. It provides modern accommodation for up to 17 people who have previously experienced tenancy failure. The project through the support of partner agencies empowers people to move forward through training, support, and key working individuals to enable them to move through the support stages and into sustainable long term accommodation. The majority of residents in Fairview Court were receiving support for mental health needs.

The accommodation consists of furnished studio flats, a communal garden and lounge. There is also an on-site skills and development Centre, managed by Axiom Academy, which provides an innovative and quality learning training experience, meet individual needs. Social events and days out are also a part of the project's calendar. Residents are assigned a dedicated key worker who supports them to take positive steps towards living independently by providing emotional support and confidence building. We also work closely with partner agencies to support individuals with additional support needs such as drug and alcohol addictions.

Hope into Action

Hope into Action provides houses for the homeless in partnership with local churches. They train and enable church members to engage with and mentor those living in the house, whilst providing the necessary professional support. Hope into Action currently have 12 houses and accept referrals from agencies in the city including; Peterborough Streets, Housing Needs and HMP Peterborough.

The YMCA Timestop

Timestop offers direct access short term accommodation for single people aged 16 to 25 years old. They provide accommodation and support for up to 22 young people who are in housing need. All residents are supported for up to 3 months by an allocated key worker who helps them identify their needs and positively move forward with their lives. Residents are also provided with practical assistance in the form of emotional support, budgeting and work seeking. The majority of residents move on to supported accommodation provided by Peterborough Foyer or private rented sector accommodation.

Peterborough Foyer

Peterborough Foyer provides supported accommodation for young people aged 16 to 25 years old. It is owned and managed by Axiom Housing Association and provides 49 single rooms, including 14 low support move on beds. The Foyer provides extensive support through individual keyworkers and development of action plans and agreed outcomes. There is an on-site learning centre with Information Technology and study areas and Learn Direct and City and Guilds advice. Young people can stay in the accommodation for up to 2 years and usually move on to independent living.

Chronically Excluded Adults

Peterborough has a small number of individual resident who are considered to be very high needs and have usually experienced some form of previous tenancy failure due to anti-social behaviour or rent arrears, which has rendered them ineligible for the housing register or to chaotic to maintain stable accommodation. Many of this client group are also to high need to be accommodated by the supported housing projects listed above.

Peterborough is lacking support for this client group and they continue to go unsupported. There is a need for the city to establish a project similar to the CEA project in operation in Cambridgeshire, which works with the most chaotic and excluded adults in the county to improve outcomes for individuals and for society as a whole. It targets clients who have fallen between services in the past and employs a coordinator who uses a person centred approach to tailor a support package around each client's needs.

Case concerns and flexible approaches are discussed at operational level and escalated to commissioner level on occasions where barriers cannot be overcome at an operational level. The project is considered a national example of good practice and provides support to those setting up projects elsewhere.

Client's service use was measured 12 months prior to them entering the project, and found that of those entering the pilot (15 people) in the first year 46% had had a professional mental health intervention, and 43% had self-reported mental health issues. 75% had had a criminal justice intervention, and 43% had been in prison. All were homeless.

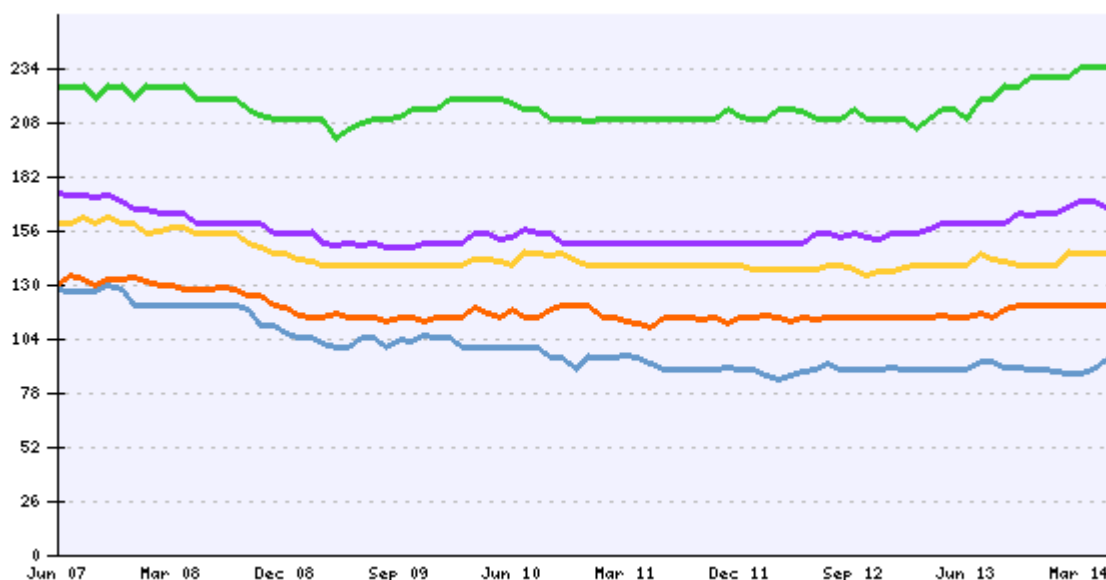
3.2. Permanent Accommodation

3.2.1. The Wider Housing Market






Since the financial crisis the property market in Peterborough has seen house prices drop quite significantly in some cases. However recent shoots in economic recovery have meant that house prices in Peterborough have steadily increased back to just below or around level that they were at in 2007.

However changes to the lending criteria of banks and lower income levels in Peterborough has meant that it is becoming increasingly more difficult for buyers to obtain the required mortgages in order to purchase a suitable property. The chart below shows the median property asking prices by type in Peterborough since 2007.

Chart 7 – Median Property asking prices in Peterborough 2007 - 2014



Legend

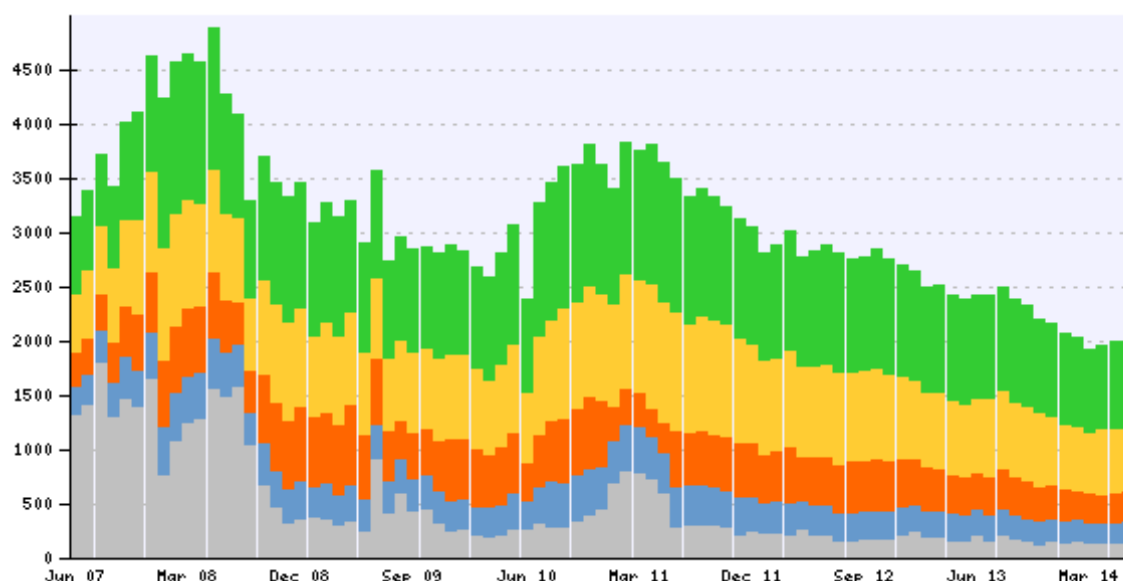
		Jun 2007	Jun 2014	Change
	Detached	£224,995	£235,000	+4%
	Semi	£159,995	£145,000	-9%
	Terraced	£130,000	£120,000	-8%
	Flat	£127,995	£92,000	-28%
	All	£173,995	£165,475	-5%

Source: www.home.co.uk

The cost of home ownership has substantially increased over recent years, resulting in home ownership becoming an unaffordable for many households who require housing. A Peterborough's resident average weekly income is lower than the national average (£508) and regional average of (£529) at £436. The median selling price for a detached property in Peterborough is £235,000 over 10 times the average income, whilst semi detached properties are over 6.3 times, terraced properties over 5.2 times and flats 4 times the average annual income.

At the same time the number of properties found advertised for sale has also reduced. The table below shows the differences in the number of properties advertised for sale in Peterborough over the same time. The combination of all of these factors. The more recent steady increases in average house prices, low income levels in the city, reduced availability of property to buy and the more stringent lending criteria has meant that more and more households are becoming reliant on affordable housing options.

CHART 8 – Number of Properties found advertised for sale in Peterborough by type



LEGEND

	Jun 2007	Jun 2014	Change
Detached	697	795	+14%
Semi	531	574	+8%
Terraced	310	285	-8%
Flat	265	209	-21%
Unknown	1336	141	-
Total	3139	2004	-36%

Source: www.home.co.uk

Housing affordability is a key issue within the Peterborough housing market. In 2010 the city council and its partner neighbouring local authorities commissioned a study into local levels of housing need.

This study identified the following;

- 27 per cent of households in Peterborough cannot afford to rent or buy market housing without some form of subsidy. This is compared with 22.6 per cent of households across the sub-region.
- 81 per cent of lone parents in Peterborough are unable to afford market prices or rents without subsidy.
- 38 per cent of single persons are unable to afford market prices or rents without subsidy.
- 37 per cent of single pensioners are unable to afford market prices or rents without subsidy.
- At the current rate of household formation and housing supply, an average of 1,008 households will fall into housing need in Peterborough on an ongoing annual basis
- In rural areas, housing need as a proportion of supply is ten times higher than it is in the urban area of the city

3.2.2. Private Sector Accommodation

The Private Sector housing stock in the city is varied and represents a tremendous asset to the local community but this asset needs substantial targeted investment to ensure that the condition of the stock is raised and maintained to acceptable levels. The 2011 Census showed households renting from a private landlord or letting agency per ward to be an average of 20.5% and was most prevalent in the Central Ward with 38.1% and Northborough was the lowest at 7%.

The demand for affordable privately rented property in the District is high. In particular the demand for 1 and 2 bedroom properties. Across the Peterborough area the supply of properties is marginally lower than demand. Especially highlighted were 1 and 2 bed properties being in short supply. While the Housing Needs Service has good relationships with many private landlords in the city. There are still barriers with regard to landlords accommodating persons who will be in receipt of Housing Benefits. While many clients are able to manage their finances effectively, some experience issues with their claims due to non-provision of documentation required in order to process a claim and frequent changes in state benefit entitlements that result in suspension of their housing benefits claims. Unfortunately some landlords will not consider applicants who are in receipt of housing benefits at all because of these issues and some will not accept them because of the inherent delays in the processing of claims.

Private sector accommodation is becoming more expensive due to the higher demand within this sector. Many households who may previously have purchased a property are now renting. These households find themselves with less disposable income to build towards a deposit and therefore are unlikely to be able to purchase a property in the future.

In recent years the Housing Needs Service has had considerable success in encouraging households to access private rented sector accommodation, instead of making a homeless application, temporary accommodation and social housing.

There has been a steady increase in the number of households accessing private sector accommodation through Peterborough City Council's Rent Deposit Scheme and through Peterborough Streets' Crisis PRS Scheme.

3.2.3. Social Housing

Peterborough City Council transferred its housing stock to Cross Keys Homes Housing Association on 4th October 2004 with the aim to ensuring that its housing stock is used effectively to meet the housing needs of those in the area or, wishing to live in the Peterborough area. Cross Keys Homes promised to invest £108 million in improving tenants' homes over the first five years fitting new kitchens and bathrooms, front and back doors, double glazing and central heating systems. In addition they promised to spend nearly £5 million on estate and environmental improvements.

As part of the transfer Peterborough City Council & Cross Keys Homes made agreements on nominations to vacant properties, which currently allows PCC to nominate suitable potential tenants to 90% of their vacant properties. PCC has similar arrangements with the other Registered Social Landlords (RSL's) who have available accommodation in Peterborough.

In order to ensure fair allocation of the available properties that PCC has been asked to nominate to, the council is required by law to have a housing allocations scheme that demonstrates how the council priorities applications for housing and the procedures that they follow in allocating those homes. PCC manages the city's social housing register in partnership with the RSL's, which allows for there to be one central point for applications for new potential tenants and current tenants wishing to transfer.

The Peterborough Homes Partnership is made up of PCC, Cross Keys Homes, Axiom Housing Association, Circle Anglia, Hyde Minster, ECHG, L&H Group, Muir Housing, Accent Nene, BPHA and Home Group. Peterborough City Council operates a choice based lettings approach to the allocation of accommodation.

Each week RSL's advise Peterborough City Council of the properties that are available to let and they are then advertised. The advert is usually released on Tuesdays and the edition closes on the following Sunday at midnight. Applicants with a live application on the Peterborough Housing register can express interest (place a bid) in the properties, which they would like to be considered for. Applicants may bid for up to 3 properties per week. Successful applicants are then contacted the following week and invited to view the properties.

Following The Localism Act 2011 and the subsequent amendment to the Housing Act 1996, Local Authorities were granted the power to set their own qualifying criteria for people applying to join the housing register. This power enables councils to restrict their housing register to consider entry from only those in the most urgent housing need as well as exercising their right to set exclusions for other reasons based on locally set criteria.

In addition, recent government guidance highlighted that councils have the power to frame their allocations policies to give additional preference to particular groups of people. The guidance recommends that councils consider how they can use their allocations policy to support households who want to work, as well as those who, while unable to engage in paid employment, are contributing to their community in other ways, for example through voluntary work.

The introduction of the Welfare Reform Act 2012 has made changes to housing benefit entitlements, which will have a direct impact on social housing tenants from 1st April 2013. The amendments resulted in tenants of working age receiving housing benefit according to the number of bedrooms the household needs.

In April 2013 the council embarked of a comprehensive review of the Housing Register and made the following changes to the allocations policy.

- Setting the entry criteria to the housing register to allow only those in the most urgent housing need to join, this includes; Homeless households, those who are threatened

with homelessness, those living in insanitary or unsatisfactory housing conditions, those who need to move for social/welfare reasons or where failure to assist in moving will cause particular hardship.

- Only accept applications from those who have a local connection with Peterborough by; having lived in the area for 6 of the last 12 months or 3 of the last 5 years, those who are working in the city, those who need to move to the area for special reasons
- Excluding applicants who own suitable accommodation or those who have sufficient financial resources to secure suitable accommodation by other means from joining the housing register. (This will not apply to those over 55 and eligible for sheltered accommodation)
- Those who have behaved in an unacceptable manner continue to be excluded from applying. This will be determined by; The Council or RSL is satisfied that the applicant or a member of their household has previously been guilty of unacceptable behaviour which would make them unsuitable to be a tenant, or the applicant or member of the household has been served with an injunction by the council or their landlord to stop them behaving in a way which causes nuisance or annoyance to others, or the applicant or a member of the household has current tenancy arrears in excess of 8 weeks rent, or the applicant or a member of the household has any outstanding former tenant arrears.

Additionally, the bedrooms standards policy that has previously been more generous was changed and brought in line with the criteria that will be applied to housing benefit claims from April 2013.

In order to support the RSL's in managing the issue of the removal of the spare room subsidy ("bedroom tax") the allocation policy also made provision to give band 1 priority to those who were assessed as under occupying their social housing tenancy. This has been relatively successful, but the continued demand for 1 & 2 bedroom properties has meant that many households are still unable to move into smaller accommodation.

In addition to the above changes we also included a number of additional preference categories, which gave increased priority for those who had a long standing local connection with the city (through 5 years continuous residence), those making an economic contribution to the city through employment or voluntary work in the area and ex-servicemen and women who have been discharged from service in the last 5 years.

These changes have been implemented over the last year and having reviewed all application on the housing register has meant that the number of applications on the register has been greatly reduced.

Social Housing Supply

As detailed earlier in the review, home ownership is becoming more difficult to access for many households in the city and the increase dependence on the private sector has resulted in rent costs increasing and some households who are reliant on some form of benefits to support their income are unable to access this sector. Therefore there has become an

increased demand on affordable housing. Most recent figures from November 2011 shown below detail the rented housing stock by RSL. The table also shows the number of rented units completed in the last 3 years.

	Total stock as at 21.11.12	New Builds 2011/12	New Builds 2012/13	New Builds 2013/14
Accent Nene	1686	0	16	0
Axiom	1364	0	22	0
BPHA	529	44	3	40
Cross Keys Homes	9607	20	140	70
Home	435	0	0	2
HYDE Minster	975	3	49	0
Longhurst	124	0	0	7
Total	14720	67	230	119

Development is continuing this year and it is forecast that a further 350 units will be completed by the end of March 2015.

Affordable Rent Model

The introduction of the affordable rent tenure has a range of implications for future and existing housing provision in Peterborough. Firstly, the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) has set out an intention that the affordable rent tenure will 'form the principal element of the new [housing] supply offer', and that 'social rented housing will only be supported in limited circumstances'. This means that the supply of new HCA-funded social rented accommodation is likely to all but cease as the affordable rent tenure establishes itself as a funding priority.

Secondly, in order to maximise revenue and decrease reliance upon public subsidy, the HCA is encouraging its housing association delivery partners to convert a proportion of their existing social rented housing stock to the new affordable rent tenure as units become vacant for re-let to new tenants. This change has resulted in a reduction in the level of social rented housing stock available in Peterborough.

The introduction of the affordable rent model has resulted in an increased number of properties being assessed and rent levels being set at up to 80% of the eligible market rent.

The Peterborough Strategic Tenancy Policy seeks to ensure that rents remain affordable, that homelessness levels do not increase, that tenancy flexibilities are applied in a sensitive manner, and that tenant mobility is protected. The policy has been developed within the context of the council's overarching strategic objectives for housing, as set out in the Peterborough Housing Strategy 2011 to 2015.

Empty Homes

Peterborough City Council employs an Empty Homes Officer to work with partners to bring empty properties in the city back into use. Since 1st July 2011, the local authority have played at least some part in bringing back a total of 520 properties. This includes properties that have been taken off the list by simply sending a letter to enquire about the property's occupancy, to helping the owner sell or new owners refurbish.

Since recruiting an empty homes officer, Peterborough has seen a significant drop in the number of long-term empty properties left unoccupied by their owner's. With the exception of around 15 properties, all of those left empty long-term are privately owned, meaning action taken to get these properties back into use is much harder to pursue.

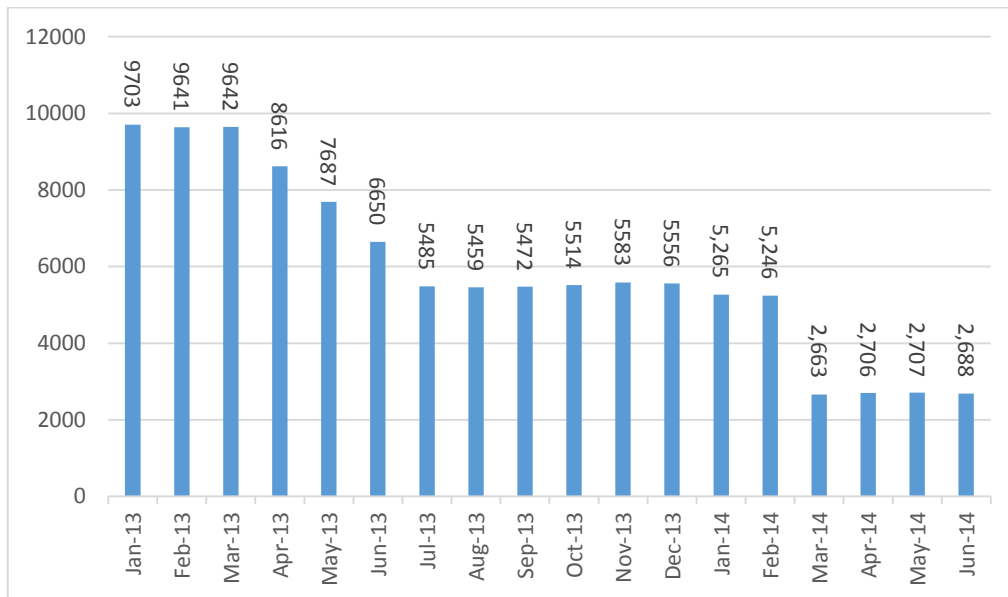
The reduction in the number of long-term empty properties can be attributed to a number of factors: The increased resource of a full-time Empty Homes Officer within the council dedicated to tackling this issue has meant that the pursuit and action against owners has been persistent, and also the support offered to owners has been consistent throughout.

In June 2014 Peterborough's empty homes officer, Adam Cliff was awarded the Empty Homes Practitioner of the Year Award by the Empty Homes Network in recognition of his achievements since joining the authority in 2011, following on from his Highly Commended award in June 2013.

4. Demand

As previously mentioned the demand for housing rented from a social landlord remains high. The table below shows the variation in the number of applications on the register since the aforementioned amendments were made to the Peterborough Allocations policy were applied.

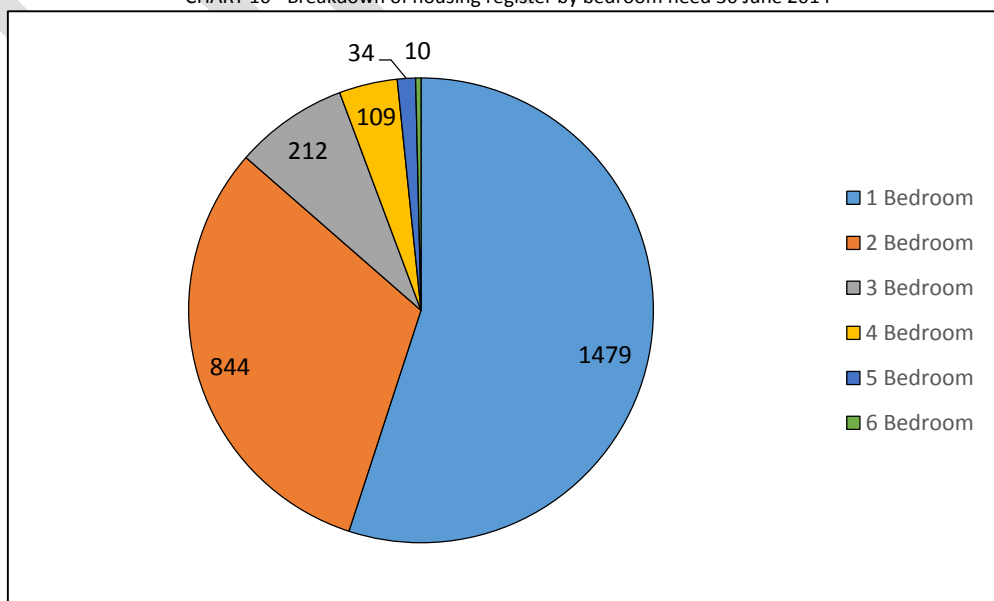
CHART 9- Live applications on the Peterborough Housing Register Jan 2013 – Jun 2014



Source – Local Housing Register data

Of the 2688 current live applications the majority are single person households or couples who have a 1 bedroom need. The chart below shows the breakdown of the housing register by bedroom requirement.

CHART 10 - Breakdown of housing register by bedroom need 30 June 2014



Source – Local Housing Register data

There is a common misconception that the majority of social housing is allocated to households who are not of British origin. While we have worked hard to dispel this myth this is still regularly quoted to us by clients who approach the council for assistance.

The table below shows the breakdown of the housing register by ethnic origin and includes the breakdown of the city as reported in the most recent census in 2011 as well as the percentage of allocations made by ethnic origin.

TABLE 11 - Ethnic origin data

Census		Allocations 2013-14	Housing Register Jun-14
70.9%	White: English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British	70.8%	69.9%
0.7%	White: Irish	0.3%	0.6%
0.3%	White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller	0.1%	0.0%
10.6%	White: Other White	17.3%	19.1%
0.8%	Mixed/multiple ethnic group: White and Black Caribbean	0.1%	0.1%
0.5%	Mixed/multiple ethnic group: White and Black African	0.2%	0.0%
0.8%	Mixed/multiple ethnic group: White and Asian	0.0%	0.1%
0.7%	Mixed/multiple ethnic group: Other Mixed	0.4%	0.4%
2.5%	Asian/Asian British: Indian	0.2%	0.2%
6.6%	Asian/Asian British: Pakistani	1.7%	2.2%
0.1%	Asian/Asian British: Bangladeshi	0.0%	0.0%
0.5%	Asian/Asian British: Chinese	0.1%	0.1%
2.0%	Asian/Asian British: Other Asian	3.0%	3.2%
1.4%	Black/African/Caribbean/Black British: African	2.0%	1.5%
0.6%	Black/African/Caribbean/Black British: Caribbean	0.1%	0.2%
0.3%	Black/African/Caribbean/Black British: Other Black	0.7%	0.5%
0.2%	Other ethnic group: Arab	0.0%	0.0%
0.6%	Other ethnic group: Any other ethnic group	3.2%	1.9%

Source – 2011 census & local housing register data

The table demonstrates that both live applications and allocations data does not vary significantly from the population breakdown of the city. The minor exception is the marginally increased number of applications and allocations made to the White: Other group, which will be made up of households of mostly Eastern European origin including Lithuanian, Polish, Slovakian & Latvian nationals who are generally residing in poor quality overcrowded accommodation in the city.

The council still maintains its nominations agreements with the Housing Associations who have accommodation available in Peterborough and these properties continue to be allocated through the council's choice based lettings scheme (Peterborough Homes).

Each week our partner Housing Associations advise us, which properties they have available to let and we advertise them to the people on our housing register. Applicants can then choose, which of the available properties they would like to be considered for.

Properties are then shortlisted by:

1. Who has expressed interest (eligible applicants)
2. Highest priority band
3. Who has been in their band longest
4. Who has been on the register longest

In 2013/14 we allocated 1217 properties through the choice based lettings scheme.

5. Advice & Prevention Services

The Housing Needs Service adopts a housing options approach when dealing with clients who approach the authority for assistance and will seek to prevent a household's homelessness wherever possible.

The number of clients contacting the service remains high. In the last financial year we were contacted 25,009 times by clients for advice and assistance. Of which 5418 were seen face to face by an officer. We have a number of options when preventing homelessness and have been successful in a large number of cases, which may have otherwise resulted in the household becoming homeless and the council having to accommodate in temporary accommodation, while seeking alternative accommodation.

We have done this by:

- Negotiating with householders/landlords to allow resolve the issues, which led to the threat of homelessness
- Liaising with Housing benefit to resolve payment issues
- Taking steps to improve security in the home to allow victims of domestic violence to remain in the home (Sanctuary Scheme)
- The Mortgage Rescue Scheme / Mortgage debt advice
- By supporting households to move to alternative affordable accommodation in the private sector

The team of specialist officers focussing on homelessness prevention are currently made up of 11 officers, however 3 of these posts are funded temporarily through grants received from the DCLG. The funding for these posts is due to end on the 31 March 2015 with no likelihood of further funding being made available.

The loss of these officers is likely to have a detrimental effect on the number of homelessness preventions achieved and will likely mean an increase in statutory homelessness acceptances and potentially longer stays in temporary accommodation while suitable permanent accommodation is found.

5.1. Rent Deposit Scheme & DHP

The Housing Needs Service continues to offer a Rent Deposit Scheme which enables persons to access an interest free loan to be used for the up front costs associated with securing a property in the private rented sector. This has created a real opportunity for the prevention and relief of homelessness and also increased access to permanent accommodation. In 2013/2014 a total of 232 households were assisted into private rented sector accommodation through this scheme totalling £100,521.

In addition the increased Discretionary Housing Payments fund (DHP) made available to all local authorities has been used to support households who were in receipt of housing benefits and may be at risk of homelessness to move to alternative private sector accommodation by paying up front fees such as deposits, rent in advance and reasonable administration fees. In 2013/2014 a total of 196 households were assisted into private rented sector accommodation through this scheme totalling £168,127.

5.2. Peterborough Streets Crisis PRS Scheme

Peterborough Streets were successful in receiving funding from the Crisis Private Rented Sector (PRS) Access Development Programme. This programme funds new community based services that help single people find and sustain good quality accommodation in the private rented sector (PRS). It provides sustainable solutions to single homelessness and enables single persons to resettle in the Private Rented Sector Scheme and enables Peterborough Streets to prevent homelessness. To date a total of 59 persons were assisted into accommodation.

Unfortunately we have recently been advised that Peterborough Streets are having to close down due to financial difficulties after just being successful in securing funding for this project for a further 2 years. At the time of writing this report we are in discussions with Crisis in the hope that we will be able to either, take on the project and deliver the outcomes in house through the Housing Needs Service or by finding an alternative voluntary sector partner.

5.3. Tenancy Relations Service

Peterborough City Council has a Tenancy Relations Officer based within the Housing Needs team. This service offers support to both tenants and private sector landlords. It aims to promote good relations between tenants and landlords and encourage good practice in the private rented sector. The service provides advice on disrepair, possession, deposit protection, security of tenure, rent and rent arrears and unlawful eviction. The service has been successful in establishing a framework for dealing with illegal evictions and utilised its power to prosecute under The Protection of Eviction Act 1977 by successfully prosecuting 3 landlords through the court system with another 4 cases currently pending alongside supporting 592 households since January 2012.

5.4. Mortgage Rescue Scheme

Peterborough City Council has been actively promoting the Government's Mortgage Rescue Scheme. This Scheme enables a homeowner who is at risk of losing their home because of mortgage arrears to be assisted by working with a local housing association to purchase their property who then rents it back to them. This Scheme enables both homeless prevention and increases the stock levels of our partner housing associations. At the end of March 2014 we had completed on 24 mortgage rescues and had a small number, which were pending completion and funding had been agreed to ensure that these cases completed. We were the best performing authority in the East & South East areas and the reputation of the officer in

the Housing Needs team was further enhanced by the HCA zone agent who referred a number of authorities to us for advice and guidance.

Unfortunately the Governments Mortgage Rescue scheme closed down on the 31 March 2014. However we still have a number of tools available to us to support households who find themselves in financial difficulty and where we are unable to keep them in their home we are able to support them to exit home ownership and move to alternative accommodation.

5.5. Disabled Facility Grants

The Housing Grants Construction and Regeneration Act 1996 made provision for mandatory Disabled Facility Grants to provide adaptations to meet the needs of disabled residents. The Local Housing Authority must decide what are reasonable and practicable adaptations taking into consideration the age and condition of the dwelling and what is necessary and appropriate. The Local Housing Authority has a duty to consult with adult social care on what is necessary and appropriate and this is usually achieved through an Occupational Therapy Assessment of need.

The purposes for which mandatory disabled facilities grants may be given fall into a number of categories, namely:

- Facilitating Access and Provision
- to and from the dwelling
- to a room used/usable as the principal family room
- to a room used/usable for sleeping
- to a room in which there is a WC, bath or shower and a wash hand basin
- to the preparation and cooking of food
- Making a dwelling/building safe
- Providing a room suitable for sleeping
- Providing a bathroom
- Facilitating preparation and cooking of food
- Heating, lighting and power
- Enabling a disabled person to care for a dependent resident
- Access to a garden

In 2013/14 the DCLG allocated £750,069 to Peterborough for Disabled Facility Grants. The final amount spent (which included monies from Peterborough City Council's capital programme) was £1,674,015. The total number of Disabled Facility Grants delivered by the Care & Repair Home Improvement Agency was 303. This year so far, the DCLG's grant allocation is £691,000 which the Council have made up to £1,725,860. In 2013/14 a total of 186 grants were been completed with a total spend of spent £994,880.

The Housing Needs Service needs to continue to work in partnership to enable that the programme continues to prevent homelessness whilst ensuring that vulnerable persons housing needs are met.

6. Partnership Working

Hospital Discharges

The Health to Home Project was launched in January 2014 following a successful bid to the Department of Health Homeless Hospital Discharge Fund. The fund was set up to tackle the health inequalities faced by homeless persons and prevent homeless persons being discharged to the streets. The project was a partnership between Peterborough City Hospital, Axiom Housing Association, Peterborough Streets, Housing Needs and employed one Hospital based nurse and two outreach workers. Outcomes include; 50 homeless persons were assisted into accommodation, developing a Hospital Discharge Protocol, providing training and information sessions to nurses and a Homeless Persons Patients Charter.

Prison Releases

The Housing Needs Department have designated officers to ensure joint working between resettlement staff at HMP Peterborough and the Housing Needs service and promote homelessness prevention. This prevents offenders being discharge onto the streets and in turn making a crisis homelessness presentation at Housing Needs. The main aim of this work is to ensure that there is planned approach to the prison discharge and accommodation need. The early identification of those in housing need is essential in order to carry prevention intervention can avoid homelessness before individuals reach crisis point. This service will be further enhanced by the development of a Prison Discharge Protocol in late 2014.

16/17 year old protocol

The introduction of the Homelessness Act 2002 made a significant change to way that housing authorities dealt with homeless 16 & 17 year olds. Prior to 2002 16 & 17 year olds who became homeless not eligible for housing assistance and if homeless would have been supported by children's social services. The Homelessness Act 2002 amended Part VII of the Housing Act 1996 (homelessness) and included a new category of who the housing authority should consider to be in priority need for accommodation.

While housing authorities maintained close links with Children's Services many 16 & 17 year olds were not considered to meet the threshold for care and were not owed a duty under the Children's Act. Soon after the change in legislation the Housing Needs service saw a large number of young people becoming homeless and were under a duty to them.

Following a legal ruling in 2009 Housing Needs and Children's Services developed a joint working protocol, which focussed on preventing young people from becoming homeless. The main intervention in the protocol was to provide emergency expert support from the Adolescent Intervention Service (AIS). This support was focussed on supporting the young person to return home to parents and ensuring the relevant support was available for the young person and their parent to ensure the situation did not reach crisis point again. Prior to the development of the protocol many of the referrals to Housing Needs came from AIS,

connexions and other youth services so this new way of working was a significant shift in previous practices & thinking.

While the protocol has not been successful in every case it has demonstrated that preventative action has positively reduced numbers of those being accepted as homeless. The table below shows the impact the protocol has had on reducing homeless presentations and acceptances amongst this age group.

TABLE 12 – The number of homelessness applications and acceptances from those aged 16-17 2003-2014



SOURCE – LOCAL HOMELESSNESS DATA

7. The Future

Peterborough City Council is committed to preventing and relieving homelessness as well as improving partnerships with service providers in all sectors. The Housing Needs Service recognise that in order to provide a cost-effective and responsive service the Housing Needs team cannot achieve this in isolation. We need to continue to deliver our services in partnership with our statutory and voluntary partners.

The multi-agency Homelessness Strategy Steering Group will be key to the ongoing development and success of the new Homelessness Strategy. Whilst the Local Authority recognises the need to lead it also acknowledges that the success of the Strategy will only be achieved through shared ownership and a joint approach.

The key findings of this review are summarised below:

Support Services

- The Housing Advice delivered by the Housing Needs Service continues to receive high volumes of customer contact, which is unlikely to reduce with the further impending changes to the welfare system.
- The closure of Peterborough Streets has left the city with a gap in voluntary sector provision for rough sleepers, which the council will have to fill.

Resettlement Support

- There is very little resettlement support provided to people moving on from hostels or temporary accommodation to prevent the loss of tenancy, and repeat homelessness.

Provision of Support

- Homeless persons access health services at the NHS Walk In and at GP service at 63 Lincoln Road.
- Mental health services are unable to assess rough sleepers.
- Floating support would benefit people who do not fit into specific support categories.
- There is a need for further provision for the Chronically Excluded client group

Information and Advice

- Partner agencies identified delays in the processing of housing benefit as possibly contributing to homelessness.

Preventing Homelessness

- Mortgage/Debt advice services are essential in preventing homelessness amongst homeowners.
- Partner agencies reported homeless prevention could be increased by generic floating support.
- There is a need for more education in schools with regard to homelessness, and prevention.

Access To Accommodation

- Peterborough Strategic Tenancy policy aims to ensure that social rents remain affordable.
- There is a high demand for social housing in the city.
- The majority of applicants on the housing register require a one bedroom property.
- Homelessness acceptances in Peterborough remain stable while nationally they are increasing slowly.
- One of the identified barriers to accessing private sector accommodation is the subsequent lengthy inherent delays in processing housing benefit claims.
- Persons with a poor housing history often end up in poor quality accommodation.
- There are blockages in move on from supported housing projects, which need to be resolved.

Sufficient Accommodation

- There is a need to secure that sufficient accommodation is available for people who are, or who may become homeless.
- There are no accommodation services for persons who are chronically excluded.

Private Rented Sector Accommodation

- Rent Deposit Scheme is essential to enable the continued access to the private rented sector.
- The ending of funding for the private sector accommodation officer in March 2015 will have a negative impact on homelessness prevention.

Homelessness

- Welfare Reform will impact on the number of persons unable to meet their housing costs.
- The majority of homeless applications made to Peterborough City Council are from families.
- The emerging most frequently reported reason for households presenting as homeless to Peterborough City Council is 'termination of assured shorthold tenancy'
- The rough sleeper estimate for Autumn 2013 identified 11 rough sleepers.
- The Rough Sleeper Outreach Officer has continued to reduce rough sleeping.
- Court Desk identified approximately 50% of all homelessness prevention claims are linked to housing benefit delays.

Effective Partnerships

- There is a need for joint protocols and partnerships to be strengthened between housing and adult social care to further enable homeless persons to be supported.

Linking With Other Strategies

- There is a need for the homeless Strategy to link in with all appropriate strategies including health, housing, education and community safety.

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The Homelessness Strategy
2013 – 2018

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Visions and Strategic Aims

Our Vision is: To prevent and respond to homelessness by ensuring that we provide a range of effective targeted services that respond to our customer needs

We have 4 key strategic aims:

Strategic Aim 1 – Preventing and relieving homelessness through a robust partnership approach

We are aware that in order to provide cost-effective and responsive services we cannot work in isolation. We will deliver our services in partnership with our voluntary and statutory sector partners to provide the best possible solutions.

Strategic Aim 2 - Increasing access to accommodation

We will continue to maximise the opportunities for a range of accommodation choices for homeless persons and person threatened with homelessness and continuing to increase the accommodation choices available persons in housing need.

We will continue to develop and deliver a suitable private rented sector offer for all client groups that includes support for both clients and landlords. We need to ensure that those most affected by the welfare reforms are able to access a range of accommodation solutions and we will make best use of the private rented sector.

Strategic Aim 3 – Reduce and prevent rough sleeping

Rough sleeping is the most visible form of homelessness and where people are the most vulnerable. We will continue to build on our partnership approach to reducing and relieving rough sleeping. This work will include projects that will enable the city to deliver the No Second Night Out principles.

Strategic Aim 4 – Promoting settled lifestyles and sustainable communities

Ensuring that homeless households are given the support to resettle within the community and thrive through purpose and encouragement.

Introduction

This is our third refresh of the Homelessness Strategy and sets out the strategic aims for Peterborough City Council and its partners for tackling and preventing homelessness between 2013 and 2018.

The strategy has been developed within the context of national and local issues and identifies four strategic aims that will drive forward the homelessness agenda in the coming years in Peterborough.

The 2002 Homelessness Act placed a duty on local authorities to develop a Homelessness Strategy to be renewed every five years.

The previous Homelessness Strategy published in 2008 made an important contribution to both tackling and preventing homelessness in Peterborough. The strategy built on partnership working whilst maximising homeless prevention opportunities and contributed to an increase in homeless prevention.

The key achievements from the 2008 Strategy include;

- Mortgage Rescue Scheme established and assisted 24 households who would have become homeless without intervention.
- Multi-Agency rough sleeping Task and Targeting Group established in April 2010.
- All homeless persons provided with information on where they can register with a GP.
- Framework established for tackling Unlawful Evictions and 3 successful convictions achieved.
- Rough Sleeper database established with multi-agency viewing rights.
- Tenancy Relations Officer post created and recruited to.
- Set up and success of the joint working protocol between Housing needs and Children's Services in order to assist 16 & 17 year olds who become homeless.
- Notification system established to notify the Local Education Authority (LEA) within 10 working days when children in temporary accommodation are not attending school.
- Continued joint working on prevention of homelessness with partners.
- Waiting times reduced by new delivery of Housing Needs Service.

This strategy will build on our achievements whilst strengthening our partnerships and seek to address our new challenges.

With the 2002 Homelessness Act, the government made homelessness prevention a priority by providing increased funding to tackle homelessness, setting challenging targets for prevention and placing requirements on local housing authorities to produce Homelessness Strategies. Homelessness strategies should be informed by a review of performance, current service provision and estimated future need. The Act states that these strategies should focus on prevention measures, as well as emphasising the importance of offering advice to all

people in housing need.

There are a number of National strategies and guidance that have helped to shape this Homelessness Strategy these include:

Making every contact count: A joint approach to preventing homelessness (2012) This report sets ten local challenges for housing authorities to ensure that every contact local agencies make with vulnerable people and families really counts to ensure that we prevent households, regardless of household make up from reaching a crisis point where they are faced with homelessness.

Sustainable Communities: settled homes; changing lives (2005) This report focuses on homelessness prevention, reduction in the use of temporary accommodation by 50% by 2010, from 2010 and B&B no longer suitable for 16/17 year olds.

Sustainable Communities: Homes For All (2005) This document introduces the requirement for Choice Based Lettings schemes in all local authorities in England by 2010.

Making Every Adult Matter (MEAM), September 2009 Too often people with multiple needs and exclusions fall between the gaps of services to the margins of our society. This manifesto proposes how the next government, statutory services and the voluntary sector can change that for good.

Tackling Homelessness (2006) This document recognises the role of registered providers of social housing in preventing homelessness through partnership working, sustainable communities, allocation and management policies and better use of existing stock.

No One Left Out: Communities Ending Rough Sleeping (Nov 2008) This strategy aimed to end rough sleeping in UK for more than one night by 2012.

No Second Night Out. This government plan sets out six joint commitments to ensure multi agency working to give local people the tools to tackle rough sleeping and put an end to second nights out on the street.

We have embraced homelessness prevention and have made considerable progress with developing tools and services that are able to maximise our opportunities to prevent homelessness.

We will continue to build on our partnerships and will develop innovative ways to deliver services and prevent homelessness alongside addressing the impact of Welfare Reform.

On the 8th March 2012 the Welfare Reform Act received Royal Assent. The Act legislates for the biggest changes to the welfare system in over 60 years. Many of these changes will have an impact on homelessness and homelessness prevention;

- 1 **The move towards a Universal Credit** - Direct payments to landlords will cease. This will result in landlords having no guarantee that rent will be paid and will directly impact of the numbers of private sector landlords willing to consider claimants alongside a possible increase in rent arrears that may lead to eviction and

homelessness.

- 2 **Restricting payments for people below the age of 35 years old** -Persons under the age of 35 years old will only be able to claim assistance to the level of shared room rate. This will mean that many young people leaving home for the first time will only be able to access shared accommodation. There will be an additional pressure on services working to house single people in the private rented sector as there are issues with supply and quality of this type of accommodation.
- 3 **Capping of total benefit received per household** – The benefits cap was implemented across the country in October 2013 and saw the total amount of benefit awarded to non working households capped at no more than £26,000 per annum. Larger families may see an unexpected reduction in their income, which in turn will affect their ability to meet their housing costs.
- 4 **Capping of Local Housing Allowance** - Could make households in receipt of benefits less attractive to landlords and could place strain on residents in areas of high rent who may choose to move to places like Peterborough because we are considered more affordable.
- 5 **Linking Housing Benefit entitlements for social housing tenants to the number of bedrooms needed per household for working age persons** - Tenants within the social housing sector who are under occupying their homes will have a reduction applied to their housing benefit entitlement. Households will have to meet this reduction from their other income. This could lead to an increase in rent arrears, eviction and homelessness.
- 6 **Up-rating Local Housing Allowance in line with the Consumer Price Index instead of the Retail Price Index** - This may mean that benefit claimants entitlement may not increase in line with the average rents in the city therefore reducing the number of affordable properties available in the private rented sector.
- 7 **Ceasing of Council Tax Benefit** - As part of Localism enabling Local Authorities to develop their own discount schemes with protection for pensioners. Leaving some vulnerable groups who have not previously paid any council tax with a bill.

All the above could place additional strain on the Housing Needs Service. Whilst households struggle to cope with their income reductions and struggle to meet their housing costs. Additionally, public spending cuts, changes to Housing Allocations to reflect localism, the introduction of affordable rents, new forms of tenure and the impact of un-ring fenced supporting people funding and imminent reductions to housing related support services that this will bring offer further challenges for the delivery of services. We will continue to monitor the impact of these changes through the Homelessness Strategy Steering Group and when necessary update the Strategy to tackle the impacts.

Changes to the homelessness duty – In November 2012, as a result of the Localism Act 2011, the law changed and gave Council's the power to discharge their homelessness duty into

suitable accommodation with a private landlord.

However, in order for the offer to be considered suitable the property and landlord must meet certain minimum standards.

The Council must be of the view that the accommodation is in a reasonable physical condition; that the landlord has taken reasonable fire safety precautions; has taken reasonable precautions to prevent the possibility of carbon monoxide poisoning in the accommodation; the landlord is a fit and proper person; the property has a valid energy performance certificate (EPC) and gas safety certificate and that the tenancy is for a minimum fixed term of 12 months. Also, where applicants become homeless again within two years, the duty will be retained by the original authority.

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Strategic Aim 1 - Prevent homelessness and reduce levels of homelessness against the main causes for presentations through evidence based research and resource allocation.

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
Deliver early intervention to prevent homelessness	1.To increase the number of households where homelessness is prevented by advice	Increase in number of homelessness preventions annually reported in P1E return		On-going	Housing Needs Team Joanne Colverson – Information & Data Officer
Develop self- help tools for those able to turn information into action.	1. Utilise websites and kiosks in the customer service centre to provide information relating to private sector landlords, social housing, tenant and landlord rights, direct access hostels, supported accommodation and homelessness. 2. Develop information pages for non-priority homeless persons	Self help tools created and available on the website and Customer service centre kiosks. An increase in the numbers of people accessing the website self help tools and CSC kiosks.		August 2015 Annually	Serco ICT Sean Evans – Housing Needs Manager Joanne Colverson – Information & Data Officer Rob Smith – Review & Procedures Officer

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
<p>Work with RSL partners to develop an action plan to minimise homelessness as a result of welfare reform and the introduction of universal credit</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish working group through the Financial Inclusion Forum. 2. Carry out research to establish 'jam jar' scheme. 3. Set up 'jam jar' scheme for RSL tenants in receipt of welfare benefits. 	<p>Working group established by October 2012. Complete Research by November 2012 Establish 'jam jar' scheme prior to the introduction of universal credit</p>		<p>October 2012 March 2013 March 2013</p>	<p>RSL partners Financial Inclusion Forum Sharon Malia – Housing Programmes Manager</p>
<p>Improve partnership working, joined up services, communication and understanding at operational level.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a joint training programme for front line staff. 2. Ensure all forums and meetings focus on improving communication, dispelling myths, joint working and assessing good practice. 	<p>Establish a rolling training programme for all partners. Encourage front line teams in customer services and children's services to introduce new starters to housing to gain an understanding of the systems and practices. Attendance at all housing related meetings.</p>		<p>April 2015 Ongoing</p>	<p>Sarah Hebblethwaite – Deputy Housing Needs Manager Sean Evans – Housing Needs Manager Rob Smith – Review & Procedures Officer</p>

Develop specific projects to tackle the main causes of homelessness

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
<p>Reduce number of homeless presentations as a result of private landlords taking possession through s.21 accelerated procedure to end of an Assured Shorthold Tenancy</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Produce questionnaire to establish reasons for evictions, etc. 2. Contact Court to establish top 10 private sector landlords applying for possession orders. 3. Distribute questionnaires to Top 10 and through the Landlords Forum 4. Responses collated and key findings used to develop prevention tools. 	<p>Questionnaire produced by December 2014. Details obtained from the court. Questionnaires sent by June 2015 Findings recorded and reported produced with recommendations for the development of prevention tools.</p>		<p>Dec 2014 June 2015 September 2015 November 2015</p>	<p>Joanne Colverson – Information & Data Officer Gareth Brighton – HNO Tenancy Relations Private Sector Landlords</p>

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
<p>Provide tailored advice to homeowners at risk of homelessness</p> <p>Reduce the number of homeless presentations due to mortgage arrears.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue to maximise the use of the Governments Mortgage Rescue Scheme 2. Develop systems to identify households at risk of homelessness due to mortgage arrears at an early stage 3. Develop the role of a Housing Needs Officer specialising in mortgage advice. 	<p>Promote the Governments mortgage rescue scheme amongst partners and increase uptake by 20% until the scheme ceases</p> <p>Develop procedures for dealing with pre action notifications received from mortgage lenders to engage with households before possession action in the courts is taken</p> <p>Provide training to the mortgage specialist to assist clients in exiting homeownership where homelessness prevention is not possible</p>		<p>Annually</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Sean Evans – Housing Needs Manager</p> <p>Hayley Flaxman – HNO Mortgage Specialist</p> <p>Rob Smith – Review & Procedures Officer</p>

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
<p>Reduce the number of homeless presentations due to parents no longer willing to accommodate.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop literature to dispel myths relating to youth homelessness 2. Work with supported housing providers to maximise opportunities for young people to access accommodation 3. Work with voluntary sector organisations to support a bid to re-establish education in schools programme 4. Work with social services to develop a protocol to ensure all 16/17 year olds who present to the authority are dealt with via joint assessment process at the point of crisis 	<p>Literature produced and distributed.</p> <p>Develop referral processes and pathways to ensure appropriate allocations of accommodation at supported housing projects</p> <p>Appropriate bids supported and funding used to deliver education in schools.</p> <p>Protocol created and implemented.</p>		<p>January 2015</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>October 2014</p> <p>March 2014</p>	<p>Sarah Hebblethwaite – Deputy Housing Needs Manager</p> <p>Peterborough Foyer</p> <p>YMCA Timestop</p> <p>Voluntary sector</p> <p>PCC Children services</p> <p>Education services</p> <p>Connexions</p> <p>Sean Evans – Housing Needs Manager</p>

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
<p>Review the prison release procedure to maximise the opportunities to prevent homelessness</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Investigate (and monitor?) number of applications to join the housing register from HMP Peterborough 2. Investigate (and monitor?) the total number of homeless presentations following release from HMP Peterborough 3. Work with HMP Peterborough to develop a procedure for persons due to be released with no fixed abode 4. Draft, agree and implement prison discharge protocol 	<p>Report demonstrating demand on housing services from HMP Peterborough produced</p> <p>Procedure for NFA persons agreed and implemented.</p> <p>Protocol implemented.</p> <p>A reduction in the number of homeless presentations from people leaving prison with no local connection with Peterborough or without accommodation.</p>		<p>May 2015</p> <p>June 2015</p> <p>August 2015</p> <p>September 2015</p>	<p>Sarah Hebblethwaite – Deputy Housing Needs Manager</p> <p>HMP Peterborough</p> <p>The One Service</p> <p>Hope into action</p>

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
<p>Take steps to reduce the number of homeless presentations due to friends and relatives no longer willing to accommodate</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Integrate home visits into the process of taking a homeless application. 2. Consider options for developing a bond scheme for this particular client group to enable them to move directly into private sector accommodation. 	<p>Integrated visits established.</p> <p>Bond Scheme implemented.</p> <p>Reduction in the number of homeless presentations due to friends and relatives no longer able to accommodate.</p>		<p>October 2015</p> <p>January 2016</p>	<p>Sarah Hebblethwaite - Deputy Housing Needs Manager</p> <p>Voluntary Sector</p>

Promotion of prevention of homelessness through an effective Housing Needs Service and a strengthened safety net.

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
<p>Take steps to reduce the number of homeless presentations due to hospital discharges.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Refresh, agree and implement Hospital Discharge Protocol. 2. Stop Hospital discharges to Bayard Place 	<p>Hospital Discharge Protocol implemented</p>		<p>October 2013</p>	<p>Sean Evans – Housing Needs Manager Peterborough City Hospital CPMHT Jeanette Gibson – Housing Medical Advisor Adult Social Care</p>

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
<p>Research the development of an eviction prevention fund using funds from Homelessness Grant to prevent families becoming homeless.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carry out research to establish average level of rent arrears for families presenting as homeless. 2. Project cost of piloting scheme to provide interest free loan to repay rent arrears and stay in current accommodation. 3. Present cost of establishing scheme against cost of accommodating in temporary accommodation. 4. Establish scheme. 	<p>Research completed. Report produced with clear recommendations. Scheme established. Reduction in homeless presentations and use of temporary accommodation.</p>		<p>May 2013 December 2013 January 2014 March 2014</p>	<p>Sarah Hebblethwaite - Deputy Housing Needs Manager Carole Wheatley – Intelligence & Data Officer</p>
<p>Carry out quarterly Mystery shopper exercise of the Housing Needs Service.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work with partner agencies to carry out quarterly mystery shopper exercise. 2. Utilise results of mystery shopping experience to improve service 	<p>Mystery shopper exercises completed. Effective Housing Needs Service.</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Sarah Hebblethwaite – Deputy Housing Needs Manager Partner Agencies</p>

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
<p>Research reasons for repeat homelessness and develop an action plan to work to reduce levels</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Analyse applications and produce report for the reasons of repeat homelessness within the last 12 months. Develop action plan 	<p>Reasons for repeat homelessness established</p> <p>Action plan developed</p> <p>Repeat Homelessness numbers reduced</p>		<p>April 2015</p>	<p>Sean Evans – Housing Needs Manager</p> <p>Carole Wheatley – Intelligence & Data Officer</p>
<p>Review staff training and requirements for all Housing Needs staff and develop staff training plan</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Review individuals training history and training needs. Establish individuals training plan. 	<p>Training identified and completed by all staff.</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Sean Evans – Housing Needs Manager</p> <p>Rob Smith – Review & Procedures Officer</p>

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
Invest time and resources into regional and national joint working through appropriate representation.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Attend Regional Homelessness meetings. Attend national and regional seminars. Work with Homeless Link to ensure knowledge of national and regional good practice. 	<p>Attendance at both regional meeting and national and regional seminars.</p> <p>Good practice used to shape Housing Needs service.</p>		Ongoing	Sean Evans – Housing Needs Manager Sarah Hebblethwaite - Deputy Housing Needs Manager
Promote homelessness prevention as the cornerstone of the Housing Needs Service and & maximise prevention opportunities through utilisation of the available homelessness prevention grant	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Maximise opportunities to prevent homelessness by Housing Needs staff utilising Homelessness Prevention Fund in innovative and creative ways. Promote homelessness prevention amongst other council departments and partners 	<p>Reduction in homeless presentations.</p> <p>Homelessness Prevention Fund utilised to prevent homelessness.</p>		Ongoing	Sean Evans – Housing Needs Manager Sarah Hebblethwaite - Deputy Housing Needs Manager All Housing Needs Officers

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
Carry out a review of the current homelessness prevention tools and their effectiveness	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Map prevention tools and impact on reducing homelessness through statistical data. 2. Produce report to highlight effective prevention tools. 3. Utilise report to identify gaps and further develop current prevention tools. 	<p>Report produced outlining impact of prevention tools.</p> <p>An increase in homelessness prevention by utilising prevention tools.</p>		<p>October 2015</p> <p>January 2016</p>	<p>Sean Evans – Housing Needs Manager</p> <p>Joanne Colverson – Intelligence & Data Officer</p>
<p>Maximise opportunities for persons accessing private rented sector accommodation</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote and develop Rent Deposit Scheme. 2. Maximise referrals of single persons to Crisis Private Rented Sector scheme. 3. Work with partners to make best use of funding sources 	<p>Increase in the number of Rent Deposits awarded.</p> <p>Increase in the number of persons assisted through the Crisis PRS Scheme.</p> <p>Increase in the number of persons accessing the private rented sector.</p>		<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Sarah Hebblethwaite - Deputy Housing Needs Manager</p> <p>Axiom Housing Association</p>

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
<p>Ensure applicants experiencing difficulties in meeting their housing costs are able to access appropriate specialist advice</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Map current debt advice provision available in the city and analyse referral data 2. Investigate the possibility of prioritised advice for those who are threatened with homelessness within the next 28 days because of debt management issues 3. Consider funding where necessary to facilitate prioritised debt advice. 4. Produce an information leaflet for service users to advise what is available and where 5. Ensure all clients experiencing financial difficulties are referred to debt advice service. 	<p>Increase in the number of clients accessing debt advice services.</p>		<p>April 2015</p>	<p>Sean Evans – Housing Needs Manager</p> <p>Hayley Flaxman – Housing Needs Officer</p> <p>Citizens Advice Bureau</p> <p>Salvation Army</p>

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
<p>Take appropriate steps to ensure the removal of the eligibility for the 1 bedroom LHA rate for people aged between 25 – 34 does not lead to an increase in homelessness.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish who is affected by the LHA reforms. 2. Communicate with those affected and invite them to make contact with the service for advice and assistance. 2. Create and maintain a list of hostels that meet the DWP guidance to be excluded from housing benefit reforms. 	<p>Affected clients register established</p> <p>All affected claimants written to or visited</p> <p>List produced</p>		<p>August 2015</p>	<p>Sean Evans – Housing Needs Manager</p> <p>Sarah Hebblethwaite - Deputy Housing Needs Manager</p> <p>All Housing Needs Officers</p> <p>Serco – Housing Benefits</p>

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
<p>Work with partner RSL's and private sector landlords to develop a tenant at risk panel to identify at earliest opportunity vulnerable tenants at risk of homelessness.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish a working group including RSL's and key private sector landlords in the city. 2. Develop procedures to increase opportunities to prevent homelessness. 3. Utilise information through a Task and Targeting working group. 4. Pilot procedures for 3 months and review. 	<p>At risk panel established.</p> <p>Maximise opportunities for preventing homelessness.</p> <p>Pilot project established</p>		<p>December 2015</p>	<p>Sean Evans – Housing Needs Manager</p> <p>Gareth Brighton – HNO – Tenancy Relations</p> <p>RSL partners</p> <p>Private Sector Landlords</p> <p>Sarah Scase – HNO – Rough Sleeper Outreach</p>

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
Work with RSL partners to develop a training flat for those who have experienced previous tenancy failure.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contact LA's and Homeless Link to establish good practice when setting up training flat. 2. Investigate outcomes from MEAM training flat in Cambridge. 3. Establish a working group including partner agencies and RSL's to develop training flat. 	<p>Pathway developed for those who are excluded from accommodation because of behaviour or previous tenancy sustainment issues</p> <p>Accommodation and support is available for vulnerable persons whose behaviour does not meet social norms and who are currently excluded from hostels.</p> <p>MEAM flat established.</p>		<p>March 2015</p> <p>December 2015</p> <p>January 2016</p>	<p>Sarah Hebblethwaite - Deputy Housing Needs Manager</p> <p>RSL partners</p> <p>CPMHT</p> <p>Housing Related Support</p> <p>Adult Social Care</p>
Develop a preventative approach and challenges through education programme.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Investigate funding streams to enable voluntary sector organisation to bid to deliver schools program. 2. Support voluntary sector to submit bid for funding. 	<p>Funding stream identified and voluntary sector bid supported</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Sarah Hebblethwaite - Deputy Housing Needs Manager</p> <p>Serco – Central Funding Team</p> <p>All Voluntary Sector partners</p>

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
<p>Utilise the media to maximise opportunities to prevent homelessness, Publicise welfare reform, the Housing register, and the Private rented sector</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work with the media team to establish a plan for promoting homelessness prevention, welfare reforms, housing register, and the options within the private rented sector. 2. Update the PCC website to display all the required information 3. Investigate the possibility of advertising accredited private landlords properties through the PCC housing needs website pages 	<p>Working relationship established with local media to promote homelessness prevention.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>		<p>Sean Evans – Housing Needs Manager Christine Spooner – Homeless Link PCC Media Team</p>
<p>Explore options for Housing Needs Service to utilise part of DHP pot as homelessness prevention tool.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research good practice with regard to utilising DHP pot to prevent homelessness. 2. Ensure that Housing Needs contributes to the review and development of the DHP policy. 	<p>DHP pot used to prevent homelessness.</p>		<p>October 2013</p>	<p>Sean Evans – Housing Needs Manager Christine Spooner – Homeless Link Serco – Housing Benefit</p>

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
<p>Raise awareness of Impact of welfare benefit reforms and discharging of duty into the private rented sector.</p>	<p>1. Deliver information workshop to partner agencies.</p>	<p>Information workshops delivered. Dispel myths.</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Housing Needs Officers</p>
<p>Set up and facilitate quarterly Homelessness Strategy review & steering group meetings</p>	<p>1. Facilitate Homelessness Strategy Steering Groups on a quarterly basis.</p>	<p>Strategy Steering Groups delivered.</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Sarah Hebblethwaite – Deputy Housing Needs Manager</p>
<p>Promote homelessness prevention on a strategic level with partner RSL's through the CBL Operations Board</p>	<p>1. Continue to develop prevention agenda through the RSL partners Operations Board 2. Develop and implement pre eviction protocols with all partners</p>	<p>A reduction in RSL arrears, tenancy failure</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Sean Evans – Housing Needs Manager RSL Partners</p>

Strategic Aim 2 - Maximise the opportunities for differing accommodation choices for persons seeking accommodation.

To continue to increase the accommodation choices available to persons in housing need.

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
<p>Maximise use of the Care & Repair service to assist people to remain in their homes.</p>	<p>1. Continue to utilise Care and Repair as a homelessness prevention tool.</p>	<p>Increased take up of scheme.</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Sean Evans – Housing Needs Manager Janette Gibson – Housing Needs Medical Advisor Russell Carr – Care & Repair Manager</p>
<p>Research alternatives to the rent deposit scheme in order to maximise the available funds to assist as many households as possible.</p>	<p>1. Carry out research to establish good practice. 2. Produce report highlighting savings to make alongside costs for administering Bond Scheme. 3. Identify and implement appropriate scheme.</p>	<p>Research carried out and report produced. Bond Scheme established.</p>		<p>December 2014 February 2015 August 2014</p>	<p>Sarah Hebblethwaite – Deputy Housing Needs Manager</p>

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
Develop relationships with private sector landlords.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve relations with private sector landlords through education delivered by Tenancy Relations Officer. 2. Ensure attendance at the Housing benefit private sector landlords forum & the quarterly NLA meetings. 3. Carry out survey with private sector landlords to establish barriers and suitable solutions in encouraging them to rent to benefit households. 	Increase in the number of private sector landlords working with the Housing Needs service.		<p>April 2014</p> <p>April 2013</p> <p>December 2014</p>	<p>Sean Evans – Housing Needs Manager</p> <p>Gareth Brighton – HNO Tenancy Relations</p> <p>Private Sector Landlords</p>

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
Promote and support the Empty Homes Strategy	1. Work with Empty Homes officer to maximise opportunities for bringing empty homes back into use.	Increase in the number of empty homes brought back into use annually.		Ongoing	Adam Cliff – Empty Homes Officer Sean Evans – Housing Needs Manager
Train Housing Needs staff to utilise the Disabled Facilities Grants to prevent homelessness	1. Promote Disabled Facilities Grant as homelessness prevention tool. 2. Maximise opportunities for disabled persons to remain in their current accommodation.	Disabled facilities grants used to prevent homelessness.		Ongoing	Sean Evans – Housing Needs Manager Sharon Malia – Housing Programmes Manager

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
Ensure the needs of homeless people are considered in relevant strategies	1. Attend meeting and events to ensure homeless persons are considered in all local strategies.	Housing representations at key meetings and events		Ongoing	Belinda Child – Strategic Housing Manager Sean Evans – Housing Needs Manager
Ensure effective referral processes between Housing Needs and Children’s Specialist Services	1. Develop protocol and joint working procedures. 2. Deliver joint training to Housing Needs and Children’s Services. 3. Implement protocol and joint working. 4. Review on a quarterly basis.	Protocol and joint working procedures established. Joint training delivered. Protocol implemented. Quarterly reviews completed.		May 2013 August 2013 September 2013 Quarterly from December 2013	Sean Evans – Housing Needs Manager Wendi Ogle Welbourne - Children’s Services

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
Continue on-going support, advice and enforcement with private sector landlords to improve housing conditions and management.	1. Continue to work with private sector landlords providing both support and enforcement to improve housing conditions.	Fewer homeless presentations as a result of accommodation being unreasonable for persons to continue to occupy.		Ongoing	Jo Hodges – Senior Housing Enforcement Officer Housing Needs Team
Investigate the viability of introducing a private sector leasing scheme	1. Research good practice in this area. 2. Produce report establishing feasibility of scheme in Peterborough.	Report produced outlining feasibility of scheme in Peterborough.		December 2014	Belinda Child – Strategic Housing Manager Sean Evans – Housing Needs Manager

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
<p>Promote and encourage private landlords to become accredited with the NLA and develop an Approved Register of Private Sector Landlords in the city.</p>	<p>1. Investigate and produce report to establish the feasibility for establishing an Approved Private Sector Landlords list.</p> <p>2. Reintroduce landlord accreditation scheme to promote and encourage good practice within the private rented sector in the city.</p>	<p>Report produced with clear recommendations.</p> <p>Landlord accreditation scheme introduced with a substantial base of landlords to further market and promote the scheme</p>	<p>Increased access to private rented sector.</p> <p>Launched in February 2013, with some landlords already signed up, and further enquiries received</p>	<p>December 2014</p>	<p>Adam Cliff – Empty Homes Officer</p>
<p>Work with Regional LA Partners to investigate a Local Lettings Agency</p>	<p>1. Work with regional partners to utilise regional homelessness grant to develop a regional Social Lettings Agency</p>	<p>Social Lettings Agency established.</p>		<p>January 2015</p>	<p>Sarah Hebblethwaite – Deputy Housing Needs Manager</p> <p>Regional Local Authority Partners</p> <p>Homeless Link</p>

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
To increase housing stock availability through the reuse of empty homes.	<p>1. To promote and actively market the Empty Homes Partnership to empty home owners.</p> <p>2. To increase interest in the scheme through members, the public and through media release</p>	<p>To increase stock availability by introducing a minimum of 100 properties to the scheme, and have them let through the CBL system.</p> <p>Promote the scheme so that all those eligible are aware of what is on offer to them.</p>	Currently, there is one lease signed and in the hands of Cross Keys for refurbishment, with a further two in the pipeline to join the scheme in the near future.	March 2015	Adam Cliff – Empty Homes Officer
To encourage bids from registered charities and providers, for funding from central government through the empty homes programme.	<p>1. To make aware those eligible and suitable for funding that the programme is available to them, and actively help with the bidding process and procedures.</p> <p>2. Work with those who bid to source and locate suitable properties from the empty homes database, and encourage the purchase or lease if successful in bidding.</p>	<p>To help in the bidding for two properties to be secured by the charity Hope Into Action, building on their success of the previous round of funding.</p> <p>Source and encourage charities of a similar nature to those who have secured funding, to bid for the available funding.</p>	Hope Into Action have secured their first of two properties under the first round of funding gained, and are currently working on a second bid to secure funding for a further two properties, with the potential to house 3 people at any one time.	March 2015	Adam Cliff – Empty Homes Officer

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
Explore options for the development of supported lodgings scheme	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contact YMCA to discuss the feasibility of establishing supported lodging in line with model currently operated in Cambridgeshire. 2. Develop report to outline costs, savings to be made and recommendations for establishing model of supported lodgings. 3. Establish a supported lodging scheme in Peterborough. 	Supported Lodgings Scheme established.		<p>January 2016</p> <p>March 2016</p>	<p>Sarah Hebblethwaite – Deputy Housing Needs Manager</p> <p>YMCA</p>
Maximise the opportunities for the best use of social housing stock	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Refresh of Bedrooms Standards Policy in line with welfare reforms. 2. Promote the benefits of CBL2 and maximise the opportunities it brings to improve the CBL experience for customers 	<p>Bedroom Standards Policy refreshed.</p> <p>CBL2 established.</p>		August 2013	Sean Evans – Housing Needs Manager

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
Dogs Trust supporting people to move into accommodation	Provide statements of positive impact dog has on clients stability Dog reference Veterinary certificates Pathway working group to pursued housing providers to develop positive pet policies	1. Create template to be used. 2. Establish procedure for providing statements		February 2015 April 2015	Sarah Scase – HNO – Rough Sleeper Outreach Dogs Trust
Refresh of allocations policy	1. Re-write allocations policy to reflect Localism Bill, and housing needs within the city.	New Allocation Policy agreed and implemented.	Completed	Ongoing	Sean Evans – Housing Needs Manager
Explore options for rooms in a Home where the Landlord befriends	1. Investigate good practice in this area. 2. Explore feasibility through voluntary and faith based groups. 3. Identify suitable Landlords and pilot for 6 months.	Investigations complete. Feasibility established. Scheme piloted.		December 2016 January 2017 April 2017	Sarah Hebblethwaite – Deputy Housing Needs Manager All voluntary sector and faith based partners

Strategic Aim 3 - Continue to reduce levels of rough sleeping

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
Reduce flow of rough sleepers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work with partner agencies to identify persons at risk of rough sleeping. 2. Deliver training sessions to partner agencies to prevent homelessness including tenant rights and responsibilities. 	<p>Training delivered.</p> <p>Reduction in the number of rough sleepers and street based activities.</p>		Ongoing	<p>Sarah Scase – HNO Rough Sleeper Outreach</p> <p>Aspire</p> <p>Drinksense</p> <p>Police</p> <p>UKBA</p> <p>Housing Forum members</p>

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
Reduce incentives for people to remain in street based lifestyles	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work with police and city centre services to reduce begging and busking. 2. Work with faith-based sector to ensure services are accessed by the needy not the greedy to sustain street based lifestyles. 3. Work with police and UKBA to continue to carry out enforcement action. 	Reduction in anti social and the numbers of persons becoming entrenched in street based lifestyle		Ongoing	Sarah Hebblethwaite – Deputy Housing Needs Manager Police City Centre Manager Safer Peterborough Partnership UKBA

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
Develop point of arrest service to persons with no fixed abode.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contact police to discuss risks, positives, negatives of establishing a point of arrest service. 2. Create and agree protocol using good practice evidence. 3. Establish services to enable all rough sleepers in custody are contacted by the rough sleeper outreach officer. 	<p>Meet with police to discuss feasibility of the service.</p> <p>Protocol agreed.</p> <p>Service established.</p>		<p>January 2015</p> <p>March 2015</p> <p>June 2015</p>	<p>Sarah Scase – HNO Rough Sleeping Outreach</p> <p>Police</p> <p>UKBA</p>
Work with voluntary sector organisations to deliver 'No Second Night Out.'	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support partner agencies to deliver NSNO through the funding of the HTF. 	NSNO implemented.		Ongoing	<p>Sarah Hebblethwaite – Deputy Housing Needs Manager</p> <p>Partner Agencies</p> <p>Axiom Housing Association</p> <p>Peterborough Streets</p>

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
Continue to work with faith sector to develop services to empower rough sleepers to leave the streets and not sustain street based lifestyles.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Map current service provision provided by Faith Sector. 2. Identify gaps and duplicated services. 3. Contact all Faith Based Groups to deliver information training including service awareness and referral routes. 	Faith sector provision mapped, gaps identified and training delivered.		<p>January 2015</p> <p>May 2015</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Sarah Hebblethwaite – Deputy Housing Needs Manager</p> <p>Sarah Scase – HNO Rough Sleeper Outreach</p> <p>All faith based groups</p>

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
Develop personalised budgets for entrenched rough sleepers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research and produce reports identifying good practice and cost based outcomes for personalised budgets. 2. Identify persons to be considered for personalised budgets and project cost in line with pilot projects. 3. Produce report on outcomes, associated costs and feasibility of establishing in Peterborough. 	Personalised budgets established for entrenched rough sleepers.		October 2015	<p>Sarah Hebblethwaite – Deputy Housing Needs Manger</p> <p>Christine Spooner –Homeless Link</p>

Strategic Aim 4 - Promoting settled lifestyles and sustainable communities

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
Work with Job Centre Plus to identify key persons as a contact for all homeless persons	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify contact at Jobcentre and arrange to meet. 2. Establish joint working procedures. 3. Protocol agreed and implemented. 	Contact identified and protocol established.		<p>October 2014</p> <p>December 2014</p> <p>January 2015</p>	<p>Sarah Scase – HNO Rough Sleeper Outreach</p>
Explore developing resettlement programme for people with substance misuse	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Arrange meeting with Aspire to discuss resettlement programme. 2. Conclude on feasibility of establishing programme. 	<p>Meeting arranged, and discussions completed.</p> <p>Feasibility established.</p>		<p>November 2015</p> <p>January 2016</p>	<p>Sarah Hebblethwaite – Deputy Housing Needs Manager Aspire</p>
Work with Drink sense to consider community detox for alcohol dependant tenants at risk of homelessness	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Arrange meeting with Drink sense to establish feasibility of community detox. 2. Conclude on feasibility of establishing community detox for this group. 	<p>Meeting arranged and discussions completed.</p> <p>Feasibility established.</p>		<p>November 2015</p> <p>January 2016</p>	<p>Sarah Hebblethwaite – Deputy Housing Needs Manager Drinksense RSL Partners</p>

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
Work with partners on a strategic level to promote and develop access to mental health services for homeless persons	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify referral routes into mental health assessment services 2. Ensure clients are referred into services where required 	<p>Referral routes identified.</p> <p>Referrals made and mapped to progress provision</p>		Ongoing	Sean Evans – Housing Needs Manager CPMHT
Work with partners to improve mental health amongst homeless persons	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify level of support and map services alongside opportunities for improving mental health. 	Supported mapped and opportunities identified.		Ongoing	Sarah Hebblethwaite Adult Social Care Assertive Outreach Team

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
Explore the need for detoxification facilities in Peterborough	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify key partner agencies. 2. Map existing services and levels of need. 3. Quantify cost of alcohol misuse to the city. 4. Produce report outlining findings and detailing clear recommendations 	Aims to enable that detoxification facility are accessible to vulnerable adults in the city.	The investment in detox services should reduce costs to homelessness and health service by contributing to minimising harm and chaos experienced by service users.	<p>March 2016</p> <p>July 2016</p> <p>January 2017</p>	<p>Sarah Hebblethwaite – Deputy Housing Needs Manager</p> <p>Drinksense</p> <p>Safer Peterborough partnership</p>
Explore options for employment of unemployed homeless persons	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carry out survey to explore the feasibility of housing needs service or partner agencies employing ex-service users 	The service may decide that the risks out weigh the benefits	Value for money savings to the public purse moving people out from benefit reliance	November 2014	<p>Sarah Hebblethwaite - Deputy Housing Needs Manager</p> <p>Peterborough Streets</p> <p>PCVS</p> <p>Salvation Army</p>

Objective	Key Actions/Milestones	SMART targets	Progress	Timescales	Lead Officer/Key Partners
Work with partner agencies to refresh the Youth Homelessness Strategy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify lead officers in Children's Services 2. Work with Children's Services to ensure that the housing needs of young people are identified and met 	Strategy reviewed and refreshed		<p>December 2014</p> <p>August 2015</p>	<p>Sean Evans - Housing Needs Manager</p> <p>Youth Offending Service</p> <p>Adolescent Intervention Service</p> <p>Connexions</p>
Continue to develop joint working with the Learning Disabilities Partnership	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue representation on the learning disabilities partnership board and associated forums 2. Ensure that service users with learning disabilities receive the required support to make applications and obtain suitable accommodation through the choice based lettings scheme 3. Develop literature relating to services offered by 	<p>Continued attendance at the LDPB</p> <p>Link into the service for the accommodation officer in adult social care to assist clients in applying for accommodation</p> <p>Literature produced and uploaded to the PCC website</p>		<p>December 2014</p>	<p>Hayley Flaxman – Housing Needs Officer</p> <p>Learning Disabilities Partnership Board</p>

	Housing Needs in easy read formats				
Supporting People to maximise the opportunities for creating a flexible floating support service to address the changing needs of vulnerable client groups.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carry out review of current floating support provision. 2. Identify gaps in current provision. 3. Produce report detailing gaps and provision identified. 	Focused services who are focused on homelessness prevention		November 2014 January 2015 February 2015	Sean Evans – Housing Needs Manager Sarah Hebblethwaite – Deputy Housing Needs Manager Sharon Malia – Housing Programs Manager

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ITEM 9(b) – FOR INFORMATION

CABINET	AGENDA ITEM No.
24 NOVEMBER 2014	PUBLIC REPORT

Cabinet Member responsible:	Cllr Marco Cereste, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Growth, Strategic Planning, Housing, Economic Development and Business Engagement	
Contact Officers:	Simon Machen Director of Growth and Regeneration Richard Kay – Head of Sustainable Growth Strategy Gemma Wildman – Principal Planner, Housing and Strategic Planning Team	Tel. 453492 863796 863824

PETERBOROUGH CITY CENTRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT (VERSION FOR ADOPTION)

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S	
FROM : Director of Growth and Regeneration	Deadline date : 17 December 2014
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Cabinet notes the conclusions of the independent Inspector who was appointed to examine the council's submitted Peterborough City Centre Development Plan Document. 2. That Cabinet recommends to Council the adoption of the Peterborough City Centre Development Plan Document, incorporating modifications as recommended by the Inspector ('Main Modifications') and other minor editorial modifications ('Additional Modifications'). 	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report is submitted to Cabinet following Council's decision on 4 December 2013 to approve the Peterborough City Centre Development Plan Document (DPD) (Proposed Submission Version), also referred to as the City Centre Plan, for the purposes of public consultation and submission to the Secretary of State. Such consultation has taken place and the DPD was submitted to the Secretary of State 1 April 2014. Subsequently, an independent Planning Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State has carried out a public examination into the document. The Inspector has sent her report to the Chief Executive setting out her conclusions on the Plan.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to set out the recommendations made by the Independent Inspector and subsequently, seek Cabinet's approval to recommend the City Centre Plan to Council for adoption.
- 2.2 This report is for Cabinet to consider under its Terms of Reference No. 3.2.1, to take collective responsibility for the delivery of all strategic executive functions within the council's Major Policy and Budget Framework and lead the council's overall improvement programmes to deliver excellent services.

3. TIMESCALE

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	YES	If Yes, date for relevant Cabinet Meeting	24 November 2014
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Date for relevant Council meeting	17 December 2014	Date for submission to Government Dept	N/A
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4. PETERBOROUGH CITY CENTRE DPD– THE INSPECTOR’S REPORT AND THE CITY CENTRE DPD RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

Introduction

- 4.1 The preparation of the Peterborough City Centre DPD has reached its final stage. Following considerable public consultation over the last few years, we have now reached the stage where Council has to decide whether to adopt the DPD as part of its major policy framework.
- 4.2 Cabinet will recall that on 4 November 2013, the ‘submission’ version was considered before subsequently being approved by Council on 4 December 2013. That approval set in motion two key events:
- (i) the issuing of the City Centre Plan for its final public consultation stage (January-March 2013); and
 - (ii) the ‘examination’ of the City Centre Plan by an Independent Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State (July 2014), and the subsequent issuing of an ‘Inspector’s Report’ (November 2014) setting out her recommendations for modifications to the DPD.

Content of City Centre DPD

- 4.3 Before coming to the Inspector’s findings and recommendations, Cabinet may wish to remind themselves as to the purpose, content and status of the City Centre Plan. If adopted, it will become part of the statutory development plan, and, as such, will be part of the council’s major policy framework. The City Centre DPD is the final document of a suite of other plans (such as the Core Strategy) that together comprise the Local Plan for Peterborough. The City Centre Plan will replace the remaining twelve saved policies in the Peterborough Local Plan (First Replacement) (2005).
- 4.4 The City Centre DPD sets out the council’s long-term vision and objectives for the city centre; it sets out the policies and proposals that will help direct how new development and regeneration will be achieved and how the council’s vision for the city centre will be met.

The Inspector’s Role and the Inspector’s Report

- 4.5 Government regulations stipulate that an Inspector must be appointed by the Secretary of State to undertake an ‘examination’ of a proposed DPD, and consider all comments and objections that have been made. The Inspector holds a ‘hearing’ session as part of the examination process. The Inspector then subsequently issues an ‘Inspector’s Report’, which must state either:
- (i) That the City Centre DPD is ‘unsound’, and that it is impossible for changes to be made to it to make it ‘sound’; under this scenario the Council is not permitted to adopt the City Centre Plan DPD; or
 - (ii) That the City Centre DPD is ‘sound’ as submitted, or provided that certain modifications as recommended by the Inspector are made before it is adopted.
- 4.6 We are very pleased to report that the Inspector, Ms Christine Newmarch, has found our DPD ‘sound’ and, in effect, has given permission to the council to adopt it provided her recommended modifications are incorporated into the final adopted version. Her full report is attached at Appendix A. This includes a list of all modifications (see Appendix).

- 4.7 The Inspector concludes that the City Centre DPD provides an appropriate strategy and basis for the allocation of development sites in the city centre over the period to 2026, provided that a number of modifications are made to it. The modifications of consequence can be summarised as follows:
- Additional information added to the Townscape and Heritage section to address concerns raised about protecting views of the cathedral
 - Further information included in the Flood and Drainage section to clarify the process of reconnection to surface water and sewer system with particular reference to the former District Hospital site and City Core areas.
- 4.8 It is important to note that, in accordance with regulations, the recommended modifications in the Inspector's Report are 'binding' on the council. This means that the council cannot 'pick and choose' which of his modifications to accept or reject; it must accept them all (if the council wishes to adopt the DPD) or, indirectly, reject them all (and, thus, not adopt the DPD).

Adoption of the Peterborough Site Allocations DPD

- 4.9 Cabinet must decide whether to recommend to Council the adoption of the Peterborough City Centre DPD. Attached at Appendix B is the version which Cabinet is asked to recommend. This version incorporates all of the recommended modifications made by the Inspector. It also includes a number of minor changes which do not affect the soundness of the document, and which the council is permitted to make under new provisions introduced by the Localism Act 2011.
- 4.10 Appendix C of this report consists of that part of the Policies Map which accompanies the City Centre DPD, showing the precise location of all the future housing and employment sites as well as land safeguarded for other uses, as included in the DPD. The Inspectors Report does not include any changes to the submission Policies Map. If the DPD is adopted by Council, Inset 2 of the adopted Policies Map will be replaced by a new version.
- 4.11 To be absolutely clear on this matter, Cabinet (and then Council) can only support or reject the version as at Appendix B.
- 4.12 If Council agree the City Centre DPD as per Appendix B, then the document is 'adopted' and comes into effect immediately.
- 4.13 If Council does not agree the City Centre Document as per Appendix B, then, in accordance with the regulations, it is not obliged to adopt it. Under this scenario, the council would need to re-commence the preparation of a new City Centre Document, following the same cycle of extensive data collection, site appraisal, consultation and examination as before.

5. CONSULTATION

- 5.1 Extensive consultation, over many years, with the public and a wide variety of other stakeholders has taken place. Emerging drafts have also been considered by various, Scrutiny Committee, Cabinet and Council meetings. The Inspector was satisfied that we had undertaken appropriate consultation throughout.
- 5.2 There is no opportunity for further consultation or comment on the document.

6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES

- 6.1 It is anticipated that Cabinet will recommend to Council that City Centre DPD, as amended as a result of the Inspector's recommended modifications, be adopted.

7. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 As outlined in the report, Council only has two options available to it; either adopt the document with the modifications or not adopt the document. The former is recommended, as it is a statutory duty to prepare a City Centre DPD, and, in adopting it, Peterborough will have a clear and robust policy document setting out its vision, objectives and for the city centre.

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 8.1 The option of not adopting the DPD is not recommended, because in doing so the council:
- Would not have sufficient sites available to deliver the planned growth of the city set out in the adopted Core Strategy
 - Reduce potential investment in Peterborough, including fewer new jobs and homes.

9. IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The City Centre DPD will have implications for all sectors of society and all wards and parishes of the local authority area. The process of sustainability appraisal, based on social, economic and environmental criteria, ensures that all potential implications are taken into account in a systematic way.
- 9.2 Legal Implications: On adoption, the council must consider all relevant planning applications against the policies in the City Centre DPD.
- 9.3 Financial Implications: There are no immediate financial implications flowing from the adoption of the DPD.

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

None



The Planning Inspectorate

Report to Peterborough City Council

by **C A Newmarch BA(Hons) MRICS MRTPI**

an Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government

Date: 10th November 2014

PLANNING AND COMPULSORY PURCHASE ACT 2004 (AS AMENDED)

SECTION 20

**REPORT ON THE EXAMINATION INTO THE
PETERBOROUGH CITY CENTRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT**

Document submitted for examination on 1 April 2014

Examination hearings held on 22, 23 and 24 July 2014

File Ref: PINS/J0540/429/7

Abbreviations Used in this Report

AA	Appropriate Assessment
CCP	City Centre Development Plan Document
CD	Core Document
CS	Core Strategy
DtC	Duty to Co-operate
DPD	Development Plan Document
LDS	Local Development Scheme
LTP	Local Transport Plan
MM	Main Modification
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
PPP	Peterborough Planning Policies
PSA	Peterborough Site Allocations
RS	Regional Strategy
SA	Sustainability Appraisal
SCI	Statement of Community Involvement
SCS	Sustainable Community Strategy
SPD	Supplementary Planning Document

Non-Technical Summary

This report concludes that the Peterborough City Centre Development Plan Document (CCP) provides an appropriate basis for the planning of the City Centre of Peterborough, providing a number of modifications are made to the plan. Peterborough City Council has specifically requested me to recommend any modifications necessary to enable the plan to be adopted.

All of the modifications to address this were proposed by the Council, and I have recommended their inclusion after considering the representations from other parties on these issues.

The Main Modifications can be summarised as follows:

- Buildings and places which are important for their heritage value, nature conservation or sense of place will be conserved and enhanced;
- Specific requirements to protect views of the cathedral are included in area policies, and early engagement with the Council is encouraged for proposals potentially affecting views of the cathedral;
- The development brief for Wheel Yard is to include consideration of height, scale and the setting of the cathedral;
- A site within the Riverside South Policy Area is recognised as a registered community asset;
- The reconnection of surface water to the combined sewer system will only be permitted if it is demonstrably the only practical solution;
- Within the City Core Policy Area and the Railway Station Policy Area particular scrutiny will be given to the sustainability of drainage and flood risk;
- A development brief or Supplementary Planning Document will be provided for the Northminster Opportunity Area; and
- The Supplementary Planning Document for the Hospital Opportunity Area will apply to development proposals unless it has been superseded by a subsequent local plan policy or national policy.

None of the above changes alters the thrust of the Council's overall strategy for improvements, growth and regeneration in Peterborough City Centre.

Introduction

1. This report contains my assessment of the CCP in terms of Section 20(5) of the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended). It considers first whether the Plan's preparation has complied with the duty to co-operate, in recognition that there is no scope to remedy any failure in this regard. It considers whether the Plan is sound and whether it is compliant with the legal requirements.
2. The starting point for the examination is the assumption that the local authority has submitted what it considers to be a sound plan. The basis for my examination is the submission version of the plan (dated April 2014), Core Document (CD) CD001a. This contains two minor changes compared to the version of the document published for consultation in January 2014 (CD012). The changes are set out in CD010, 'Changes made between Proposed Submission and Submission Version.' They do not materially alter the policies, proposals or thrust of the plan.
3. My report deals with the main modifications (MM) needed to make the CCP sound and legally compliant. They are identified in bold in the report (**MM**). In accordance with section 20(7C) of the 2004 Act the Council requested that I should make any modifications needed to rectify matters which make the Plan unsound/not legally compliant and thus incapable of being adopted. These main modifications are set out in the Appendix.
4. The MMs which are necessary for soundness all relate to matters which were discussed at the Examination hearing sessions. Following these discussions, the Council prepared a schedule of proposed main modifications (CD1119), and this schedule was subject to public consultation for six weeks. I have taken account of the consultation responses in coming to my conclusions in this report.
5. The Council's Sustainability Appraisal (SA) (CD002) shows that the policies and development sites contained in the CCP will bring significant benefits to the city centre. Since the modifications do not affect the overall strategy of the CCP, but are generally concerned with its effectiveness and the justification of its policies, I agree with the Council that further SA is not necessary.

Assessment of Duty to Co-operate (DtC)

6. Section 20(5)(c) of the 2004 Act requires that I consider whether the Council complied with any duty imposed on them by section 33A of the 2004 Act in relation to the Plan's preparation.
7. The submitted DtC Statement (CD011) explains that the boundary of the plan area lies at the centre of the Council's administrative area, and does not adjoin any other local planning authority area. Overall matters of strategy have been decided through the Peterborough Core Strategy (CS) Development Plan Document (DPD), 2011. The Council contends that the CCP does not contain any strategic matter as defined in subsection (4) of section 33A of the 2004 Act. It consulted the neighbouring planning authorities, county councils and prescribed bodies at the Consultation Draft stage of the preparation of the CCP

on this matter. None of these bodies assert that the plan addresses strategic matters for which joint working would have been necessary.

8. Furthermore, no representations were made to the submission version of the CCP indicating that any matters should have been the subject of joint working, and I am satisfied that the DtC has been satisfied.

Assessment of Soundness

9. The CCP sets out the Council's long-term vision and objectives for the city centre, together with policies and proposals which will help to direct how new development and regeneration will be achieved. It has been prepared within the context of the CS and the Peterborough Planning Policies (PPP) DPD, 2012, which together provide the principles, spatial strategy and district-wide planning policies for the Council's entire administrative area. The Peterborough Site Allocations (PSA) DPD, 2012, is complementary to the CCP insofar as it establishes the principle that development can be located on various sites within the part of the Council's administrative area which is outside the boundary of the CCP.
10. The CS, the PPP and the PSA DPDs were all prepared within the context of the Regional Strategy (RS) set out in the former East of England Plan, which identified Peterborough for significant growth and regeneration. The RS was, however, revoked in January 2013.
11. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was published in March 2012. At paragraph 182, the NPPF explains that, to be sound, a plan should be positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy.

Main Issues

12. Taking account of all the representations, written evidence and the discussions which took place at the examination hearings I have identified five main issues upon which the soundness of the Plan depends.

Issue 1 – Whether the CCP is positively and effectively prepared in relation to its housing provision

The quantum of housing to be provided

13. The CS provides for a net increase of 4,300 homes in the city centre area. Some 329 of these were completed in the period April 2009 – 31 March 2013, leaving a balance of around 3,971 sites to be identified in the CCP. However, the CCP makes provision for the development of some 3,007 homes, which would be 964 fewer dwellings than set out in the CS. The Council's Evidence Report (CD005) explains that this reflects a reduced market demand for flats and high density housing, resulting in a lower number of larger dwelling units in the schemes permitted in the city centre.
14. The identified shortfall in the CCP area amounts to a very modest proportion of the overall housing provision of around 25,500 from 2009 -2026 across the Council's area. Significantly, the committed residential sites and new allocations in the part of the Council's area beyond the city centre together exceed the amount included in the CS by some 1,212 dwellings.

Consequently, the overall provision would exceed the provision required in the CS by approximately 248 dwellings. On this basis, the overall housing provision would be broadly consistent with the CS.

15. Moreover, up to date evidence in the Council's Housing Monitoring Report: 1 April 2013 – 31 March 2014 (CD114), and in its Core Document CD115, shows that sites for additional numbers of dwellings are now committed in the city centre. This further reduces the shortfall. Accordingly, its impact on the overall balance of the CS's spatial strategy between the city centre and the rest of the district is not material.
16. Peterborough city centre has relatively few houses and flats compared to other towns and cities of a similar size, and a correspondingly low city centre population. The Council estimates that there were around 1,350 dwellings in the city centre in 2009. The CCP aims to create new residential neighbourhoods to provide an attractive, vibrant location throughout the day and evening times. While there is some uncertainty concerning the initial number of homes in the city centre, the CCP will result in an estimated net provision for some 3,336 dwellings by 2026. This would be an uplift of around 356% compared to the 2009 estimate. This would be increased further by the additional units identified in the 2014 Monitoring Report.

The Railway Station Policy Area

The former Peterborough Hospital Site

17. Policy CC4 of the CCP identifies the former Peterborough Hospital Site as an Opportunity Area, reference CC4.1, with an indicative development capacity of 350 dwellings. A representor contends that this is inconsistent with the further requirement within the policy for development proposals to be in general conformity with the adopted Peterborough District General Hospital Site Supplementary Planning Document, 2010 (SPD) (CD036).
18. The SPD indicates that some 350-550 dwellings could be provided on the former hospital site, but since the adoption of the SPD, the Council has granted (31/10/2014) outline planning permission, Ref 14/00536/OUT, for the redevelopment of the former hospital site. The scheme includes up to 350 residential units together with a range of non-residential uses including a primary school, informal open space and landscaping. Consequently, a greater number of residential units would no longer be feasible within the site.
19. There is no evidence that the remainder of the SPD is out of keeping with the CCP. However, in order for the plan to be effective, I agree that a MM to paragraph 4 of policy CC4 is necessary. **MM9**, which requires that development proposal should be informed by, and in general conformity with, the SPD unless a requirement has been superseded by a local or national policy, and that any significant deviations from the SPD should be justified by a planning application, is therefore, necessary.

City Core Policy Area

Wheel Yard

20. Policy CC3 of the CCP indicates a development capacity of 20-25 dwellings for Wheel Yard (site reference CC3.4), with the requirement that these are to be delivered in accordance with an agreed development brief. A development brief has yet to be agreed, although the extent of the site (CC3.4) is shown on the Peterborough Policies Map Inset 2 (CD001b).
21. It was put to me at the hearing that an enlarged site area and greater number of dwellings would be appropriate at Wheel Yard. However, policy CC3 would not, in itself, preclude the consideration of proposals beyond the site boundary, subject to the policies in the Council's Local Development Framework as a whole and other material considerations. The representor is concerned about the financial viability of the development within the boundary of site CC3.4, but does not contend that the CCP is unsound with regard to development at Wheel Yard.
22. By contrast, English Heritage contends that a lower number of dwellings would be appropriate and on the basis of a need to demonstrate 20-25 dwellings could be provided at Wheel Yard without causing notable harm to the historic environment. However, since this is an indicative number of dwellings, and the CCP emphasises in Appendix C that the most appropriate design-led solution should take precedence over the figures in the plan's allocation policies, this is a matter for the development brief. Nonetheless, given the potential impact on the setting of the cathedral, **MM3**, requiring the development brief to include, among other matters, the height and scale of any development and the setting of the cathedral and its precincts, is necessary for the CCP to be effective.

Riverside South Policy Area

Railworld North site

23. It is contended that the requirement, in paragraph 5.5.8 of the CCP, for the access to the Railworld North site (ref CC6.3) to be from Thorpe Lea Road would not be effective in delivering the development of some 50 prestige homes since an easement across Council-owned land would be necessary. However, an agreement for the grant of an easement was signed by the Council and Railworld on 14 July 2014 (CD117). The agreement provides for the Council to grant a Deed of Easement for the construction of an access road from Thorpe Lea Road providing planning permission has been granted for residential development. Even so, it is submitted that plan should be amended to indicate that Thorpe Lea Road is the preferred, rather than the required, means of access, so as to avoid a 'ransom' situation.
24. The Council refused a planning application in 2011 for the construction of an access road from Thorpe Lea Road, but there is no evidence that permission would not be granted for a comprehensive scheme for housing development and an access road. Indeed, policy CC6 would support this.

25. Furthermore, the representor accepts that an alternative access from River Lane would not be ideal due to the character and ownership of part of River Lane and the layout of its junction with Thorpe Road. Accordingly, I find that the plan would be effective in this respect.

Railworld, South

26. The CCP is silent on the majority of the Railworld South site, other than a reference in paragraph 5.5.8 to the provision of an enhanced visitor attraction. The CCP does not explain the type of enhancement or the mechanism by which it will be provided, although at the hearing the representor explained that a two storey visitor centre of some 930sqm floor space was envisaged. It is intended that this would give access both to the Nene Valley Railway Peterborough Station and to covered sidings for the conservation and interpretation of railway items.
27. It is, however, contended that freestanding visitor attractions are not generally viable. No further viability information is before me, although the representor submits that the trustees of the site will be in a financial position to prepare a business case to demonstrate the viability of the Railworld South proposals following the release of funds from the development of the Railworld North site, discussed above.
28. The representor seeks a change to the CCP to provide for a mixed-use scheme for the Railworld South site to include residential development as well as the visitor attraction uses. The representor's submitted concept plan indicates that around 89 residential units could be provided on the site.
29. The CCP envisages substantial change within the Riverside South Policy Area during the plan period. It seeks locations for a further 125 dwellings in addition to those identified in policy CC6. No representations were made suggesting the Railworld South site for mixed use at the plan's consultation stage, and so it was not considered for residential development during the preparation of the CCP.
30. Around 74% of the site is within Flood Zone 2, but only some 7% is within Flood Zone 1, which it is submitted, is not dissimilar to the Railworld North site. The Environment Agency has not raised an objection to the redevelopment of the site, but has commented that the most vulnerable uses should be restricted to the area at lower risk of flooding. However, no flood risk, sequential or exception tests have been carried out as required by CS policy 22. In their absence, some doubt remains as to whether the site would be deliverable within the plan period. Nonetheless, since CCP policy CC6 would not preclude a mixed use scheme, including residential and enhanced visitor attraction uses at this site, it has not been demonstrated that the plan is not effective.

Green Back Yard

31. A representor submits that the lack of specificity for the location of 125 dwellings within policy CC6 makes the plan unsound. The Council concedes that no sites have been identified for these homes, but submits that sites for at least 125 dwellings could be provided within the Riverside South Policy Area.

32. I give some weight to the Council's decision to establish a Peterborough investment fund, which is intended to bring development forward in the city centre through a joint venture company (Cabinet Report 24 February 2014: CD072). The report identifies a range of vacant and under-used previously developed sites within the Council's ownership, which could be released for redevelopment through joint ventures. However, the Pleasure Fair Meadows Car Park is the sole site within the Riverside South Policy Area which was identified for disposal in Council's Cabinet Report. While there is no reason to doubt that housing could be provided on this site in a decked scheme without the permanent loss of car parking, there are no further details before me.
33. I accept that the Council may release further sites, that other sites not within the Council's ownership may come forward, and that the number of dwellings to be constructed on identified sites may increase. Given the scope for regeneration and redevelopment in this prime, central, location, this may be the case. However, the approach in policy CC6 does not provide a clear demonstration that the indicative number of dwellings set out in policy can be provided. Nevertheless, I consider that, on balance, the uncertainty concerning the provision of 125 dwellings is not sufficiently serious within the overall provision and flexibility of the CCP to make it unsound.
34. It is contended that policy CC6 should preclude housing development on the Green Back Yard site, to be consistent with the NPPF and so that its use as a community project is able to continue. The representor submits that the Green Back Yard accords with Government policy on promoting healthy communities set out in the NPPF. It occupies a Council-owned site on a licence, and is seeking greater security of tenure. However, that is not a matter for me in considering the soundness of the CCP.
35. The representor further submits that the development of the site will not be necessary to meet the housing requirements set out in the plan, as additional sites will come forward through, among other things, the conversion of office premises. The site is not, however, proposed for development in the CCP, and I have not identified the need for changes to the supply of housing sites within the policy area or the city centre as a whole. Nonetheless, the quantum of housing to be provided within the city centre should not be regarded as a maximum target since it is the Government's policy in the NPPF is to boost significantly the supply of housing.
36. Notwithstanding my findings above, paragraph 5.5.4 of the plan incorrectly refers to the Green Back yard site as community allotments. Although the land is used, in part, for growing food, it is a former allotment site, which no longer has the status of statutory allotments. Accordingly, **MM4** is necessary for the plan to be justified by evidence.

Riverside North Policy Area

37. Policy CC7 proposes the development of a maximum of 25 prestige homes at Bishops Road (site ref CC7.1). It is submitted that in addition to the criteria set out in the policy, additional justification for the location of the site and the number of dwellings is needed for the plan to be sound.
38. The Consultation Draft (CC014) of the CCP proposed the development of

approximately 50 prestige homes along the frontage of Bishops Road, but a site was not identified. The Evidence Report (CD005) explains that the site, which is currently a car park, has been identified in response to the public consultation. The number of dwellings proposed was reduced to take account of the character of the area. It has not been demonstrated that the proposal is unjustified.

Conclusion on Issue 1

39. The policies and proposals in the CCP will result in a significant boost to the number of dwellings in the city centre. I am satisfied that, subject to the MM3, MM4 and MM9, the CCP is realistic, and positively prepared with regard to its quantum of housing provision and its distribution within the plan area.

Issue 2 – Whether the townscape and heritage policies and proposals are sound

Heritage value

40. The vision for the future of Peterborough city centre provides, at paragraph 3.1.1 of the CCP, provides that those buildings and places 'that we love for their heritage value, for nature conservation, or simply for their sense of place, will be conserved and enhanced.' The Council accepts that the term 'that we love' is ambiguous, and should instead refer to buildings and places which are important for their heritage value. **MM1** overcomes this ambiguity, and is necessary to make the plan effective.

Design Panels

41. It is submitted that a reference to design panels is required for the CCP to be consistent with the NPPF. High quality design is a core principle of the NPPF, but although its paragraph 62 states that local planning authorities should have local design review arrangements in place, there is no requirement for this to be repeated in development plan policies.
42. The Council explained at the hearing that it has not considered it necessary for its design panel to meet for several years, as it has instead sought specialist advice from a local architect. The Council accepts that regular meetings of a fresh design panel would be appropriate as proposals for the regeneration of the city centre come forward, but does not accept the need to modify the CCP for this to occur. The arrangements to set up and publicise future design panels, while important, are not for my consideration as they do not go to the heart of the soundness of the CCP.

Views of Peterborough Cathedral

43. The CCP does not include policies to control the height of new buildings, alterations or extensions in the city centre. However, there is no evidence that generalised control over the height of buildings would assist in controlling views of the cathedral. Indeed, I accept the Council's submission that this could be counterproductive, and that a detailed analysis on a case by case basis, including the proximity and height of other buildings, would provide a more robust approach to protecting the views of the cathedral.

44. It is submitted that the CCP should explicitly identify key, critical views of the cathedral in order to support CS policy CS17. Map 3 of the Council's Evidence Report (CD005) shows strategically important cathedral views in diagrammatic form. The map is, therefore, indicative, and does not provide a definitive mapping of all the possible views of the cathedral from within the city centre and the surrounding area. Furthermore, it is based on survey work carried out by the Civic Society, which has not been updated for inclusion in the CCP. Its inclusion within the plan could, therefore, have the unintended consequence of detracting from, rather than ensuring, its effectiveness.
45. Nonetheless, for the effectiveness of the plan, paragraph 4.7.12 of the CCP needs to be strengthened to make clear that the area policies include specific requirements to protect views of Peterborough Cathedral. In addition, to make the CCP effective, it is necessary to encourage applicants to discuss with the Council at the earliest opportunity any development proposal which would have the potential to impact on the views of the cathedral. Accordingly, **MM2**, which addresses both these considerations, is necessary.
46. Paragraphs 5.2.4 and 5.2.5 of the CCP recognise that there may be opportunities to improve the connections between the cathedral, its precincts and the Northminster Opportunity Area. The CCP proposes that this be explored by means of a development brief or a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). However, for the plan to be effective, **MM8**, which specifies that the brief or SPD should relate to the Northminster Opportunity Area is necessary.

Conclusion on Issue 2

47. For the reasons explained above, I am satisfied that, subject to MM1, MM2 and MM8, the townscape and heritage policies and proposals in the CCP are sound.

Issue 3 – Whether the plan is sound in relation to strengthening retail and town centre activities

Railway Station Policy Area

Station East Opportunity Area

48. Policy CC4 supports and encourages high quality mixed use developments in the Railway Station Policy Area to create an attractive and legible gateway to the rest of the city centre. In the Station East Opportunity Area the policy provides for mixed-use commercial-led development which could include ancillary retail uses, bars, restaurants and leisure uses. These are expected to be small scale outlets which would serve the needs of rail passengers.
49. Concern has been expressed that they could undermine the regeneration of the city centre. A representor considers that the plan should be modified so that bars, restaurants and leisure uses in this area are also required to be ancillary to, and associated with, the railway station. However, at the hearing the representor accepted that there is not a need to add floor-space or other criteria to the policy. The Council will consider any retail proposals on a case by case basis and a sequential test would apply to proposals for main town centre uses in this area.

Rivergate Policy Area

Rivergate Shopping Area

50. CCP policy CC5 supports a retail-led, mixed use development, incorporating approximately 100 dwellings in the Rivergate policy area. Concern has been raised that this could undermine the CCP objective of strengthening the city core as the retail focus for Peterborough. The representor submits that an additional bullet point should be added to policy CC5 to specify that development at the Rivergate Policy Area should not provide any significant increase in the overall amount of Class 1 floorspace than exists now within the centre.
51. The GVA Peterborough Retail Study Update, 2013, (CD049) recommends (at paragraph 7.36) removing the part of the Rivergate Centre which is to the south of Bourges Boulevard from the Primary Shopping Frontage, as it does not form part of the core retail attraction in Peterborough. Though it is part of the Council's evidence base, the Retail Study has not been formally adopted by the Council. Although there is no dispute that the centre is not a primary shopping frontage, it nonetheless remains part of the city centre Primary Shopping Area, as defined by CS policy CS15 and shown on Inset 2 of the Council's Adopted Policies Map. Policy CC5 provides flexibility to widen the mix of uses within this part of the Primary Shopping Area, and to improve links through the area and its relationship to the river frontage.
52. There could be some short-term merit in the contention that a restriction on the quantum of retail floorspace within the Rivergate Shopping Area might help to strengthen the vitality of the Queensgate Shopping Area. However, in the longer-term, a shortage of retail floorspace in the Primary Shopping Area could increase pressure for further out-of-centre retail developments to the detriment of the vitality of the city centre as a whole. The representor's requested addition to policy CC5 is not, therefore necessary for the CCP to be effective.

Boongate Policy area

53. In the Boongate Policy Area policy CC9 allows for residential development at the Dickens Street (site ref CC9.1) and the Wellington Street (site ref CC9.2) car parks in order to create a more attractive gateway to the eastern edge of the city centre. A representor contends that the area is suitable for a range of town centre uses, and seeks a modification to reflect this, subject to compliance with relevant development plan policies.
54. The Boongate Policy Area is beyond the City Core Policy Area, and well beyond the Primary Shopping Area. Town centre uses would, therefore, conflict with the plan's objective of strengthening the city centre as a regional shopping destination, and with policy CC2, which addresses the extent of the Primary Shopping Area and the Primary Retail Frontages. In the absence of detailed submissions, it has not been demonstrated that the representor's proposed change is necessary for the plan to be effective.

City Core Policy Area

North Westgate Opportunity Area

55. The North Westgate Opportunity Area (Site ref CC3.5) is within the city core area. CCP policy CC3 provides for comprehensive mixed use redevelopment including retail, housing office and leisure uses. It is contended that the policy should be amended to allow the implementation of the development to be delivered in phases. There is, however, no conflict between the requirement for a comprehensive scheme to be agreed and its phased delivery. It has not been demonstrated that a MM is necessary for the plan to be effective in relation to the redevelopment of the North Westgate Opportunity Area.

Conclusion on Issue 3

56. The policies and proposals in the CCP are consistent with its objectives of strengthening retail and town centre activities. I am satisfied that they are realistic, positively prepared and otherwise sound.

Issue 4 – Whether the CCP is sound in relation to car parking in the city core area

57. The Car Parking Strategy for the area is set out in the Peterborough Long Term Transport Strategy and Local Transport Plan 3 (LTP), 2011-2016 (CD047). Within the city centre it includes discouraging long-term car parking, and working with partners to reduce the footprints of city centre car parks and, by so doing, make more land available for development.
58. It is contended by a representor that a balance needs to be struck between the Council's transport vision and the essential need for car parking to ensure the success of the retail core of the city. The representor proposes that the second paragraph of policy CC11 be amended to state that, in the city core, the provision of spaces as part of new development may require a planning obligation, rather than requiring an obligation to make an equivalent (or greater) reduction elsewhere.
59. The Council accepts that, given the necessary control over land which would be required, there are likely to be few circumstances in which a developer would be able to enter into a legal agreement to reduce the number of parking spaces on another site within the city core area. Nonetheless, though the scope to implement this part of policy CC11 may be limited, it is justified by the Council's adopted LTP. Furthermore, the Evidence Report (CD005) explains that the strategy is to consolidate rather than reduce the overall parking provision within the city centre, and to enhance the public realm. The CCP would be effective in delivering greater priority to pedestrians and cyclists, and in supporting the vitality and viability of the centre.

Conclusion on Issue 4

60. I am satisfied that the CCP is positively prepared, justified and otherwise sound in relation to car parking proposals within the city core area.

Issue 5 – Whether the CCP is sound in relation to Drainage and Flood Risk

61. The capacity of the drainage network is limited in the city centre, particularly the City Core and the Railway Station Policy Areas, due to the use of combined foul and surface water sewers. Paragraph 4.9.7 of the CCP refers to, and reiterates, the statement in the Council's Flood and Water Management SPD (CD038) that no new surface water connections to the combined or foul water systems will be permitted. The reference to the redevelopment sites such as the Hospital and Station Opportunity Area in paragraph 4.9.7 indicates that the restriction would apply to proposals for re-connections on existing developed sites as well as new connections, but this is not explicit.
62. The Council, therefore, accepts that in order to be effective, an additional sentence needs to be included after the third sentence of the paragraph to state that on such sites, re-connection of surface water to the combined sewer system will only be permitted if it is demonstrably the only practical solution. This is set out in **MM5**, and I agree that it is necessary for the plan to be effective in preventing any re-connection of surface water drainage to the combined sewer system, except where no other practical arrangement could be made.
63. Representors submitted that, in addition to MM5, changes should be made to policy CC1, which addresses the presumption in favour of sustainable development, and to policies CC3 and CC4, which set out the detailed policies for the areas where the combined sewers mainly exist. This would repeat both the text of the CCP and the SPD, and is not necessary. However, the Council accepts that, in the interests of effectiveness of the CCP, **MM6 and MM7** are necessary to cross reference these policies to paragraph 4.9.7 of the plan. I agree that the additional clarity arising from these MMs is necessary for the CCP to be effective.

Conclusion on Issue 5

64. The drainage and flood risk policies and proposals in the CCP are positively prepared. Subject to MM5, MM6 and MM7, explained above, I am satisfied that the CCP is sound in relation to drainage and flood risk.

Other matters

65. It is not necessary for the CS policies relating to, among other things, community involvement, biodiversity and nature conservation to be repeated in the CCP as planning proposals are required to be considered in the context of all the development plan policies for the area.
66. A concern has been raised that the City Market Traders have not been invited, engaged, nor informed about any consultation as to whether the City market is to remain at Laxton Square, or be re-located. Policy CC3 of the CCP states that the Council will support proposals to improve the market or, if necessary, work with market traders to identify a new location. The plan, therefore, accords with the aspirations of the City Market Traders to maintain a vibrant market and makes provision for consultation to take place in the future. It has not been shown that the plan has failed to be legally compliant or is unsound.

67. It is contended that the CCP is not legally compliant because it does not provide information concerning access to the documents in other formats. This matter is, however, addressed in the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). This explains that the Council is happy to make any document available in large type or to record its contents on to a CD, or to meet with any blind or partially sighted person to explain the content of any letter, notice or document. While including, or referring to, this information within the CCP would have been a comprehensive approach, it is not necessary since the SCI supports not only the preparation of the CCP, but explains how the Council will involve the community in the preparation of its Local Development Framework, Neighbourhood Planning and development control activities. Consequently, I am satisfied that the approach taken by the Council is not prejudicial to complying with its Public Sector Equality Duty.
68. English Heritage recommends that amendments are made to the description of the listed buildings and heritage assets in the Station East Opportunity Area. While this would add clarification to the plan, there is no contention that this goes to its soundness, and it is not a matter requiring a MM.
69. It has been submitted that the Implementation section of the CCP should state that no development should come into use until water and sewerage infrastructure is in place. However, CS policy CS12 provides that planning permission will only be granted if it can be demonstrated that there is or will be sufficient infrastructure capacity to support and meet all its requirements. CS policy 13 addresses developer contributions including those for necessary infrastructure. Furthermore, section 4.9 of the CCP emphasises the importance managing drainage and flood risk, and paragraph 7.1.5 sets out the mechanisms available for requiring the delivery of infrastructure. No further MM is necessary to address the effectiveness of the CCP in relation to water and sewerage infrastructure.
70. A representor has raised concerns regarding the retention of the Broadway Theatre. The building was vacant at the time of the hearing, and no proposals for its future were brought to my attention. However, as CCP policy CC10 does not propose the redevelopment of the building or preclude its retention, and does not affect the soundness of the CCP.
71. CCP policy CC7 for the Riverside North Policy Area provides that the area will remain predominantly open for social, recreational, leisure and cultural uses, while providing for up to 25 dwellings. The policy requires that any built development will include provision for a new swimming pool and other sports facilities. A representor contends that the policy should be more specific regarding the formal sports facilities to be provided. However, as the policy does not indicate the facilities should be for formal sport, no MM is necessary in this regard.
72. Representations made to, and considered by, the Council at earlier stages of the preparation of the CCP are not matters for my consideration, as my examination relates solely to the soundness of the CCP as submitted.

Implementation and monitoring

73. The implementation of the proposals in the CCP will further transform the city

centre, where widespread improvements are already in progress. It will be dependent on the provision of infrastructure including roads, school, water and electricity capacity.

74. The use of Supplementary Planning Documents, Development Briefs and S106 legal agreements and undertakings will be used to guide and control the proposals in the CCP. The delivery of the proposals will involve land holdings in the Council's portfolio and assets held by other organisations and businesses. However, the Council's investment fund and proposed joint ventures will assist in the implementation of the plan.
75. The key responsibilities, monitoring indicators and target for the strategy and the policy areas in the CCP are stated. These relates to the indicators and policies in the CS and the PPP. The risks are also identified.
76. These provisions for the monitoring and implementation of the CCP are clear, appropriate and sound.

Assessment of Legal Compliance

77. My examination of the compliance of the Plan with the legal requirements is summarised in the table below. I conclude that the Plan meets them all.

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS	
Local Development Scheme (LDS)	The City Centre Plan is identified within the approved LDS dated April 2012 (CD033), which sets out an expected adoption date of December 2014. The City Plan's content and timing are compliant with the LDS.
Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) and relevant regulations	The SCI (CD034) was adopted in November 2012 and consultation has been compliant with the requirements therein, including the consultation on the post-submission proposed 'main modification' changes (MM)
Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	The SA has been carried out and is adequate.
Appropriate Assessment (AA)	The Habitats Regulations AA Screening Report (January 2014), CD003, sets out why AA is not necessary.
National Policy	The City Centre Plan complies with national policy except where indicated and modifications are recommended.
Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS)	Satisfactory regard has been paid to the SCS.
Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED)	The Peterborough City Centre DPD complies with the Duty, which has been addressed in the Council's assessment dated January 2014.
2004 Act (as amended) and 2012 Regulations.	The Peterborough City Centre DPD complies with the Act and the Regulations.

Overall Conclusion and Recommendation

- 78. The Plan has a number of deficiencies in relation to soundness and/or legal compliance for the reasons set out above which mean that I recommend non-adoption of it as submitted, in accordance with Section 20(7A) of the Act. These deficiencies have been explored in the main issues set out above.**
- 79. The Council has requested that I recommend main modifications to make the Plan sound and/or legally compliant and capable of adoption. I conclude that with the recommended main modifications set out in the Appendix the Peterborough City Centre Development Plan Document satisfies the requirements of Section 20(5) of the 2004 Act and meets the criteria for soundness in the National Planning Policy Framework.**

CA Newmarch

Inspector

This report is accompanied by the Appendix containing the Main Modifications

Appendix – Main Modifications

The modifications below are expressed either in the conventional form of ~~strikethrough~~ for deletions and underlining for additions of text, or by specifying the modification in words in *italics*.

The page numbers and paragraph numbering below refer to the submission local plan, and do not take account of the deletion or addition of text.

Ref	Page	Policy/ Paragraph	Main Modification
MM1	9	Paragraph 3.1.1, bullet point 3	Those buildings and places that we love <u>are important</u> for their heritage value, for nature conservation, or simply for their sense of place, will be conserved and enhanced.
MM2	24	Paragraph 4.7.12	In this respect, when considering development proposals within the city centre, careful consideration will be given to the impact that their height, scale and massing would have on strategically important views of the Cathedral, particularly those from key transport corridors and key open spaces <u>such as</u> (e.g. the Embankment and Stanley Recreation Ground) . <u>Where specific requirements are necessary to protect views of the Cathedral these are included in the relevant policy for that area. Applicants are encouraged to discuss their proposals with the Council at the earliest opportunity if there is any potential that the proposal may impact on, or give rise to opportunities for improved, Cathedral views.</u>
MM3	32	Policy CC3, Site Reference CC3.4	Wheel Yard (to be delivered in accordance with an agreed development brief <u>that covers, amongst other matters, the height and scale of any development and the setting of the Cathedral and Precincts</u>).
MM4	39	Paragraph 5.5.4	This area also contains a variety of uses including the Peterborough United Football Ground, Pleasure Fair Meadow car park, community allotments <u>(an area registered as a community asset)</u> and Railworld land either side of the river.
MM5	27	4.9.7	<i>After the third sentence of paragraph 4.9.7 insert</i> <u>On such sites, re-connection of surface water to the combined sewer system will only be permitted if it is demonstrably the only practical solution.</u>

Ref	Page	Policy/ Paragraph	Main Modification
MM6	32	Policy CC3	<p><i>Following the bullet points providing criteria for new development, insert</i> <u>Due to the sensitivities in this area, particular scrutiny will be given to the sustainability of the area with regard to drainage and surface water flood risk (see section 4.9 for further details).</u></p>
MM7	36	Policy CC4, paragraph 3	<p><i>Delete</i> All development must ensure sustainability of the area with regard to on-site drainage and surface water flood risk <i>Insert</i> <u>Due to the sensitivities in this area, particular scrutiny will be given to the sustainability of the area with regard to drainage and surface water flood risk (see section 4.9 for further details).</u></p>
MM8	30	Paragraph 5.2.5 Final sentence	<p>This will be explored through a future development brief or SPD for the <u>Northminster Opportunity Area area</u>.</p>
MM9	36	Policy CC4, paragraph 4	<p>Development proposals for the Hospital Opportunity Area should be <u>informed by</u>, and be in general conformity with, the adopted Peterborough District Hospital Site SPD, <u>unless a requirement within it has been superseded by a subsequent Local Plan Policy or national policy</u>. Any significant deviations away from the SPD should be justified with any <u>planning application</u>.</p>

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Peterborough Local Development Framework

Peterborough City Centre Development Plan Document

**Recommended to Cabinet - 24 November 2014
Recommended to Council - 17 December 2014**

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This is the adopted version of the Peterborough City Centre Development Plan Document.

It was adopted by resolution of Peterborough City Council, in accordance with the provisions of section 23 (5) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, on X

Preface

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1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1** Peterborough city centre is set for widespread improvements, growth and regeneration. The Peterborough City Centre Development Plan Document (DPD), also referred to as the City Centre Plan, sets out the council's long-term vision and objectives for the city centre; it sets out the policies and proposals that will help direct how new development and regeneration will be achieved and how the council's vision for the city centre will be met.
- 1.1.2** This document forms part of the council's statutory development plan and sits alongside the adopted Peterborough Core Strategy (2011) and other adopted development plan documents. It will be used to promote and coordinate investment, and to help reach decisions on planning applications within the city centre.

What area is the "City Centre"?

- 1.1.3** The area forming the city centre and covered by this plan is shown on Map A. The city centre extends from the former District Hospital site in the west to Fengate in the east. It includes the residential areas in the vicinity of Lincoln Road and Bright Street in the north and the Peterborough United football ground in the south, as well as the principal shopping, office and entertainment areas and Cathedral Precincts in the very centre.

The City Centre Plan

- 1.1.4** The Plan starts by identifying issues and then presents the overall vision and objectives for the city centre. Chapter 4 then sets out an overall city centre strategy, with a focus on a number of issues such as shopping, housing, employment and the historic environment, which apply across the city centre.
- 1.1.5** The city centre area is then divided into eight "Policy Areas"; each one has its own policy setting out the vision, potential development opportunities and planning requirements for the area. They identify land available for new development and, in some cases, "Opportunity Areas" where there is real scope for transformation of the area through some form of comprehensive redevelopment. The eight Policy Areas are shown on Map B.



Introduction

City Centre Issues

- 1.1.6** Peterborough city centre is a successful, lively and diverse place with many positive attributes. It is a major focus in the region for shopping, leisure and employment opportunities, attracting visitors from an extensive catchment area. Peterborough has a strong historic environment and cultural heritage and at the heart of the city centre lie the cathedral, many other important listed buildings and heritage assets.
- 1.1.7** To ensure the continued success of the city centre, the following issues are addressed through this Plan.

City Centre Issues

Issue 1: Low levels of housing - Currently the city centre has relatively few houses and flats, resulting in a low city centre population, which results in an area that is not well used once the shops and offices have closed.

Issue 2: Cultural offer - The cultural offer is not fully developed and there is a significant opportunity to attract visitors into the city centre, particularly in the evening.

Issue 3: Declining retail ranking - Although the city centre has a wide-ranging retail offer, until very recently there had been relatively little investment in new retail development for many years. As a result, Peterborough's retail ranking has declined in the face of competition from other retail centres, other cities and internet shopping.

Issue 4: Lack of high quality office development - There has been little new office development in the city centre for many years. The city centre has not been able to successfully compete for investment with business parks located on the edge of the city.

Issue 5: Limited evening economy - The evening economy has improved in the last few years with new restaurants, particularly around Cathedral Square and linked to the wider public realm improvements. However, this is still a limited offer when compared to other towns and cities of a similar size.

Issue 6: River Nene - The River Nene is one of the city's most important assets but it currently fails to maximise its potential for leisure and is poorly connected to other parts of the city centre.

Issue 7: Access and movement - The transport network in and around the city centre currently prioritises accessibility by car at the expense of pedestrians and cyclists. For example, Bourges Boulevard acts as a barrier to easy and attractive movement for pedestrians seeking to make their way between key locations.

Issue 8: Drainage networks - Capacity in some sections of the city centre's network is currently limited due to the use of combined (foul and surface water) sewers. There is a need to improve this situation and ensure long term resilience of the city centre against heavy rainfall and flood events.

- 1.1.8** This Plan aims to address these issues by promoting land uses that support businesses and shops, whilst creating new residential neighbourhoods that benefit from a diverse mix of uses, cultural activity and amenities that are available throughout the day and evening. Ensuring people are living within, and using the city centre at all times of the day will enhance the safety of city centre users and provide an attractive and vibrant location.

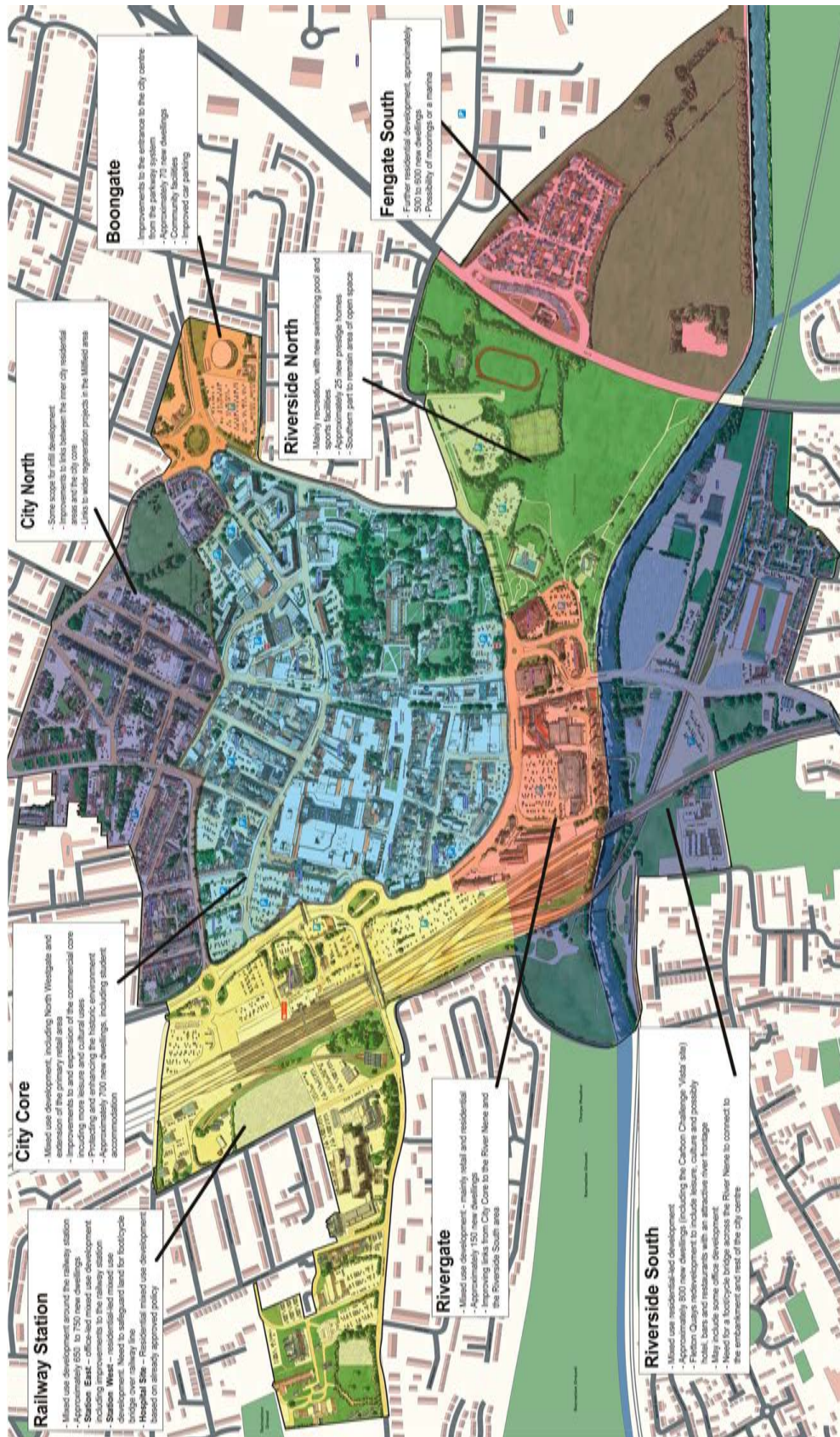
2.1 Summary Maps

Map A: City Centre Plan Area



Summary Maps

Map B: Summary of Policy Areas



City Centre Vision and Objectives

3.1 Our Vision for the Future of Peterborough City Centre

3.1.1 This chapter sets out the overall vision for Peterborough city centre in 2026. It also includes a number of key objectives which will help in achieving this vision.



Our Vision for the Future of Peterborough City Centre

By 2026 Peterborough city centre will have become an even more attractive, vibrant and distinctive place to visit, work and live, with a greater range of attractions and facilities.

- **Peterborough City Centre will have regained its position as a top retail centre and will be a strong regional destination for shopping, leisure, culture, business and entertainment throughout the day and evening.**
- **It will be easy to walk and cycle around the city centre with improved connections to the river and railway station along pleasant, safe streets and paths.**
- **Those buildings and places that are important for their heritage value, for nature conservation, or simply for their sense of place, will be conserved and enhanced.**
- **The city centre will include a thriving riverside setting with bars, restaurants and housing, with continuous riverside walks, an improved river environment and an iconic pedestrian and cycle bridge across the river to the Embankment.**
- **The city centre will be the centrepiece of an exemplary "environment capital". New development will embrace sustainability principles in key areas such as travel options, use of technology, the management of surface water and river environments, energy use and resource efficiency.**
- **The city centre will include new high-quality housing, offering a sought after place in which to live that meets 21st Century lifestyles.**

City Centre Vision and Objectives

Objectives

3.1.2 The following objectives will help to deliver the vision for the city centre. The table shows the fit with the objectives of the Peterborough Core Strategy, to demonstrate the consistency between the two documents.

Table 1: Objectives

Objective ref	Objective	Link with Core Strategy objectives
1 - Shopping	To strengthen Peterborough city centre as a regional shopping destination, maintaining and improving its position within the top 50 retail centres in the UK.	OB13
2 - Culture, Leisure and Tourism	To enhance the city centre as a hub for culture, tourism and leisure, complementing other land uses throughout the day and evening.	OB13, OB21, OB22, OB23
3 - Economic Prosperity	To enhance Peterborough as a location for business and skills, providing the facilities and setting for a range of businesses from start-ups to multi-nationals, with a particular emphasis on the environmental sector.	OB10, OB11, OB12, OB13
4 - Mixed Uses	To deliver a sustainable mix of complementary uses, which ensure vibrancy at different times of day, boost the night-time economy and assist in reducing travel demands. Uses must include residential (including affordable housing), retail, businesses, cultural and leisure facilities.	OB6, OB7, OB8, OB13, OB18
5 - Design Quality	To secure development with high standards of urban design and ensure that design issues are fully considered from inception to completion.	OB9, OB13, OB25, OB26
6 - Health, Safety and Wellbeing	To encourage opportunities to facilitate healthy and active lifestyles, with plentiful opportunities for people to walk, cycle or play in the open air and participate in indoor sports; and to create environments where people feel secure and their safety is not compromised.	OB5, OB13, OB16, OB22, OB26
7 - Environment Capital, Sustainability, and Climate Change	To contribute to Peterborough's ambition to create the UK's "Environment Capital", with new development striving to be as environmentally, socially and economically sustainable as practically possible and addressing or adapting to issues presented by climate change.	OB2, OB13, OB19, OB20, OB24
8 - Local Distinctiveness	To promote the distinct urban character of the city centre, including the protection and enhancement of the natural, archaeological and historic environment.	OB3, OB13, OB20
9 - Accessibility and Connectivity	To reduce, where possible, the need to travel (particularly by private cars), maximising the potential of sustainable transport modes; to enhance connectivity within the city centre	OB13, OB15, OB16, OB17

City Centre Vision and Objectives

Objective ref	Objective	Link with Core Strategy objectives
	(particularly to the River Nene and railway station) and to adjoining areas; and to ensure equality of access for all city centre users.	
10 - Delivery	To ensure all proposals are capable of being deliverable, including provision of appropriate utilities and taking account of flood risk issues.	OB1, OB13, OB27, OB28, OB29

3.1.3 Of the 29 Core Strategy objectives, 28 are listed above alongside a comparable objective for this City Centre Plan. The remaining Core Strategy objective not listed is OB14 which relates to district centres, and is therefore not applicable to the city centre.

City Centre Vision and Objectives

4.1 City Centre Strategy

4.1.1 The overall strategy for the city centre is to encourage and enable new development that will maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of the centre, whilst preserving and enhancing the quality of the local environment. This will undoubtedly involve changes: widening the retail, leisure, tourism and cultural offer, creating new jobs, making the best use of land that is currently vacant or underused and improving the experience and convenience for pedestrians and cyclists.

4.1.2 This chapter addresses the key features of this strategy via a number of topic areas:

- Sustainable Development
- Retail
- Economy and Employment
- Housing
- Leisure, Culture and Tourism
- Townscape and Heritage
- Green Spaces and the River Nene
- Drainage and Flood Risk

4.1.3 As transport issues are of such critical importance to the future of the city centre, they are addressed through a separate chapter of the Plan (chapter 6).



City Centre Strategy

4.2 Sustainable Development

4.2.1 Peterborough has the ambition to create the UK's "Environment Capital". Policy CS10 of the Peterborough Core Strategy states that development proposals will only be supported where they make a clear contribution to this aspiration. The City Centre Plan can assist through the promotion of sustainable growth in the city centre and, particularly as part of the new development proposed for the Opportunity Areas, by creating cleaner, greener, healthier and more vibrant places to live, work and visit. Such an approach fits well with the overarching national policy in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) towards sustainable development.

Policy CC1

Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development

Development in the city centre should contribute to Peterborough's ambition to create the Environment Capital of the UK including, where appropriate, taking steps to address the following principles of sustainable development:

- Achieving a mix of land uses
- Adopting best practice in design and construction standards
- Protecting and enhancing the existing environment
- Promoting sustainable modes of transport and reducing the need to travel
- Supporting the creation of jobs
- Contributing to healthy lifestyles

When considering development proposals in the city centre, the council will take a positive approach that reflects the presumption in favour of sustainable development contained in the National Planning Policy Framework. It will seek to work proactively with developers and investors to find solutions which mean that proposals can be approved wherever possible, and to secure development that improves the economic, social and environmental conditions in the area.

Planning applications that accord with the policies in this Local Plan and other development plan documents in the Peterborough Local Development Framework (and, where relevant, with policies in neighbourhood plans) will be approved without delay, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.



City Centre Strategy

- 4.2.2** The requirements of policy CC1 can also be met by taking into account Core Strategy policy CS16 (Urban Design and the Public Realm) and Policy PP2 (Design Quality) of the Planning Policies DPD, which set out the broad principles required to secure the highest design standards and quality in new development. This will ensure the delivery of attractive, lively, distinctive, safe, healthy and sustainable communities.
- 4.2.3** For the city centre, it is expected that urban design principles included in policies CS16 and PP2 could be supported by further documents such as design briefs or codes that will provide more detailed design guidance for Opportunity Areas or particular sites.

City Centre Strategy

4.3 Retail

- 4.3.1** For many people, the primary role of the city centre is that of a destination for shopping. It provides the greatest retail offer in the city, serving not only the residents of Peterborough but also those of surrounding villages and market towns well beyond the local authority boundary. Peterborough has an extensive range of well known “high street” shops. The Queensgate and Rivergate Shopping Centres are linked by a network of streets and public spaces, with an offer that includes a wide variety of cafes, restaurants, bars and financial and property outlets as well as retail shops and a market.
- 4.3.2** However, in recent years the city centre has experienced a decline in its overall retail ranking when compared to other towns and cities. Competition from internet shopping, out-of-town retail parks and neighbouring cities has reduced some of the trade that might otherwise have come to the city centre and there is an urgent need to extend and enhance the retail offer.
- 4.3.3** Until very recently there had been little investment in the heart of the retail area, but this is changing with improvements to the public realm around Cathedral Square, Bridge Street, Cowgate and King Street which have attracted new retailers, restaurants and bars to this part of the city. Extensions to the Queensgate Shopping Centre have accommodated national retail and restaurant operators.



- 4.3.4** Our strategy is to continue the focus of new investment into the heart of the centre, with the emphasis largely on consolidation within the existing shopping area. It is important that new retail developments complement and strengthen the main shopping area, which is defined as the Primary Shopping Area (PSA) in accordance with policies CS4 (The City Centre) and CS15 (Retail) of the Core Strategy.
- 4.3.5** The Primary Shopping Area, as shown on the Policies Map, includes the Queensgate Shopping Centre, the principal shopping streets around Westgate, Long Causeway, the Market and Bridge Street, extending south of Bourges Boulevard and into the Rivergate Shopping Centre

City Centre Strategy

and adjoining supermarket. The defined Area offers scope for physical expansion into the North Westgate Opportunity Area, as well as scope for intensification where there are existing unused or underused premises.

- 4.3.6** The main shopping streets which attract the largest footfall and act as linkages to other areas of the centre are defined as Primary Retail Frontages. In order to protect their function and character, premises in these streets will remain primarily in A1 and A3 use except where an alternative use would provide an active street frontage and maintain or enhance the vitality and viability of the area.

Policy CC2

Retail

The extent of the City Centre Primary Shopping Area and Primary Retail Frontages are defined on the Policies Map.

Proposals for retail development inside or outside the Primary Shopping Area will be determined in accordance with policies CS4 and CS15 of the Peterborough Core Strategy DPD.

Within the Primary Retail Frontages, development for uses within classes A1 and A3 will, in principle, be acceptable; in particular, the council will support A3 uses (such as cafés and restaurants) around Cathedral Square. Development for any use outside classes A1 or A3 will only be acceptable if the development would maintain a built frontage with a window display, would be likely to maintain or increase pedestrian footfall along the frontage and would not result in a concentration of non-A1 or A3 uses in that location.

- 4.3.7** The references to 'Primary Retail Frontage' in policy CC2 apply to the ground floor of the frontages defined on the Policies Map, except in the Queensgate Centre, where Primary Retail Frontages exist at ground and first floor level. Elsewhere, the use of upper floors above shops for a wide variety of uses, whether retail or other, is encouraged. In particular, the council would welcome proposals that make use of vacant property above shops for residential use, as part of the overall objective to increase the number of dwellings in the city centre.
- 4.3.8** Outside the Primary Shopping Area, the council may be prepared to permit additional small-scale convenience retail provision to meet the needs of residents in new residential areas, as well as ancillary retail uses in the Station East Opportunity Area. Details are contained in each of the relevant Policy Area statements in chapter 5.
- 4.3.9** Core Strategy policy CS15 (Retail) identifies five Local Centres which are located in the City Centre Plan area. The boundaries of these are defined on the Policies Map.

City Centre Strategy

4.4 Economy and Employment

4.4.1 Peterborough has a diverse economy, with a range of businesses and types of employment opportunities. It is an overall objective for Peterborough to enhance the city as a prime location for business investment and skills development. The city centre will be the focus of this and the Plan has an important part to play by ensuring the provision of modern office space in the right location to encourage inward investment and enable the expansion of existing businesses.

4.4.2 The city centre already offers a wide range of office provision, including many large purpose-built offices, particularly located in the Northminster area, as well as small-scale offices such as those in converted premises in the Priestgate area.

4.4.3 However, the city centre office stock is generally ageing and some is of poor quality, with increasing vacancy rates. Over the last 15 years there has been little investment in new office development in the centre and this has made it difficult to compete with out of town business parks.

4.4.4 Policy CS3 of the Core Strategy (Location of Employment Development) provides for the equivalent of at least 3.5 hectares of new employment land to be made available in the city centre, as part of Peterborough's overall provision for new employment development. This area of land would be capable of delivering in the region of between 52,500 and 87,500 square metres gross floorspace for development within the B1 use class (primarily offices), depending on the average plot ratio that might be achieved.



4.4.5 It is expected that the majority of new office development will take place through the comprehensive redevelopment of the Opportunity Areas, particularly the Station East Opportunity Area. The policies for each Policy Area (see chapter 5) identify suitable locations for new office and business development.

4.5 Housing

- 4.5.1** There are a number of existing residential areas in the city centre with a predominance of flats and apartments. However, when compared to other towns and cities of a similar size and scale, Peterborough has relatively few properties in the city centre, and particularly in the city core.
- 4.5.2** A key element of the strategy for the city centre, linked to the wider Core Strategy growth ambition, is to increase the number of homes in the city centre to help improve activity outside normal shopping and working hours.
- 4.5.3** There are already two new schemes under construction: the Carbon Challenge site, off London Road (295 dwellings), and at Potters Way, Fengate (272 dwellings); and there are further opportunities to significantly increase the number of dwellings. This will take place through the comprehensive regeneration of several large areas of vacant and underused land, such as land around the railway station and south of the River Nene, as well as through incremental change throughout the next fifteen years and beyond. Each Policy Area identifies suitable areas for new housing development, sometimes as part of a mix of other uses.
- 4.5.4** New housing development within the city centre will be encouraged to provide a mix of housing types and sizes, including affordable housing, in accordance with Core Strategy policy CS8 (Meeting Housing Needs), although care will be taken to ensure a balanced housing offer taking into account the existing tenure mix of a particular area.



City Centre Strategy

Student Accommodation

4.5.5 The University Centre Peterborough (UCP), part of Anglia Ruskin University, formally opened in 2009, offering 30 degree courses for approximately 600 students. The University will expand over the next 15 years and the number of students living and studying in Peterborough is expected to increase. Therefore, there is a need to provide student accommodation, much of which could be in the city centre.

4.5.6 Student accommodation can be provided by the private rented sector (and accredited landlords) as well as being purpose built. The council will support the provision of student accommodation in the city centre and particularly within the Northminster area, as city centre sites are sustainable locations, providing easy access to the campus buildings. This will help to achieve the objective of increasing the city centre population.

The Scale of new Residential Development

4.5.7 The Peterborough Core Strategy anticipates the provision of approximately 4,300 additional dwellings in the city centre over the period from 2009 to 2026. Appendix C updates this figure and shows how sites allocated in this Plan will contribute towards meeting the Core Strategy dwelling requirements for Peterborough as a whole.

4.5.8 The following table presents the approximate number of dwellings that are planned from each Policy Area. Further details of the available sites and areas proposed for new housing development are included in the policies for each Policy Area (see chapter 5) and there is an explanation of the assumptions behind the table in Appendix C.

Table 2: Scale of Residential Development

Policy Area	Committed at 1 April 2013	New Allocations	Opportunity Areas	Total
City Core	84	120 - 125	500	704 - 709
Railway Station	0	0	650 - 750	650 - 750
Rivergate	0	100	0	100
Riverside South	251	175	400	826
Riverside North	0	25	0	25
Fengate South	210	300 - 400	0	510 - 610
Boongate	0	70	0	70
City North	19	0	0	19
Total	564	790 - 895	1550 - 1650	2904 - 3109

4.6 Leisure, Culture and Tourism

- 4.6.1** The overall vision for the City Centre Plan is to create an attractive, vibrant and distinctive place to visit, work and live with a greater range of attractions and facilities. The provision of cultural, leisure and tourism facilities can have a major part to play in delivering this vision, as successful cities usually have strong cultural and leisure offerings.
- 4.6.2** Peterborough city centre has a rich and diverse heritage and currently provides a wide range of cultural and leisure facilities which attract many visitors to the city centre and help to boost the wider economy. Some of the main attraction include: the Cathedral, Peterborough Museum, Key Theatre, Regional Pool, Lido and sports facilities, Peterborough United's football ground and a range of restaurants, bars and night clubs.
- 4.6.3** In recent years there has been investment in the Museum and Art Gallery as well an extension and improvements to the Key Theatre. The enhancement of the public realm around Cathedral Square has also helped to improve the overall image of the city for visitors and the increased range of restaurants in this area have helped to make the city centre more vibrant and inviting.
- 4.6.4** However, despite the existing range, the recent improvements and investment, there is still a need for the city centre to expand its cultural offer. Firstly, more needs to be made of the existing assets such as the river and the embankment and the range of festivals and open air concerts held there. Secondly, there is a need to attract new facilities such as new built leisure uses, particularly a centrally located cinema and more bars and restaurants.
- 4.6.5** The city centre also provides an ideal location to establish a new Bronze Age museum to display the internationally significant collection of boats found at Must Farm, along with other items relating to Peterborough's Bronze Age history. The council will work with Vivacity (the organisation responsible for managing many of Peterborough's cultural and leisure facilities on behalf of the council) to identify a suitable location.
- 4.6.6** The provision of new cultural, leisure and tourism facilities will be delivered in accordance with Core Strategy policies CS4 (The City Centre) and CS18 (Culture, Leisure and Tourism) and relevant policies within this plan. Policy CS18 specifically states that new cultural and leisure facilities in the city centre should:
- Make the most of existing facilities
 - Aim to promote a flexible multi-use arena which is suitable for hosting a range of events
 - Improve the evening economy.
- 4.6.7** Peterborough's Cultural Strategy sets out how culture and leisure activities will be promoted and delivered in the city. It also includes the vision "To ensure that culture is at the heart of the city's growth so that those who live here now and in the future will enjoy a great place to live, work and play".
- 4.6.8** Culture and leisure uses are defined as main town centre uses through the NPPF and therefore the city centre should be the first choice and focus for such uses. The Plan identifies suitable areas for future culture and leisure uses as part of wider mixed-use developments. Chapter 5 includes policies for the eight Policy Areas and, where relevant, these include requirements for cultural and leisure uses to help deliver the overall vision for the city centre. In summary, the main areas for these uses are:
- **The City Core Policy Area** is seen as the heart of the city. Cathedral Square and surrounding streets will be a focus for bars and restaurants, and the square will be used for events and performances throughout the year. The North Westgate Opportunity Area has been identified for a mixed-used development, including retail and leisure uses.

City Centre Strategy

The Northminster Opportunity Area currently includes a number of bars, clubs and leisure buildings. It is seen as a main area for the night time economy; this will be enhanced through incremental development proposed within this area, and by making more of the links with Stanley Recreation Ground.

- **The Riverside South Policy Area** includes existing cultural and leisure facilities such as the Peterborough United football ground which attracts many visitors to the city centre on match days. There are plans to redevelop the stadium to an all-seater venue. The Policy Area also includes the Railworld visitor attraction.

Policy CC6 identifies the Fletton Quays Opportunity Area, which is proposed as a mixed-use area, including cultural and leisure uses. It will include a riverside walk with bars and cafes. A bridge linking to the Riverside North Policy Area offers the opportunity to create a cultural quarter. This Policy Area could be a suitable location for premises to display the Must Farm boats. This Opportunity Area may also include a hotel.
- **The Riverside North Policy Area** is currently a prominent area for leisure and culture, with the Key Theatre, Lido and other sports facilities (including the athletics track). The embankment also provides an important area of open space which is used to host festivals, concerts and the fair.

The River Nene is an important asset for the city centre which must be enhanced. The council will support improved access and facilities for angling and boating including the provision of new moorings to help boost tourism; this is discussed in more detail in section 4.8.

Policy CC7 sets out proposals for the expansion of the leisure, cultural and sports facilities for this area.

4.6.9 Over the next 15 years there are a number of projects that will help to improve and enhance the city's cultural and leisure offer, with the potential to attract more visitors to the city. These could include the following:

- A new sports village and the redevelopment of the Regional Pool and sports facilities to possibly include a new 50 metre swimming pool.
- Creating a Cultural Quarter which straddles the Riverside North and Riverside South Policy Areas, incorporating the Key Theatre.
- The creation of a museum or exhibition centre for the Must Farm boats.
- Improved access to the river.
- A city centre cinema, helping to improve the evening economy.
- More pieces of public art, linked to wider plans for improving main streets and routes through the City Core.

4.7 Townscape and Heritage

- 4.7.1** Peterborough is a historic settlement, containing a wide range of historic buildings and archaeological assets; most notably, the Norman Cathedral and surrounding precincts and St John the Baptist Church.
- 4.7.2** Today's city centre lies at the heart of the city's historic core and includes parts of the original medieval town centre and street pattern. Although the centre has seen significant modern development over the last 30 years, many of the historic buildings and places remain. Therefore, it is important that during the next phase of growth, the historic environment is both protected and enhanced.



- 4.7.3** There are two conservation areas in the city centre, identified on the Policies Map. The City Centre Conservation Area covers the heart of the city centre and the vast majority falls within the City Core Policy Area. The Park Conservation Area falls partly within the City North Policy Area and extends northwards beyond the city centre boundary.
- 4.7.4** There are many buildings of heritage value, including over 100 listed buildings and 100 buildings of local importance. Again, the majority are located in the City Core Policy Area, with almost 50 protected buildings within the Cathedral Precincts alone.
- 4.7.5** Investigations carried out within the city centre, particularly excavations and recording prompted by the Public Realm works in Cathedral Square in 2008, has identified a series of archaeological remains dating from the creation of the market square in the 12th century through to the 19th century. The archaeological deposits and remains, where present, survive in good conditions of preservation. Therefore, development proposals in the city centre have to be carefully assessed in order to protect the buried heritage assets.
- 4.7.6** Policies CS16 and CS17 of the Core Strategy DPD and policy PP17 of the Planning Policies DPD set out the council's policy for urban design, the public realm, the historic environment and heritage assets. They apply throughout Peterborough and require high quality and inclusive design and the protection and enhancement of the city's historic assets, including listed buildings, conservation areas, scheduled monuments, historic parks and gardens, and locally designated assets. CS17 establishes a presumption against development that would unacceptably detract from critical views of Peterborough Cathedral by virtue of its height, location, bulk or design.
- 4.7.7** Policy PP11 of the Planning Policies DPD protects historic shop fronts and ensures replacement shop fronts are appropriate to the character of the historic building. Further guidance is available in the Peterborough Shop Front Design Guidance SPD (2013).

City Centre Strategy

4.7.8 These policies, along with the policies of this plan, form the basis for delivering the townscape and heritage strategy for the City Centre.



4.7.9 The strategy is to preserve and enhance the centre's heritage assets and their setting in a manner commensurate with their significance. There will be an emphasis on a high quality of design in all new development. The overall character and quality of the built environment of the city centre will continue to be improved through the implementation of the proposals set out in the council's Public Realm Strategy. Good quality, well designed new shop fronts and refurbishment of historic shop fronts, together with attractive street furniture, public art and green spaces all help to create a strong sense of place and a safe, welcoming environment.

4.7.10 Opportunities should be taken through the wider regeneration of the city centre to restore any heritage assets identified on the Heritage at Risk Register.

4.7.11 The plan proposes development on a significant scale over the next 15 years, with the potential for considerable changes to the townscape, including buildings with a 'city' scale and mass. Therefore, it will be important to ensure that the design of new developments responds with care and attention to the historic context and the setting of heritage assets, particularly the Cathedral.

4.7.12 In this respect, when considering development proposals within the city centre, careful consideration will be given to the impact that their height, scale and massing would have on strategically important views of the cathedral, particularly those from key transport corridors and key open spaces such as the Embankment and Stanley Recreation Ground. Where specific requirements are necessary to protect views of the Cathedral these are included in the relevant policy for that area. Applicants are encouraged to discuss their proposals with the Council at the earliest opportunity if there is any potential that the proposal may impact on, or give rise to opportunities for improved, Cathedral views.

4.8 Green Spaces and the River Nene

4.8.1 A key part of the strategy for the future of the city centre is the maintenance and improvement of green spaces and the River Nene for public enjoyment and the enhancement of the natural environment.

4.8.2 The city centre has a number of public green spaces which serve a variety of functions, ranging from places for relaxation and play to places for festivals and events. Of particular importance are:

- The Embankment
- The Cathedral Precincts
- Stanley Recreation Ground
- Bishops Road Gardens
- St John's Square



4.8.3 The Cathedral Precincts form a distinct and clearly defined area within the city centre and include large areas of green open space. Their heritage value is protected through their inclusion in English Heritage's Register of Historic Parks and Gardens, their designation as a scheduled monument and their inclusion within the City Centre Conservation Area, but their open space value needs to be acknowledged in its own right.

4.8.4 The council has taken steps to improve the availability of public open and green spaces through the recent creation of St John's Square, but our strategy is to secure further areas of green space as an integral part of new developments to meet the needs of future residents and other users of the city centre. These may include 'pocket' parks, gardens, terraces, squares, courtyards and green roofs, all in accordance with the open space standards set out in policy PP14 of the Planning Policies DPD. Wherever appropriate, the council will encourage new tree planting in accordance with the Peterborough Trees and Woodland Strategy.

City Centre Strategy

- 4.8.5** An improved natural habitat area, known as Embankment End Marsh, is being delivered as part of the Potters Way development within the Fengate South Policy Area.
- 4.8.6** Wherever possible, new and existing green spaces in the city centre should help to improve connectivity for pedestrians and function as part of the wider green grid network, providing access to, and linking habitats across, the Nene Valley and the open countryside.
- 4.8.7** Reconnecting the River Nene with the City Core, by improving the links for pedestrians and cyclists, and making the most of this important asset are also key elements of the strategy for the city centre. Riverside locations have the potential to create highly attractive settings for new development, but it is generally acknowledged that the potential of the river and surrounding area has not been fully exploited. Much of the development during the course of the 20th Century served to isolate the river front from the remainder of the city centre and, with the notable exception of the Key Theatre, there are few leisure uses that take advantage of the riverside.



- 4.8.8** The council's overall approach to the River Nene is presented in policy PP15 of the Planning Policies DPD. This addresses the Nene Valley as a whole, seeking to balance the competing pressures on the waterspace itself, the banks of the river and its townscape and landscape settings. Amongst other things, it supports development which would enhance recreation or bring landscape, nature conservation, heritage, cultural or amenity benefits. There is a significant opportunity for the river corridor to become a much improved environment that residents and visitors will enjoy and that provides higher quality habitats for wildlife in line with the Nene Valley Nature Improvement Area designation and the principles of the Peterborough Flood and Water Management SPD. Improved access and facilities for angling and boating, such as new and improved moorings, will also be sought in conjunction with environmental improvements as part of an integrated approach to the Nene. PP15 also seeks greater public access and the achievement of continuous publicly accessible paths and cycle routes alongside the river.
- 4.8.9** These matters are addressed in more detail in the relevant Policy Areas in chapter 5, particularly the Riverside South, Riverside North and Fengate South Policy Areas.

4.9 Drainage and Flood Risk

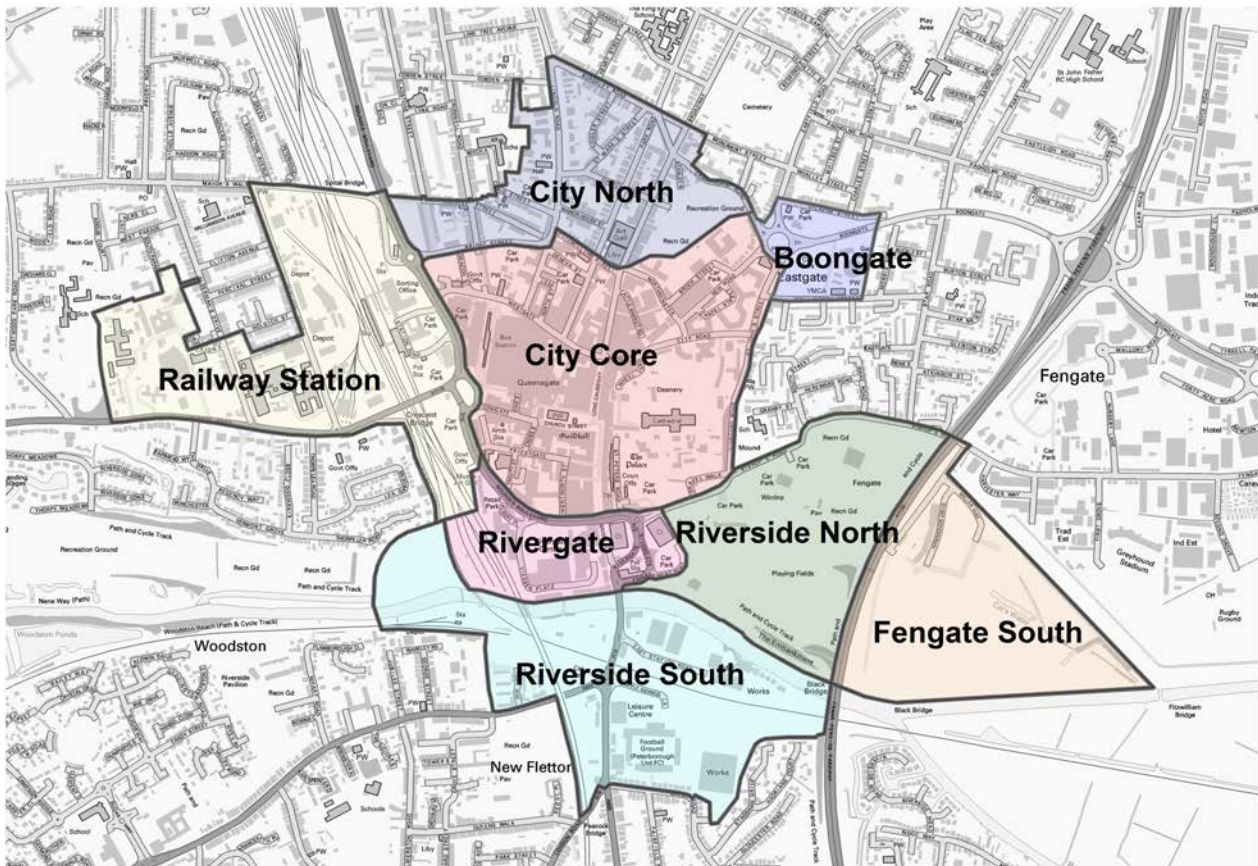
- 4.9.1** In the city centre, there are two main flood risk issues which the planned regeneration of a number of large brownfield sites offer an ideal opportunity to help address.
- 4.9.2** The first relates to the location of new development, as a number of development sites and Opportunity Areas are located along the banks of the River Nene and have site-specific flood risk issues. The second issue relates to increased surface water runoff in areas where there are drainage capacity issues, particularly in areas with combined foul and surface water sewers.
- 4.9.3** Core Strategy policy CS22 (Flood Risk) sets the overall policy approach for flood risk, which will also apply to development in the city centre. This policy is further supplemented by the Peterborough Flood and Water Management SPD, which provides advice and guidance to help reduce flood risk either through the location of development or through on-site drainage and management.
- 4.9.4** A sequential test has been carried out for all development sites and Opportunity Areas within the city centre, which has taken into account the outcomes of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (level 1 and 2) as required by policy CS22. However, a site-specific flood risk assessment will still be required for any sites located in flood zones 2 or 3 or in areas of special drainage interest, to demonstrate that development will be safe without increasing flood risk elsewhere. Any requirements for a site-specific flood risk assessment are set out in section 5, within the relevant policy, and chapter 4 of the Flood and Water Management SPD.
- 4.9.5** The design and layout of a site is also important and therefore a sequential approach should also be used to ensure that development with the highest vulnerability from flooding, such as housing, is located within areas of the site that are at lowest risk of flooding.
- 4.9.6** To ensure effective surface water management on site, open spaces and sustainable drainage systems must be built into designs at an early stage. Measures to control run off quality and quantity at source must be used. Management of surface water should produce multiple benefits for a site, by reducing flood risk and improving water quality as well as providing for amenity and biodiversity. Chapter 6 of the Flood and Water Management SPD provides further information.
- 4.9.7** The drainage network capacity in some areas of the city centre is currently limited due to the use of combined foul and surface water sewers. The Flood and Water Management SPD states that no new surface water connections to the combined sewer system will be permitted. On such sites, re-connection of surface water to the combined sewer system will only be permitted if it is demonstrably the only practical solution. This particularly applies to redevelopment sites such as the Hospital and Station Opportunity Areas, where surface water has historically drained into combined sewers. Section 6.9 of the SPD provides further information and explains how the priority should be for rainwater to discharge into the ground through soakaways and other infiltration systems, rather than into the sewer.
- 4.9.8** Management of water is important not only from a flood risk point of view but because of the need to improve the status of Peterborough's water bodies under the Water Framework Directive (WFD). Where new activities or schemes have the potential to cause deterioration and lead to failures in achieving ecological objectives, sites will require a WFD assessment. Chapter 8 of the SPD provides further detail on the local impacts of the WFD, the assessment and reasons for which it might be required.
- 4.9.9** By incorporating the flood and water mitigation and management measures into the development of Opportunity Areas or development sites within the city centre, the future impact of flood risk can be reduced for the benefit of all.

City Centre Strategy

5.1 Policy Areas

5.1.1 This chapter focuses specifically on individual parts of the city centre, with policies and proposals which set out what the council would expect to happen in each one. There are eight distinct Policy Areas; the location and name of each one is shown on the following map.

Map C: City Centre Policy Areas



5.1.2 Each area has its own policy with specific planning requirements for that particular area. Where appropriate, the policies identify Opportunity Areas, which are large areas of underused or vacant land that have the potential for comprehensive redevelopment.

5.1.3 Although each area has its own policy, any development should not take place in isolation, but as an element which contributes towards the wider success of the city centre. It is also important to improve the links between areas so that pedestrians, in particular, can make their way between different destinations safely and conveniently.

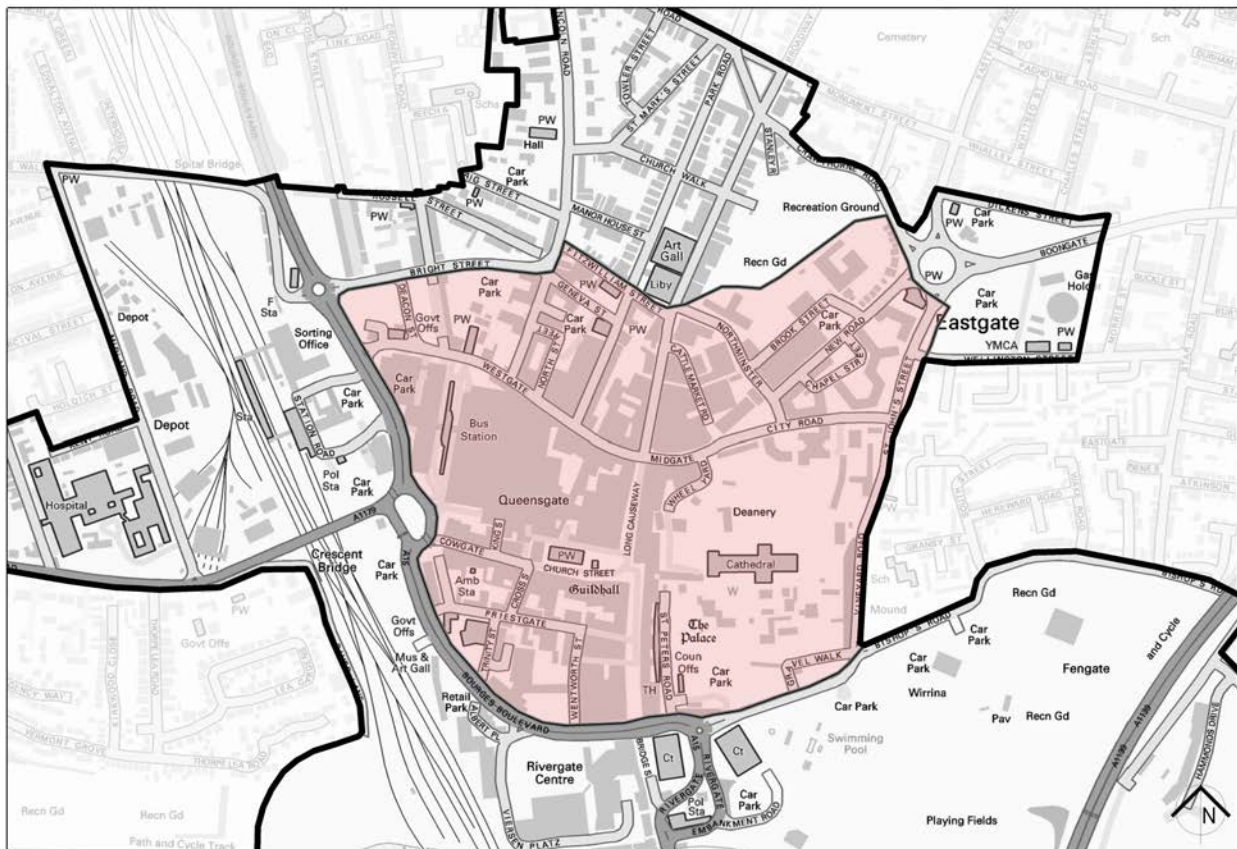
Policy Areas

5.2 City Core Policy Area

Description of the Area

- 5.2.1** This Policy Area is the heart of the city. It forms the established retail, commercial and civic focus, as well as the historic centre. It is the area most likely to attract visitors to the city. It is a special area which we should be very proud of, but there is always room for improvement.
- 5.2.2** The area forms the main shopping area. It includes the Queensgate shopping centre, and other shopping streets such as Bridge Street, Westgate, Long Causeway and Cowgate, as well as the Market. It will continue to be the primary focus for new retail development.
- 5.2.3** The City Core area has a street pattern which originates from medieval times, with many streets forming part of the City Centre or Park Conservation Areas. The Cathedral, Guildhall, St John's Church and the new public realm around the transformed Cathedral Square form the central focus point for the whole city.
- 5.2.4** To the north of the Cathedral is an area known as Northminster. This area includes offices, retail, a hotel, nightclubs and bars as well as the Market, with some temporary surface car parks. There are opportunities for redevelopment of individual sites to achieve more efficient use of land, and improve the setting of the Cathedral.
- 5.2.5** There may be opportunities to better reveal and connect the Cathedral with the City Core. This could include residential use adjoining the Cathedral Precincts, along City Road and Midgate. This will be explored through a future development brief or SPD for the Northminster Opportunity Area.
- 5.2.6** Towards the south-west is Priestgate, which contains many historic buildings. This area has a predominance of office use but also includes the Peterborough Museum and housing.
- 5.2.7** To the north, the area between Queensgate and Bright Street is currently an underused part of the city and it has been identified as the North Westgate Opportunity Area. There have been proposals in the past for substantial new retail-led developments, but changes in the nature of retailing and the wider economic context have meant that a more modest and mixed-use development solution is now more likely. It is proposed for redevelopment for a mix of uses, including retail, leisure, community and residential.
- 5.2.8** This Policy Area, and particularly the proposed North Westgate Opportunity Area, provides an important transition between the central commercial core and the inner city residential area to the north, which is characterised by comparatively high levels of deprivation and inequality. Development proposals here will have to be very carefully designed to better link these two areas, provide local commercial opportunities and avoid the scheme 'turning its back' on that adjacent residential community. It is anticipated that existing street patterns will be retained to maintain continuity. The council will use its compulsory purchase powers where necessary for land assembly to ensure the optimum redevelopment solution.
- 5.2.9** The area is bounded to the west and south by Bourges Boulevard, which currently acts as a physical barrier for pedestrians, so that connections with the station (Railway Station Policy Area) and to the River Nene (Riverside South Policy Area) are very poor.
- 5.2.10** This City Core Policy Area matches the City Core area identified in the council's Local Transport Plan 3.

Map D: City Core Policy Area



Vision for the Area

- 5.2.11** The City Core Policy Area will see high quality, mixed-use development and further improvements to the public realm. Opportunities to better integrate the Cathedral with the wider city centre will be explored.
- 5.2.12** There will be new retail and leisure provision, particularly further improvements to the Queensgate shopping centre and the North Westgate Opportunity Area. This will help to strengthen Peterborough's sub-regional role as a shopping destination.
- 5.2.13** Elsewhere, there will be more incremental new development, including residential, retail, cafes, bars and restaurants, combined with high quality public spaces. The evening economy will be diversified, for example through provision of a new cinema, to help create a more lively and attractive environment where people want to visit, work and live and which offers a wide range of uses for everyone of any age.
- 5.2.14** Building frontages will be protected and enhanced so that they remain active with a high footfall of customers during both the day and evening.
- 5.2.15** The transition between the area and inner city residential areas will be enhanced, with better connections more generally to other parts of the city centre, such as the station and the River Nene.
- 5.2.16** Despite these changes, the key feature of the area will continue to be the historic core and all opportunities to protect and enhance these features and heritage assets will be taken.

Policy Areas

Policy CC3

City Core Policy Area

Within the area designated as the City Core on the Policies Map, the city council will seek development of the highest quality which, in overall terms, strengthens the area as the retail, leisure, tourism and civic focus for Peterborough and its sub-region, broadens the range of land uses to include more city centre living and enhances the visitor experience for all.

New development must, where appropriate:

- improve the quality of the townscape, architecture and public realm;
- protect important views of the Cathedral;
- preserve or enhance the heritage assets of the area, and their setting, in a manner appropriate to their significance; and
- protect and enhance existing retail areas.

Due to the sensitivities in this area, particular scrutiny will be given to the sustainability of the area with regard to drainage and surface water flood risk (see section 4.9 for further details).

The following sites, as identified on the Policies Map, are allocated primarily for residential use:

Site Reference	Site Name	Status*	Indicative number of dwellings
Sites of less than 10 dwellings with planning permission at 31 March 2013			11
CC3.1	37 - 39 Brook Street	NS	10
CC3.2	Unex Group car park, Brook Street	NS	39
CC3.3	49 - 55 Priestgate	NS	24
CC3.4	Wheel Yard (to be delivered in accordance with an agreed development brief that covers, amongst other matters, the height and scale of any development and the setting of the Cathedral and Precincts)	NA	20 - 25
Other locations within Policy Area	Including flats above shops		100
Sub Total			204 - 209

The following sites are identified on the Policies Map as Opportunity Areas for mixed use development:

Site Reference	Site Name	Status*	Indicative number of dwellings
CC3.5	North Westgate	NA	200
CC3.6**	Northminster (to be delivered in accordance with a development brief or SPD for the area)	NA	300
Sub Total			500
Total			704 - 709

* Status at 1 April 2013. O = Outline. NS = Not started, with full planning permission. UC = under construction. NA = New Allocation. ** the indicative number of dwellings does not include committed sites CC3.1 and CC3.2.

Within the North Westgate Opportunity Area (CC3.5) planning permission will be granted for comprehensive mixed-use redevelopment including retail, housing, office and leisure uses, which is well integrated with the existing retail area. This must also include improvements to pedestrian connectivity between the site and the railway station. The design, layout and access arrangements must enhance the transition between the residential area to the north and the city centre.

Individual proposals which would prejudice the comprehensive redevelopment of this Opportunity Area will not be permitted. Any proposals for North Westgate should complement existing community regeneration projects coming forward in the City North Policy Area.

Development proposals within the Northminster Opportunity Area (CC3.6) should deliver a range of uses that provide high quality office development and approximately 300 dwellings including student accommodation. Development in this area should protect and enhance any historic assets, including in particular the Cathedral Precincts and Peterscourt.

The council will support proposals to improve the market or, if necessary, work with market traders to identify a new location.

Elsewhere in the City Core Policy Area, the city council will expect and support, in principle, proposals that would help to deliver the following:

- a net increase in dwellings, including apartments above existing commercial or new commercial development and the provision of student accommodation;
- improved connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists within the Policy Area and with surrounding areas, particularly improved access to the railway station and riverside;
- mixed-use development with active street frontages;
- development which encourages trips into the city centre for shopping, leisure (including a cinema), social and cultural purposes;
- additional high quality office space; and
- the conservation and restoration of historic shop fronts.

Policy Areas

5.3 Railway Station Policy Area

Description of the Area

- 5.3.1** This Policy Area is located to the west of the city centre and primarily comprises the former hospital site (which relocated to a new site in 2011), the railway station and associated operational railway land.
- 5.3.2** The Policy Area is bounded by Bourges Boulevard to the east, which creates a physical barrier between the railway station and the City Core Policy Area. Current access to the City Core for pedestrians is either via an underpass or a footbridge, neither of which are attractive, clear or easy options.
- 5.3.3** The area comprises large areas of under-utilised railway land, together with low density and derelict industrial land. This offers a significant opportunity for major mixed-use development and regeneration of a prominent part of the city.
- 5.3.4** Within this Policy Area there are three distinct Opportunity Areas: the site of the former hospital and the two station areas either side of the railway.
- 5.3.5** The railway station is undergoing significant investment and enhancement. Peterborough station is on the East Coast Main Line, approximately 45 minutes from London and 1 hour 30 minutes from Leeds and York. The Railway Station Policy Area is an excellent strategic location for new investment.

Hospital Site

- 5.3.6** A Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) was adopted for this site in 2010; it sets out the main requirements and land uses for the redevelopment of this area. This City Centre Plan does not seek amendments to that SPD (although some elements have been superseded by the Planning Policies DPD, which was adopted in December 2012).
- 5.3.7** The majority of the site is now vacant and forms a large area of underused brownfield land. The site is bounded to the south by Thorpe Road, which is a main arterial road to the city centre. The site is surrounded by existing residential areas with some low value employment sites on Midland Road; the surrounding properties are of varying age, style and density. There is an established local community.
- 5.3.8** The site is an irregular shape and not all of the land is available for development. The land is in several different ownerships, with the Primary Care Centre building to remain on-site. The land available for development comprises pockets of land which are not fully connected. This makes it essential that there is a clear, co-ordinated redevelopment scheme put in place, and why an SPD for this site has been produced.

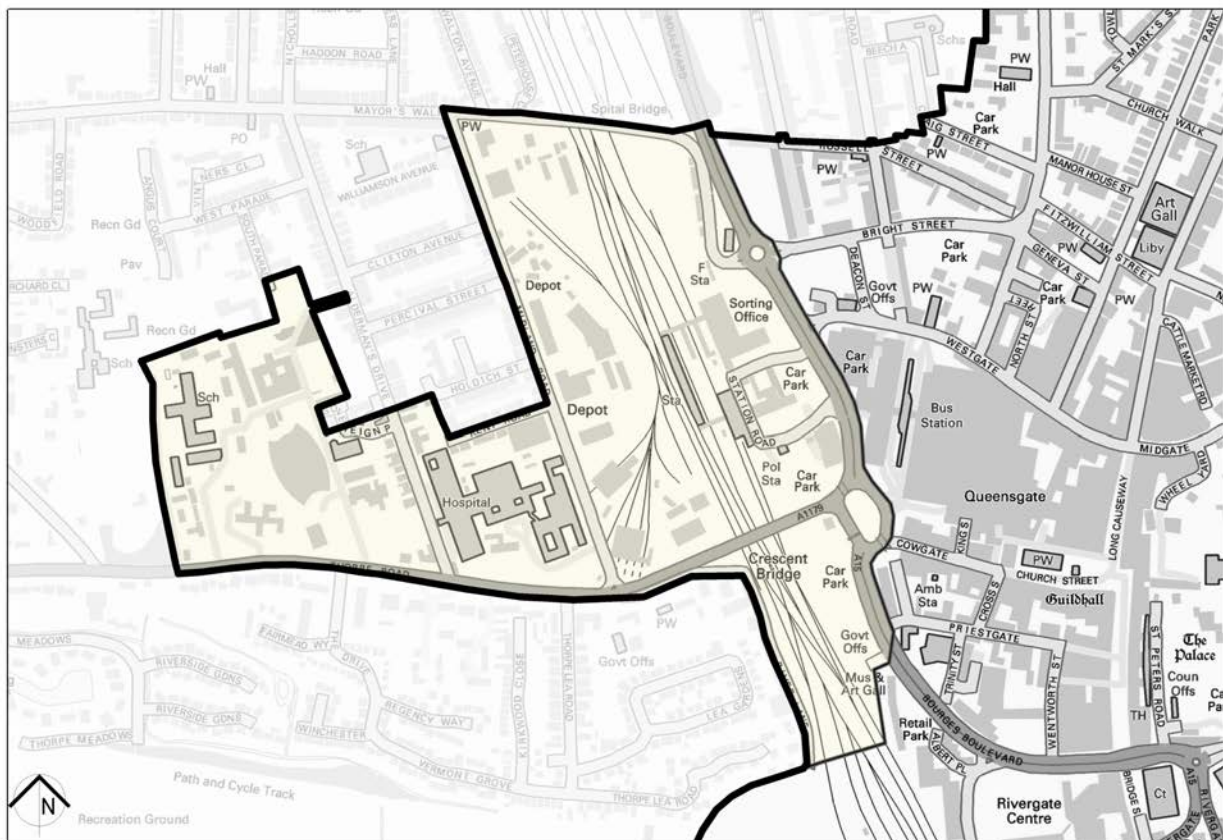
Railway Station

- 5.3.9** The two Station Opportunity Areas are bisected by the main railway line and are not well connected. This is why this area has been split into two Opportunity Areas, to enable the delivery of the sites as separate parcels. The council will encourage extension of the station footbridge to provide passengers access to the station from Midland Road.
- 5.3.10** Many of the redundant industrial buildings detract from the overall quality of the area, as well as presenting a negative visual impression of the city for passengers who are either passing through or arriving at the station.

Policy Areas

- 5.3.11** The Station East Opportunity Area includes a large area of open surface car parking for approximately 900 vehicles to the south as well as a multi-storey car park with 600 spaces linked to the station and Queensgate shopping area.
- 5.3.12** Directly opposite the station entrance is the Great Northern Hotel, which is identified as a building of local importance. Outline planning permission has been granted for an extension of the hotel and significant new office development. Outline planning permission has also been granted for office development and a supermarket on the adjoining, former Royal Mail site.
- 5.3.13** Within the Station West Opportunity Area, the southern part of the site was used as marshalling and goods yards and includes the Grade II* crescent wagon repair shop and associated Grade II lathe house.

Map E: Railway Station Policy Area



Vision for the Area

- 5.3.14** The redevelopment of this area is critical to the future success of the city. The overall vision for this Policy Area is to deliver a transformation from part of the city characterised by unused and underused land into one with a range of high quality, modern developments. There will be an improved railway station with easier and more attractive pedestrian access into the rest of the city centre, including, in particular, the main retail area.
- 5.3.15** There will be a high quality new city centre office development in Station East. The large vacant hospital site provides an opportunity to create a new, high quality residential neighbourhood which will integrate well into the existing local community and take advantage of the proximity to public transport and the city centre, reducing the need to travel by car.

Policy Areas

Policy CC4

Railway Station Policy Area

Within the area designated as the Railway Station Policy Area on the Policies Map, the city council will support and encourage high quality mixed-use developments which create an attractive and legible gateway into the rest of the city centre.

Redevelopment in the following Opportunity Areas, as identified on the Policies Map, should provide approximately the number of dwellings indicated as part of wider, mixed-use schemes.

Site Reference	Site Name	Status*	Indicative number of dwellings
CC4.1	Hospital Opportunity Area**	NA	350
CC4.2	Station West Opportunity Area***	NA	200 - 300
CC4.3	Station East Opportunity Area	NA	100
Total			650 - 750

* Status at 1 April 2013. O = Outline. NS = Not started, with full planning permission. UC = under construction. NA = New Allocation. ** This area includes 14 dwellings at Vawser Lodge (planning permission granted after 1 April 2013). *** This area includes 90 dwellings at Midland Road (planning permission granted after 1 April 2013).

Due to the sensitivities in this area, particular scrutiny will be given to the sustainability of the area with regard to drainage and surface water flood risk (see section 4.9 for further details).

Development proposals for the Hospital Opportunity Area should be informed by, and be in general conformity with, the adopted Peterborough District Hospital Site SPD, unless a requirement within it has been superseded by a subsequent Local Plan Policy or national policy. Any significant deviations away from the SPD should be justified with any planning application

Development proposals for the Station West Opportunity Area should:

- deliver predominantly residential development, although office development would also be supported;
- provide community uses;
- incorporate and enhance the listed railway sheds to the south of the site;
- safeguard land for, and assist delivery of, a foot/cycle bridge over the railway line, connecting to the Station East Opportunity Area; and
- help to facilitate a new 'west' entrance to the station.

Development proposals for the Station East Opportunity Area should deliver a mixed-use, commercial-led development, including:

Policy Areas

- high-quality office development;
- retail uses ancillary to, and associated with, the railway station (other than the consented convenience retail development on the former Royal Mail site);
- bars, restaurants and leisure uses;
- safeguarding of land for a foot/cycle bridge over the railway line, connecting to the Station West Opportunity Area; and
- assisting in the delivery of improved connections between the Area and the City Core.

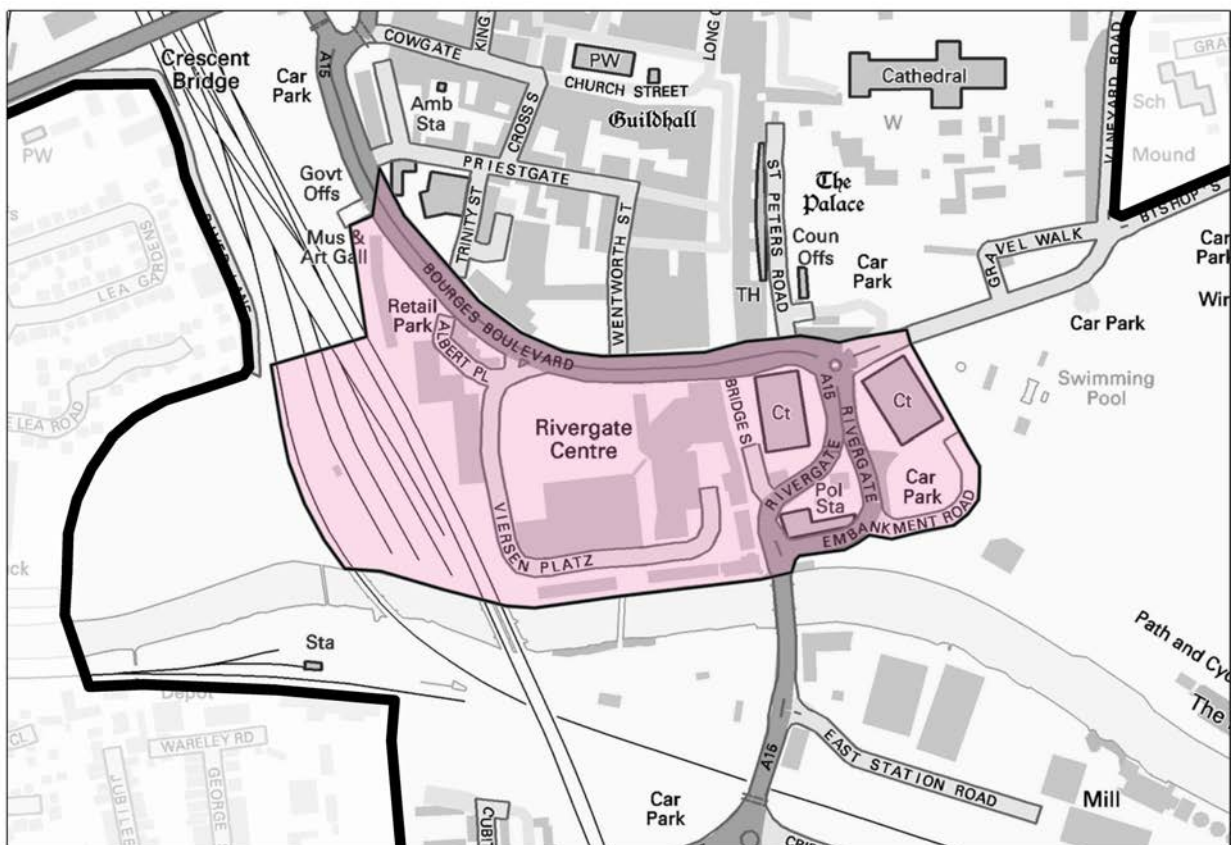
Policy Areas

5.4 Rivergate Policy Area

Description of the Area

- 5.4.1** The Rivergate Policy Area is an area of land between the City Core and the River Nene (Riverside South Policy Area). It is located south of Bourges Boulevard, with a supermarket, surface car park and the Rivergate shopping arcade at its centre. It also includes the Magistrates Courts and Crown Courts buildings and Bridge Street police station which appear as “islands” due to the Rivergate gyratory system. The mix of uses is completed with offices and shops in former railway warehouses to the west and flats overlooking the River Nene to the south.
- 5.4.2** Part of the Rivergate area along Lower Bridge Street is included within the City Centre Conservation Area.
- 5.4.3** This area provides an important link from the City Core to the River Nene and parts of the city centre further south, but Bourges Boulevard acts as a physical barrier to the ease of movement for pedestrians in both directions. Although Lower Bridge Street and the Rivergate Centre form part of the Primary Shopping Area they are seen as secondary retail areas by many visitors due to this physical separation.

Map F: Rivergate Policy Area



5.4.4 Vision for the Area

- 5.4.5** The vision for this area is to create a more prominent retail location that is better integrated with the City Core and that provides a well connected, attractive and active route to the River Nene, helping to draw people to the river and the Riverside South Policy Area.

- 5.4.6** This will be achieved through public realm improvements along the historic route of Bridge Street, as set out in the Public Realm Strategy, including a significant change to the function and character of Bourges Boulevard, as set out in chapter 6. There will be more active uses along Lower Bridge Street throughout the day and evening, with the possibility of some remodelling of the Rivergate Shopping Centre for retail and residential purposes.

Policy CC5

Rivergate Policy Area

Within the area designated as the Rivergate Policy Area on the Policies Map, the principle of a retail-led, mixed-use development, incorporating approximately 100 dwellings, will be supported provided that it:

- **assists the delivery of improved pedestrian and cycle connections through the area, and between the City Core, Riverside South and Riverside North Policy Areas;**
- **makes provision for active uses throughout the day and evening along Lower Bridge Street; and**
- **conserves the listed buildings located in the area, incorporating them sympathetically into the design solution.**

Where a development site adjoins the River Nene, opportunities should be taken to improve the river and/or its banks for boaters, anglers, wildlife and those wishing to access and enjoy the river.

Any proposals that would result in a comprehensive redevelopment of this area, including the Rivergate Centre and/or the Rivergate gyratory system, must be supported by a development brief, masterplan or SPD.

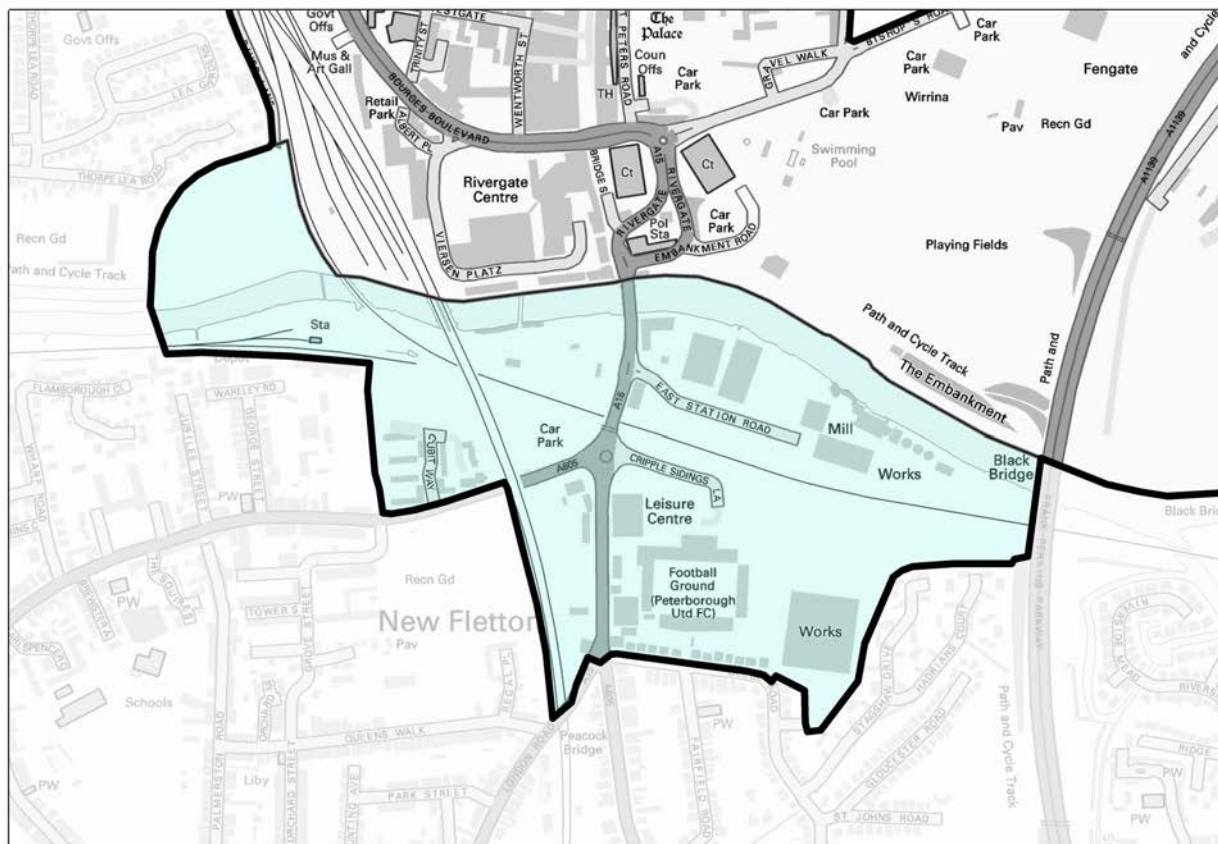
Policy Areas

5.5 Riverside South Policy Area

Description of the Area

- 5.5.1** This Policy Area is located to the south of the city centre and mainly south of the River Nene. The area includes former industrial land and contains a number of vacant and derelict sites in a prime central location.
- 5.5.2** The Fletton Quays Opportunity Area is located within this Policy Area, between the River Nene and the Peterborough to March railway line, and consists of approximately 6.8ha of derelict land which presents an excellent opportunity for high profile redevelopment of a major brownfield site.
- 5.5.3** The Carbon Challenge Site (Vista) is located south of the railway line; this site commenced construction in 2012 and will deliver 295 new zero carbon homes.
- 5.5.4** This area also contains a variety of uses including the Peterborough United Football Ground, Pleasure Fair Meadow car park, an area registered as a community asset and Railworld land either side of the river.
- 5.5.5** Currently this Policy Area is poorly connected to the City Core and other surrounding residential areas, and the railway lines act as barriers to movement. Part of the area is located in flood zones 2 and 3, particularly the areas to the west.

Map G: Riverside South Policy Area



Vision for the Area

- 5.5.6** This Policy Area will see substantial change over the plan period. There will be a number of major new mixed-use developments which will enhance the southern gateway into the city centre and make the most of the attractive riverside setting.
- 5.5.7** The Fletton Quays Opportunity Area will be transformed from an underused and derelict part of the city into a vibrant and attractive residential, leisure and cultural area, providing active uses such as bars and cafes along the river frontage. These will help attract visitors to this part of the city and to establish the river as a prominent feature of the city. Development will incorporate a pedestrian route alongside the river and an iconic pedestrian/cycle bridge over the river, connecting to other parts of the city centre.
- 5.5.8** The football ground will see transformation into a community stadium and there will be an enhanced visitor attraction at Railworld, on the south side of the river. Residential development will take place on the opposite north side of the river, off Thorpe Lea Road.
- 5.5.9** A consistent theme running through all of the changes in this area will be measures to make the river and its banks more accessible and more attractive for all users. There are excellent opportunities on these sites to combine the management of flood risk, the enhancement of wildlife and improved opportunities for boating as part of a holistic approach.

Policy CC6

Riverside South Policy Area

Within the area designated as the Riverside South Policy Area on the Policies Map, development will be supported, in principle, where it helps to secure the transformation of disused and underused land, in order to create an enhanced gateway into the city centre.

Wherever appropriate, developments should help to improve pedestrian and cycle links between the area and rest of the city centre and adjacent areas, and provide pedestrian access along the river frontage. A site-specific flood risk assessment will be required for all developments which have flood risk implications and this will need to demonstrate that the development will be safe without increasing flood risk elsewhere.

Collectively, the development of sites within the Policy Area should provide approximately 820 dwellings, in accordance with the number of dwellings indicated for each site, or area, below:

Site Reference	Site Name	Status*	Indicative number of dwellings
CC 6.1	Carbon Challenge Site	UC	251**
CC 6.2	Fletton Quays Opportunity Area	NA	400
CC 6.3	Railworld North (prestige homes)	NA	50
	Other locations within the Policy Area		125
Total			826

Policy Areas

* Status at 1 April 2013. O = Outline. NS = Not started, with full planning permission. UC = under construction. NA = New Allocation

** Dwellings still be completed on this site at 1 April 2013.

Within the Fletton Quays Opportunity Area, planning permission will be granted for a mixed-use development which delivers approximately 400 new dwellings. Offices, culture and leisure uses (excluding a cinema, unless it can be demonstrated that this cannot be provided within the City Core), with restaurants and bars along the river frontage will also be acceptable. Development should:

- maximise the advantages of the riverside setting with a high-quality design solution;
- deliver an attractive public riverside walk and cycle path with a new foot/cycle bridge across the River Nene to the Embankment;
- incorporate and enhance the listed buildings (railway engine sheds and goods sheds) and building of local importance (the Mill), with imaginative new uses;
- incorporate appropriate flood risk mitigation measures, as identified through a site-specific flood risk assessment;
- deliver opportunities to naturalise the river corridor and enhance biodiversity in ways that complement existing river functions and in line with the objectives of the Nene Valley Nature Improvement Area.

Any retail use will be limited to that which is ancillary to serve the Opportunity Area itself.

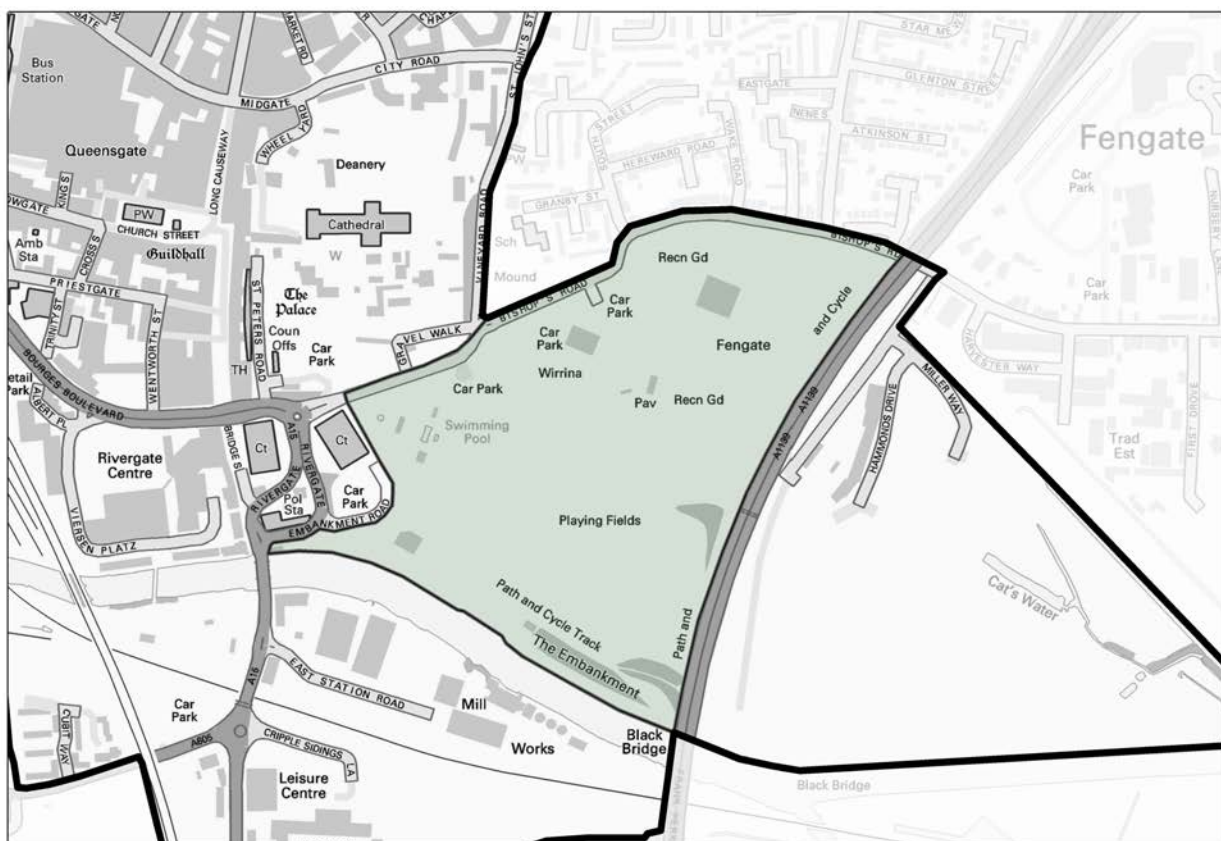
Individual proposals for development which would prejudice the comprehensive redevelopment of this Opportunity Area will not be permitted.

5.6 Riverside North Policy Area

Description of the Area

- 5.6.1** This area is located to the south and east of the Cathedral and to the west of the Frank Perkins Parkway. It includes the Embankment which will remain a protected area of open space, and the regional pool and athletics track to the north of the Policy Area.
- 5.6.2** The Policy Area also includes the Key Theatre and Lido, which is a Grade II listed building, and large areas of surface car parks along Bishops Road.
- 5.6.3** To some extent, the area is seen as a secondary part of the city centre due to the poor links and connectivity with the City Core and Riverside South Policy Areas. This means that this area of open space with a river setting in the city centre is relatively underused and not of the quality that it could be. The use of this space for large formal events is very positive and more needs to be done to encourage wider improvements to the use of this space.

Map H: Riverside North Policy Area



Vision for the Area

- 5.6.4** The vision for this area is to bring the southern part of the Embankment into much greater use, making the most of its riverside setting. This will be achieved through improving connections with other parts of the city centre, including the provision of a new foot/cycle bridge over the River Nene from the Fletton Quays Opportunity Area and improved foot/cycle links between the Rivergate area and the new residential development which is proposed to the east of Frank Perkins Parkway.
- 5.6.5** It is also a citywide vision to improve the existing sports facilities towards the north of the Policy Area; this may include provision of a new 50 metre swimming pool. There will also be improvements to the entrance and access to the sports area.

Policy Areas

Policy CC7

Riverside North Policy Area

The Riverside North Policy Area, as shown on the Policies Map, will remain a predominately open area for social, recreational, leisure and cultural uses.

Any built development will be confined to the northern part of the site and along the frontage to Bishops Road. Development proposed for this area will include provision for a new swimming pool and other sports facilities.

The following site, as identified on the Policies Map, is allocated for the provision of not more than 25 prestige homes.

Site Reference	Site Name	Status*	Maximum number of dwellings
CC7.1	Bishops Road	NA	25

NA = New Allocations

Any proposals for this area must:

- be of a high standard of design and low density;
- ensure that the height of dwellings does not exceed the height of the trees that exist around the western, southern and eastern sides of the site; and
- include additional landscaping.

This site includes existing trees and landscaping which must be retained and enhanced as an integral part of the design solution for the site.

Further residential development in this area (other than on site CC7.1) will not be supported by the council.

Elsewhere in this Policy Area, new development must be of high design quality and improve the pedestrian and cycle links to the City Core Policy Area and Fletton Quays Opportunity Area, including a new foot/cycle bridge over the River Nene.

The council will support proposals which will improve and enhance the Key Theatre by making the most of its riverside location and links to the Fletton Quays Opportunity Area.

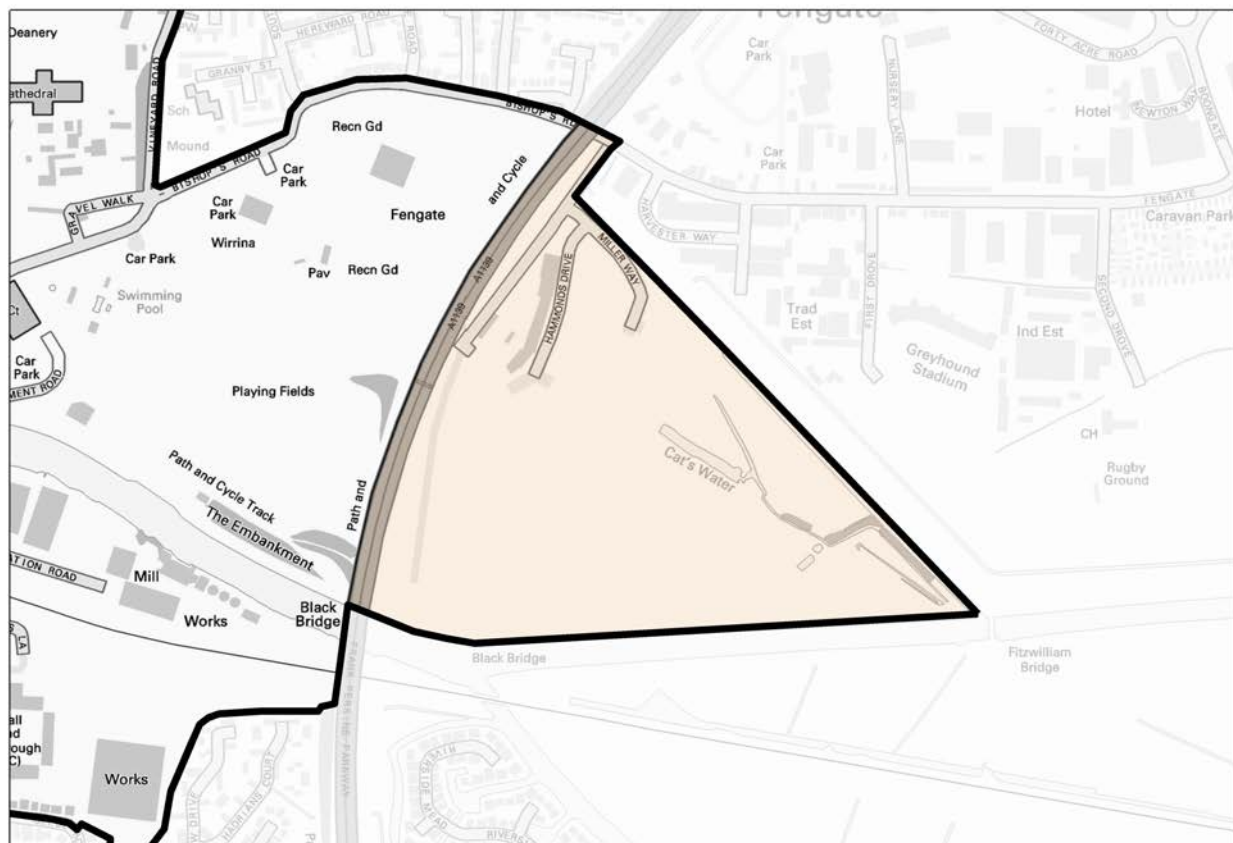
Views of the Cathedral from the south and south-east and the settings of the Lido and Customs House should be preserved.

5.7 Fengate South Policy Area

Description of the Area

- 5.7.1** The Fengate South Policy Area is located to the east of Frank Perkins Parkway. In the north of the area, a large area of former derelict land off Potters Way is being redeveloped for residential purposes, with the second phase under construction. The area to the south is currently an open area of land which is unused except on an informal basis for recreation. (This area was a former landfill site.)
- 5.7.2** In the east, the Policy Area includes an area of land of high biodiversity value which will be retained and managed as a natural habitat area.
- 5.7.3** The Policy Area is currently poorly connected to the wider city centre, although there are pedestrian links along the River Nene which form part of a river walk that runs the length of the site.
- 5.7.4** Parts of this Policy Area are located within flood zones 2 and 3; therefore any future development will be restricted to the areas at a lower risk of flooding and will need to incorporate suitable flood mitigation measures.

Map I: Fengate South Policy Area



Vision for the Area

- 5.7.5** The vision for this area is the creation of an attractive river front residential development which will provide mainly family accommodation and associated community facilities.
- 5.7.6** Any development will incorporate and enhance the existing pedestrian route alongside the River Nene and improve the river frontage in accordance with policy PP15 of the Peterborough Planning Policies DPD. It will also enhance the existing access to the river.

Policy Areas

Policy CC8

Fengate South Policy Area

Within the area designated as the Fengate South Policy Area on the Policies Map, planning permission will be granted for residential and associated ancillary development on the following sites:

Site Reference	Site Name	Status*	Indicative number of dwellings
CC8.1	Potters Way	UC	210**
CC8.2	Fengate South	NA	300 - 400
Total			510 - 610

* Status at 1 April 2013. O = Outline. NS = Not started, with full planning permission. UC = under construction. NA = New Allocation

** Dwellings still be completed on this site at 1 April 2013.

Prior to the granting of any planning permission for residential development on the Fengate South site (CC8.2), the council will require the developer to submit a development brief or other evidence documents that address the following matters:

- how flood risk issues are to be addressed, including the location of dwellings in areas at lowest probability of flooding and the proposed flood risk mitigation measures;
- the arrangements for the remediation of the site to a standard suitable for residential and associated uses;
- transport issues, including vehicular access arrangements, measures to address transport impacts beyond the site and measures to improve pedestrian and cycle infrastructure from the area to the City Core (thus reducing the need to travel by car);
- impacts on biodiversity, including, in particular, any impacts on the Nene Washes SSSI, SAC, SPA and Ramsar Site;
- visual and landscape impacts (including countryside and cathedral views);
- a design solution that creates a high quality residential environment with associated community facilities, providing an attractive frontage to the river with the possibility of moorings; and
- the creation of an attractive public riverside walk and cycle path which runs the length of the site, connecting with the foot and cycle paths from the Embankment west of the Parkway.

If proposals come forward for the development of a marina on this site, these will be supported in principle by the council, provided that it is demonstrated that the scheme is deliverable, taking into account the criteria listed above (to the extent that they apply to marina development).

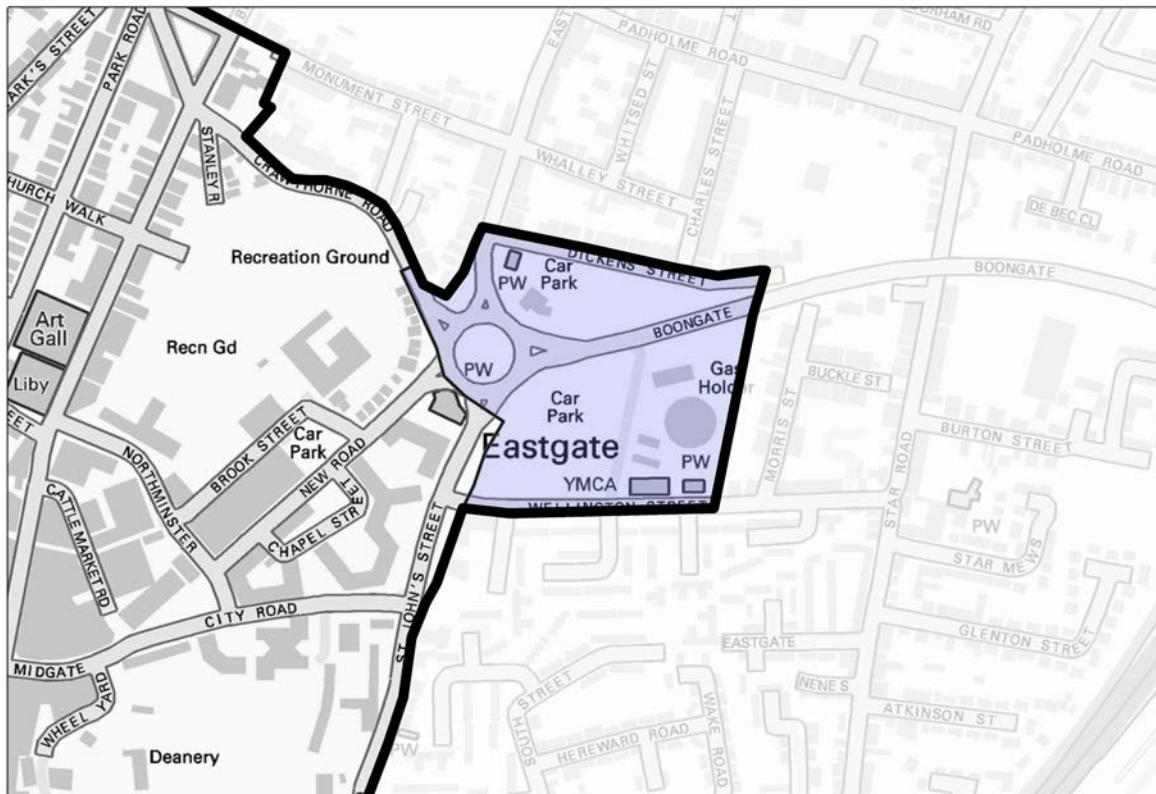
The council will require the submission of sufficient information from the applicant to enable it to complete a project-level screening exercise under the Habitats Regulations, and, if that screening concludes that full Appropriate Assessment is needed, sufficient information to enable it to complete that Appropriate Assessment. This process will need to demonstrate that the development will not have a significant adverse effect on the integrity of the Nene Washes.

5.8 Boongate Policy Area

Description of the Area

5.8.1 This area is located on the eastern edge of the city centre and forms an important entrance into the city centre from the east and particularly from the Frank Perkins Parkway. The area is dominated by the Boongate roundabout and includes the gasholder station and two surface car parks either side of Boongate. The Policy Area also includes a church and community centre along Dickens Street.

Map J: Boongate Policy Area



Vision for the Area

- 5.8.2** The vision for this area is to create a more attractive gateway into the city centre. There will be more efficient use of the land around Boongate, including improvements to the existing car parks and new residential development.
- 5.8.3** Improvements to the Boongate roundabout are proposed. These will include signalization and improved pedestrian crossing arrangements for the benefit of residents from the Eastgate and Eastfield areas of the city.
- 5.8.4** Any development in this Policy Area must comply with guidance from the Health and Safety Executive in respect of proximity to the Wellington Street gasholder.

Policy Areas

Policy CC9

Boongate Policy Area

Within the area designated as the Boongate Policy Area on the Policies Map, planning permission will be granted for a high quality residential-led development which creates an enhanced gateway into the city centre.

The following sites, as identified on the Policies Map, are allocated primarily for residential use:

Site Reference	Site Name	Status*	Indicative number of dwellings
CC9.1	Dickens Street Car Park	NA	30
CC9.2	Wellington Street Car Park	NA	40
Total			70

* Status at 1 April 2013. O = Outline. NS = Not started, with full planning permission. UC = under construction. NA = New Allocation

The Wellington Street car park site will include residential development and a multi-storey car park providing at least the same number of parking spaces as exist on the site at present.

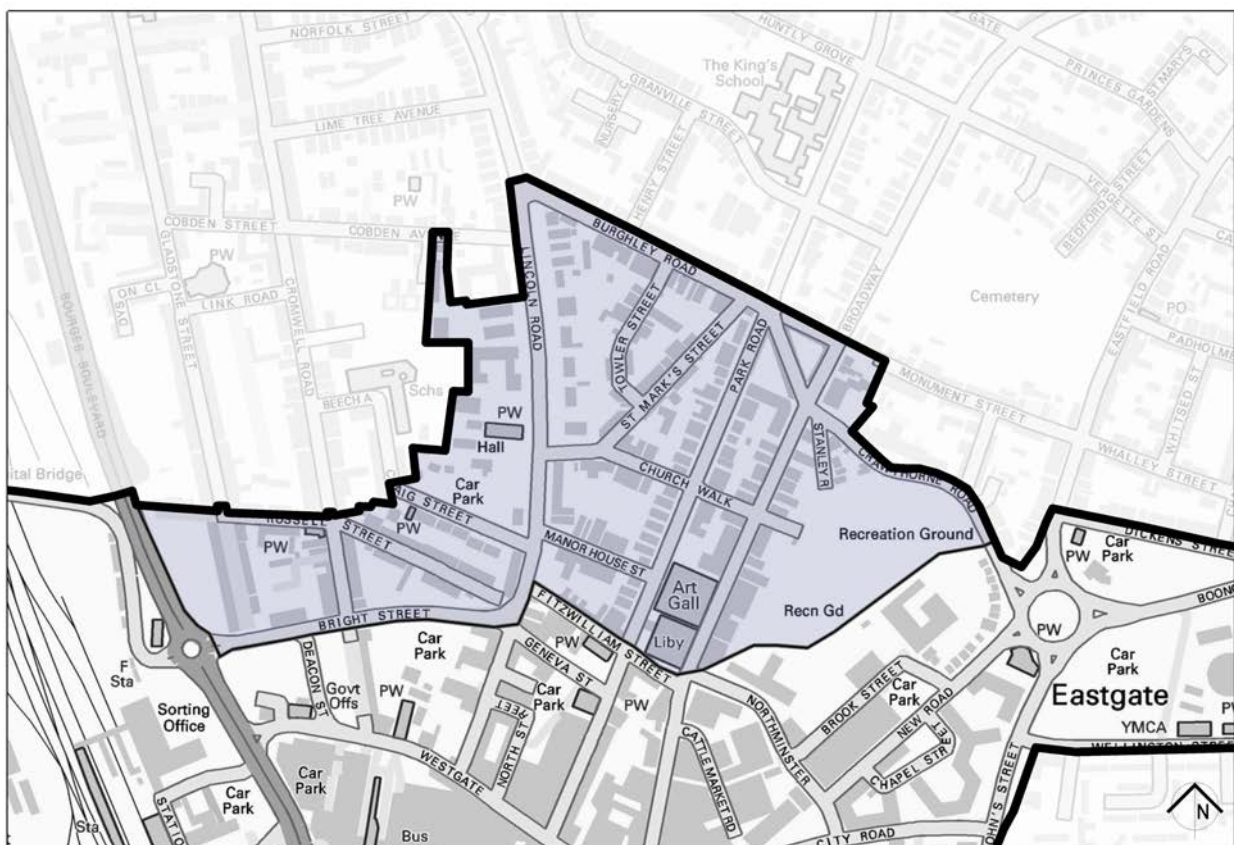
No residential development in this Policy Area will be permitted within the inner consultation zone around the Wellington Street gasholder station.

5.9 City North Policy Area

Description of the Area

- 5.9.1** This area is towards the north of the city centre and is seen as a transitional area between the commercial City Core and the inner city residential areas. It includes many public buildings such as the Central Library and the Broadway Theatre building. A large part falls within the Park Conservation Area and it includes a number of listed buildings and buildings of local importance.
- 5.9.2** The area has a mix of commercial and residential properties, including substantial Victorian/Edwardian villas and terraced housing. It includes the Stanley Recreation Ground, which is a valued area of green space.
- 5.9.3** Broadway is a key thoroughfare approaching the City Core from outlying residential areas to the north. The street includes small-scale commercial uses and small retail units, with several restaurants and bars.
- 5.9.4** The majority of this Policy Area forms part of the wider regeneration area covered by 'Operation Can-Do', which is a 10 year multi-agency initiative in the Gladstone, Millfield and New England areas, supporting a range of physical and community regeneration projects. To the east, many houses do not meet modern standards of insulation, heating and general upkeep.
- 5.9.5** The area adjoins the North Westgate Opportunity Area, where it is proposed that there should be a major redevelopment of vacant and underused land. Care will be needed to ensure that any scheme creates an attractive and integrative frontage onto Bright Street.

Map K: City North Policy Area



Policy Areas

Vision for the Area

- 5.9.6** This is a part of the city that will see incremental change over the lifetime of this plan, unless there is commercial demand for more fundamental change in some locations. At 1 April 2013 there were 19 dwellings with planning permission on a number of small infill sites.
- 5.9.7** Development will seek to create a sensitive transition between high density commercial uses to the south and terraced residential streets to the north. Particular effort must be made to ensure effective and seamless linkages between the commercial core and outlying residential areas.
- 5.9.8** New residential development will take place at various locations, and there will be infill development where this can be achieved in a sensitive manner. Given the high density of residential use and the need to maintain a balanced housing offer including family homes, the subdivision of houses to flats will not be supported.
- 5.9.9** The overall vision for the area is to create pride, safety and community cohesion as part of the overall 'Operation Can-Do' initiative, with any new development in the Park Conservation Area preserving or enhancing its character.

Policy CC10

City North Policy Area

Within the area designated as the City North Policy Area on the Policies Map development will be acceptable provided that it respects the character and built form of the surrounding area and, in the case of housing proposals, assists in improving the quality of the housing stock and the residential environment. The intensification of residential use through the subdivision of existing properties, including the creation of houses in multiple occupation, will not be supported.

The city council will support, in principle, development that would:

- involve replacement dwellings (at a density no greater than the density of any dwellings demolished);
- improve the mix of uses, including, in particular, increases in open space and other community facilities;
- complement and support any community regeneration projects; and
- improve connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists to the City Core and, in particular, to North Westgate.

The Stanley Recreation Ground will be protected and enhanced with new facilities for local users. Proposals for development adjoining the Recreation Ground should help to reconnect it to the rest of the city centre and ensure activity and overlooking across the open space to enhance the sense of safety.

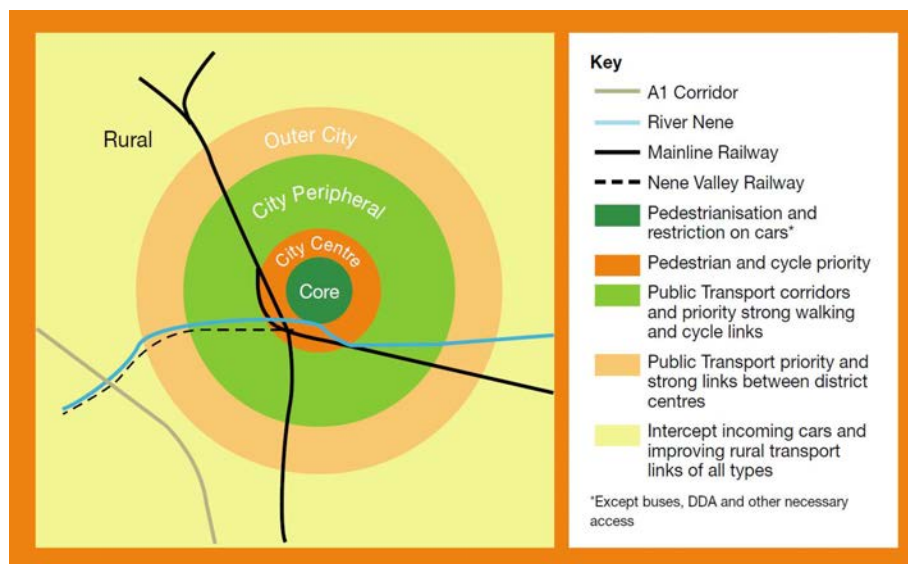
6.1 Transport

Introduction

- 6.1.1** This section sets out the transport strategy required to support the delivery of the City Centre Plan.
- 6.1.2** The levels of growth and major regeneration proposed for the city centre will have a significant impact on the wider strategic transport network and will require transport masterplanning to ensure improvements are in place to support growth.

Local Transport Policy

- 6.1.3** The main transport policies and infrastructure requirements are set out in the Peterborough Long Term Transport Strategy (2011 to 2026) (LTTS) and Local Transport Plan 3 (2011 to 2016) (LTP3), both of which were adopted in April 2011.
- 6.1.4** The LTTS covers the same 15 year timescale as the Core Strategy and this City Centre Plan. The overall growth targets and broad locations for growth set out in the Core Strategy, including city centre issues, were used to assess the transport situation and future impact on the network.
- 6.1.5** The LTP3 sets out the more short-term transport policies, infrastructure requirements, funding and timescales. It also defines a spatial strategy for the authority area, as set out diagrammatically below. Two zones align with this City Centre Plan: the 'city centre' has the same boundary as this City Centre Plan; and the smaller sub-section called the 'core' has the same boundary as the City Core Policy Area in this Plan.



- 6.1.6** The LTTS and LTP3 have policies and proposals covering a wide range of matters, only some of which have 'land use' implications. Taking the land use principles and policies set out in the LTTS and LTP3, an overarching land use Transport Vision has been prepared for this City Centre Plan and is set out on the following page.

Transport

City Centre Transport Vision

In 2026 the city centre will have become cleaner and greener with improved local air quality. There will be fewer non-stopping vehicles passing through the city centre and fewer vehicles will enter the city core. Public transport will continue to increase, helped by improved transport interchanges and a transformed railway station.

Additional priority will be given to **pedestrians** in the city centre and the city core. Particular attention will be given to improving **accessibility** for all including those with disabilities. There will be improved facilities for **cyclists** to encourage them to access the city centre and city core, and to provide alternative routes to bypass the city core for those on through trips. More high quality, attractive and accessible public realm will be provided, including improved wayfinding, making it easier for pedestrians to find the quickest, easiest and most pleasant routes through and around the city centre.

Bourges Boulevard will no longer act as a barrier to movement. It will be transformed to give greater priority to pedestrians, with additional pedestrian crossing points created, including a new landmark entrance from the railway station to the city core. Phase by phase, the number of non-stopping vehicles using Bourges Boulevard will fall.

A transformation of **car parking** provision will have been undertaken, based on the principle of relocating car parks out of the city core towards the edge of the city centre. Priority parking (and charging points) will be given to low emission vehicles or other more sustainable vehicles and vehicle users. New parking provision will allow for greater efficiency of land use, with less surface parking than today. New development will take advantage of this freed-up space.

The **River Nene** and its banks will become a transport gateway, for boats, pedestrians and cyclists.

Retail and other commercial activity will continue to have access for service vehicles, but arrangements for this will be carefully controlled to minimise unnecessary disturbance to the public.

6.1.7 The delivery of the vision will require investment from a wide range of sources. However, development proposals can also play their part, by complying with the following policy.

Policy CC11

Transport

Within the area of the City Centre Plan, all development which has transport implications will be expected to make a contribution to the delivery of the City Centre Transport Vision set out above (or any subsequent vision set out in a more recent Peterborough Local Transport Plan). This will be in the form of on-site provision, such as the creation of a high quality public realm; the provision of cycling infrastructure and/or attractive pedestrian facilities; and the making of appropriate accessibility improvements for people with disabilities; as well as off-site contributions (by way of a planning obligation) where these are necessary as a direct result of the proposed development.

Development which would have a negative impact on the ability of the council to achieve the City Centre Transport Vision will not be supported.

The council will resist the provision of additional car parking spaces within the City Core Policy Area. In this Policy Area, the provision of spaces as part of a new development may be allowed if there is a planning obligation, or other legally binding commitment, to make an equivalent (or greater) reduction in the number of spaces elsewhere in the Policy Area.

Elsewhere in the city centre (i.e. outside the City Core Policy Area), new residential development within Use Classes C3 and C4 will be required to make provision for car parking spaces in accordance with policy PP13 and Appendix A of the Peterborough Planning Policies DPD. There will be no minimum requirement for the provision of parking spaces in association with any other type of development (i.e. other than C3 and C4) and developers will be encouraged to explore the shared use of existing spaces or rely on spaces in public car parks to meet the needs of their development before the council will consider allowing any on-site provision of spaces. The council will only allow additional on-site or off-site spaces if the developer has provided a full justification for such a need (for example, on the basis of an essential operational requirement which cannot be met by the use of existing spaces off the site).

Explanatory text for the Vision

- 6.1.8 Pedestrian Connections:** The city centre has a number of barriers to pedestrian movement. The council will seek to remove these barriers to help people move around the city centre easily, in comfort and feel safe and secure. Part of this improvement will be through enhanced public realm and part through the improvements to pedestrian footways and pedestrian zones.
- 6.1.9 Accessibility:** The city centre should be as accessible as possible for all. The council will consult with disability forums and other disability organisations, the RNIB and other local and national organisations on city centre and city core proposals to ensure that the maximum benefit to disabled people can be incorporated into schemes.
- 6.1.10 Cycling Provision:** Infrastructure to support an increase in cyclists entering the city centre will be a priority for the council. Increased cycling leads to better air quality, less need for wasteful car parking spaces, less traffic on the city centre roads and healthier lifestyles.
- 6.1.11** However, the city centre should be regarded as a destination rather than a thoroughfare. This means cyclists are encouraged to get access into the city centre and core area but not to cycle through it. For those wanting to pass through, a number of city cycle routes will be created to allow cyclists to bypass the city centre.
- 6.1.12 Bourges Boulevard:** Bourges Boulevard was constructed as a dual carriageway during the new town expansion of the city and designed to contain the city centre. Peterborough city centre has since grown and expanded and it is now bisected rather than contained by Bourges Boulevard. This has led to access problems for residents and visitors, constraint on further growth and a lack of cohesion of the wider city centre. A number of options will be considered to improve Bourges Boulevard and the access points to the city core.
- 6.1.13** There are limited pedestrian and cycling crossing points. Visitors arriving at the railway station are forced into subways beneath the roundabout to access Cowgate and the city core. New pedestrian crossings will be provided at strategic points along Bourges Boulevard and the road itself enhanced through public realm improvements to create a much more attractive route into and through the city centre.

Transport

6.1.14 A phased approach to the treatment of Bourges Boulevard will be taken during the plan period. As development comes forward on sites adjacent to the road, additional pedestrian facilities will be provided. As a long-term measure, highway space will be reconfigured to enable greater priority for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport.

6.1.15 Car Parking: In the city centre there are over 8,800 publicly available car parking spaces, providing plentiful and affordable parking, making the city centre highly accessible. However, car parks, and particularly surface parks, occupy a significant area, limiting land available for development. The city's car parks are dispersed around the city centre and city core which directs traffic to inappropriate roads.

6.1.16 Surface car parks within the city centre, and particularly in the City Core (excluding Car Haven) - for example, sites CC3.1 and CC3.3 - will be consolidated in the city centre to provide areas for new development, whilst maintaining a level of car parking consistent with current provision.

6.1.17 The council will develop a parking strategy that:

- supports the vitality and viability of the city centre by providing, maintaining and managing an appropriate supply of parking space, for all motorised vehicles (cars, coaches, goods vehicles and motorcycles)
- supports and promotes the use of more sustainable modes, including vehicles with lower emissions (smaller engine size), low emission propulsion and multiple occupancy
- makes more land available for development and reduces pressures on both car parking spaces in the city centre and the city core road network
- except for the provision of parking bays for the disabled, reduces publicly available spaces in the core through relocation to the periphery of the city centre.

6.1.18 The provision of park and ride or other modal interchanges will be explored to reduce parking demand and the number of vehicles entering the city centre.

6.1.19 The provision of additional car parking spaces within the City Core Policy Area will not be supported. Elsewhere in the city centre for non residential development there will be a requirement to make use of existing public car parks before the provision of additional car parking spaces will be considered. This offers a flexible approach for each site and particularly Opportunity Areas.

6.1.20 The council will encourage provision of coach parking facilities to attract visitors to the city centre. Within the Opportunities Areas where there is a mix of uses including leisure (D2) the developer will be required to provide coach or bus parking spaces as set out in Appendix a (PP13) of the Planning Policies DPD. Individual parking requirements will be assessed for each application based on the mix of uses proposed.

6.1.21 The River Nene: The council is looking to improve mooring and boating leisure facilities as well as access from the river to the city core and other locations.

7.1 Infrastructure

- 7.1.1** It is recognised that infrastructure is required to support and in some cases enable the scale and location of growth set out in the Core Strategy. This includes up to 4,300 new dwellings and 3.5 hectares of employment land located within the City Centre Plan boundary. The infrastructure types and projects vary, and are inclusive of transport, education, health and utilities, such as electricity, water and waste.
- 7.1.2** All have been taken into account within the Peterborough Integrated Development Programme (IDP) (2009) which provided a full breakdown of infrastructure needs based on the Core Strategy.
- 7.1.3** Since 2009, and the subsequent adoption of the Peterborough Core Strategy, development has progressed although in some areas the rate of change has slowed due to the recession. The IDP has subsequently been updated to reflect this, and now forms the basis of its successor document known as the Infrastructure Delivery Schedule (IDS).
- 7.1.4** The Infrastructure Delivery Schedule (IDS) is a live document produced to identify the range of infrastructure types and projects required to support growth. Importantly, it identifies likely funding sources, delivery agents, timescales and priorities, and forms an important supporting document in relation to the council's planned adoption of a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule in 2014. The document is produced through close working with key partners and infrastructure providers and will be regularly updated to reflect project delivery and change.
- 7.1.5** The mechanisms for requiring and encouraging infrastructure delivery include existing policy, planning conditions, S106 agreements and planning contributions (via the Peterborough Planning Obligations Implementation Scheme SPD); and in future the use of CIL funds. These mechanisms are broadly set out in the Peterborough Core Strategy (section 6.6, policies CS12 and CS13) and for this reason is not repeated here.
- 7.1.6** The council is also preparing to adopt a Planning Contributions SPD to coincide with the introduction of a CIL Charging Schedule, primarily to make clear the relationship between CIL and S106 for the purpose of infrastructure delivery.
- 7.1.7** The city centre by definition is the location of a number of key existing infrastructure networks, items and future projects, which relate to the city's wider growth, as well as the growth specifically earmarked for the city centre. Such infrastructure includes roads, parking, bridges, sewerage, railway station, the athletics track, the museum etc. many of which will need to be enhanced or upgraded to support the increase in the city's population.
- 7.1.8** Future housing development in the city centre is expected to result in a notable increase in population. It is important that these residents have access to health, education and other community facilities in convenient locations to minimise the need to travel. The provision of primary school places within the Central area is a pressure identified within the Draft Schools Organisation Plan 2013-18. A number of potential projects to address this are itemised within the IDS, the precise timing of which will be dependent on the pace and precise location of proposed growth within and close to the City Centre Plan area.

Infrastructure

Implementation and Monitoring

8.1 Implementation and Monitoring

8.1.1 This section outlines how the City Centre Plan and its policies will be implemented and monitored. It seeks to show how each policy will be delivered, by whom and when. In some cases, this will be via other policies, such as those in the Core Strategy, or through the production of Supplementary Planning Documents for specific areas of the city centre.

Implementation

8.1.2 Implementation of the City Centre Plan will be dependent on the provision of necessary infrastructure such as roads, schools, and water and electricity capacity. The infrastructure requirements are explained in the previous chapter, which identifies the key infrastructure to be secured and demonstrates that there is a good understanding of infrastructure and reasonable prospects of timely provision, to support the planned growth of the city centre.

Monitoring

8.1.3 Monitoring is a key element of the planning system as it allows the council to keep a check on targets and delivery. It allows the council and other partners the opportunity to identify any problems in the delivery of the policies and identify the need for intervention or management actions. It also highlights if there is a need to review any policies.

8.1.4 The council carries out comprehensive monitoring of all DPDs, which is reported on an annual basis for a year which begins on 1 April and ends on 31 March. The results for the monitoring of all DPDs are brought together through the Peterborough Monitoring Report.

8.1.5 The overall housing and employment requirements for the city centre are established through the Core Strategy. Policies CS2 and CS3 set the targets and this City Centre Plan identifies the available land to meet the targets. Therefore, the housing and employment requirements for the city centre will be monitored in accordance with the indicators and targets set out in chapter 7 of the Core Strategy for policies CS2 and CS3.

8.1.6 Any housing or employment areas identified in policies CC3 to CC10 will be monitored alongside all sites allocated in the Site Allocations DPD. The results of the housing and employment monitoring will be broken down by growth zones and will include a figure specifically for the City Centre.

8.1.7 The following tables show how the City Centre Plan policies will be implemented and monitored. As most of these subjects are covered by other city wide policies, such as those in the Core Strategy or Planning Policies DPD, they will be monitored using the indicators and targets which have already been adopted in those plans.

Implementation and Monitoring

City Centre Strategy

Policy CC1 Sustainable Development			
Key Responsibilities	Implementation	Monitoring Indicators and Targets	Risks
Peterborough City Council Peterborough Environment City Trust (PECT) Greater Peterborough Partnership (GPP) Public and private developers	Through the implementation of the policies in the Core Strategy and Planning Policies DPDs identified below Through the continual submission and determination of planning applications Ensuring that new development meets the latest design standards including those relating to sustainable construction and energy efficiency measures as well as accessibility issues for disabled.	As Core Strategy policy CS10	Additional cost to developers
Other Relevant Policies	Core Strategy DPD: CS4, CS10, CS11, CS16 Planning Policies DPD: PP1, PP2		

Policy CC2 Retail			
Key Responsibilities	Implementation	Monitoring Indicators and Targets	Risks
Peterborough City Council Public and private developers	Through the continual submission and determination of planning applications Annual monitoring of retail floor space and refreshes of the retail study	As Core Strategy policy CS15	Reliance on private sector funding and developer interest Lack of developer interest in retail sites Out of centre developments reducing the capacity to support city centre retail
Other Relevant Policies	Core Strategy DPD: CS4, CS15		

Implementation and Monitoring

Policy Areas

- 8.1.8** The following tables show how the delivery of each policy area will be implemented and monitored. As mentioned, the delivery of any sites or Opportunity Areas will be monitored via Core Strategy policies, particularly CS2 and CS3.
- 8.1.9** Delivery of development in the policy area will rely on private investment and public funding, and the willingness of landowners to make their land available.

Policy CC3 City Core Policy Area			
Key Responsibilities	Implementation	Monitoring Indicators and Targets	Risks
Peterborough City Council Private and public developers Landowners English Heritage Dean & Chapter, Peterborough Cathedral	North Westgate development coming forward Implementation of wider public realm improvements Through continual submission and determination of planning applications Improvements to Bourges Boulevard Master Plan for North Westgate Opportunity Area and Northminster Opportunity Area City Centre Conservation Area Appraisal Cathedral Plan	As Core Strategy policies CS2, CS3, CS4, CS15, CS16, CS17, CS18	Number of different landowners owing small parcels of land Fragmented approach Lack of interest in retail in City Centre
Other Relevant Policies	Core Strategy DPD: CS2, CS3, CS4, CS15, CS16, CS17, CS18 Planning Policies DPD: PP17		

Implementation and Monitoring

Policy CC4 Railway Station Policy Area			
Key Responsibilities	Implementation	Monitoring Indicators and Targets	Risks
Peterborough City Council Landowners Network Rail NHS Hospital Trust (and new land owners)	Hospital SPD Through continual submission and determination of planning applications Improvements to Bourges Boulevard Hospital – off site highway improvements Site clearance and remediation Development that fits around constraints of operational railway land	As Core Strategy policies CS2, CS3, CS4	Number of different landowners owing separate parcels of land Fragmented approach Cost of site clearance and remediation Lack of interest in office development
Other Relevant Policies Core Strategy DPD: CS2, CS3, CS4, CS15, CS16, CS17 Planning Policies DPD: PP17			
Policy CC5 Rivergate Policy Area			
Key Responsibilities	Implementation	Monitoring Indicators and Targets	Risks
Peterborough City Council Landowners ASDA UNEX Rivergate Centre Private and public developers Police Courts	Through continual submission and determination of planning applications Long term reconfiguration of Rivergate gyratory – but not necessary to meet policy Need for SPD or masterplan Through downgrading of Bourges Boulevard, improving pedestrian access to the area	As Core Strategy policies CS2, CS3, CS4, CS15	Impact of increased retail floorspace at North Westgate
Other Relevant Policies Core Strategy DPD: CS2, CS3, CS4, CS15 Planning Policies DPD: PP15			

Policy CC6 Riverside South			
Key Responsibilities	Implementation	Monitoring Indicators and Targets	Risks
Peterborough City Council Joint Venture Company Landowners – Railworld Milton Estates Peterborough United FC EDF	Establishing a joint venture company to support the council in the delivery of the Fletton Quays site Flood risk and mitigation measures. Through continual submission and determination of planning applications	As Core Strategy policies CS2, CS3, CS4, CS15, CS16, CS17, CS18, CS19, CS22	Lack of interest in development
Other Relevant Policies	Core Strategy DPD: CS2, CS3, CS4, CS15, CS16, CS17, CS18, CS19, CS22 Planning Policies DPD: PP15		
Policy CC7 Riverside North			
Key Responsibilities	Implementation	Monitoring Indicators and Targets	Risks
Peterborough City Council Vivacity Sport England Landowners	Through continual submission and determination of planning applications Working with Vivacity on provision of new sports facilities	As Core Strategy policies CS2, CS4, CS17, CS18, CS19, CS22	Lack of funding
Other Relevant Policies	Core Strategy DPD: CS2, CS4, CS17, CS18, CS19, CS22 Planning Policies DPD: PP15		

Implementation and Monitoring

Policy CC8 Fengate South			
Key Responsibilities	Implementation	Monitoring Indicators and Targets	Risks
Peterborough City Council Private and public developers Landowners Milton Estates Kier Residential	Completion of committed housing site at Potters Way Through continual submission and determination of planning applications	As Core Strategy policies CS2, CS4, CS22	Landowner's lack of interest in developing site during the plan period Additional cost of remediation and flood risk Outcome of screening and/or appropriate assessment under Habitats Regulations
Other Relevant Policies	Core Strategy DPD: CS2, CS4, CS22 Planning Policies DPD: PP15		
Policy CC9 Boongate			
Key Responsibilities	Implementation	Monitoring Indicators and Targets	Risks
Peterborough City Council Private and public developers National Grid	Through continual submission and determination of planning applications	As Core Strategy policies CS2, CS4	Landowner's lack of interest in developing site during the plan period
Other Relevant Policies	Core Strategy DPD: CS2, CS4		

Policy CC-10 City North			
Key Responsibilities	Implementation	Monitoring Indicators and Targets	Risks
Peterborough City Council Private and public developers Health Police	Through continual submission and determination of planning applications Park Conservation Area Appraisal "Operation Can-Do" regeneration projects	Planning permissions granted for sub division of single dwelling - nil As Core Strategy policies CS2, CS3, CS4, CS6, CS15, CS17	
Other Relevant Policies	Core Strategy DPD: CS2, CS3, CS4, CS6, CS15, CS17 Planning Policies DPD: PP3		
Policy CC11 Transport			
Key Responsibilities	Implementation	Monitoring Indicators and Targets	Risks
Peterborough City Council Public and private developers Local Transport operators	Through continual submission and determination of planning applications Joint working with private operators of public car parks	As Core Strategy policy CS14	Lack of funding for transport projects
Other Relevant Policies	Core Strategy DPD: CS14 Planning Policies DPD: PP12, PP13 Peterborough Local Transport Plan 3: Chapter 13		

Implementation and Monitoring

Appendix A: Local Plan Policies to be Replaced

Appendix A: Local Plan Policies to be Replaced

Prior to the adoption of the Peterborough Core Strategy DPD, the most significant part of the statutory 'development plan' for the Peterborough area was the Peterborough Local Plan (First Replacement) (adopted in July 2005). The majority, but not all, of the policies in that Plan were saved by a Direction from the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government beyond July 2008. Those which were not explicitly saved were therefore deleted and no longer formed part of the development plan.

Subsequently, the Core Strategy DPD (February 2011), the Site Allocations DPD (February 2012) and Planning Policies DPD (December 2012) have, upon adoption, deleted most of the saved 2005 Local Plan policies.

This City Centre Plan is proposing to delete the remaining 14 Local Plan policies, and these are set out in the table below.

City Centre Plan Policy	Policies in the Peterborough Local Plan (First Replacement) 2005 which are to be replaced
CC1 - Sustainable Development	
CC2 - Retail	CC1, CC2, CC3
CC3 - City Core	CC10
CC4 - Railway Station	CC12, CC13
CC5 - Rivergate	
CC6 - Riverside South	CC11
CC7 - Riverside North	CC6
CC8 - Fengate South	
CC9 - Boongate	
CC10 - City North	
CC11 - Transport	CC15, CC16
These policies in the Local Plan (First Replacement) 2005 are deleted as they are no longer necessary or are superseded by national policy	CC7, CC9, CC19, T12

Appendix A: Local Plan Policies to be Replaced

Appendix B: Relationship with Other Documents

Appendix B: Relationship with Other Documents

This Appendix explains how the City Centre Plan fits with other plans and strategies; how these have influenced the production of the Plan; and how the policies and proposals aim to deliver wider objectives.

National Planning Policy

Any DPD must be consistent with the principles and policies set out in the Government's National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). At the heart of the NPPF is the requirement for all development to be sustainable and there is a presumption in favour of sustainable development.

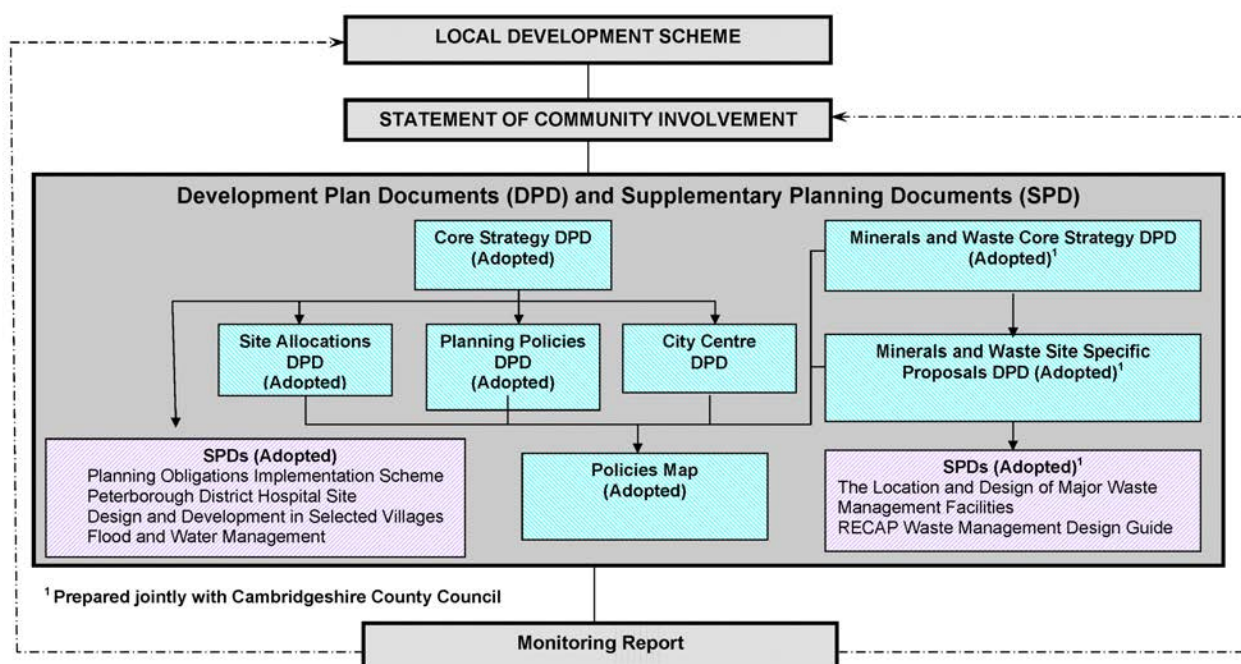
The City Centre Plan has been produced to reflect this presumption in favour of sustainable development. It has been separately assessed against a wide ranging sustainability framework, looking at the social, environmental and economic implications of the Plan. This assessment process is contained in a separate City Centre Sustainability Appraisal Report.

Local Planning Policy

The City Centre Plan forms part of the council's wider statutory development plan. It is one of the collection of DPDs to be taken into consideration in the determination of planning applications.

Figure 1 provides a basic summary of the documents that make up the wider development plan for Peterborough, and shows where the City Centre Plan fits within this context.

Figure 1



You will find definitions of the terms used in Figure 1 in the glossary (Appendix D).

Further information on the documents listed above can be found in the council's Local Development Scheme, which can be viewed at:

http://www.peterborough.gov.uk/planning_and_building/planning_policy/planning_policy_framework/local_development_scheme.aspx

Appendix B: Relationship with Other Documents

Peterborough Core Strategy DPD (February 2011)

The overarching plan for Peterborough is the Peterborough Core Strategy DPD. This sets the overall strategic vision and objectives for Peterborough and the broad principles for the location of new development. The Core Strategy establishes the ‘headlines’ for development to be accommodated within the City Centre Plan area. The City Centre Plan sits beneath the Core Strategy and provides more detailed planning policies and designations for the city centre.

The Core Strategy has a number of particularly important policies and ‘headlines’ to which this City Centre Plan must conform, and expand upon, as necessary. Policy CS4 is the most relevant as it sets the broad requirements for the city centre. The policies of particular relevance to the city centre are summarised as follows:

Core Strategy Policy	Applicable details for the City Centre, which this plan must conform to
CS2	Approximately 4,300 new dwellings in the city centre (at 1 April 2009)
CS3	Equivalent of at least 3.5 hectares of employment land; mixed use development in the city centre encouraged
CS4	Detailed policy on the city centre, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City centre to be developed and maintained as a centre of regional significance • Major cultural and leisure developments encouraged • Confirms the 4,300 dwelling target • Promoted for employment, especially B1 uses • Areas of change identified, but not limited to, South Bank, Hospital site, land beside the River Nene, railway station area, land for university • Public realm and natural environment improvements • Protection of historic environment
CS14	Enhance the city centre in order to improve connectivity and reduce need to travel
CS15	Peterborough City Centre (Primary Shopping Area) identified as top in the hierarchy of retail centres. Preference for all comparison goods retail proposals to be directed to the city centre. Some additional convenience floorspace.
CS17	Protection of views of the cathedral
CS18	Focus of new culture, leisure and tourism facilities in the city centre, which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make the most of existing assets such as the river • Promote a regional multi-use venue for large scale events • Improve the evening and night time economy • Make use of sustainable travel modes (walking, cycling, public transport and water taxis) • Support the shared use of any university facilities such as sport and libraries <p>Large attractions should be located in the city centre</p>
CS19	Promotion of the River Nene as a sub-regional corridor for biodiversity and landscape retention, restoration and creation; and the promotion of access, navigation and recreation.

Appendix B: Relationship with Other Documents

All other policies in the Core Strategy apply across the whole city council area, including the city centre, particularly policies CS12 Infrastructure and CS16 Urban Design.

Peterborough Site Allocations DPD (April 2012)

The Peterborough Site Allocations DPD allocates sites for future housing and employment development to meet the growth requirements set by the Core Strategy. It applies to all of the local authority area except the city centre. The document identifies the boundary of the city centre and the area to be covered by the City Centre DPD.

Peterborough Planning Policies DPD (December 2012)

The Planning Policies DPD sets out the detailed policies and standards against which planning applications will be assessed. It applies throughout the local authority area; therefore many of the policies are relevant to any development which may be proposed in the city centre. There is no need to repeat policies in this Plan, but attention is drawn to specific policies from the Planning Policies DPD whenever relevant. Policies of particular relevance are as follows:

- PP2 - Design Quality
- PP12 - The Transport Implications of Development
- PP13 - Parking Standards
- PP14 - Open Space Standards
- PP15 - Nene Valley
- PP17 - Heritage Assets
- PP20 - Development on Land affected by Contamination

Peterborough Policies Map (December 2012)

The Policies Map is a separate document, which forms part of the statutory development plan. It shows the location and extent of sites allocated for development, and areas within which, or outside which, planning policies will apply.

The Policies Map will be updated each time that the council adopts a DPD which has policies for specific geographical areas. The current Policies Map was adopted alongside the Planning Policies DPD in December 2012.

The City Centre Plan only applies within the defined city centre boundary as shown on Inset 2 of the Policies Map. Therefore the adoption of the City Centre Plan will only result in the replacement of Inset 2.

Peterborough District Hospital Site SPD (June 2010)

An SPD was produced for the former District Hospital site to provide detailed guidance for the redevelopment of this large and important part of the city centre. The hospital site is located on the western edge of the city centre and has been identified as an Opportunity Area.

Policy CC4 (for the Railway Station Policy Area) requires that development proposals for the Hospital Opportunity Area (site CC4.1) should be in general conformity with the requirements of the SPD.

Peterborough Flood and Water Management SPD (December 2012)

The Flood and Water Management SPD supplements policy CS22 of the Peterborough Core Strategy DPD and policy PP16 of the Peterborough Planning Policies DPD. The SPD provides further advice for developers for city centre sites.

Appendix B: Relationship with Other Documents

Peterborough Shop Front Design Guidance SPD

This is an SPD providing guidance on the appropriate design of shop fronts, signage, external security shutters and canopies. It supports policy PP11 (Shop Frontages, Security Shutters and Canopies) of the Planning Policies DPD and policy CS16 (Urban Design and the Public Realm) of the Core Strategy DPD. It applies throughout Peterborough, including the area covered by this City Centre Plan.

Appendix C: Residential Development to meet Core Strategy Requirements

Appendix C: Residential Development to meet Core Strategy Requirements

This Appendix explains how the provision made for new residential development in this Plan contributes to the overall requirements established by the Peterborough Core Strategy.

Policy CS2 of the Core Strategy (dealing with the location of new residential development) makes provision for approximately 25,500 additional dwellings across the local authority area between 1 April 2009 and 31 March 2026 and divides this figure between various areas of the city and surrounding villages, including approximately 4,300 dwellings for the city centre.

As the Core Strategy housing figures have a base date of 1 April 2009, the figures need updating to reflect completions that have taken place and permissions that have been granted over the last four years.

The updated Core Strategy housing figures are summarised in Table 4 (overleaf). The table is split into three rows. The first row updates and presents housing figures for the local authority area, excluding the city centre. These are based on actual completions and permissions and the indicative dwelling figures for sites allocated in the Peterborough Site Allocations DPD. The second row shows similarly updated figures for the city centre only (including the dwellings proposed on sites in this Plan). The final row shows the total for the whole local authority area and demonstrates how the Core Strategy target will be met.

The second column of the table presents the approximate dwelling requirement figure from the Core Strategy, for which provision must be made over period 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2026. The third column provides details of the gross dwellings actually gained during the years from 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2013. Once these have been deducted from the original Core Strategy requirements from 1 April 2009, a revised Core Strategy requirement for 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2026 appears in the fourth column.

The column headed “Committed Sites at 1 April 2013” provides details of the number of dwellings committed. Commitments are defined as dwellings which remain to be completed on sites under construction, dwellings which have full planning permission and dwellings which have outline planning permission as at 31 March 2013. The 2013 Housing Monitoring Report provides information on all committed sites.

The column headed “Required New Dwellings” shows the additional dwellings that are required in order to meet the Core Strategy target once the completions and commitments at 31 March 2013 have been subtracted from the original 2009 Core Strategy target. This identifies the approximate requirement for new dwellings that should be included in this Plan (3,407 dwellings).

For the City Centre, the column headed “New Allocations” shows the number of dwellings that are assumed to be deliverable from sites that are allocated in this Plan. These are sites without permission at 31 March 2013. The figure for the rest of the local authority area is the total number of dwellings from allocated sites in the Site Allocations DPD without planning permission at 31 March 2013. This figure is taken from the Peterborough Housing Monitoring Report 2013.

Appendix C: Residential Development to meet Core Strategy Requirements

Table 4: Dwelling Figures for the City Centre - Relationship with Core Strategy Dwelling Requirements

	Core Strategy 2009 to 2026	Completed ¹ April 2009 to 31 March 2013 (gross)	Core Strategy (as adjusted 2013 to 2026)	Committed Sites at ¹ April 2013	Required New Dwellings	New Allocations	Total Dwellings 2013 to 2026	Difference from Core Strategy (adjusted 2013 to 2026)
Local Authority Area Excluding City Centre	21,200	3,005	18,195	7,802	10,393	11,605*	19,407	+1,212
City Centre	4,300	329	3,971	564	3,407	2,443**	3,007	-964
Total	25,500	3,334	22,166	8,366	13,800	14,048	22,414	+248

* Sites identified in the Peterborough Site Allocations DPD without planning permission

**Based on the mid-point of dwelling numbers where there is a range identified in this plan.

Appendix C: Residential Development to meet Core Strategy Requirements

The column headed “Total Dwellings 2013 to 2026” shows the sum of the dwellings in “Committed Sites at 1 April 2013” and “New Allocations”. The difference between the Total Dwellings in this column and those in the “Core Strategy (as adjusted 2013 to 2026)” column are presented in the final column. For the city centre, this reveals the extent to which dwellings from sites allocated in this Plan would meet the approximate requirements from the Core Strategy.

Although the dwelling numbers from allocated sites in the city centre fall short of the approximate Core Strategy requirements, the overall requirement to provide 25,500 new homes by 2026 across Peterborough as a whole will be more than met during the plan period.

The reduced anticipated number of dwellings coming forward also reflects the market realities. Since the latter stages of finalising the Core Strategy (around 2009/2010) the market for flats and high density residential development schemes has dramatically fallen. It is no longer realistic to expect developers to deliver high density flat-based development.

The lower level of housing is more realistic, will still deliver the overall Core Strategy housing target and will still lead to a transformation of the City Centre into one which has a significant residential population.

In chapter 5 of this Plan, each Policy Area includes a list of allocated sites, some of which may already have planning permission (at 1 April 2013). For sites where no development has started, the indicative number of dwellings is the number of dwellings for which permission was granted. Where development has already started (at 1 April 2013), the figure is the remaining number of dwellings still to be completed in accordance with the permission.

For the Opportunity Areas and other allocated sites without permission, the indicative dwelling figure is an estimate based on the size of the site, the potential mix of uses and an assumption about density and net developable area; in some cases this is based on information from prospective developers. For the Opportunity Areas, the indicative number of dwellings is sometimes expressed as a range, in order to allow for some flexibility in the mix of other uses.

It is important to note that the indicative numbers of dwellings for each Policy Area are used to demonstrate how the approximate Core Strategy dwelling requirements can be met. It is emphasised that the dwelling numbers are only “indicative”, and do not represent a fixed policy target for each individual site unless otherwise stated.

Developers are encouraged to produce the most appropriate design-led solution, taking the mix of uses, all national policies and local policies into account, in arriving at a total dwelling figure, and they need not be constrained by a figure that appears in any of the policies in chapter 5.

Appendix C: Residential Development to meet Core Strategy Requirements

Appendix D: Glossary

Appendix D: Glossary

Adoption - the formal decision by the city council to approve the final version of a document, at the end of all the preparation stages, bringing it into effect.

Amenity - a general term used to describe the tangible and intangible benefits or features associated with a property or location, that contribute to its character, comfort, convenience or attractiveness.

Appropriate Assessment (AA) - a requirement of the European Habitats Directive. Its purpose is to assess the impact of plans and projects on internationally designated nature conservation sites.

Biodiversity - all species of life on earth including plants and animals and the ecosystem of which we are all part.

Brownfield Land (also known as Previously Developed Land) - land which is or was occupied by a permanent structure, including the curtilage of the developed land and any associated fixed surface infrastructure. Development of such land is preferable to development of greenfield land under the sequential approach.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) - A levy allowing the council to raise funds from owners or developers of land undertaking new building projects in their area.

Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) - power given to a local authority to obtain land for redevelopment purposes. This may include development undertaken by the private sector.

Conservation Area - a formally designated area of special historic or architectural interest whose character must be preserved or enhanced.

Core Strategy - a Development Plan Document (DPD) which contains the spatial vision, main objectives and policies for managing the future development of the area.

Development Plan - see Statutory Development Plan.

Development Plan Document (DPD) - A Statutory Planning Document that sets out the spatial planning strategy, policies and/or allocations of land for types of development across the whole, or specific parts, of the LPA's area.

Examination - a form of independent public inquiry into the soundness of a submitted DPD, which is chaired by an inspector appointed by the Secretary of State. After the examination has ended the inspector produces a report which, if necessary, may include main modifications to make the document sound.

Infrastructure - a collective term which relates to all forms of essential services like electricity, water, and road and rail provision.

Local Development Framework (LDF) - the collective term for the whole package of planning documents which are produced by a local planning authority to provide the planning framework for its area, including DPDs such as the Core Strategy, Planning Policies DPD and the City Centre DPD.

Local Development Scheme (LDS) - a document which sets out the local planning authority's intentions and timetable for the preparation of new DPDs.

Local Planning Authority (LPA) - the local authority which has duties and powers under the planning legislation. For the Peterborough area, this is Peterborough City Council.

Appendix D: Glossary

Monitoring Report - a report that must be produced by the local planning authority (often on an annual basis) to explain how the the local development scheme is being implemented and the extent to which policies in the LDF are being achieved.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) - the government's national planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied.

Previously Developed Land (PDL) - see Brownfield Land.

Policies Map - a map on an Ordnance Survey base map which shows where policies in DPDs apply. For an interim period it will also show where saved policies from Local Plans apply. It needs to be revised as each different DPD is adopted.

Statutory Development Plan - the overall term for a number of documents which, together, have a particular status under the planning legislation in decision-making. The Development Plan includes all adopted DPDs for the area.

Submission stage - the stage at which a DPD is sent to the Secretary of State as a prelude to its examination, having previously been published for public inspection and formal representations.

Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) - A document which expands on policies or provides further detail to policies contained in a DPD.

Sustainability Appraisal (SA) - a formal, systematic process to assess the environmental, economic and social effects of strategies and policies in a DPD from the start of preparation onwards. The process includes the production of reports to explain the outcomes of the appraisal.

Sustainable Community Strategy - a document which plans for the future of Peterborough across a wide range of topics, setting out a vision and a series of aspirations. The local strategic partnership (Greater Peterborough Partnership) has responsibility for producing the document which sets out four main priorities that all partners work towards. It does not form part of the LDF.

Sustainable Transport - can be any form of transport other than the private car. The term most commonly relates to travel by bus, train or light rail, but walking and cycling are sustainable means of transport as well.

Water Framework Directive (WFD) - a European Directive (2000/60/EC) that requires member states to prevent any deterioration in the status of aquatic ecosystems and to make plans to protect and improve water bodies to achieve 'good ecological status'. The Directive applies to all surface freshwater bodies, groundwater, estuaries and coastal waters out to one mile.

Appendix E: Submission Policies Map

Appendix E: Submission Policies Map

The submission version of the City Centre DPD is accompanied by a Submission Policies Map.

The current version of the Peterborough Policies Map was adopted in December 2012. It consists of a large map of the whole local authority area at a scale of 1:25,000, together with Inset maps.

Inset Map 1 is a map of the urban area of Peterborough which is printed on the back of the main Policies Map. Inset Map 2 is a separate map of the city centre. There are separate maps (Insets 3 to 28) for the 25 villages.

The purpose of the Submission Policies Map is to show how the adopted map will be changed when the City Centre Plan is adopted. It is important to note that the adoption of the City Centre Plan will not replace the adopted Policies Map in its entirety. Firstly, it will only replace Inset Map 2 and secondly, it will only replace certain elements, leaving the remainder unchanged.

The contents of the Submission Policies Map shows the following items from this City Centre Plan:

- Policy Areas
- Opportunity Areas
- Primary Shopping Area
- Primary Retail Frontages
- Sites Allocated Primary for Residential Development
- Nene Valley

These will replace the following items shown on Inset Map 2 of the adopted Policies Map:

- Opportunity Areas
- Central Retail Area
- Primary Retail Frontages in City Centre
- City Centre Residential Areas
- Land Safeguarded for a Rail Link
- The Embankment
- Nene Valley

There are no other changes proposed. Therefore the following items will remain as shown on Inset Map 2 of the adopted Policies Map.

- City Centre Plan Boundary
- Local Centre
- Conservation Area
- Building of Local Importance
- Scheduled Monument
- Areas of Historic Landscape or Parkland
- Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance

Appendix E: Submission Policies Map

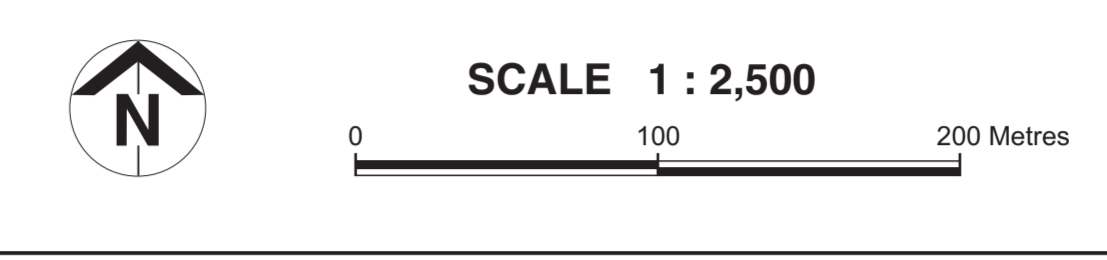
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PETERBOROUGH POLICIES MAP Inset 2

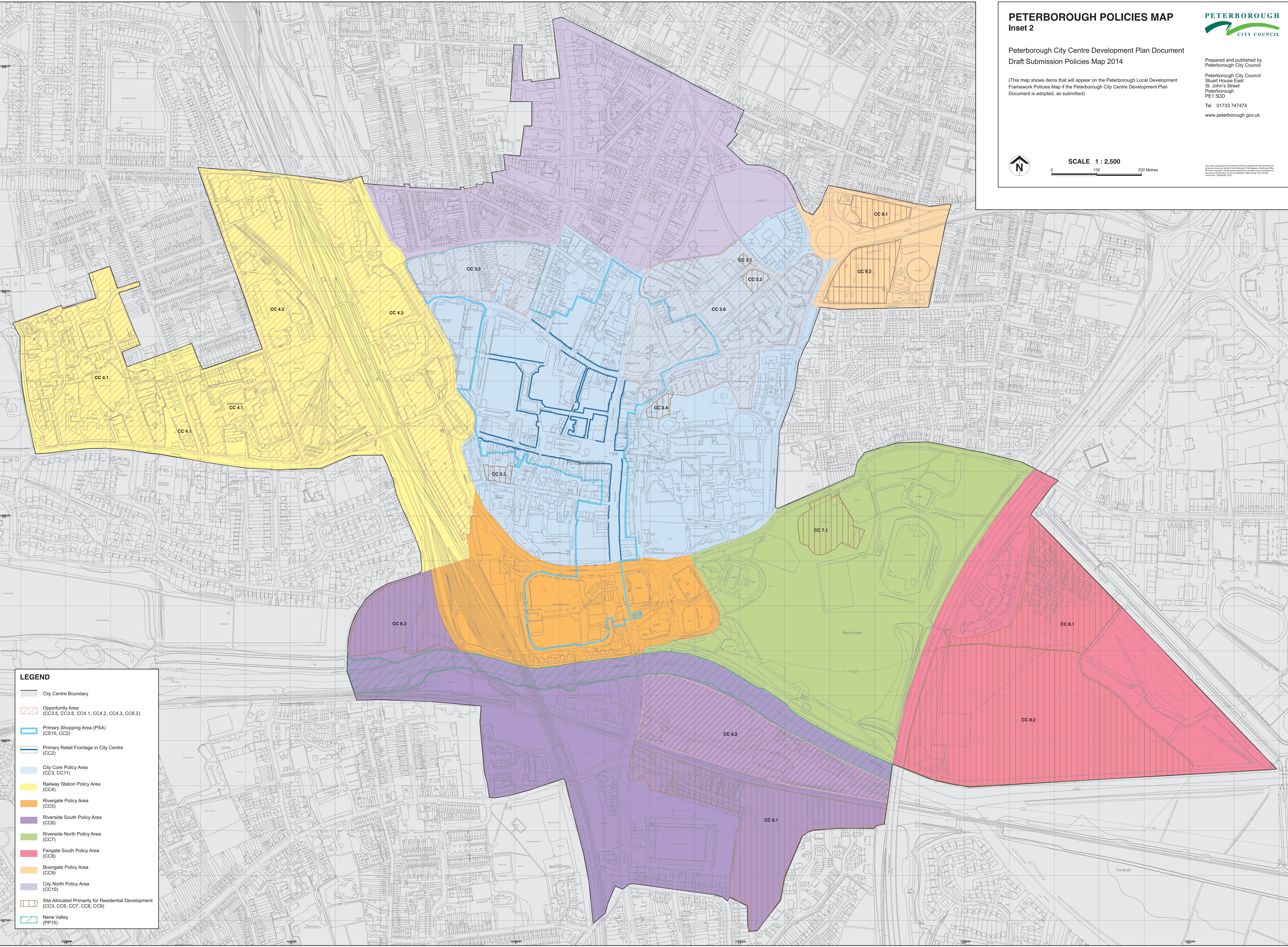


Peterborough City Centre Development Plan Document
Draft Submission Policies Map 2014

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LEGEND

- City Centre Boundary
- Opportunity Area (CC3.5, CC3.6, CC4.1, CC4.2, CC4.3, CC6.2)
- Primary Shopping Area (PSA) (CS15, CC2)
- Primary Retail Frontage in City Centre (CC2)
- City Core Policy Area (CC3, CC11)
- Railway Station Policy Area (CC4)
- Rivergate Policy Area (CC5)
- Riverside South Policy Area (CC6)
- Riverside North Policy Area (CC7)
- Fengate South Policy Area (CC8)
- Boongate Policy Area (CC9)
- City North Policy Area (CC10)
- Site Allocated Primarily for Residential Development (CC3, CC6, CC7, CC8, CC9)
- Nene Valley (PP15)

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ITEM 9(c) – FOR INFORMATION

EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No.
20 NOVEMBER 2014	PUBLIC REPORT

Contact Officer(s):	Mike Kealey, Advisor to Human Resources	Tel. 384500
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SENIOR MANAGEMENT PAY REVIEW

RECOMMENDATIONS
Employment Committee is asked: 1. revisit the decisions it made on senior officer's salaries at its meeting on 3 February 2014; 2. make any recommendations on changes, as it sees fit, including reducing senior officer pay.

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report is submitted to the Committee following a referral from Council meeting on 16 April 2014.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 At its meeting on 16 April 2014, Council received its annual report on the Council's Pay Policy. Following a debate Council adopted the Pay Policy Statement for 2014/15, noted the decisions made by this Committee in relation to the Senior Management Pay Review and asked this Committee to revisit senior officer's salaries in this municipal year. Council further requested this Committee, once it had revisited these salaries, to make any recommendations it saw fit, including reducing senior officer's pay.
- 2.2 This report sets out the detailed process which Employment Committee adopted to set senior officer pay which will now enable the Committee to revisit its decisions. This report also provides legal and HR advice should the Committee wish to consider any changes to its original decisions.

3. SENIOR MANAGEMENT RESTRUCTURE: APRIL 2013

- 3.1 The Chief Executive commenced a senior management structure in April 2013 through the publication of a consultation document which went to all Directors, Heads of Service and Assistant Directors as well as other managers who were affected by the proposals. Before the consultation document was published, the Chief Executive saw all managers affected by the proposals personally. The Cabinet and Group Leaders were informed of the consultation prior to the publication of the proposals and they were also briefed on the outcome of the consultation and how the Chief Executive intended to change her proposals as a result of the consultation. Trade Unions were also consulted on the proposals, even though none of the Trade Unions are recognised for consultation purposes with senior managers.
- 3.2 After the consultation period closed, further time was taken to finalise the proposals as a result of a health check which was conducted on the Council's asset management arrangement. The outcome of the health check required further structural changes to be made to the senior management restructure. Rather than do a second senior management restructure, the Chief Executive decided to incorporate the findings of the health check into

the original restructure proposal. This meant that the final document prepared by the Chief Executive was not ready until September 2013.

- 3.3 As a result of the restructure, a number of decisions were required by this Committee to implement the restructure. Therefore, on the 16 September 2013, the Chief Executive arranged for an informal briefing of Employment Committee to set out the steps the Committee needed to take to implement the senior management restructure. The Chief Executive also sought informal views from the Employment Committee about recruitment to the new roles and the Committee expressed a preference for the roles to be advertised internally initially to see if the posts could be recruited from the Council's own workforce, thereby supporting the Council's succession planning policies as well as avoiding expensive recruitment costs.

4. EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE - 27 SEPTEMBER 2013

- 4.1 Employment Committee considered a report which set out the changes the Chief Executive proposed to make to the senior management structure and which asked this Committee to recommend any appropriate actions which they considered necessary to the proposals prior to their implementation by the Chief Executive under her delegated powers.
- 4.2 Employment Committee considered the changes proposed by the Chief Executive but did not recommend any specific actions in response to the proposals prior to the implementation by the Chief Executive under her delegated powers except for a change in the titles of two of the posts. The Committee thanked the Chief Executive and Head of Human Resources for the extensive amount of work which had been undertaken on the proposals. The changes proposed by this restructure were also reported to Council, as required by the Constitution, at its meeting of 9th October 2013.

5. EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE - 11 OCTOBER 2013

- 5.1 Following the Employment Committee of 27 September 2013 the Chief Executive exercised her delegation to confirm the new senior management structures and commence drafting job descriptions for the new roles. The job descriptions and person specifications were presented to the Employment Committee for the new role of Director of Communities, Director of Growth and Regeneration and Director of Governance. Job descriptions for four existing posts were also presented for approval due to changes in those roles since they were last approved by Employment Committee. These roles were the Chief Executive, Executive Director: Resources, Executive Director: Children Services and Executive Director: Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing. All the job descriptions were approved and it was noted that each of the roles would be evaluated under the council's job evaluation method provided by the HAY Group. The committee were advised that once the jobs were evaluated, senior managers would be informed and then given the right to appeal against any evaluations score through a proper appeals process.
- 5.2 This committee also received a report, discussed in an exempt session, to agree to commence consultation with senior managers regarding the implementation of a revised senior management pay scale. The previous senior management pay scale had been in place for a number of years, during which neither the pay scale nor the pay bands had been reviewed. In line with the council's pay policy, national pay increases agreed by the joint negotiating committee (JNC, for Chief Officers) were applied over this period with a last increase agreed by the JNC taking effect in 2008.
- 5.3 Over the intervening period the local government landscape had changed radically, partly due to the austerity measures of government and partly through adopting new ways of working, with many services now being provided externally. As a result the local government job market had changed significantly since the pay scales were originally designed.
- 5.4 In addition, evidence from recruitment campaigns over the last 24 months has suggested that the council's pay scale did not have sufficient flexibility to attract and retain high calibre

candidates for most senior posts within the council. As a result, the council had to, in some cases step outside the structure of the pay scale banding in order to secure the high profile and critical post within the authority, predominantly within children services.

- 5.5 Given the need to control employment costs in line with the budgetary requirements and taking into account the factors above, it was felt that it was essential to review the senior management pay scale to enable the council to be confident that salaries of senior managers properly reflect the current market conditions in which recruitment takes place and in which local government now operates.
- 5.6 This committee accepted the basis on which a pay review should be conducted and agreed to commence consultation with senior managers. The consultation commenced on the 18 October 2013 where all senior managers affected by the senior manager pay scale were sent the consultation document.
- 5.7 The consultation document was prepared with professional input from the HAY Group who were engaged to assist the council in reviewing and revising the pay scales for senior managers with the aim of creating a pay scale that reflects the needs of the council and was competitive when benchmarked against comparable organisations. The HAY Group involvement was to ensure independence and impartiality to the review process as recognised experts in this field. The HAY Group were also able to bring benchmarking information of the current position within the local government, not for profit sectors as well as the private sector (excluding financial services). Having reviewed this information, it was decided, in the consultation document to reflect pay scales which were a blend between current rates in local government and rates in the not for profit sector. The latter was chosen because local government staff often look to the not for profit sector for employment. Employment Committee were also able to see benchmarking data from the private sector which indicated a significant pay differential that would result if the council included the private sector pay data which would considerably inflate salaries. Private sector pay scales were not included in the consultation document.

6. CONSULTATION PROCESS FOR SENIOR MANAGER PAY SCALES

- 6.1 As stated above consultation on the pay scales started on the 18 October 2013 and finished on the 18 November 2013 which all senior managers affected being sent the consultation paper. During this period individuals had the opportunity to request a one to one meeting, or to submit feedback in writing or verbally. Following the closure of the consultation period all senior managers were written to, provided with a response to the concerns they had raised and setting out the proposed recommendations for Employment Committee. Although no trade unions are officially recognised for consultation purposes for senior managers, the proposals regarding the pay scale were shared with the Joint Consultative Forum (JCF) at their meeting on 17 October 2013.

7. EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE - 23 OCTOBER 2013

- 7.1 Following the approval of the job descriptions and person specifications, the new roles in the senior management restructure were advertised internally and interviews took place on 23 October 2013 for the roles of Director of Communities, Director of Governance, the Executive Director of Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing and the Director of Growth and Regeneration. All the posts were recruited from internal candidates and the outcome was as follows:-

- Simon Machen was promoted to the post of Director of Growth and Regeneration from the role of Head of Planning, Transport and Engineering
- Kim Sawyer was promoted to the role of Director of Governance from the role of Head of Legal Services
- Wendi Ogle-Welbourn was promoted to the role of Director of Communities from the role of Assistant Director for Strategy, Commissioning and Prevention
- Jana Burton was promoted to Director of Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing from the post of Director of Adult Social Care.

7.2 Whilst the appointments were made to these roles, salaries were not fixed, as the Employment Committee had only the week before, commenced the consultation on the new pay scales. Employment Committee agreed to meet, following the consultation period to approve the new senior managers pay scale and to award salaries to all those within the remit of the restructure as a result of the job evaluation process.

8. EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE - 3 FEBRUARY 2014

8.1 This committee meeting was held to finalise the steps required to fully implement the senior management restructure. The first part of the meeting approved a range of recommendations to implement a senior manager pay scale and the second part of the meeting, in exempt session, determined the salaries to be paid to the Chief Executive and other Directors within the senior management restructure.

8.2 The committee received the outcome of the consultation on the senior manager pay scales and decided the following with respect to the new senior manager pay scale:-

- That the pay scale should consist of 7 pay bands, each pay band being based on the market median (the 50th percentile using local government and not for profit bench mark data), with a band width of plus/minus 10%.
- Salaries could be set at any point within the pay band so that there are no set points within the pay bands.
- A pay band should be designated numerically from 1 to 7, with pay band 1 being the highest and pay band 7 being the lowest.
- Each pay band should correspond to a range of points under the HAY evaluation scheme and the evaluated point for each post determines the applicable pay band.

8.3 Once the committee had determined the senior manager pay scales they also went on to make other decisions to support the implementation of these pay bands and as a result the following was agreed:-

- To develop a progression related pay mechanism for senior managers
- To award pay protection for senior managers on the same basis as employees on the NJC scheme.
- To approve a job evaluation appeal process for senior managers.
- To approve guidance for assigning senior managers salaries on the approved pay scale.
- To assign new job titles for senior management posts.

8.4 Once the above matters had been decided Employment Committee was then able to go in to exempt session and determine the salaries to be awarded to the relevant post. It took each post in turn and proposed appropriate salaries, based on the pay scale and guidance for setting salaries. At the end of this process the committee were advised that the salary and the job evaluation score would be notified to the relevant post holders and they would be asked to signify their agreement to these changes to their terms and conditions. The committee were informed that once all post holders had agreed to these matters the decisions of the employment committee could be published.

9. ACTIONS FOLLOWING EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE ON 3 FEBRUARY 2014

9.1 Following the decision made by Employment Committee on 3 February 2014, each post holder was written to with the outcome of their evaluation and the proposed salary awarded by Employment Committee. No post holder appealed against their job evaluation score or challenged the award of the salary and so publication of the salaries took place at the Council meeting on 16 April 2014. The decisions were reported to the Council meeting and are set out below.

9.2 **Chief Executive**

The post of Chief Executive was allocated a point score of **2128** points under the Hay job evaluation scheme.

This places the post in Pay Band 1 of the new pay scale, with a point range of 1801 - 2140 points and a band width of £153,000 - £187,000. The median point on Pay Band 1 is £170,000.

Employment Committee decided to maintain the post-holder's existing salary level and awarded a salary of **£170,175** per year.

9.3 **Executive Director Resources**

The post of Executive Director Resources was allocated a point score of **1560** points under the Hay job evaluation scheme.

This places the post in Pay Band 2 of the newly proposed pay scale, with a point range of 1508 – 1800 points and a band width of £127,014 - £155,240. The median point on Pay Band 2 is £141,127.

Employment Committee decided to set salary at the median point and awarded a salary of **£141,127** per year.

As Executive Director Strategic Resources the post-holder, John Harrison, was previously paid £121,192 per year. The additional responsibilities resulting in an increase in salary to £141,127 per year for the post of Executive Director Resources are set out in detail underneath.

Back Pay Claim

As referenced earlier in this paper (Section 2.2.5), the external evaluation of the job description for the post of Executive Director Resources resulted in a point score (1560 points), which fell outside the scope of the previous pay scale (the maximum point score on the Director 1 band on the previous pay scale was 1507 points).

Employment Committee considered that the increase in responsibilities in relation to this post had in fact accumulated over a number of years as detailed underneath:

- Business Transformation – Created in 2006.
- Programme and Project Management and Performance Management - Transferred in 2007.
- Waste Strategy and Energy from Waste Projects - Transferred in 2007.
- Registration Service - Transferred in 2007.
- Former 'Leisure Services' - Transferred in September 2009 including responsibility for Vivacity services, cemeteries and crematorium services.
- City Services - From April 2009 the post-holder had responsibility for developing and letting contract and from March 2011 the post-holder took on contract responsibility for Enterprise (now Amey).
- Energy – Transferred in 2011 which included renewable generation, efficiency and creation of Esco.

- Miscellaneous – Over the period responsibility taken on for Westcombe Engineering and business support services to all departments.

The post-holder submitted a request in February 2008 to have his role re-evaluated but despite this request, an evaluation was not undertaken at that time.

A careful analysis of the responsibilities added to the post has been undertaken and from this it has been evidenced that the additional responsibilities undertaken up to early 2011 would not have been sufficient to trigger a job evaluation point score above the ceiling for the 'Director 1' pay band within the previous pay scale.

It was however recognised by Employment Committee that back pay should be awarded from 1 April 2011, as the accumulated responsibilities from this date onwards would have resulted in a job evaluation point score above the maximum on the Director 1 band on the previous pay scale.

Custom and practice would dictate that the post-holder's grading and pay would normally have been reviewed at this point but unfortunately no mechanism existed within the pay scale to enable this increase in responsibilities to be reflected by a corresponding increase in pay band or spinal column point.

Taking this into account and to maintain equity and fairness in the pay system, Employment Committee agreed a backdated pay award of **£31,563.75** for the period from 1 April 2011 to 31 October 2013.

9.4 **Executive Director Children's Services**

The post of Executive Director Children's Services was allocated a point score of **1418** points under the Hay job evaluation scheme.

This places the post within Pay Band 3 of the newly proposed pay scale, with a point range of 1261 - 1507 points and a band width of £103,811 - £126,880. The median point on Pay Band 3 is £115,345.

Employment Committee decided to maintain the post-holder's existing salary level and awarded a salary of **£125,000** per year.

9.5 **Executive Director Adult Social Care and Health and Wellbeing**

The post of Executive Director Adult Social Care and Health and Wellbeing was allocated a point score of **1418** points under the Hay job evaluation scheme.

This places the post within Pay Band 3 of the newly proposed pay scale, with a point range of 1261 - 1507 points and a band width of £103,811 - £126,880. The median point on Pay Band 3 is £115,345.

Employment Committee then considered the supplementary market data presented, which confirmed that similar roles in comparable local authorities are currently paid at a rate above the applicable pay band for this post. This data was collated by the research team at Gatenby Sanderson, an independent, external, specialist search and selection company.

Employment Committee determined that it did not wish to compromise the pay system by awarding a salary, which sat outside the applicable pay band for the post. It therefore decided to set salary at the median point of the pay band at **£115,345** per year but also awarded the post holder a market supplement of **£20,000** per year.

The market supplement was awarded for an initial period of two years with effect from 1 November 2013 and is subject to annual review thereafter, in accordance with the council's Market Related Pay Policy.

Post Holder

Jana Burton, Executive Director Adult Social Care and Health and Wellbeing

Previous Role (Tier 1, Director of Adult Social Care)

The post-holder previously held the post of Director of Adult Social Care and was paid £110,235 per year.

New Role (Tier 1, Executive Director Adult Social Care and Health and Wellbeing)

In her new role as Executive Director Adult Social Care and Health and Wellbeing the post-holder is paid a base salary of £115,345 per year and is responsible for:

- Adult Social Care.
- Public Health.
- The Health and Wellbeing agenda.

9.6 **Director for Communities**

The post of Director for Communities was allocated a point score of **1418** points under the Hay job evaluation scheme.

This places the post within Pay Band 3 of the newly proposed pay scale, with a point range of 1261 - 1507 points and a band width of £103,811 - £126,880. The median point on Pay Band 3 is £115,345.

Employment Committee decided to set the salary at the median point and awarded a salary of **£115,345** per year.

Post Holder

Wendi Ogle-Welbourn, Director for Communities

Previous Role (Tier 2, Assistant Director Strategic Commissioning and Prevention)

The post-holder previously held the second tier post of Assistant Director Strategic Commissioning and Prevention for Children's Services and was paid £105,186 per year.

New Role (Tier 1, Director for Communities)

In her new role as Director for Communities the post-holder is paid £115,345 per year and is responsible for strategy, commissioning and prevention for:

- Children's Services.
- Adult Social Care services.
- Public Health services.
- Neighbourhoods services.

The post-holder is also responsible for the provision of services for:

- Children.
- Neighbourhoods.
- Public Health.

9.7 Director of Growth and Regeneration

The post of Director of Growth and Regeneration was allocated a point score of **1312** points under the Hay Group job evaluation scheme.

This places the post within Pay Band 3 of the newly proposed pay scale, with a point range of 1261 - 1507 points and a band width of £103,811 - £126,880. The median point on Pay Band 3 is £115,345.

Employment Committee then considered the supplementary market data presented, which confirmed that similar roles in comparable local authorities are currently paid at a higher rate than the median point in Pay Band 3. This data was collated by the research team at Gatenby Sanderson, an independent, external, specialist search and selection company.

Employment Committee decided to set salary at the median point of the pay band at **£115,345** per year but also awarded the post holder a market supplement of **£5,000** per year in recognition of external market factors.

This market supplement was awarded for an initial period of two years with effect from 1 November 2013 and is subject to annual review thereafter, in accordance with the council's Market Related Pay Policy.

Post Holder

Simon Machen, Director of Growth and Regeneration

Previous Role (Tier 2, Head of Planning, Transport and Engineering Services)

The post-holder previously held the second tier post of Head of Planning, Transport and Engineering Services and was paid £90,323 per year.

New Role (Tier 1, Director of Growth and Regeneration)

In his new role as Director of Growth and Regeneration the post-holder is paid a base salary of £115,345 per year and is responsible for:

- A wide range of infrastructure, regulatory and environmental services including Planning, Transport and Engineering Services.
- Growth.
- Regeneration.
- The council's new Joint Venture arrangement.
- The commissioning and performance management of Opportunity Peterborough, the Peterborough Delivery Partnership and highway services providers.
- Resilience / Health and Safety.

9.8 Director of Governance

The post of Director of Governance has been allocated a point score of **1056** points under the Hay Group job evaluation scheme.

This places the post within Pay Band 4 on the newly proposed pay scale, with a point range of 1056 - 1260 points and a band width of £85,500 - £104,500. The median point on Pay Band 4 is £95,000.

Employment Committee decided to set salary at the median point and awarded a salary of **£95,000** per year.

Post Holder

Kim Sawyer, Director of Governance

Previous Role (Tier 2, Head of Legal Services)

The post-holder previously held the second tier post of Head of Legal Services. As such she was responsible for the delivery of legal services and was paid £74,314 per year.

New Role (Tier 1, Director of Governance)

In her new role as Director of Governance the post-holder is paid £95,000 per year and is responsible for:

- Legal Services.
- Governance.
- Regulatory Services.
- Communications.
- Human Resources.
- Performance Management
- Elections.

9.9 As previously stated, Council debated this matter and passed the recommendation for this committee to review senior management pay. Set out below are the legal implications which need to be considered when carrying out such a review.

10. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1 The Employment Committee will be aware that if it were to impose a unilateral reduction in pay i.e. an imposed percentage reduction, this would be unlawful and could give rise to claims of breach of contract, unlawful deduction from wages and constructive unfair dismissal. Any pay reduction, to be lawful, would have to be the subject of consultation and agreement with those affected by the reduction. Failure to reach agreement with those officers leaves the option only to dismiss and re-engage those officers.

10.2 The pay made to the Executive Director in recognition of his accumulated responsibilities over previous years was paid under a settlement agreement. An agreement protects the Council as it is a once and for all settlement of any claim. The settlement agreement reached with the Executive Director of Resources is a binding contract. Members will therefore know that it cannot be undone by the Council without being in breach of contract. Employment Committee will appreciate that a binding contract can only be varied by agreement.

10.3 "Market supplements" are paid by the Council to assist recruitment of roles that are paid above the independently assessed levels in other organisations. Our policy states that they are paid for two years. Whilst a market supplement can be withdrawn after two years, it is far more difficult to argue for a removal of a market supplement *before* the expiry of that time. As Employment Committee will understand, the market supplement payment is a contractual entitlement and any attempt to reduce or remove it will be a unilateral reduction in pay and open to legal challenge as both a breach of contract and an unlawful deduction of pay, unless agreement is reached through consultation and in the absence of agreement only dismissal and re-engagement is an option.

11. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

11.1 At the Employment Committee on the 27 September 2013 it was reported that as a result of the proposals put forward, which will reduce the number of senior management roles

and improve arrangements for commissioning and provision of services, it is anticipated that savings should be in the region of £750,000.

11.2 The Councils medium term financial strategy published in March 2013 outlined plans to deliver savings through 'Implementing a revised delivery model for a commissioning function.' By 2014/15 these were expected to total £1m per year.

11.3 The review of the Senior Manager structure was the first stage in delivering the commissioning function, and then the associated savings. These savings arise in three stages:

1. Direct savings from the original senior manager reorganisation, establishing the new structure of the Council. Savings have been made from the posts deleted, as reported to Employment Committee e.g. Executive Director of Operations
2. Further savings from reorganisation within the senior structure within each Directorate. Again these reorganisations have been reported to Employment Committee. For example the Communities reorganisation was reported to Employment Committee in February 2014. This deleted the following posts:
 - Assistant Director Commissioning Childrens Services
 - Assistant Director Commissioning Adult Services
 - Associate Director Public Health
 - Head of Neighbourhoods
 - Head of Specialist Commissioning Children's Services

These posts were replaced by two assistant Director posts.

3. Savings from restructuring the teams below AD level. Posts affected by these changes would not be reported to Employment Committee. The principal changes have been in generated efficiencies by bringing together the commissioning functions in Adults and Childrens services and streamlining them. In some case consultations for these changes are underway.

11.4 The benefits arising from having a more co-ordinated approach to commissioning services are not included in the £1m savings, but will help drive forward further savings opportunities in the medium term financial strategy.

12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Employment Committee papers referred to in this report.

COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 10
17 DECEMBER 2014	PUBLIC REPORT

RECORD OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS MADE SINCE THE LAST MEETING

1. DECISIONS FROM CABINET MEETING HELD ON 24 NOVEMBER 2014

THE HOMELESSNESS REVIEW 2014 AND STRATEGY 2013-2018

Cabinet received a report following approval from the Strong and Supportive Scrutiny Committee on 3 September 2014.

The purpose of the report was for Cabinet to note and comment on the activity of the Housing Needs Service over the last year; to review and comment on the information contained in the Homelessness Review; and to comment and agree on the broad strategic aims of the Homelessness Strategy and to recommend the Strategy be adopted by Council.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED**:

1. To note and comment on the activity of the Housing Needs Service over the last year;
2. To comment on the Homelessness Review; and
3. To agree on the broad strategic aims of the Homelessness Strategy and recommend that the Strategy be adopted by Council (*as detailed within the Executive and Committee Recommendations to Council report at agenda item 9*).

PETERBOROUGH CITY CENTRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT (VERSION FOR ADOPTION)

Cabinet received a report following Council's decision on 4 December 2013 to approve the Peterborough City Centre Development Plan Document (DPD) (Proposed Submission Version), also referred to as the City Centre Plan, for the purposes of public consultation and submission to the Secretary of State. Such consultation had taken place and the DPD was submitted to the Secretary of State 1 April 2014. Subsequently, an independent Planning Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State had carried out a public examination into the document. The Inspector had sent her report to the Chief Executive setting out her conclusions on the Plan.

The purpose of the report was to set out the recommendations made by the Independent Inspector and subsequently, seek Cabinet's approval to recommend the City Centre Plan to Council for adoption.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED**:

1. To note the conclusions of the independent Inspector who was appointed to examine the council's submitted Peterborough City Centre Development Plan Document; and
2. To recommend to Council the adoption of the Peterborough City Centre Development Plan Document, incorporating modifications as recommended by the Inspector ('Main Modifications') and other minor editorial modifications ('Additional Modifications') (*as detailed within the Executive and Committee Recommendations to Council report at agenda item 9*).

REVIEWING PETERBOROUGH LIBRARY SERVICES AND COMMUNITY CENTRES

Cabinet received a report the purpose of which was:

- a) To allow Cabinet to consider the responses to the recent city-wide consultation on people's use of our libraries and community centres;
- b) For Cabinet to consider how these results would feed into the Council's spending plans for 2015-2016; and
- c) For Cabinet to consider a different approach for community centres, including new criteria to guide decisions about future management arrangements.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED**:

1. To review and approve the results from the public consultation on the use of libraries and community centres and to consider how the responses inform the Council's spending plans for 2015 – 2016; and
2. To approve the proposed approach to supporting community centres in the future, to secure a sustainable network of effective and efficient centres through a new model for community centres as detailed in paragraph 6.5 of the report.

MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2015/16 TO 2024/25

The Cabinet meeting of 22 September 2014 considered a report 'Medium Term Financial Strategy 2015/16 to 2024/25' and within this report considered that it may be necessary to review the budget process and timetable having regard for the comments arising from the cross party budget working group to explore the options to commence consultation at the earliest opportunity.

The Corporate Management Team, Cabinet and the cross party Budget Working Group had explored options to release budget proposals in two stages, enabling views of all residents, partner organisations, businesses and other interested parties to understand the scale of the financial challenge and feedback their views commencing with the first tranche of budget proposals.

Cabinet received the report as part of the council's Budget and Policy Framework that required Cabinet to initiate and propose budget proposals to set a balanced budget for the forthcoming financial year.

The purpose of this report was for Cabinet to:

- Approve the first phase of Cabinet's budget proposals for consultation to contribute towards closing the budget gap of £25m. Subject to Scrutiny feedback and comments from all residents, partner organisations, businesses and other interested parties, Cabinet will recommend budget proposals to Council in December 2014 to implement at the earliest opportunity;
- Approve and outline the approach for the remaining budget process; and
- Outline the financial challenge the council faces in the current financial year and in setting a balanced budget for 2015/16.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED**:

1. To note the context for the amended budget process in light of the unprecedented financial challenge the Council faces in setting a balanced budget for 2015/16 (section 5);
2. To take a two phased approach to consultation on formulation of the 2015/16 Budget, publishing the Phase 1 proposals immediately as the basis to seek feedback from Scrutiny and views from all residents, partner organisations, businesses and other interested parties (section 6); and

3. To convene on 15 December 2014 to consider feedback in order to seek the endorsement of the Council meeting of 17th December 2014 to the Cabinet's approach to consultation, savings proposals and plan to implement those proposals at the earliest opportunity.

OUTCOME OF PETITIONS

Cabinet received a report following the presentation of petitions to Full Council on 8 October 2014.

The purpose of the report was to update Cabinet on the progress being made in response to petitions.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED** to note the actions taken in respect of petitions presented to Full Council (as detailed below).

i. Petition relating to the provision of play equipment for the under-fives in Helpston

This petition was presented to full Council on 8 October 2014 by a member of the public, Ms Peat, and requested exploration into the provision of play equipment in Helpston.

The Council's Community Capacity Assistant Manager responded stating that 'it is very encouraging that you have so much support from the community of Helpston towards the installation of play equipment in the village. As you are aware, there has been great progress over the last few months regarding this'.

Council officers are due to meet with all interested parties to try to agree a way forward.

Specifically, two issues are being worked through in light of the interest in, and support, for the proposal, these being:

- i) which is the right location for enhanced play provision for under 5s in the village; and
- ii) can we identify sufficient funding to cover the costs of the work?

A further update is to be provided once more work has been done on these two questions.

ii. Petition objecting to the proposed planning application of development of a garage site behind 18 Acacia Avenue, Dogsthorpe, Peterborough

This petition was presented to full Council on 8 October 2014 by Councillor Asif Shaheed which requested that consideration be given, for the implementation of traffic calming measures in Croyland Road, Walton.

The Council's Transport Planning Officer responded stating that 'we receive a number of requests for safety schemes each year, both internally and externally to the council. As there is a limited budget available to implement these requests we use a standard assessment procedure to determine priority for funding.

Requests with sufficient priority from the assessment are progressed to the Transport & Engineering Project Board, where a decision is made on including the request as a scheme in the Capital Works Programme.

Requests with insufficient priority from the assessment do not progress any further.

Following the assessment it was found that average speeds during the morning and afternoon were 21 and 25 miles per hour respectively; this is presently below the 30 miles per hour speed limit that is in effect on Croyland Road.

As a result of the assessment your request will not be progressed any further at this time’.

2. CALL-IN BY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE OR COMMISSION

Since the publication of the previous report to Council, the call-in mechanism has been invoked once. This was in respect of the decision taken by the Cabinet Member for Resources published on 18 November 2014 relating to ‘Council Tax Support Scheme 2015/16 Consultation – NOV14/CMDN/96’. The call-in request was considered by the Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital Scrutiny Committee on 2 December 2014. Following consideration of the reasons stated on the request for call-in and the response to the call-in, the Committee did **not** agree to the call-in of this decision on any of the reasons stated.

It was therefore recommended that under the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in the Council's Constitution (Part 4, Section 8, and paragraph 13), implementation of the decision would take immediate effect.

3. SPECIAL URGENCY AND WAIVE OF CALL-IN PROVISIONS

Since the publication of the previous report to Council, the urgency provisions have not been invoked.

4. CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS

CABINET MEMBER AND DATE OF DECISION	REFERENCE	DECISION TAKEN
Councillor John Holdich 24 September 2014	SEP14/CMDN/85	<p>The Expansion of Phoenix School</p> <p>The Cabinet Member, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Resources and the Executive Director - Children’s Services ; Executive Director – Strategic Resources and the Head of Legal Services:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Authorised the construction of a new school building on the Tunnel site, Malborne Way to accommodate the expansion of Phoenix Special School and associated external works on the existing site relating to the car park, up to the value of the budget sum of £5m. This sum shall also include funding for Information and Communications Technology (ICT), all site surveys and project management and technical advisors fees and removal of one of the existing temporary double mobile classrooms currently sited on the CRA land at the back of the school site; 2. Authorised the Executive Director of Children Services to vary the design and build lump sum option contract with Carillion Construction Ltd to include the construction of a new building and remodelling of external areas on the existing site to

		<p>accommodate the expansion of Phoenix Special School; and</p> <p>3. Authorised the Head of Legal Services to enter into any legal documentation on behalf of the Council in relation to this matter.</p>
<p>Councillor John Holdich</p> <p>23 September 2014</p>	SEPT14/CMDN/86	<p>Appointment of Authority Governor – St John’s Church</p> <p>The Cabinet Member appointed Mr Gary Moore as authority governor, nominated by the Local Authority.</p>
<p>Councillor John Holdich</p> <p>23 September 2014</p>	SEPT14/CMDN/87	<p>Appointment of Authority Governor – Abbotsmede Primary School</p> <p>The Cabinet Member appointed Mrs Sharon Stockley as authority governor, nominated by the Local Authority.</p>
<p>Councillor Sheila Scott</p> <p>13 October 2014</p>	OCT14/CMDN/88	<p>Contract Award for 16+ Supported Accommodation</p> <p>The Cabinet Member authorised the award of a framework contract for accommodation and support services for young people leaving care to the providers listed below, for a period of three years with an option to extend for 2 years. The contract value is £2.062million over the period of the contract.</p> <p>Lot 1: K2, PC Homes, Lincolns Care, Jordan Xavier, Transitions Care, Step Ahead, 16+ Ltd and Key 2. Lot 2: K2, Lincolns Care, Jordan Xavier, Transitions Care, Step Ahead, 16+ Ltd and Key 2. Lot 3: Lincolns Care, Transitions Care, Step Ahead and 16+ Ltd.</p>
<p>Councillor Marco Cereste on behalf of Councillor David Seaton</p> <p>13 October 2014</p>	OCT14/CMDN/89	<p>ND18 Discretionary Rate Relief</p> <p>The Council Leader and Cabinet Member for Growth, Strategic Planning, Housing, Economic Development, and Business Engagement on behalf of the Cabinet Member for Resources:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approved the award of Discretionary Rate Relief for charities and similar organisations (as shown on the schedule at Appendix A attached to the CMDN) to 31 March 2017; and 2. Rejected the applications for the award of Discretionary Rate Relief for charities and similar organisations (as shown on the schedule at Appendix B attached to the CMDN).
<p>Councillor John Holdich</p> <p>18 October 2014</p>	OCT14/CMDN/90	<p>Reform to Assessments and Service Provision for Children and Young People who have Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities, Resulting from the Children and Families Act 2014</p> <p>The Cabinet Member supported the decision to</p>

		implement the revised statutory duties that apply to the Council under the Children and Families Act 2014, noting the very significant contribution made to the implementation programme by Family Voice Peterborough.
Councillor John Holdich 17 October 2014	OCT14/CMDN/91	Appointment of Authority Governor – Abbotsmede Primary School The Cabinet Member appointed Ms Collette Smith as authority governor, nominated by the Local Authority.
Councillor John Holdich 17 October 2014	OCT14/CMDN/92	Authorisation to make a compensation payment following complaint to the ombudsman The Cabinet Member reviewed the Ombudsman's findings and authorised the payment of £1300 to settle a school placement complaint.
Councillor Marco Cereste 22 October 2014	OCT14/CMDN/93	Invest to Save Scheme The Cabinet Member: 1. Approved the Council entering into a £30 million, 30 year loan agreement with Axiom Housing Association Ltd; and 2. Delegated to the Executive Director Resources the preparation and conclusion of the legal agreement between the Council and Axiom Housing Association Ltd in respect of the loan.
Councillor John Holdich 27 October 2014	OCT14/CMDN/94	Peterborough District Hospital Site The Cabinet Member, in consultation with Councillor Seaton, Cabinet Member for Resources, the Executive Director of Resources and Head of Legal Services: 1. Authorised the acquisition of part of the former Peterborough District Hospital site to be used as a school site; and 2. Authorised the payment of £300,000 to the current owners of the site, Land Improvement Holdings S.à.R.L.
Councillor Nigel North 31 October 2014	OCT14/CMDN/94(i)	Future of the Eight Former Play Centres The Cabinet Member for Environment Capital and Neighbourhoods: 1. Approved the asset transfer of 5 former play centres following completion of the Community Asset Transfer process as set out in the Community Asset Transfer Strategy 2013-2017, to the recommended organisation from 31 st December 2014; 2. Approved the re-designation of 2 former play centres to the status of a community centre; 3. Approved the retention of 1 former play centre within

		Resources, School Team for development as part of the Phoenix School extension.
Councillor Marco Cereste 5 November 2014	NOV14/CMDN/95	<p>Installation of Solar Voltaic Panels (PV) Panels to Schools</p> <p>The Cabinet Member:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Awarded a contract to Mears Limited to carry out the installation of Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Panels to corporate buildings via the existing Solar Photovoltaic Framework Agreement which was approved by cabinet member decision notice JAN12/CMDN/002 dated 6 January 2012. The cost of the works of £3,657,750 will be paid from the Invest to Save capital budget on the basis that this phase of works meets the set of principles which were outlined in the Medium Term Financial Strategy to 2021/22. The project will result in net income of £6,621,753 over a 20 year period as set out in section 4.14 of the report; 2. Delegated authority to the Executive Director, Resources to enter into Access Agreements and Power Purchase Agreements with tenants of the corporate buildings referred to at 4.2 of the report; 3. Awarded a contract to Honeywell Building Solutions, a trading name of Honeywell Control Systems Limited for the installation, performance monitoring and maintenance of Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Panels on school buildings via the existing Energy Performance (EnPC) Framework which was approved by Cabinet member decision notice JUN13/CMDN/054. The cost of the works of £491,899 will be paid from the Invest to Save capital budget on the basis that this phase of works meets the set of principles which were outlined in the Medium Term Financial Strategy to 2021/22. The costs of performance monitoring and maintenance of £462,355 over 20 years will be funded from income generated. Overall the project will result in net income of £199,784 over a 20 year period as set out in section 4.14 of the report; 4. Awarded a contract Mears Limited to carry out the installation of Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Panels on school buildings via the existing Solar Photovoltaic Framework Agreement which was approved by cabinet member decision notice JAN12/CMDN/002 dated 6 January 2012. The cost of the works of £2,876,250 will be paid from the Invest to Save capital budget on the basis that this phase of works meets the set of principles which were outlined in the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) to 2021/22. The project will result in net income of £2,200,470 over a 20 year period as set out in section 4.14 of the report; and 5. Delegated authority to the Executive Director, Resources to enter into Access Agreements and Power Purchase Agreements with individual schools

		for the installation of solar panels and for the sale of electricity produced to those schools respectively.
Councillor David Seaton 18 November 2014	NOV14/CMDN/96	<p>Council Tax Support Scheme 2015/16 Consultation</p> <p>The Cabinet Member approved for consultation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the draft 2015/16 Council Tax Support Scheme is one with an overall reduction of 40% (compared to the current level of 30%); and 2. The approach to consultation outlined, including the alternative options of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Keeping the reduction at 30%; or · A reduction of 35%.
Councillor David Seaton 17 November 2014	NOV14/CMDN/97	<p>Anti-Bribery Policy</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Resources:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reviewed the Anti-Bribery Policy; and 2. Recommended the Policy for approval and implementation.
Councillor John Holdich 26 November 2014	NOV14/CMDN/103	<p>Award of Contract for the Extension of Discovery Primary School</p> <p>The Cabinet Member, in consultation with Councillor Seaton, Cabinet Member for Resources, the Executive Director of Resources and Head of Legal Services:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Authorised the construction of an extension to accommodate the expansion of Discovery Primary School which will also include funding for Information and Communications Technology (ICT), all site surveys and project management and technical advisers fees, subject to consent being obtained pursuant to S77 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1988; and 2. Authorised the award of the construction contract to L. Garfield Builders Limited for the sum of £758,672.41.
Councillor John Holdich 26 November 2014	NOV14/CMDN/104	<p>Award of Contract for the Extension of Nenegate School</p> <p>The Cabinet Member, in consultation with Councillor Seaton, Cabinet Member for Resources, the Executive Director of Resources and Head of Legal Services:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Authorised the construction of an extension to accommodate the expansion of Nenegate School which will also include funding for Information and Communications Technology (ICT), all site surveys and project management and technical advisers fees; and 2. Authorised the award of the construction contract works to L. Garfield Builders Limited for the sum of £425,190.12.

<p>Councillor John Holdich</p> <p>27 November 2014</p>	<p>NOV14/CMDN/105</p>	<p>Authorisation to make a compensation payment following a complaint</p> <p>The Cabinet Member reviewed the findings and authorised the payment of £1500 to settle a Special Educational Needs complaint.</p>
<p>Councillor Wayne Fitzgerald</p> <p>27 November 2014</p>	<p>NOV14/CMDN/106</p>	<p>Authorisation to make a compensation payment following a complaint to the Ombudsman</p> <p>The Cabinet Member reviewed the Ombudsman's findings and authorised the payment of £547 to settle a complaint and remedy injustice in terms of financial hardship to complainants.</p>
<p>Councillor Wayne Fitzgerald</p> <p>27 November 2014</p>	<p>NOV14/CMDN/107</p>	<p>Authorisation to make a compensation payment following a complaint to the Ombudsman</p> <p>The Cabinet Member reviewed the Ombudsman's findings and authorised the payment of £600, a recommended settlement amount.</p>
<p>Councillor Peter Hiller</p> <p>28 November 2014</p>	<p>NOV14/CMDN/108</p>	<p>Care and Repair Heating Framework Agreement</p> <p>The Cabinet Member authorised the award of a framework contract for repairs assistance grant work, specifically the installation of central heating systems in domestic properties, for a two year period commencing on 30th November 2014 with an option to extend for a further one year to the following contractors:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Gasway Services Ltd Gaswise Services Ltd Trevor Benton Construction Ltd</p> <p>The contract value is estimated at £900,000 for the initial and extended contract period.</p>
<p>Councillor Peter Hiller</p> <p>28 November 2014</p>	<p>NOV14/CMDN/109</p>	<p>Care and Repair Framework Agreement</p> <p>The Cabinet Member authorised the award of a framework contract for the installation of disabled facility grant adaptations in domestic properties, for a two year period commencing on 30th November 2014 with an option to extend for a further one year to the following contractors:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Allworks Home Improvements Ltd BSG Property Services Ltd Casbon Building Services Gaswise Services Ltd Morley Building Service Ltd Nadeem Construction Ltd PFS Builders & Contractors Trevor Benton Construction Ltd</p> <p>The contract value is estimated at £2,400,000 for the initial and extended contract period.</p>

5. DECISIONS FROM CABINET TO BE HELD ON 15 DECEMBER 2014 ON:

- i) Solar Panels on Roof Tops;
- ii) Transforming Day Opportunities for Adults Under 65;
- iii) Children's Services Directors Update; and
- iv) Phase One Budget Proposals.

The decisions from Cabinet to be held on 15 December 2014 will be circulated as a separate document following the meeting.

COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 12
17 DECEMBER 2014	PUBLIC REPORT

MOTIONS ON NOTICE

The following notices of motion have been received in accordance with the Council's Standing Order 13.1:

1. Motion from Councillor John Fox

1. That the Council acknowledges the work which has already been carried out by Annette Joyce, Assistant Director for Commercial Operations and Pep Cipriano, Commercial Operations Communications Manager, working in conjunction with one of the Beadles, Ernest Mensah-Sekyere, in building up a sporting and cultural link with Kumasi, a city located in the Ashanti region of Ghana; and
2. That in light of the work already undertaken, the Council considers the formation of a 'Friendship Link' with Kumasi in order to allow for further exchanges to take place around areas such as education and to promote friendship between the two cities.

2. Motion from Councillor Nabil Shabbir

This council welcomes and notes the recent decision by MPs in Parliament to recognise the state of Palestine. Recent events have shown that there is a strong feeling in the city across all communities about the plight of the Palestinian people, therefore we request that the Leader of the Council or the Chief Executive to write to the Prime minister and ask him to join in recognising the Palestinian state.

3. Motion from Councillor Ed Murphy

That Council:

1. Notes the difficult financial circumstances in Peterborough and the work undertaken by the cross-party working party on the budget to commence savings as early as January;
2. Believes that Members can play their part in making savings through policy development and by making a reduction in the amount being received in special responsibility allowances;
3. Requests that those Members receiving a special responsibility allowance voluntarily agree to surrender that allowance from December 2014 as this will make a saving in the last remaining quarter for this financial year in effect these Members will receive three quarters of the allowances that were budgeted for and that the Leader considers reducing the number of Cabinet Members and Cabinet Advisors.

4. Motion from Councillor Frances Fox

That Council agrees to reduce the number of costly consultants in order to make savings to support vulnerable public services.

5. Motion from Councillor Nick Sandford

This Council notes that:

1. Currently 1.5 million 16 and 17 year olds are denied the vote in public elections in the UK;
2. That the campaign to lower the voting age is supported by thousands of young people across the UK and that the Votes at 16 Coalition consists of a wide range of youth and democracy organisations;

This Council believes that:

1. 16 and 17 year olds are knowledgeable and passionate about the world in which they live and are as capable of engaging in the democratic system as any other citizen;
2. Lowering the voting age to 16, combined with strong citizenship education, would empower young people to better engage in society and influence decisions that will define their future;
3. People who can consent to medical treatment, work full-time, pay taxes, get married or enter a civil partnership and join the armed forces should also have the right to vote.

This Council resolves;

1. To join the Votes at 16 Coalition;
2. To ask the Chief Executive to write to our local MPs to inform them of this decision and ask them to support the campaign in the House of Commons.
3. To promote this policy through its communications;
4. To work with local schools, our Youth MP and the Peterborough Youth Council to raise awareness among young people of the UK system of Government and the role of active citizens in our democracy

COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 13(a)
17 DECEMBER 2014	PUBLIC REPORT

Contact Officer:	Kim Sawyer, Director of Governance	Tel. 452361
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**REVIEW OF PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL'S MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME –
REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES PANEL**

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S	
FROM : Independent Members' Allowances Panel	Deadline date : N/A
<p>Council is requested to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the recommendations of the Independent Members' Allowances Panel, as summarised in paragraph 3 below; and 2. Determine the action it wishes to take in response to the recommendations contained within the report. 	

1. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 The Council has a statutory requirement to establish and maintain an Independent Members' Allowances Panel. This Panel will broadly have the functions of providing the local authority with advice on its Members' Allowances Scheme and the nature and level of allowances to be paid.
- 1.2 The Council is requested to consider the recommendations of the Independent Members' Allowances Panel, as outlined at paragraph 3 below, following its review of the Council's current Members' Allowances Scheme.
- 1.3 The Council must 'have regard' to the Panel's recommendations but may then determine what actions, if any, it wishes to take.

2. BACKGROUND AND CONSULTATION

- 2.1 The Panel met on a number of occasions during October 2014 in order to review the current Members' Allowances Scheme. The Panel's report, which is attached at Appendix 1, sets out its findings and recommendations.
- 2.2 All Members of the Council were invited to make representations to the Panel, either in writing or in person, and the recommendations arising from the review were informed from a number of sources including those representations received.
- 2.3 Allowances, in their basic form, are paid to Councillors to 'cover all expenses and time incurred by a City Councillor in carrying out his/her duties for the Council'.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS ARISING FROM THE REVIEW

- 3.1 It is for Councillors to receive the report and to determine what action should be taken. The Panel recommends:

3.2 Basic Allowance

- That the current Basic Allowance, payable to all Members, should be increased from £7165.95 to £9300.00 per annum.
- That no changes be made to the telephone allowance at the current time, but the provision of electronic equipment should be reviewed.
- That no changes be made to the travel and subsistence elements of the scheme.

3.3 Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA)

- That Members continue to be restricted to one SRA.
- That the Leader's SRA remains at the current multiple of the Basic Allowance, this being three times.
- That the Deputy Leader's SRA should be paid at the rate of 66.67% of the Leader's SRA to recognise the role of Deputy in addition to the post holder's Cabinet responsibility.
- That Cabinet Members receive an SRA which is 50% of that paid to the Leader of the Council.
- That Cabinet Advisors receive an SRA which is 25% of the Leader's SRA.
- That the Chairman of the Planning and Environmental Protection Committee receives an SRA which is 30% of the Leaders SRA.
- That the Chairmen of the Audit Committee and the Licensing Committee receive an SRA which is 25% of the Leader's SRA.
- That the Chairman of the Employment Committee receives an SRA which is 6.25% of the Leader's SRA.
- That the SRAs payable to Chairmen of Scrutiny Commissions and Committees be paid at 25% of the Leader's allowance.

3.3 Leader of Opposition Groups

- To be paid at 25% of the Leaders SRA, to be divided pro rata as at present and in accordance with existing conditions.

4. **CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 All Members were invited to make written representation to the Panel and offered the opportunity to address the Panel in person. The Panel has considered all submissions in detail.

5. **IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 **Legal** - The legal implications are referred to within the report.
- 5.2 **Finance** – The Panel's proposals, if accepted, would result in an additional cost of £127,094 to the Council. The effect of these recommendations are set out in Appendix 2. The budget for 2015/16 has not yet been determined.

6. **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

None.

APPENDIX 1

PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL (the “Council”)

REVIEW OF MEMBERS ALLOWANCES

Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel 2014

INDEX

Main Report		P3
Appendix 1	Matters requiring further consideration	P14

Panel Members

The Panel comprised the same members as in 2012 and 2013

Mr Jim Winstone	Retired Secondary School Headmaster With local Government experience
Mr Richard Dix	Consultant Solicitor Former local authority Chief Executive
Mr Tony King	Retired Insurance and Finance Manager Also on the Council Core Group for the Great Eastern Run

Support to the Panel

Gemma George	Senior Governance Officer
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Meetings

Tuesday 23 rd September	Initial planning and timetabling
Monday 13 th October	} Interviews with the Leader of the Council Councillors and Officers
Tuesday 14 th October	
Wednesday 19 th November	To finalise draft report

1. **Context**

- 1.1 This report considers the issues which were referred to the Panel by the Council and matters raised by those who gave evidence to it.

The report also sets out a number of matters which are considered to warrant a more detailed examination be given before the next review of the Allowances Scheme (Appendix 1).

- 1.2 The agreed way forward, arising from the initial planning meeting, was as follows:-
- i) Since 2012, Panel reports have used percentage calculations as the basis for recommending the amount of Special Responsibility Allowances and there had been no opposition to this. It was, therefore, felt appropriate to continue with this methodology.
 - ii) The focus this year would be on the specific areas detailed for further consideration in last year's report along with any issues raised through interviews and submissions this year and further analysis of the report for 2013.
 - iii) A 'comparables' update had been requested and this confirmed that there was very little movement throughout 16 similar authorities.
 - iv) The Council, at its meeting in January 2014, had not rejected the Panel's recommendations outright and this was regarded as a positive view of the principals involved. However, owing to the issues faced by local government, any increase in the basic allowance had been considered to be inappropriate by the Council.
 - vi) The basic allowance should remain as recommended for the previous year, as there had been no major shifts in other councils and this was agreed unanimously by the Panel.
 - vii) Further research was carried out in respect of the role of Chair of the Licensing Committee.
 - viii) The Deputy Leader's portfolio responsibilities were discussed and clarified.
 - ix) The Leader's additional responsibilities were clarified and noted.
 - x) This report also contains the outcomes of discussions over actions from the last report, items referred to the Panel by the Council and matters raised by those who gave evidence to it.

The report also sets out a number of new matters which it considers warrants more detailed consideration before the next review of the Allowances Scheme (Appendix 1).

2. Acknowledgements

- 2.1 The Panel is extremely grateful to those Councillors who provided information via interviews and correspondence and to supporting officers Linda Letch (Members Support Officer), to Nick Hutchins (Head of Finance) and finally to Gemma George for her advice, knowledge and Secretarial Support for the Panel.

3. Documents Considered

- 3.1 The Council's Members Allowance Scheme as set out in its Constitution. Extract of Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances.
[The Council's Members Allowances Scheme](#)
- 3.2 The Local Authorities (Member Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003. Extract showing Regulations 4 and 5.
[The Local Authorities \(Members' Allowances\) \(England\) Regulations 2003](#)
- 3.3 Report of the previous Members' Allowances Panel dated December 2013.
[Members' Allowances Panel Report 2013 and Recommendations](#)
[Minutes of Council Meeting Held 4th December 2013](#)
- 3.4 Summary of issues raised by Members in their evidence.
- 3.5 A document setting out the delegation and portfolios of individual Cabinet Members.
[The Council's Executive Delegations](#)
- 3.6 A matrix showing the allowances payable in a number of other Councils including those in Peterborough's CIPFA comparator group as well as ones selected by the Panel.
- 3.7 Documents defining Scrutiny Functions and Committees.
[The Council's Overview and Scrutiny Functions](#)
- 3.8 Issues raised by the last report requiring further investigation.
- 3.9 A matrix showing the number and frequency of meetings held and if cancelled.

4. The Basic Allowance

- 4.1 The Council's Constitution specifies that the basic allowance is the sum paid to all Councillors "to cover all expenses and time incurred by a City Councillor in carrying out his/her ordinary duties for the Council".
- 4.2 Members interviewed considered that the existing level of the basic allowance still appeared relatively low in relation to comparable Councils. However, it was noted that the level of the allowance had not been increased as recommended by the Panel in its two previous reports. When compared with other similar authorities this year within the CIPFA Grouping and other comparable Councils, the basic allowance as previously recommended by the Panel was not considered to be out of line.
- 4.3 From the information provided it was clear that Councillors continued to spend at least 20/22 hours per week on Council business. Time was spent particularly on Ward business and responding to constituents, as well as attending meetings of the Council and other associated bodies, the Panel was still of the opinion that there was little evidence to signify that Councillors wished to see job descriptions or an hourly rate payable. They considered that the role of Councillor carried with it an element of public service which did not require financial recompense. However, the call upon a Member's time was frequently excessive and often affected Members' employment situations and family life, but it was recognised that this went with the position. Most Members considered that the present situation had an effect on the number and type of people prepared to come forward to stand for election. Ultimately this had an effect on the profile of the Council's membership. Councillors considered that ideally the Council should be reflective of the profile of the Peterborough community which it represents.
- 4.4 The Panel agreed with the comments made to it as set out above. It was conscious of the ever increasing calls upon a Councillor's time. Balancing "the rate for the job" and the element of public service was far from easy. However, in making its recommendations the Panel was mindful that being a Councillor should be open to the widest possible range of the community, irrespective of personal economic circumstances. The role of the Panel was to make recommendations on the level of allowances, not to decide upon them. Also, it has to be appreciated that the continual deferment of paying the "going rate" stored up a very real problem for the future when economic pressures eased. The Council may therefore wish to consider phasing in any increase that it may deem appropriate.

4.5 As set out at 4.2 above, the Panel reviewed the level of the basic allowance with that of similar authorities. It concerned itself with attempting to determine levels of allowances that were fair, both within the scheme and which withstood scrutiny alongside comparative figures from other Local Authorities with similar characteristics to Peterborough. However, the Panel was aware that Peterborough's dynamics made simple comparison with other unitary authorities very difficult and due account was taken of demographic and economic issues and the Council's pro-active response to these factors. The additional responsibilities and time commitment needed to meet these challenges were acknowledged by the Panel.

4.6 Other issue raised: A Member raised the issue of taxation of members allowances and their affect on working tax credits which acted to the detriment of some Members. After considering the issue the Panel felt that this was a problem best raised through the member's own national political parties or the Local Government Association

4.7 In the circumstances the Panel:

Recommends (as in the two previous years) that the basic allowance should be increased from £7,165.95 to £9,300.00 p.a.

5. Special Responsibility Allowances (SRAs)

5.1. The extract from the Council Constitution Members' Allowances Scheme provides that a SRA may be paid to some Councillors who, in the Council's opinion, make a significant additional contribution to the work of the Council.

5.2 Regulation 5 of the Local Authorities (Member Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 provides guidance on the categories of roles to which SRAs should be paid, e.g. the Leader, those presiding at meetings of the Council's committees, and those representing the Council on outside bodies. Regulation 5(f) provides additional guidance; it states that even though an activity may not fall into one of the categories described in the regulation, if any other activity is carried out by a Councillor which requires of the Member an amount of time and effort equal to or greater than that required to carry out a specified role (e.g. as Leader or Committee Chairman) then that Member may also be paid a SRA.

5.3 As set out at paragraph 1.2 (i) above, the Council has adopted a practice generally of paying SRAs on the basis of multipliers of its basic allowance i.e. the Leader at present receives 3x the basic allowance, and Chairman of Employment Committee

receives a SRA of 25% of the basic allowance in addition to the basic allowance. There are a number of exceptions e.g. The Deputy Leader receives 75% of the Leader's Allowance. The Council has set these usually as a multiplier of the basic allowance. Given the way in which SRAs are allocated by the Council at present, it should be noted that any increase in the basic allowance would be automatically multiplied in its effect on special responsibility allowances. In the circumstances the Panel continues to recommend, (supported by evidence that it received) that with the exception of the Leader of the Council, other SRAs should be paid at a rate which is a percentage of the allowance paid to the Leader.

- 5.4 Leader of the Council: From evidence provided, the Council continues with the 'Strong Leader with a Cabinet' model for its local political management structure even though there is no overall political majority for the largest Group. The model is intended to provide a clear framework for decisive and accountable local leadership both internally for the Council and externally for the city's community. This includes partnership working and leadership with other community stakeholders. The Leader is able to appoint up to nine other Councillors as Cabinet Members. Under this system the Leader continues to appoint the Cabinet and has given each Cabinet Member a degree of individual executive decision making powers. Other executive decisions are taken jointly by the Cabinet.
- 5.5 Under the Council's delegation and portfolio holder structure it is clear that the Leader of the Council has retained functions which are of major importance to the Council and its community e.g. political leadership, strategic direction, strategic planning, city growth and the status of 'Environment Capital'. Those that were interviewed generally supported the level of SRA currently paid to the Leader and indeed some would have supported a higher figure.
- 5.6 The Panel was once again impressed with the role, profile and energy which the Leader displayed in order to carry out the responsibilities of his position. It appeared to the Panel that this was a very personal and individual role which involved tremendous personal energy and pressure. The only issue which held back the Panel from recommending a higher level of SRA for the Leader continued to be some uncertainty about the role of Cabinet Advisors which is considered later in this Report. The Panel recognised that in comparison with other similar councils the current payment made to the Leader of Peterborough was low.

This situation should again be reviewed in the Panel's next consideration of Members' Allowances.

The Panel recommends that the Leader should continue to be paid at the rate of 3 times the basic allowance.

5.7 Deputy Leader: The Deputy Leader is a member of the Cabinet, and is appointed by the Leader to both of these roles. The post holder's portfolio is for education, skills and university. The post receives 75% of the Leader's allowance equivalent to 2¼ times the basic allowance as a special responsibility allowance.

5.8 The Panel was concerned that the Deputy's Leader's SRA, at 75% of the Leader's allowance, appeared to be a high percentage. This concern arose from the fact that the Leader's role appeared to be of such a personal and individual character. Comparator Councils appeared to pay an allowance more in the region of 65% of that of the Leader, although it appeared that Milton Keynes did not pay any Deputy Leader allowance. However, the post holder was a Cabinet Member and the allowances for the Cabinet were 2x the basic allowance. In the circumstances the **Panel recommends that the SRA for the Deputy Leader should be paid at the rate of 66.67% of the Leaders allowance to recognise the role of Deputy in addition to the post holder's Cabinet responsibility.**

5.9 Cabinet Members. Some Councillors expressed concern at the number of Members with roles on the Cabinet i.e. Cabinet Members and Advisors.

Legislation restricts the number of Cabinet Members to nine plus the Leader.

The position of the Cabinet Members in relation to the Leader's role was considered in terms of weighting. As set out at paragraphs 5.5-5.6 above, the Leader has a large strategic portfolio and has decided which powers to delegate to other portfolio holders. Having looked at the special responsibility allowances paid by similar councils most seem to be at or below 50% of the Leader's allowance. In the circumstances **the Panel recommends that the Cabinet Members receive a special responsibility allowance which is 50% of that paid to the Leader of the Council.**

5.10 Cabinet Advisors. The Panel considered the role of the Cabinet Advisors. They are not voting members of the Cabinet. Their role did not appear to be clearly defined and increased the member role at the Cabinet (even though not voting) to more than ten members. The Panel heard conflicting views on the role of the Advisors. At one

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extreme was that they continue to perform a very important role in the work of the Cabinet at the other was that they were unnecessary and simply added to the size of the Cabinet.

5.11 However, it might be seen that they dilute the individual accountability and clarity of the role of the “strong” Leader and Cabinet model of local political management. The issue was raised as to whether the Advisors were providing a professional role in relation to the matters they were providing advice upon i.e. was their role really that usually more associated with Council officers or external consultants? The Panel after interviewing one of the Cabinet Advisors and giving the issue further consideration concluded that the current percentage payment was the appropriate level, but the issue should be reviewed again in its next report. The Panel **recommends that the posts be paid at 25% of the Leader’s allowance.**

5.12 Chairmen of Regulatory Committees. The Council pays SRAs to the four Chairmen of its Regulatory Committees. The level of the allowance is equivalent to a basic allowance in respect of the Planning and Environmental Protection Committee, the Licensing Committee and the Audit Committee and 25% of the basic allowance for the Employment Committee. It had been recommended in the 2013 report that the Panel look more closely at these allowances along with the relative weighting of the payments made. Further information relating to the workload, frequency of meetings and attendance at meetings allowed the matter to be discussed in more detail.

In the light of the evidence provided last year it had been agreed to recommend that the Chairmen of the Planning and Licensing Committees should receive a higher allowance, but that the matter should be reviewed again this year especially in respect of the Planning and Licensing Committees. After hearing evidence this year it appeared clear that the Chairman of Planning warranted a higher degree payment for his role and in the circumstance it was agreed to recommend that **the Chairman of Planning be paid at 30% of the Leader’s allowance, the Chairmen of the Audit Committee and the Licensing Committees be paid at 25% of the Leader’s allowance and the Chairman of the Employment Committee receive 6.25 % of the Leader’s allowance.**

5.13 Chairmen of Scrutiny Commissions and Scrutiny Committees. After reviewing the evidence, the Panel acknowledged the importance of the work of Scrutiny Commissions/Committees in the review and policy development of the Council. This had been previously outlined in evidence by a Senior Officer. With the particular

model of political governance which the Council had adopted it was essential that there was an effective scrutiny mechanism to hold the executive to account. From the information received and available to the Panel and in accordance with the percentage payment approach to special responsibility allowances **it was recommended that the posts be paid at 25% of the Leader's allowance.**

6. Other issues referred to the Panel

6.1 Telephone Allowance. Members receive in addition to the basic allowance a telephone allowance of £568.68. This allows Councillors to use their own telephone and be paid a contribution towards calls. However, the allowance was paid regardless of whether or not the member had also been issued with a mobile or an iPhone.

6.1.1 Members who did not have broadband capability in their home could have it installed at the Council's expense but any Member already using broadband received no allowance towards its cost.

6.1.2 The Council also had a system whereby all Members were entitled to an iPhone. This system was more secure from a Data Protection viewpoint as the issue of the Council holding information on third parties on a Member's private telephone does not then arise.

6.1.3 The issue was raised as to whether the telephone allowances should be adjusted to encourage Members to take advantage of the availability of iPhones but some Members had indicated difficulty in using certain types of equipment due to visual or audible impairments.

6.1.4 After extensive consideration the Panel decided that **no changes be made to the Telephone Allowance at this stage, but the provision of electronic equipment should be reviewed.**

6.2 Travel and Subsistence Allowance. Members received, in addition to the basic allowance, a travel and subsistence allowance of £227.45. This figure was intended to cover travel and subsistence within the City Council's area and further payments could be claimed outside of the area. The issue of Councillors responsible for the more rural areas should be looked into as their mileage was by nature much higher. The availability of public transport in some of these areas very limited.

6.3 The Panel considered the points raised and had sympathy with regards to this matter. However, the Council's area is basically urban in nature and the Panel understood that it would be very difficult to identify and pay enhanced mileage allowances only to Members who lived in rural areas. The increased level of basic allowance recommended by the Panel may help Members experiencing difficulty in respect of this issue mitigate some of the effects of increased fuel cost. The Panel suggests that a different way of dealing with travel could be looked into, for bus, train and car journeys.

6.4 Additional Committees/Joint Committees. A number of additional Committees were highlighted for exploration in relation to allowances and whether they should be routinely included within the annual summary of proposals. Details of these are outlined below:

6.4.1 Planning Review Committee. Currently no allowances paid. The Committee meets on an ad-hoc basis to deal with call-in of planning applications from the Planning Committee, in effect to re-hear the application. The Committee has met once in 2014 and it was not felt appropriate to recommend an SRA for the Chairman of this Committee at the current time.

6.4.2 Appeals Committee (Service Issues). Currently no allowances paid. The Committee meets once a year to review the outcomes of the Home to School Transport Appeals heard throughout the year. Members of the Committee also take part in these appeals, as do other appropriately trained Members. It was not felt appropriate to recommend an SRA for the Chairman of this Committee at the current time.

6.4.4 The Health and Wellbeing Board. Currently no allowances paid. The Committee meets four times a year and is currently chaired by the Leader of the Council, the Vice-Chairman being the Cabinet Advisor for Health, as per the Committees terms of reference. It was not felt appropriate to recommend an SRA for the Chairman of this Committee.

6.4.3 The Police and Crime Panel. Currently no allowances paid. As per section 28 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, it is for the participating authorities to agree whether they wish to pay the Panel Members an allowance for their role on the Panel. No provision has been made, as yet, by the Home Office for payment of an allowance within the annual grant received for the Panel, although there is provision made for £920 to be available to each member to cover expenses. The

Panel felt that, due to the relative infancy of the Police and Crime Panel, there was no argument for the implementation of allowances for Peterborough Members at the current time. This position would be reviewed annually and it was to be noted that none of the other authorities paid allowances to their Members.

6.4.4 Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation (ESPO). Currently no allowances paid. The organisation is self-funding and currently makes a small profit each year, which if unspent at the end of the year, is given back to the member authorities. This supports the cost of internal officer arrangements to support ESPO including travel and subsistence costs. There are currently no allowances paid to any of the members of the consortium and Peterborough are represented by Cabinet Members. The Panel felt that it was not appropriate to recommend any allowances for Peterborough members at the current time.

6.4.5 The Peterborough and Cambridgeshire Fire Authority. Allowances paid. The Fire Authority has its own Members' Allowances Scheme which runs to 31 March 2016. It was therefore not within the Panel's remit to make any recommendations in respect of this Committee.

6.5 The Panel agreed that further review of the additional Committees/Joint Committees would be undertaken at each annual review.

6.6 Members' Allowances Scheme Overnight Expenses. Although not directly within the remit of the Panel, it was felt appropriate to recommend to Council the exploration of the levels of 'overnight absence' detailed within the current Members' Allowances Scheme, these being viewed as quite low, particularly in relation to overnight absences for meetings held in London. It was felt that a more appropriate level should be specified, as was permitted for Council's paying accommodation costs directly.

7. Summary of Proposals

	Present £	Proposed £
Basic Allowance	7,165.95	9,300.00
Telephone Allowance	568.68	568.68
Subsistence Allowance	227.45	227.45
Leader of the Council	21,497.85	27,900.00
Deputy Leader of the Council (66.67 % of Leader)	16,123.00	18,600.93
Cabinet Members (50% of Leader)	14,331.90	13,950.00
Cabinet Advisors (25% of Leader)	7,165.95	6975.00
Chairman Planning and Environmental Protection Committee (30% of Leader)	7,165.95	8,370.00
Chairman of Licensing Committee (25% of Leader)	7,165.95	6,975.00
Chairman of Audit Committee (25% of Leader)	7,165.95	6975.00
Chairman of Employment Committee (6 ¼ % of Leader)	1,791.48	1743.75
Chairmen of Scrutiny Commissions (2 Members) (25% of Leader)	7,165.95	6975.00
Chairmen of Scrutiny Committees (3 Members) (25% of Leader)	7,165.95	6975.00
Independent Person of the Council	1,000.00	1,000.00
Deputy Independent Person of the Council (up to 2 people – vacant)	500.00	500.00

Leader of Opposition Groups (25% of Leader) to be divided
pro rata as at present and in accordance with existing conditions

7,165.95	6975.00
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Note: All Members receive a basic allowance, telephone allowance and subsistence allowance; in addition certain Members may receive ONE special responsibility allowance.

APPENDIX 1

Items for Future Consideration by the Panel

1. The Leader's Allowance;
2. Cabinet Advisors: The role of Cabinet Advisors and payments to them;
3. Travel and Subsistence Allowances: should these be integrated into the basic allowance. Also whether it would be possible to devise a clear and logical scheme to ensure that the rural areas of the city were not disadvantaged by e.g. devising a 'rural rate' for some wards of the Council;
4. Telephone allowances: To review the use by members of electronic equipment and the relevant allowance payable and to review the name of the allowance; and
5. Allowances for additional Committees/Joint Committees.

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Proposed changes December 2014

SUMMARY OF CHANGES TO MEMBERS ALLOWANCE SCHEME (Excludes any NI costs)

	No of Councillors Receiving Allowance	Current	Proposed	Impact	Comments
Basic Allowance					
Basic Allowance (G2300 09520)	57	408,459	530,100	121,641	
Telephone Allowance (G2300 10630)	57	32,415	32,415	-	
Subsistence Allowance (G2300 09410)	57	12,965	12,965	-	
Total Basic Allowance		<u>453,839</u>	<u>575,479</u>	<u>121,641</u>	
Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA)					
Leader of The Council	1	21,498	27,900	6,402	
Deputy Leader	1	16,123	18,601	2,478	
Cabinet	7	100,323	97,650	- 2,673	
Cabinet Advisors	2	14,332	13,950	- 382	
Chair of Planning & Environmental Protection Committee	1	7,166	8,370	1,204	
Chair of Licensing Committee	1	7,166	6,975	- 191	
Chair of Audit Committee	1	7,166	6,975	- 191	
Independent Person of the Council	1	1,000	1,000	-	
Deputy Person of the Council (Vacant)	1	500	500	-	
Chair of Employment Committee	1	1,791	1,744	- 47	
Chair of Scrutiny Commissions	2	14,332	13,950	- 382	
Chair of Scrutiny Committee	3	21,498	20,925	- 573	
Leader of Opposition Group - Distributed	1	7,166	6,975	- 191	
Total Special Responsibility Allowance		<u>220,062</u>	<u>225,515</u>	<u>5,453</u>	
TOTALS		<u>673,900</u>	<u>800,994</u>	<u>127,094</u>	additional cost of Proposed Scheme

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COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM. 13(b)
17 DECEMBER 2014	PUBLIC REPORT

ALTERNATIVE GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S
FROM : Chair of the Alternative Governance Working Group
That Council agrees to defer any decision on an alternative form of governance until March 2015 allowing the Alternative Governance Working Group in the interim to begin consultation with Councillors on the committee system and a hybrid model of governance

1. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 On 16 June 2014 Council resolved to explore a change in its current governance arrangements. For this purpose it set up a working group to consider and report back on the options available (including the move to a committee system, elected mayor or continuation of the current arrangements or a version of those arrangements).
- 1.2 Council agreed that the working group should report back to Council within six months to review proposals for a change in governance. This report reviews what action has been taken by the working group, seeks to defer any decision on alternative arrangements at this time and requests that Council agree a new timetable for implementation of alternative proposals.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Before the Local Government Act 2000, Councils took all decisions at either full council or the committee to which it had delegated that responsibility. Individual officers also had some limited delegation of responsibility.
- 2.2 The 2000 Act abolished the committee system and required all councils to adopt a new executive model of governance with either an elected mayor and cabinet, a council manager or an elected leader and cabinet.
- 2.3 Peterborough City Council has operated executive arrangements since 2001 under a Leader and Cabinet model with delegated decision making resting with the Cabinet or individual Cabinet members according to their portfolio. There is limited delegation to officers for non-key executive decisions.
- 2.4 The Localism Act 2011 allowed Councils to exercise discretion regarding their governance arrangements and Councils were therefore permitted to return to a committee system or adopt other governance arrangements.

In June 2014 the Council decided to set up an Alternative Governance Working Group to review alternative methods for decision making. This meant a review of four options:

- An elected mayor
- A return to the committee system

- An executive system, the same or with variations to the current arrangements
- An alternative model of governance which would require authority from the Secretary of State

2.5 A variation of the existing executive arrangements or an entirely new form of governance are often referred to as 'hybrid' models of governance as they tend to be a combination of various elements of more than one system.

2.6 The Alternative Governance Working Group began its work with a paper consultation exercise on Councillors preferred governance arrangements. This yielded only 16 responses from members (28%) with opinion split evenly between the current Cabinet system and the Committee system.

2.7 The Alternative Governance Working Group has met on four occasions between July and November and conducted 3 visits to 4 different authorities: two operating a committee system and two operating hybrid models. Kingston Upon Thames also attended the final meeting to discuss their committee system arrangements.

3. Elected Mayor

3.1 The Alternative Governance Working Group discussed the role of the elected mayor at their first meeting. The role of the elected mayor did not generally find support amongst the Group members as it was considered to be the least inclusive model of governance with all executive power being held by the elected mayor.

4. The Committee System

4.1 The Alternative Governance Working Group visited Cambridgeshire County Council and Norfolk County Council who have both reverted to a committee system from a former Leader and cabinet model.

4.2 The Group found that the distinct advantage of the committee system over the current executive arrangements is that all members take part in decision making through committee meetings.

4.3 The primary disadvantage, as put forward by both County Councils, is the loss of the role of Leader. Both Councils had however sought to retain a leadership figure, in name only, in the new structure.

4.4 Although both Councils reported that the change to the committee system was retained within current budgets, both were undertaking a review of the manner in which the system was operating and the cost of the support team is forming part of that review.

4.5 During a visit to Wandsworth Council the Alternative Governance Working Group also heard from a senior officer at Kingston Upon Thames London Borough Council which also operated a committee system. The Kingston model differed from the county models in that it favoured area committees and local decision making. It also retained the usual regulatory and strategic committees e.g. a General Purposes Committee, however this model did not generally find favour with the Group as it was perceived to be complicated and not generally a good fit for Peterborough.

5. The Hybrid Models

5.1 Kent County Council and Wandsworth London Borough Council both operate 'hybrid' models which are in fact a variation of the current executive model. The two Councils

had chosen to operate almost identical models of alternative governance with the Kent model largely deriving its model from Wandsworth.

- 5.2 In this model the Cabinet and Leader are retained however the scrutiny committees play a much larger role in policy development and decision making. All decisions to be made by Cabinet or Cabinet members go through the scrutiny committees in advance of the Cabinet meeting or CMDN. Although the scrutiny committees have no decision making power and as such make recommendations to the Cabinet or Cabinet member, both Councils report that it is rare that the Cabinet does not accept the recommendations made by Scrutiny and only in exceptional cases would the Cabinet make a decision contrary to the Scrutiny recommendation.
- 5.3 In Kent County Council the scrutiny committees were re-titled 'cabinet committees' with a separate single scrutiny committee to deal with call-ins and task and finish work.
- 5.4 In Wandsworth London Borough Council the scrutiny committees were not renamed but their terms of reference were supplemented with the responsibility of reviewing all decisions prior to Cabinet decisions being made.
- 5.5 Notes of the advantages and disadvantages of the two governance systems are attached at appendix 1. It ought to be noted that the comments included within these tables are those taken direct from comments made at the meeting and do not represent the collective view of the Alternative Governance Working Group.

6. Proposals

- 6.1 The Alternative Governance Working Group met following their visits and agreed that:
 - (a) A more inclusive system of governance is preferred;
 - (b) Whilst there was no consensus of agreement on a proposed model, the majority of the Group favoured the Wandsworth model of governance as being more aligned to how Peterborough City Council operates; and
 - (c) Both the committee model and hybrid model ought to be presented to a wider audience of Peterborough members at an All Party Policy meeting in January and through the individual political group meetings. The Group can take views from members regarding their preferred option at these meetings.
- 6.2 Guest speakers from other Councils and Inlogov have been invited to the All Party Policy meeting in January 2015. The Alternative Governance Working Group will report back to Council by March 2015 on the outcome of these meetings with a view to formulating proposals for the member's preferred model of governance and a timetable for the work required to be undertaken in the next civic year.
- 6.3 The Alternative Governance Working Group is to reconvene in the new year to consider whether any further options for governance ought to be reviewed and whether any one single proposal was emerging as the Council wide preferred governance model.

7. IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 At this stage, none as there is no recommendation for change.

4. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985)
None

The comments included within these tables are those taken direct from comments made by our hosts during visits by the Alternative Governance Working Group.

Alternative Governance Comparisons

Committee System (Cambridge and Norfolk)

Advantages	Disadvantages
Allows for engagement from back bench Councillors through Committee	Can be a cumbersome system not conducive to speedy decision making
Full Council more accountable for decision making	Additional meetings have had to be scheduled to make budget decisions
(Norfolk) Have Scrutiny Committee's for call-ins	Council is unable to overturn decisions made at Committee level.
Group representatives meet regularly to ensure policy development is delivered	(Norfolk) Chair is unable to be a member of the Policy and Resources Committee so their system is not as transparent as it might be
No one person can ratify an important decision	Urgent decisions can be difficult to obtain
Working Groups are kept to a minimum	If a party has a significant majority there is likely to be collegiate working. Groups will have majority on committees to force through decision making
Council scrutinises all decisions made at committee level	In-depth knowledge can be lost by having no Cabinet Member
Greater awareness of financial constraints amongst all members	Silo thinking is encouraged by the committee system
(Cambs) Vice Chair acts as the spokesperson for the group therefore increasing overall understanding of issues	No Public Questions
(Cambs) Less spent on Members Allowances since the introduction of Committee system	

Alternative Governance Comparisons

Hybrid System (Wandsworth and Kent)

Advantages	Disadvantages
Cuts out lengthy processes involved in a Committee system	May have an effect on number of meetings i.e. by increasing them
Allows for good engagement from back bench Councillors	May have an impact on support required but unsure at this time
Cabinet Committees as part of a Hybrid system allows discussion to take place prior to the Cabinet Member making a decision	Agendas for meetings can be long and detailed this can be an issue with respect to preparation and also for Members having enough time to read them
The Cabinet Member is still accountable for decision making	The Cabinet Member is still accountable for decision making
Less work for Scrutiny as all decision are made within the Cabinet Committees	(Kent) No public question time at Cabinet or Council Meetings
Allows all Councillors to be informed of decisions and debate on them	
If urgent decision is required an additional meeting can be called	
The current system has been streamlined meaning only relevant matters are discussed	
Allows for good debate within the Cabinet Committees	
Reduction in Call in's / Stop Notices	

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