

CABINET

MONDAY 5 DECEMBER 2016

10.00 AM

Bourges/Viersen Room - Town Hall

Contact – philippa.turvey@peterborough.gov.uk, 01733 452460

AGENDA

	Page No
1 Apologies for Absence	
2 Declarations of Interest	
3 Minutes of Cabinet Meetings held on:	
(a) 7 November 2016	3 - 12
(b) 17 November 2016 - Extraordinary Meeting	13 - 16

STRATEGIC DECISIONS

4 Phase 1 Budget Proposals	17 - 48
-----------------------------------	----------------

Circulation

Cabinet Members

Scrutiny Committee Representatives

Directors, Heads of Service

Press

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

Emergency Evacuation Procedure – Outside Normal Office Hours

In the event of the fire alarm sounding all persons should vacate the building by way of the nearest escape route and proceed directly to the assembly point in front of the Cathedral. The duty Beadle will assume overall control during any evacuation, however in the unlikely event the Beadle is unavailable, this responsibility will be assumed by the Committee Chair.

Recording of Council Meetings: Any member of the public may film, audio-record, take photographs and use social media to report the proceedings of any meeting that is open to the public. A protocol on this facility is available at:

<http://democracy.peterborough.gov.uk/ecSDDisplay.aspx?NAME=Protocol%20on%20the%20use%20of%20Recording&ID=690&RPID=2625610&sch=doc&cat=13385&path=13385>



There is an induction hearing loop system available in all meeting rooms. Some of the systems are infra-red operated, if you wish to use this system then please contact Philippa Turvey on 01733 452460 as soon as possible.

MINUTES OF CABINET MEETING HELD 7 NOVEMBER 2016

PRESENT:

Cabinet Members: Councillor Holdich (Chair), Councillor Elsey, Councillor Fitzgerald, Councillor Goodwin, Councillor Hiller, Councillor Lamb, Councillor Seaton, Councillor Smith and Councillor Walsh

Cabinet Advisors: Councillor Casey and Councillor Stokes

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chair advised that, in relation to Item 12 'Endorsement of the 2016-17 Opportunity Peterborough Business Plan' although he and Councillor Hiller sat on the Opportunity Peterborough Board, and Councillor Seaton sat on the Opportunity Peterborough Audit Committee, as Opportunity Peterborough was a wholly owned Council company, there were no interests to declare.

3. MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETINGS HELD ON 26 SEPTEMBER 2016

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 September 2016 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

4. PETITIONS PRESENTED TO CABINET

There were no petitions presented to Cabinet.

STRATEGIC DECISIONS

5. THE DRAFT PETERBOROUGH HOUSING STRATEGY 2016 to 2021

Cabinet received a report the purpose of which was to provide Cabinet with an overview of the draft Housing Strategy 2016-21 and seek approval for the document to begin a minimum of 4 weeks public consultation.

The Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing, and Economic Development introduced the item and advised that in light of the current challenging economic climate, Peterborough was performing well overall. The four priorities of the Housing Strategy were set out within the report. The proposals were presented within a landscape of national and local changes and addressed how the Council would respond to these issues.

Cabinet debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- The Strategy outlined provision to maintain existing housing stock, in addition to providing new housing.

- Partners had been liaised with in order to cater for demand regarding temporary accommodation.
- While physical solutions were being pursued, it was noted that proposals for devolution would bring in additional funding to manage this.
- The Strategy would be measured against its four priorities, with an annual report provided to Cabinet.
- The Strategy was considered to be clear and user friendly.
- The issue of Houses of Multiple Occupancy (HMO's) and the subsequent parking pressures was raised. The Cabinet were advised that the Selective Licensing Scheme would help with tackling issues with rented accommodation, including HMO's.
- It was noted that the priorities within the Strategy covered a wide range of Cabinet Portfolios.
- The Cabinet discussed the matter of office space within the city centre. It was advised that conversion of existing office space was within permitted development. It was however noted that new office space was needed.
- The current shared ownership provisions were discussed, and it was advised that some funding was available for supported or specialist housing, however this funding had decreased.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED** that Cabinet approved the draft Housing Strategy for public consultation.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The stated lifespan of the existing Peterborough Housing Strategy was from 2011 to 2015. Plans to renew the Strategy were delayed to await the outcome of the Housing and Planning Act 2016. The major anticipated announcements has now been made by Government, so the timing to publish the Council's own local housing strategy was very timely.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

A 'do nothing' option (where no new Housing Strategy was developed and the existing Housing Strategy was not updated) was considered. However, such an approach would mean that Peterborough would have an out of date Strategy which did not reflect the significant changes to national housing and welfare policy and how the Council planned to respond to them. A refresh of the Strategy was necessary to ensure that the Council had a fit for purpose Housing Strategy.

6. PETERBOROUGH LOCAL PLAN FURTHER DRAFT

Cabinet received a report the purpose of which was for Cabinet to approve the Further Draft version of the Local Plan for public consultation.

The Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing, and Economic Development introduced the item and advised that the Local Plan Further Draft addressed the challenges in identifying sites for future growth. The Draft Plan outlined a 5 year supply of deliverable housing sites. These had been identified following submission from the preliminary consultation. The new Draft identified sites for growth up to 2036, however, planning consent would still be required for development on such sites.

The Principal Strategic Planning Officer advised the Cabinet of an updated recommendation, which outlined two corrections to the Local Plan Further Draft.

Mr Dale McKean addressed the Cabinet and in summary, raised the following key points:

- Mr McKean questioned whether the situation in Eye with regard to growth had changed at all since the previous Local Plan was published.
- Residents of Eye had consistently rejected proposals for further growth in the area.
- It was noted that development was currently underway in Eye, and was already placing a strain on the local infrastructure.
- Mr McKean advised that the local school and doctor's surgery were already full, with limited parking availability.
- It was questioned who exactly would be paying for the expansion of the local school to three form entry or highway infrastructure.
- The delivery schedule in the proposals identified 94 more houses in the area, none of which were considered to be wanted or feasible.

Councillor Allen addressed the Cabinet and in summary, raised the following key points:

- Councillor Allen supported Mr McKean's concerns and advised that the roads in Eye were struggling with the current amount of traffic.
- Cabinet were requested to address the funding for the expansion of the local school and the land that would be lost to residents.
- It was also considered that funding would need to be made available for road improvement works and the need for a new medical centre before any expansion works were begun.

Cabinet debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- The Cabinet were advised that the Infrastructure Delivery Schedule, to be discussed within the next agenda item, would identify the infrastructure required for existing and upcoming development. This was a live document.
- It was noted that Eye had, within the previous Local Plan, been allocated a higher level of growth, which had been decreased following community feedback. This was subsequently increased again following review by the inspector.
- It was considered that the greater the level of planning that was put in place for growth, the more appropriate the timing of infrastructure delivery would be.
- In relation to education provision this would be progressed at the point of any planning permission being granted. Once permission had been granted, the funding required would be identified so that school provision can be finalised before any dwellings are built.
- The Health Policy within the proposal set out the requirements for development.
- It was questioned whether growth was set against the needs of specific areas. The Cabinet was advised that the policy was spatial in nature, and it would be difficult to draft the Plan in any other manner.
- It was suggested that developers to provide with their submissions evidence based need assessments. It was further noted that this was already undertaken in the form of neighbourhood plans.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED** that Cabinet:

1. Approved the Further Draft version of the Peterborough Local Plan for public consultation starting in December 2016, subject to:
 - The amendment of policy LP3, on page 17, to reflect the updated table included within the supplementary report; and
 - The amendment of page 28 to read "on all development proposals of 50 dwellings or more 2% of homes should meet Building Regulations part M (Volume 1), Category 3;" and

2. Delegated authority to officers to make any minor, inconsequential amendments to the Document prior to its publication (in order to correct matters of fact or aid clarity to the reader).

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Cabinet were asked to approve the Further Draft version of the Local Plan so that public consultation could be carried out on the document.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

The alternative option of not preparing a new Local Plan was rejected by Cabinet in July 2015 as part of the approval of Local Development Scheme.

The alternative options for each policy would be assessed as part of the Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal Report to be published in December 2016 alongside the Further Draft Local Plan for public consultation. Consultation would also help inform the Council of options which could be considered as the plan progresses.

7. COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY GOVERNANCE PROPOSALS AND INFRASTRUCTURE DELIVERY SCHEDULE UPDATE 2016

Cabinet received a report the purpose of which was to establish governance arrangements for managing Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) receipts, and to provide an updated Infrastructure Delivery Schedule (IDS).

The Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing, and Economic Development introduced the item and advised that the Governance of the CIL and the IDS were two separate but related matters. The proposed split of CIL funding was considered to be straightforward and logical. The IDS identified what infrastructure was required to support Peterborough's expected growth.

Cabinet debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- It was noted that there was nothing in the IDS in the west of the city. This was because entirely new development provided its own infrastructure, so would not require addition delivery.
- The Cabinet raised the matter of Ward Councillors being notified of funding from CIL in their areas, this would be investigated by officers.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED** that Cabinet approved the CIL Governance Proposals and Infrastructure Delivery Update 2016.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Through approving the CIL governance proposals, Cabinet would enable the Council to meet its statutory duties for managing CIL receipts (including, administration, reporting and transfer of Neighbourhood Portion); and, to spend CIL receipts on strategic infrastructure. Publication of the Infrastructure Delivery Update 2016 would provide an up to date schedule of infrastructure essential to support Peterborough's growth.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

A 'do nothing' option (where no governance process put in place and the IDS is not updated) was considered. However such an approach was not appropriate as the Council would likely fail to meet its statutory duties for managing CIL receipts. The

current IDS (2014) was deemed out of date, and therefore did not provide a suitable evidence base to inform spending decisions.

8. TASK AND FINISH GROUP REPORT ON THE REVIEW OF THE AMEY STREET CLEANSING CONTRACT

Cabinet received a report the purpose of which was to obtain the views of Cabinet following a review of the Street Cleansing elements within the Amey Contract.

The Cabinet Member for Waste and Street Scene introduced the item and advised that the intention behind the Work Group had been to identify ways in which the existing Amey resource could be better utilised. The challenges faced in relation to street cleansing were not localised to Peterborough, as a litter and fly tipping epidemic was being experienced across the country. Management schemes were being implemented as well as meetings with the courts in an attempt to increase the fines around littering and fly tipping. The recommendations of the Task and Finish Group were welcomed and it was requested that those with financial implications be considered within the budget process.

Councillor Peach, Task and Finish Group Chairman, addressed the Cabinet and in summary, raised the following key points:

- Councillor Peach thanked Task and Finish Group members, and supporting officers for their work on the recommendations.
- The opportunity to see the work of Amey and their equipment had proved very interesting.
- In light of previous success in clearing up Cathedral Square, it was considered that improved the street cleansing around the rest of the city centre was entirely feasible.
- At the current time Amey were paid a certain rate, which had not been reconsidered. It was suggested that this may be renegotiated to allow for a better price per metre.

Cabinet debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- The recommendations put forward by the Task and Finish Group were considered to be achievable, a number of relating not to monetary commitments but to alternative ways of working.
- Education was considered to be key and work was to be carried out with Ward Councillors to establish how best this could be progressed further.
- The Cabinet was advised that the glutton machine provided a cleaner finish to street cleansing that individual litter pickers could achieve.
- A number of queries were raised in relation to the financial implications of a number of recommendations, confirmation that waste composition analyses were undertaken, and the role of parish councils.
- It was confirmed that although parish councils were involved in discussion, the proposals set out related to a city wide approach and were not specific to parish areas.
- It was advised that the recommendations with implications for the budget would be fed into the budget process.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED** that Cabinet approved the recommendations of the Street Cleansing Task and Finish Group Final Report.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The recommendations put forward as part of the report were made as a result of the formation of a cross party Street Cleansing Task and Finish Group review of current cleansing standards. The Task and Finish Group viewed the current equipment available for Amey to use and looked at the intensity classifications for cleansing of all the streets within the review.

The Task and Finish Group were aware that Amey were currently meeting their contractual standards and that further consideration needed to be given to enhancements, education, and enforcement to improve the service further.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

The option to retain the current Street Cleansing standards was considered by the Task and Finish Group when producing their report, it was felt that this would not be an acceptable outcome for residents.

9. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2017-18 TO 2016-27

Cabinet received a report the purpose of which was to be considered by Cabinet 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 Cabinet Member for Resources introduced the item and advised that £19 million worth of savings were required in order to present a balanced budget. Via the proposed two phased approach the Council could implement savings much sooner. Half of the proposed increase in council tax was specifically for Adult Social Care. It was noted, however, that this was still one of the lowest rates in the county. Feedback on this scheme would be presented to Cabinet at its meeting on 5 December 2016 to recommend to Full Council on 14 December 2016.

Cabinet debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- The Autumn Statement would be released by central Government in the next few weeks. Following this the position of the Council may be better or worse.
- Consultation on the New Homes Bonus was still in progress and there was currently uncertainty around this allocation.
- It was noted that the 4 per cent increase in Council Tax in fact represented two increases of 2 per cent, one of which related to adult social care.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED** that Cabinet approved the Phase One Budget Proposals, including a Council Tax increase of 4 per cent, as the basis for public consultation.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The Council must set a lawful and balanced budget. The approach outlined in the report worked towards this requirement.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

No alternative option had been considered as the Cabinet was responsible under the Constitution for initiating Budget Proposals and the Council was statutorily obliged to set a lawful and balanced budget by 11 March annually.

10. COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME CONSULTATION

Cabinet received a report the purpose of which was to commence consultation for a localised council tax support scheme for the financial year 2017/18. There was a statutory requirement for the council to set a localised council tax support scheme by 31 January 2017 and formed part of the formal budget process under the Budget and Policy framework.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED** that Cabinet approved consultation on Peterborough's Council Tax Support Scheme 1 April 2017 – 31 March 2018 that contains the following local components:

- No change to the existing scheme reduction of 30% for all eligible working age claimants; and
- Aligns the Council Tax Support Scheme to Housing Benefit rules making it less complicated for claimants.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The Council was statutorily required to approve a council tax support scheme by the 31 January 2017 having had regard for the Council's financial position and feedback from responses to the consultation. As part of this consultation, the Council was consulting on a council tax discretionary hardship policy.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

The Council was statutorily required to approve a local scheme by 31 January but could choose to make no changes to the current 2016/17 local scheme. Cabinet had discussed the current 30% council tax support scheme with the cross party Budget Working Group as part of ongoing budget discussions. Options discussed were:

- One option would be to increase the 30% scheme, however this would have a negative impact on low income households with claimants having to pay more council tax.
- Another option would be to reduce the 30% scheme, however, this would require the council to find savings of up to £2.4m from elsewhere in the budget.

11. EXECUTIVE PROCEDURE RULES

Cabinet received a report the purpose of which was to obtain Cabinet's approval to the amended executive procedure rules for ratification by Council.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED** that Cabinet:

1. Approved the proposed changes to the Executive Procedure Rules (Part 4 - Section 7);
2. Request that Council note these changes at its meeting on 14 December 2016.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The Cabinet procedure rules were updated in March but since that time, Council decided not to implement a hybrid model. Reference to the hybrid model needed to be removed from the procedure rules agreed by Cabinet.

The Committee Review Group was asked to review the Council's scrutiny arrangements and it had asked the Executive to consider its recommended changes to the rules. The amended rules would need to be reviewed by Council in December, as part of the review of the committee structure.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

The Monitoring Officer was required to keep the constitution up to date, taking into account current legislation. The Cabinet may have considered that speaking rights of scrutiny chairs were not required, as the Chair or Cabinet had the power to agree arrangements once a request was received. However, these were recommended to avoid confusion. There was no requirement to adopt pre-scrutiny arrangements as recommended in this report.

12. ENDORSEMENT OF THE 2016-17 OPPORTUNITY PETERBOROUGH BUSINESS PLAN

Cabinet received a report the purpose of which was for the Council, as the sole shareholder of Opportunity Peterborough, to endorse its annual business plan. As sole shareholder it was important that the Council was satisfied that the draft business plan would deliver city objectives.

The Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing, and Economic Development introduced the item and advised that Opportunity Peterborough represented an important element of Peterborough's future growth, and that the 2015/2016 audit had gleaned positive results.

Steve Bowyer, Chief Executive Officer Opportunity Peterborough, addressed the Cabinet and in summary, raised the following key points:

- Opportunity Peterborough attracted a number of new investors into the city in the past year, and persuaded a number of existing companies to stay.
- The company supported a number of research and development enterprise, and had raised the profile of the city nationally and internationally.
- Further investment was to be made into improving in media, building on pre-existing relationships with Radio Cambridgeshire and Look East.
- The businesses within Peterborough were made up of both distribution centres and offices, and had a significant focus on technology.
- It was considered that the Skills Agenda would continue to contribute to the work of the company, which was key for the support of young people in the area.
- Opportunity Peterborough attended a number of careers fairs with great success and were looking at ways to deliver 'mentoring' funding.
- The Cabinet were advised that an open evening was being held at the innovation lab and Councillors were welcomed to attend.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED** that Cabinet endorsed the 2016/17 business plan for Opportunity Peterborough.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

It was required that the Council considered and agreed the draft business plan. The specific schemes for implementation would potentially evolve during the course of the plan period and it was therefore appropriate that funding was approved by the Council through its normal decision-making processes.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

The alternative would be that the draft business plan was not be approved, which would significantly limit the operations of Opportunity Peterborough as the City's Economic Development Company.

MONITORING ITEMS

13. OUTCOME OF PETITIONS

Cabinet received a report which followed the presentation of petitions to Cabinet at its meeting held on 26 September and Council at its meeting held on 12 October 2016

The report provided an update on the progress being made in response to petitions as follows:

1. Petition relating to the entrance to Charlotte Way, Thorpe Green, Peterborough
2. Petition relating to the travellers site at Hurn Road, Peterborough
3. Petition relating to better EU citizen support
4. Petition relating to lighting on Cissbury Ring and Fulbridge Road
5. Petition relating to St Michaels Gate
6. Petition relating to Russell Street cleansing
7. Petition relating to the redirection of Drake Avenue
8. Petition relating to traffic calming measures for Gunthorpe Ridings

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

No alternative options had been considered.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED** to note the actions taken in respect of petitions.

Chairman
10.00am – 12:05pm

This page is intentionally left blank

MINUTES OF EXTRAORDINARY CABINET MEETING HELD 17 NOVEMBER 2016

PRESENT:

Cabinet Members: Councillor Holdich (Chair), Councillor Elsey, Councillor Fitzgerald, Councillor Goodwin, Councillor Hiller, Councillor Lamb, Councillor Seaton, and Councillor Walsh

Cabinet Advisors: Councillor Casey and Councillor Stokes

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Smith.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

STRATEGIC DECISIONS

3. CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH DEVOLUTION

Cabinet received a report the purpose of which was to consider the outcomes of discussions held at the meeting of Full Council, prior to determining a number of recommendations as relating to a combined authority for the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough area, with a directly elected Mayor.

Cabinet debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- The Cabinet thanked all the officers that had worked on the proposals.
- It was advised that the wording of recommendation (vi) should be altered to read 'Councillor Holdich', rather than 'Leader of the Council'.
- It was further noted that on page 5 of the report, the fourth bullet point should read 'long-term *unemployed*', rather than 'long-term employed'.
- An emphasis on the health initiatives and powers of the Combined Authority would be determined within the Devolution 2 deal.
- Disappointment was expressed that the many opportunities presented to Members to receive briefings on the Devolution proposals were not utilised.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED** that Cabinet agreed to:

- (i) consent to the Secretary of State making an Order to establish the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (Appendix A);
- (ii) consent to the Council being a constituent member of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority with effect from the commencement date determined by the final Order;
- (iii) authorise the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to consent to the final draft Order and associated documents, specifically:

- to agree minor drafting amendments to the Combined Authority Order to be laid before Parliament;
 - to consent to the Council being included within the draft Parliamentary Order thereby reflecting this Council's decision
- (iv) authorise the Combined Authority to have a power to issue a levy to the constituent Councils in respect of any financial year. (This will be subject to the inclusion of a unanimity clause in the Combined Authority constitution on this specific matter).
- (v) to recommend to the Combined Authority that the costs of establishing the Combined Authority, holding the elections in May 2017 and running the Combined Authority (including Mayoral Office) for 2016/17 and 2017/18 are funded from the gain share grant provided by Government (as outlined in para 12.11)
- (vi) appoint the Councillor Holdich to act as Council's appointee to the Shadow Combined Authority and once established, to the Combined Authority;
- (vii) appoint Councillor Fitzgerald as Deputy Leader of the Council, to act as the substitute to the above (ref (vi));
- (viii) note the outcome of the public consultation on the establishment of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority as outlined in paragraph 5.1 and 5.2 and Appendices 2A - 2D;
- (ix) note the timetable for the implementation of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough devolution Order as summarised in paragraph 7.1;
- (x) note the Government's response to the outline business case for Housing capital investment funds secured as part of the devolution deal as set out in Appendix 3.
- (xi) agree in principle, for a protocol requiring the Council Leader and the representative on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to report to each meeting of Council setting out the activities and decisions related to their respective roles within the Combined Authority.
- (xii) to request that the Member Officer Working Group develop the protocol through the Audit Committee with a view to inclusion of the protocol in the Council's constitution.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

To consult on a scheme for the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough area with a directly elected Mayor, in order to devolve powers from Government to a Combined Authority.

To bring additional new funding to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough area with local decision making for these funds.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

The Governance Review considered a number of alternative options and concluded that the most appropriate option for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough was to establish a Mayoral Combined Authority.

If the Combined Authority was not established the Council would lose the opportunities made available through the devolution agreement, including:

- Funding for Housing development;
- Funding for Infrastructure growth;
- Additional powers to make decisions locally; and
- Government commitment to work with Peterborough to develop a Peterborough University and an Enterprise Zone.

Chairman
8.30pm – 8:35pm

This page is intentionally left blank

CABINET	AGENDA ITEM No. 4
5 DECEMBER 2016	PUBLIC REPORT

Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Councillor David Seaton, Cabinet Member for Resources	
Contact Officer(s):	John Harrison, Corporate Director Resources Steven Pilsworth, Service Director – Financial Services	Tel. 452520 Tel. 384564

PHASE 1 BUDGET PROPOSALS

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S	
FROM : Cabinet Member for Resources	Deadline date : 18 November 2016
<p>It is recommended that Cabinet:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have regard to the consultation feedback received to date and statutory advice detailed in the report when determining the phase one budget proposals, noting that consultation remains open and an addendum will be provided prior to the Cabinet meeting and to the Council meeting; 2. Note the timetable for the phase two consultation and formal approval of the 2017/18 to 2026/27 Medium Term Financial Strategy as detailed at section 5; 3. Note that budget proposals considered by Council on the 14 December 2016 will form part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy but will not form part of the second stage of consultation or Council debate on 8 March 2017; and 4. Recommend to Council, having had regard to feedback, approval of the phase one budget proposals, summarised in Appendices 1 and 2, to enable implementation of these budget proposals to commence. These proposals include a council tax increase of 2%, plus the increase of 2% for the Adult Social Care precept. 	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

- 1.1. This report comes to Cabinet as part of the Council's agreed two-stage budget process as outlined in a report considered by Cabinet on 7 November 2016.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1. The purpose of this report is to enable Cabinet to consider the feedback from the consultation undertaken to date with Scrutiny, residents, partner organisations, businesses and other interested parties to recommend to Council approval of phase one budget proposals.
- 2.2. This report is for Cabinet to consider under its Terms of Reference No. 3.2.1 which states 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. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	Yes	If Yes, date for relevant Cabinet Meeting	5 December 2016
Date for relevant Council Meeting	14 December 2016	Date for submission to Government department	N/A

4. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

4.1. The table below provides a budget summary of the current budget proposals for 2017/18 to 2021/22 as report to Cabinet meeting on 7 November 2016.

	2017/18 £000	2018/19 £000	2019/20 £000	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000
Opening Budget before the GE reserve	15,289	24,347	31,170	33,807	34,285
Planned use of the GE reserve	(11,188)				
Opening Budget Gap (2016/17 Strategy)	4,101	24,347	31,170	33,807	34,285
Phase 1 - Grant Adjustments					
Phase 1 – Pressures	3,330	2,377	2,844	3,136	3,428
Phase 1 - Investments	182	272	330	352	352
Add back planned use of the GE reserve	11,188				
Initial Budget Gap	18,801	26,996	34,344	37,295	38,065

4.2 The next table outlines the position if all Phase 1 proposals are accepted. The phase 1 Budget position is currently balanced, however only with the use of £8.9million of the Grant Equalisation reserve. The budget gap in 2018/19 is £17.8million. Further urgent work is needed in phase 2 to reduce the reliance on reserves, and to help close the budget gaps in following years.

Initial Budget Gap	18,801	26,996	34,344	37,295	38,065
Phase 1 - Efficiencies	(2,692)	(3,729)	(3,410)	(3,507)	(4,060)
Phase 1 – Income	(7,256)	(2,870)	(2,718)	(2,720)	(2,722)
Revised Budget Gap	8,853	20,397	28,216	31,068	31,283
Use of the GE reserve (£11,444)	(8,853)	(2,591)			
Total Budget Gap	0	17,806	28,216	31,068	31,283

4.3 These proposals alone do not provide a balanced budget for 2017/18, only with the use of the Grant Equalisation Reserve will it be balanced. A second phase of budget proposals will follow after Christmas to focus on reducing the reliance on the reserve and look to close the gap in future years. Members and interested parties will again be able to provide feedback on these proposals (section 5).

5. CONSULTATION APPROACH

- 5.1. Cabinet's approach to seek feedback on phase one budget proposals was outlined within the 7 November 2016 Cabinet report.
- 5.2. All the phase one proposals, which are being consulted upon, are included in Appendix 1. Final decisions on phase one proposals are to be approved and recommended to Council on 14 December 2016, taking into consideration all of the consultation feedback received by that date.
- 5.3. The opportunity to provide feedback on the phase one proposals have been in the public domain since 28 October 2016, confirmed by Cabinet on 7 November 2016 and will run until 12 December 2016. The budget conversation received to date includes:
- a) 26 responses via the online survey. Cabinet continue to review comments and specific ideas;
 - b) 9 direct emails or letters have been received.
- 5.4. Officers have, and will, attend various meetings and discussion forums to gather feedback, see following tables. The presentations made at these events have provided the context to the Council's financial position, phase one budget proposals and included specific issues that may impact on that groups attending the meetings or discussion forum, as well as providing an opportunity to ask more detailed questions.
- 5.5. Meeting which have been held to date:

Forum	Date
Borderline and Peterborough Executive Partnership Board	11 November
Disability Forum	17 November
Peterborough Community Assistance Scheme	8 November

- 5.6. Meeting which remain to take place:

Forum	Date
Schools Forum	7 December
Greater Peterborough Partnership City Leader's Forum	30 November
Youth Council	6 December
Bondholder Breakfast	7 December
Connect Group	9 December
Rural Scrutiny	30 November
Discussion with Trade Unions Joint Consultative Forum (JCF)	29 November

- 5.7. Given the timing of the agenda despatch for this meeting, and further meetings planned during the consultation period, it is not possible to include feedback from all consultation events in this report. The feedback, if any from these discussions, will be included as an addendum to this report and to Council on 14 December 2016.
- 5.8. The addendum will be publically available prior to Cabinet on 5 December 2016 and will include the finalised phase one budget proposals to be recommended to Council on 14 December 2016 having given consideration to the feedback received.

Scrutiny feedback on phase one budget proposals

- 5.9. The Joint meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions discussed the budget proposals, the Council Tax Support Scheme, and the Hardship Policy, at the meeting held on 16 November 2016. The committee held a two hour discussion considering the

proposals, but did not make any formal recommendations. The feedback from this meeting is detailed in Appendix 2

Phase Two Budget Proposals and Formal Budget Process

- 5.10. The Council will look to repeat the consultation approach with the phase two proposals released in January, in line with the following timetable and as part of the formal budget process.

Meeting	Content	Date
Phase Two (including the remaining budget documents for Council Tax, reserves, The Treasury management strategy, Asset Management Plan and the Medium Term Financial Strategy)		
Cabinet	Release of second tranche of budget proposals	6 th February 2017
Scrutiny	Formal scrutiny of budget proposals	8 th February 2017
Cabinet	To recommend the second tranche of budget proposals to Council having regard to feedback	27 th February 2017
Council	Approval of budget and council tax	8 th March 2017

6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES

- 6.1. Taking into consideration the results of the consultation feedback received to date, Cabinet is required to approve and recommend to Council prior to the formal budget approval process the phase one budget proposals. The approval of phase one budget proposals will enable the Council to implement savings at the earliest opportunity, either under Director Delegation, Cabinet Member Decision Notice or a further report to Cabinet.
- 6.2. These budget proposals will be included as an addendum to the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2017/18 to 2026/27, noted as arrived by Council on 14 December 2016, but will not be debated again by Council on 8 March 2017.

7. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1. Under statutory requirements the Council must set a lawful and balance budget. The approach outlined in this report work towards fulfilling this requirement.

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 8.1. No alternative option has been considered as the Cabinet is responsible under the Constitution for initiating Budget Proposals and the Council is statutorily obliged to set a lawful and balanced budget by 11 March annually.

9. IMPLICATIONS

Elected Members

- 9.1 Members must have regard to the advice of the Section 151 Officer. The Council may take decisions which are at variance with this advice, providing there are reasonable grounds to do so. Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applies whereby it is an offence for any Members with arrears of Council Tax which have been outstanding for two months or more to attend any meeting of the Council or its committees at which a decision affecting the budget is made, unless the Members concerned declare at the outset of the meeting they are in arrears and will not be voting on the decision for that reason.

Legal Implications

- 9.2 In terms of the Council's executive arrangements, the adoption of the Council's Budget is a role shared between the Cabinet and the Council, whereby the Cabinet (Leader) is responsible for formulating the budget proposals and full Council is responsible for then approving (or not) those proposals and setting the budget and council tax requirement.
- 9.3 For the remainder of the year, the principal purpose of the Budget is to set the upper limits of what the executive (Leader, Cabinet or officer under delegated executive authority) may decide to spend the Council's resources on. The Council cannot through the Budget overrule an executive decision as to how to spend the money, but the Budget will require the Cabinet to exercise their responsibilities for decision making so as not to make a decision where they are 'minded to determine the matter contrary to, or not wholly in accordance with the authority's budget'. This means that a decision that leads to excess expenditure, a virement from one budget heading to another over the amount allowed by Council in the Budget Book or expenditure of unexpected new money outside of the Budget is required to have approval of the Council before the Leader and Cabinet can make that decision.
- 9.4 When it comes to make its decision on 8 March 2017, the Council is under a legal duty to meet the full requirements of section 31A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 which includes the obligation to produce a balanced budget.
- 9.5 A principle of fairness applies to consultation on the budget proposals, both consultation required under s65 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and more generally as proposed here, which operates as a set of rules of law. These rules are that:
- Consultation must be at a time when proposals are still at a formative stage;
 - The proposer must give sufficient reasons for any proposal to permit of intelligent consideration and response;
 - Adequate time must be given for consideration and response; and
 - The product of consultation must be conscientiously taken into account in finalising any statutory proposals.
- 9.6 Added to which are two further principles that allow for variation in the form of consultation, which are
- The degree of specificity with which, in fairness, the public authority should conduct its consultation exercise may be influenced by the identity of those whom it is consulting; and
 - The demands of fairness are likely to be somewhat higher when an authority contemplates depriving someone of an existing benefit or advantage than when the claimant is a bare applicant for a future benefit.

Human Resource Implications

- 9.7 There will be no implications on staffing as part of the phase one proposals.

Equality Impact Assessments

9.8 All budget proposals published in this first tranche have been considered with regards to equality issues and where appropriate equality impact assessments have been completed and available on the council's website.

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

10.1 Medium Term Financial Strategy Budget 2017/18 Phase One Proposals Document from Cabinet 7 November 2016.

11. APPENDICES

11.1 Appendix 1 – Phase One Pressures

11.2 Appendix 2 – Feedback Received

Phase One Pressures

	2017/18 £000	2018/19 £000	2019/20 £000	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000
PRESSURES					
Leaving Care at 25 - New Burdens Update	260	260	260	260	260
Terms & Conditions - Lease Cars	54	54	54	54	54
Inflation Review (Pensions)	500	1,250	2,000	2,250	2,500
Digital Front door- costs	115	325	0	0	0
Loss of business rates due to Academisation	70	96	122	148	174
Unaccompanied Minors	600	0	0	0	0
Internal Audit Partnership	52	52	52	52	52
Highways Capital Maintenance- Costs of delivery	5	21	37	53	69
Member Allowances	186	186	186	186	186
Better Care Fund - Front line investment	1,355	0	0	0	0
Legal Services	133	133	133	133	133
Total pressures	3,330	2,377	2,844	3,136	3,428
INVESTMENTS					
Shrub Cutting and Central and Itter park attendant Proposals	127	127	127	127	127
CFO Insights Analysis tool	10	10	0	0	0
North West Gate- cost of borrowing	45	135	203	225	225
Total investments	182	272	330	352	352

Phase One Budget Proposal Savings

	2017/18 £000	2018/19 £000	2019/20 £000	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000
EFFICIENCIES					
Alternative Governance - No Longer Required	(50)	(50)	(50)	(50)	(50)
MRP Review	(149)	(149)	(149)	(149)	(149)
Inflation Review (Indices)	(1,057)	(1,126)	(1,161)	(1,118)	(1,531)
Open Loan Share Arrangement with Cambridgeshire County Council to share Director of Peoples and Communities	(45)	0	0	0	0
Digital Front door- Saving	(163)	(794)	(280)	(280)	(280)
CFO Insights Analysis- saving impact	(20)	(40)	(60)	(60)	(60)
Shared Chief Executive - additional savings	(110)	(110)	(110)	(110)	(110)
Concessionary Fares	(686)	(838)	(978)	(1,118)	(1,258)
Internal Audit Services to schools	(52)	(52)	(52)	(52)	(52)
Highways Roadmap	(120)	(120)	(120)	(120)	(120)
Highways Capital Maintenance- Savings	(240)	(450)	(450)	(450)	(450)
Total Efficiencies	(2,692)	(3,729)	(3,410)	(3,507)	(4,060)
INCOME					
Adult Social Care Precept 2017/18	(1,287)	(1,331)	(1,333)	(1,334)	(1,335)
Adult Social Care Precept 2018/19	0	(1,334)	(1,380)	(1,381)	(1,382)
Collection Fund Surplus - NNDR & CT part 1	(36)	0	0	0	0
Academisation - Charging for Costs of Transfer	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)
Capital Receipts Update	(3,864)	0	0	0	0
Cross Keys VAT Shelter Review	(375)	(200)	0	0	0
Better Care Fund	(1,689)	0	0	0	0
Total Income	(7,256)	(2,870)	(2,718)	(2,720)	(2,722)

- 1.1. This Appendix contains:
- A summary of consultation feedback received to date
 - Feedback from CMT members on the outcomes of the various Phase 1 engagement events that have taken place to date.
 - A list of all consultation responses received to date, plus responses to the points raised
 - Feedback from Joint Scrutiny on the Phase 1 Budget Conversation

Consultation Response

- 1.2. This note contains all Phase 1 Consultation responses received as at 22 November 2016. A summary of the responses received to date is given in this section.

- 1.3. In total 35 responses have been received:

Survey Monkey online form	27
Email responses	9
Total	36

- 1.4. **Question 1** - 17 respondents answered question 1 which was *'Do you have any comments to make about the first round budget proposals?'*

Response	Number of Responses
Positive	1
Neutral	1
Negative	15
Total	17

It should be noted that 10 respondents made no comment about the budget proposals.

- 1.5. **Question 2** – Respondents were asked, after having read the consultation document, how much they understood the Council's proposals. Answers can be broken down as follows:

Response	Number of Responses
A great deal	10
A fair amount	12
Not very much	3
Nothing at all	1
Blank response	1
Total	27

- 1.6. **Question 3** – Of the 27 responses received, 17 answered question 3, which was '*If you have any specific ideas about how the council can save money and protect services, please state these here:*' A list of subjects raised is given below.

Response Theme	Respondents Citing Issue
Staff and Management pay & allowances (including the Chief Executive and use of agency and consultants)	4
General budget and accountability/responsibility for spending in the public interest	3
Members Allowances and number of Councillors	6
Waste removal	1
City Centre development	1
Academies	1
Registration services and Use of town hall for functions	1
Street Lighting	1
Woodland and Shrub cutting	2
Administration systems	1
Bus services	1
Street Cleaning	1

Feedback from Conversation Events.

1.7. A number of Phase 1 Consultation events have already been held:

- 8th November – Peterborough Community Assistance Scheme forum
 - Ian Phillips attended and the Phase 1 Conversation Document was noted, there were no comments or issues raised.

- 11th November – Borderline & Peterborough Executive Partnership Board.
 - Wendi Ogle-Welbourn attended and the Phase 1 Conversation Document was noted.

- 17th November - Disability Forum
 - Kim Sawyer attended this event and the Phase 1 Conversation Document was noted.

Feedback from the Budget Conversation Survey

1.8. The table below details the feedback received from the online survey and cabinet responses

	Do you have any comments to make about the first round budget proposals?	Having read the first round proposals document, how much do you now feel you understand about why the council must make savings of £19million in 2017/18?	If you have any specific ideas about how the council can save money and protect services, please state these here:	Cabinet Response
1	Seems fair enough	A fair amount	Have less councillors	The number of Councillors in this and any Council, is independently recommended by the Local Government Boundary Commission. This work aims to ensure that each Councillor represents roughly the same number of voters.
2 28	No increase in councillor's allowance would allow at least a small part of the budget deficit to be overcome - Greedy, greedy councillors. Not one refused the increase - shame on you all.	A fair amount	Offer all increases in councillor allowances to be given to the budget as a donation.	The level of member allowances is recommended by an independent panel. Councillors had not accepted any increases to their allowances since 2009. We are required by law to ask an independent panel to review our members' allowances on an annual basis.
3		Nothing at all		N/A
4	There are more and more people in Peterborough, surely they should all contribute to council spent and surely government grant is linked to that? Your budget proposal is very confusing. We can't see how many people work for the council, how much they all cost, how this compares to national average, how much council management earn and % salary increase as part of this budget.	Not very much	Do not invest in the North Westgate Instead focus on clearing your debts. Tackle crime with more intent Tackle illegal parking in city centre (so many cars parked on pavements or on double yellow lines!) Tackle mis-behaviour Buy out all school academies and provide one central Peterborough academy - that way there will be only one set of admin spend instead today one per academy.	The plans to invest in North Westgate will unblock the regeneration of this area, providing a new gateway to the city making Peterborough a more attractive place to live and do business therefore providing job opportunities. The Council also expects to make a return from its investment in the area, helping to protect services in the future We do have a robust process in place to pursue unpaid tax, including court action and use of bailiffs as necessary. Where households have genuine difficulty in paying, we can offer support to help vulnerable families and individuals set up payment plans or offer referrals to advice agencies for

29				<p>assistance. Parking in the City centre and anti-social behaviour will be tackled by our enforcement team and your concerns will be raised with them. In terms of the salary costs the council incurs this is detailed within our Statement of accounts found on this link- https://www.peterborough.gov.uk/upload/www.peterborough.gov.uk/council/budgets-spending-and-performance/StatementOfAccounts2015-16.pdf?inline=true The pay award for Council employees is determined nationally. A 1% pay award for employees was agreed within the 2016/17 MTFS, and is already included within the opening budget amount, this was based on the national recommendation. The choice for a school to transfer to an academy is not within the control of Peterborough City Council. Central government has now relaxed the push for all schools to become academies, and we have assessed the negative impact of the council and have included measures within our budget proposals to cope with these.</p>
5	<p>Yes it is outrageous that Councillors see fit to give themselves a 30 % salary increase and I totally reject this proposal! Funds should be spent on long needed services to help the homeless and disabled people in our area. The council should be reducing all special responsibility allowances and the number of Councillors who get these extra payments. Peterborough needs Councillors who have the city's best interest at their heart. How can you justify increases in salaries for a few with so many disadvantaged people in our city?</p>	A fair amount	<p>As I have stated above the answer is simple...the council needs to cut the amount paid to our Councillors and reduce special responsibility allowances.</p>	<p>The level of member allowances is recommended by an independent panel. Councillors had not accepted any increases to their allowances since 2009. We are required by law to ask an independent panel to review our members' allowances on an annual basis.</p>
6		A fair amount	<p>Reduce the number of Councillors by 50 percent. Cancel Councillors pay rise. Plan roadwork to include multi-tasking to save money. (When closing one lane to repair fencing, also carry out litter pick. I have emailed this simple idea before but</p>	<p>The number of Councillors in this and any Council, is independently recommended by the Local Government Boundary Commission. This work aims to ensure that each Councillor represents roughly the same number of voters. Thank you for your comments around multi-tasking</p>

			have now seen the same lane closed off 3 times for fence repairs but no litter pick, (Simple tasking, seems difficult for PCC planners). Stop vanity and ill-conceived plans. (Solar farms, fountains etc.	roadworks, we will pass your comments on to the highways team for consideration.
7		A fair amount		N/A
8	Yes	A great deal	Look at staffing levels, pensions, pay and perks.	The Council has undertaken a number of significant senior management restructures in recent years, generating savings We also aim to create efficiencies through closer partnership working with our neighbouring councils. We currently share the positions of the Chief Executive, The Coroner, Director of People and Communities and Director of Public Health. Staff only receive access to parking permits which they pay for via salary sacrifice, and car leasing which is also salary sacrifice and generates an NI saving for the council. Other benefits such as childcare vouchers and the cycle scheme are widely available.
30	What about the cost of accepting asylum seekers? Is the government underwriting entire cost for the whole lifetime or am I have to pay? What about the poor performance of staff such as education leads? Are we still footing the bill for these inadequate and underperforming burdens?	A fair amount	Sack the overpaid Chief Exec for a start and start employing people with real capabilities and ethics.	The Chief Executive position is shared with a neighbouring council, generating a saving for Peterborough City council. The Council has a statutory obligation to support Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children, The council agreed to resettle around 100 Syrian refugees (made up of 20 families) in Peterborough over the next five years. The first five families arrived this autumn as part of the government's Syrian Vulnerable Person Resettlement Programme. The government has agreed to cover all the health, social and educational costs for all refugees, this is in addition to them being able to access benefits such as housing. Funding will come from the International Development Fund, so instead of this going to other countries it is being used to support refugees in this country.
10		A great deal		N/A

11		A great deal		N/A
12		A great deal		N/A
13	As we need to find savings and efficiencies of Â£19million next year to balance the books, including councillors not taking any pay increases or increasing allowances OVER the rate of inflation or the level of pay increases elsewhere in the public sector. Staff should not be subsidised on parking. Don't just blame central government decreased in funding. Revenue needs to be generated ie	A fair amount	Centralise all admin systems in 1 hub. Less tiers of managers. Less agency staff or consultants on high fees and promote from within.	<p>The level of member allowances is recommended by an independent panel. Councillors had not accepted any increases to their allowances since 2009. We are required by law to ask an independent panel to review our members' allowances on an annual basis.</p> <p>The use of consultants has largely been for their expertise on the delivery of transformation programmes that drive the savings that underpin the budget. The use of this is closely monitored and reviewed, and only proceeds subject to a clear business case. The level of spend is reported annually to the Councils Audit Committee.</p> <p>The Council has undertaken a number of significant senior management restructures in recent years and share a number of senior posts with neighbouring councils. We also look for opportunities to generate income, as a council we sell our planning services and our legal services to other local authorities generating a combined income of £850,000 per year.</p> <p>Council Staff do pay for their parking permits through the salary sacrifice scheme</p> <p>Administration has been a centralised function for a number of years now, exactly as you suggest.</p>
14		A fair amount		N/A

32	<p>15 Language used is very misleading. For example: "This saving will not impact on peoples ability to travel for free." who is paying for this free travel ability? Bus services are not paying for themselves and there is a large sum going from tax to pay it. There is no such a thing as free service. "Between 2014 and 2020 we expect the number of people in Peterborough living with dementia will increase by 15 per cent." - by giving just a percentage nobody can tell how many people that is. 15 percent raise could be 15 from 100 or 150 from 1000. "This proposed four per cent increase would mean that overall the Band D council tax charge would rise from £1,173.04 to £1,219.84 per year - an increase of 90p per week." - Council tax is being paid monthly 90p per week gives you almost 4 pounds increase per month. It doesn't look so good, but it is more clear for tax payers.</p>	A great deal	<p>Stop protecting services. Cancel city bus, city waste collection etc. Let the private sector take over, it always worked the best way all around the world. More state more costs. Protect citizens not services.</p>	<p>The Council has a statutory duty to provide many of the services that it does. Others are highly valued by our residents.</p> <p>The Council has made significant savings on subsidised bus services that are less viable due to lower passenger numbers in recent years. We feel that the current service provides the right balance between cost and providing affordable public transportation for those in greatest need as part of supporting the cities infrastructure network. It should also be noted that the vast majority of the bus services are run commercially by private companies.</p> <p>Peterborough City Council has a statutory duty to provide waste collection for residents. We aim to achieve the best value for money, and so this service is undertaken by Amey on behalf of the council, and we are also looking at ways to reduce the costs of this service via improving the recycling in the city and reducing the landfill to almost zero through the ERF which officially opened earlier this year.</p> <p>The Energy from Waste facility gives Peterborough a much needed alternative to landfill. Rather than sending waste to landfill, it is turned into electricity saving the city £1 million every year for the next three decades.</p>
16		A fair amount	<p>The Woodland Trust report 'trees or turf' shows how managing woodland can be cheaper than some grassland regimes. It may be worth looking at this as an option for some sites. The Woodland Trust would be happy to discuss this with you. The report can be viewed here: https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/mediafile/100083921/trees-or-turf-report.pdf It is also important to note that trees and woodland provide multiple benefits. These include: Cleaner air, Improved shelter and protective shade, Biodiversity, A more</p>	<p>We have a regular program of planting trees and try to not cut grass as regular under shelter belt areas we have also allowed some shelter belts and woodlands to naturally regenerate. We have 7 sites across the city designated as biodiversity sites and have installed wildflower meadows to bring in vibrant colour.</p>

			attractive landscape, A stimulus to inward investment, A focus for community action	
17	The City's image and appearance is dreadful. It starts with overgrown hideous mess at Crescent Bridge roundabout. PCC need to start to consider what our city looks like to residents and visitors outside of the ivory tower and chamber on Bridge Street.	A fair amount	Ensure those responsible for spending actually have accountability. Far too much money has been wasted recently. STOP Installing traffic lights on every road scheme!	As part of this year's budget we are looking to increase shrub cutting back to annual cutting, we also have a scheme planned for early 2017 to re-landscape Crescent Bridge roundabout
18 33	I find it disgraceful you are asking residents to pay more council tax while awarding yourself a very large increase	Not very much		The Council has chosen to freeze council tax four out of the last six years, and we currently have one of the lowest rates in the country. As there is now no freeze grant available and we have increasing complex adult social care demand we feel we have little choice but to increase council tax. Half of the council tax increase is a result of the Adult Social Care Precept, which will be used to support vital services with increasing demands in Adult Social Care.
19		A fair amount		N/A
20	Specific Comments 4. Cost Increases. Unaccomp.-sylum - stop "offering" to take any. We do not support this. Managing demand - reduce translation costs. Put onus on those applying, who will usually have good enough English. CFO Insights - question the cost. Bespoke reports could be written at much less. (I speak from industry experience). Minimum revenue provision - given the historic low borrow rate. False economy to extend? Park attendants - do not support giving these parks special treatment. They should cover other parks namely Werrington as well at same costs. This should have the same status, and has just as serious anti-social issues. Lawyers - no justification in giving massive pay hike. Instead give slightly above inflation instead. If they were that unhappy they would have left, but as many working in Peterborough know this	Not very much	Money Saving Ideas Not Covered, "50 ways to save" government doc, Doesn't seem like PCC actually read it. 3. Use transparency to cut waste - see above. 22. Cut senior pay 24. Scrapping the chief executive post entirely 26. Freeze councillor allowances 34. Stop translating documents into foreign languages Taxi Costs. It cannot be right the amount spent on taxi companies. Needs reviewing and terms of any contracts made public. LED street lighting. Suspend this project altogether. Total false economy. Comes across as jobs for	Thank you for your comments. The 50 ways to save document which was published by DCLG in 2012, was considered at the time and much of this was already in place of has been implemented. The Council has a statutory obligation to support these individuals, such as asylum seekers. However we do continue to lobby Government for support in meeting these costs. The LEP Street Lighting project will deliver significant energy and maintenance savings. Lighting of areas is to a level which achieves appropriate highway and public safety. It is not planned to part time dim or switch off lights but this

34	<p>often isn't an option and you don't go elsewhere. Local gov pensions - movement of staff to private companies must be on the basis that future staff won't be in the public sector pensions. General Comments Brexit. Brexit was a vote to reject the plans for 20,000+ houses. The council has no mandate to do this. The plans as they stand are useless. Given staff are employed to carry these plans out, redundancies should now be considered. Executive Pay. Massively over generourous remuneration packages, some as much as 40% too high. Want plans to replace any staff at lower rates. Shared chief exec was just deflecting attention away, and still over paid. There should be a freeze on existing executive pay for the foreseeable future. Secrecy. The culture at PCC is poor and counterproductive. The Â£500 list is useless with no information given. Making everything open would make it obvious where the problems lie. It impossible from the information and accounts to work out what is being spent on and why. The are local people with expertise that could review what the council are doing if allowed to. Local people can help decide what is essential and will understand if it is laid out how expensive things are for the council. 1) Provide at least another drill-down level of budget info. 2) No more confidentiality/non-disclosure agreements. To allow competitive alternative offers to be given by local companies. 3) Prove a Description/reason on each Â£500 entry. Volunteers. More volunteers and community service work should be used, but again will involve the council making it clear what less essential work needs doing. 8% rise. There needs to be much more justification for such a rise. I do not support this rise as it will just encourage inefficiencies and not the council to do things properly.</p>		<p>the boys. Recent policy to turn off some lights is sensible. There is over-lighting of most areas and spending money on LED replacements makes no sense. Scrapping old lights rather than replacing old poles should be done. Having lights on for less time should be considered as well. Grass Cutting. Reduction in non-essential grass cutting was a good idea and should be reconsidered. It was just implemented really badly. Play parks and hedges that cause visibility problems to road users and put lives are risks are the essentials. Pointless mowing of verges still happens.</p>	<p>option remains available for the future.</p>
21	<p>Do not agree with increase in councillors' allowances</p>	<p>A great deal</p>		<p>The level of member allowances is recommended by an independent panel. Councillors had not accepted any increases to their allowances since 2009. We are required by law to ask an independent panel to review our members' allowances on an annual basis.</p>
22	<p>Do not agree with increase in councillors' allowances increase</p>	<p>A great deal</p>	<p>Reduce or not increase director's salaries</p>	<p>The level of member allowances is recommended by an independent panel. Councillors had not accepted any increases to their allowances since 2009. We are required by law to ask an independent panel to review our members' allowances on an annual basis.</p>

				We have created directors salaries savings through closer partnership working with our neighbouring councils. We currently share the positions of the Chief Executive, The Coroner, Director of People and Communities and Director of Public Health.
23	<p>Peterborough city centre lack a quality and large place where children can play and young people can study. I can see that the budget proposal and the City centre development plan do lack insight into how boring the city centre is both for families with young children and for youth. I understand your points raised in regard to support to looked after children which are statutory duties, and your willingness to improve night time economy by introducing more residential potential in the city centre as per the Plan But is nothing really that matters profoundly in terms of turning things around. It is almost as if people who sit down to draw consultation plans and also finalise them, do not think about these things outside of the 9 to 5 time frame of their jobs. Please do not feel offended but treat this as constructive and honest criticism. Peterborough needs a building in the city centre which would house a public library with regular drop ins for the small children, where families can come every day. The building in my view should have a large well equipped library where young people can come to do homework and also learn IT skills and even play popular games which their parents may not be able to afford. Ultimately there will be jobs in the newly google and youtube offices in Kings Cross and Peterborough should do everything possible to boost career inspirations in teenagers whilst ensuring they learn about the importance of budgeting and prospects of affordable home ownership in Peterborough. Make them enjoy living in Peterborough and look forward to staying. You could look into having discussions with any college that is already in Peterborough and also any college planning to set up here to focus on this type of project, a large city centre family focused library, to include their academic library in the building or its vicinity. You could consider going to London to see how the Birkbeck college developed its library and made it a vibrant part of the Bloomsbury area. At the moment your budget proposal and the City centre development plan are a bit compartmentalised which may be obscure to some</p>	A great deal	<p>Rethink the vision for Peterborough and redraw the objectives of the budget to attain more for the residents for less money.</p>	<p>The Council has invested in the public realm of the city centre to make it an attractive place to visit and extensive regeneration of areas such as Fletton Quays is underway. The success is supported by the number of new restaurants that have opened in recent years, and the low vacancy rate in our shops, and a planned new cinema in the city centre.</p> <p>We also do provide facilities in the city centre. We have used technology to enable the Central Library to be accessible longer, and services such as rhyme time continue there for children.</p> <p>This budget provides investment to drive forward the regeneration of the Northwestgate area of the city but inevitably these developments require commercial viability.</p> <p>We completely agree with your comments about boosting aspirations in young people. That is the reason we are committed for bringing a university to Peterborough. The devolution deal we recently approved, and some funding we have received from the Local Enterprise Partnership bring this a step closer.</p>

<p>36</p>	<p>residents. As if you have a person in the room making decisions in regard to economy and they put forward their proposals, and another person is thinking about attracting students. But these ideas are not interacting as well as you are presenting them to be. Peterborough is boring and it needs to be interesting and exciting. The main focus should not be this particular objective or the other, depending on the specialist looking at it. It needs to be a whole organic and well planned vision. It starts with a centrally situated exciting and modern building that will see streams of people walking in, enjoying staying in and returning every day. You cannot divide footfall into night time spenders or students. It needs to be all about those who live here, the residents. I suggest looking at Central Park as a location for the multi storey exciting building I am writing about. The first storey could include the family centre and two or three healthy and inexpensive food outlets. The second could be a public library with homework area, IT and also games consoles for the young. Lots of information everywhere about jobs prospects in companies like google in Kings Cross and guidance on budgeting for a shared ownership property. The third+ floor/s could potentially be a hub for students who need to study at academic level in the local college/s. The roof could be a green space where horticultural/garden design students , incl. online courses students, could come to practice and complete project work. If you think about it carefully you will see that local economy would have a potential to bounce back and grown by its own forces. Have a look at places like the Birkbeck college library to seek inspiration in terms of the architecture of such a project. The Central Park is a boring and sad place now and its playground really uninspiring. This place really has a great potential that could change the landscape forever and all residents will benefit.</p>			
<p>24</p>	<p>If you are to be believed we cannot afford the increases in councillors remuneration. We may have a low council tax but we have the filthiest streets of any where we visit.</p>	<p>A great deal</p>	<p>No pay rises for councillors, collect unpaid taxes, concentrate on bread and butter issues, prosecute the people who throw their rubbish into the streets of our city.</p>	<p>The level of member allowances is recommended by an independent panel. Councillors had not accepted any increases to their allowances since 2009. We are required by law to ask an independent panel to review our members' allowances on an annual basis. We do have a process in place to pursue unpaid tax and offer support to help vulnerable families and individuals set up payment plans or offer referrals to advice agencies for assistance. Amey cleanse our streets on behalf of</p>

				Peterborough City Council, and we aim to keep the streets tidy and clean to attract visitors and create a nicer place for local residents. A scrutiny review on street cleansing has recently been completed, and specific proposals will be brought forward as part of our Phase 2 proposals.
25	If you are to be believed we cannot afford an increase in councillors wages. We may have a low council tax but we have the filthiest streets of any where we visit.	A great deal	No councillors pay rise, collect unpaid taxes and concentrate tax payers money on bread and butter services and prosecute the people who throw their rubbish onto our streets.	The level of member allowances is recommended by an independent panel. Councillors had not accepted any increases to their allowances since 2009. We are required by law to ask an independent panel to review our members' allowances on an annual basis. The number of Councillors in this and any Council, is independently recommended by the Local Government Boundary Commission. This work aims to ensure that each Councillor represents roughly the same number of voters.
26 37	Disgusting that you are putting up members allowances by more than 25%. This is outrageous in times of continued austerity measures.	A fair amount		The level of member allowances is recommended by an independent panel. Councillors had not accepted any increases to their allowances since 2009. We are required by law to ask an independent panel to review our members' allowances on an annual basis.
27			Make the registration service self-funding or actually making a surplus. Move the registration of events into the library, close and sell the register office building and marry people in the town hall. Commercial thinking is required with this business and it's time for it to move into the 21st century.	We have been looking at ways to maximise the revenue generated from registration service, by offering additional services at a cost. We are also investigating how we can make the best use of the Town Hall, to potentially provide the rooms and chambers for functions such as wedding receptions.

Feedback from Emails

idea/suggestion to make some money for the local authority:	Feedback
If all Council meetings were broadcast via YouTube, then you could set up an associated AdSense account and start making some money via associated advertising? It might only make a few hundred pounds or thousands but it would be a step in the right direction, plus it would help democratic services - by saving time with writing reports etc	There would be investment required in to this to ensure that the visual and audio quality was up to required standard to webcast and there would still be a requirement for formal minute taking and report writing, however your ideas and suggestions will be referred to the communications team and democratic services to evaluate.
Make some concerts, events.	The Council hosts and organises a number of events such as the Great Eastern Run, The Bryan Adams concert, Diwali festival, the Italian festival, the Christmas light switch on and the beer festival. We are keen to hold more events within the city, but there are limitations in terms of health and safety, security and budget available for these.
Do not give councillors pay rise	The level of member allowances is recommended by an independent panel. Councillors had not accepted any increases to their allowances since 2009. We are required by law to ask an independent panel to review our members' allowances on an annual basis.
Do not reduce corporation tax until Amazon, Starbucks and other big companies have agreed to repay all taxes owed to the UK economy. If they do not comply, withdraw their UK trading license.	Corporation tax is a tax set by Central Government and Peterborough City Council has no control over setting the rates, and recovering unpaid taxes, this would fall under the department of HMRC.
Community skips or collect 3 bulky rubbish items a year from people. This will cut down on fly tipping and the cost of clearing it up. The environmental capital should not constantly look like a rubbish dump!	As you may know our prevention and enforcement service are currently developing a new strategy against fly-tipping and we will pass your comments on to them directly. Amey collect fly-tipping on the council's behalf and do so within 48 hours of it being reported
Get rid of mayors car and that abomination of a Christmas tree. Also reduce the nice pay rise you have awarded yourselves by at least 50%. If I can manage on 16k so can you.	<p>The Christmas tree provides a low energy and cost efficient alternative to previous Christmas trees used.</p> <p>The Mayor plays a vital role as an ambassador for both the council and the city, often attending prestigious public engagements, some at the request of Peterborough communities. Leasing the car was chosen last year because the repair costs are included within the monthly repayment cost of the lease and the lease cost is much lower than purchasing.</p> <p>The level of Member allowances is recommended by an independent panel. Councillors have had their allowance frozen since 2009.</p>

Feedback from the Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions meeting held on 16th November 2016

The Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions did not make any formal recommendations to Cabinet. The draft minutes of this meeting are included below:

Item	Section of the Budget	Questions / Comment	Response from relevant Cabinet Member / Corporate Director
3	Introduction of the Budget Strategy Council Tax	<p>Under the Executive Summary it states in order to reach a balanced budget £8.9 million of the Grant Equalisation (GE) reserve will need to be used.</p> <p>Why it is that £8.9 million is different to the number in the Summary of Phase 1 budget proposals table on page 7 of the agenda paper.</p> <p>How much is the GE Reserve and is this a new reserve?</p> <p>How good is the council at collecting council tax and business rates? Members also sought assurance that everything was being done to collect them.</p>	<p>The exact figure for the amount of GE Reserve used is £8.853 million but was rounded up to one decimal place in the Executive Summary.</p> <p>The strategy for the use of the reserve was approved by council in March. Through early achievement of savings £11 million pounds was put into a reserve to cushion the impact of grant reductions. Due to the savings that had come forward to balance the budget next year there is a need to use £8.853 million of that reserve which is less than originally planned, therefore some of the £11 million is available to support the 2018/2019 budget.</p> <p>Phase 2 of the MTFs will have the full breakdown of the reserves and the formal report from the Chief Finance Officer on the adequacy of the reserves. This is a new reserve which was approved by Council in March because of the additional savings that had been achieved. There is also the general fund balance which is aimed to be kept at £6 million.</p> <p>The target for collection of council tax this year is 1% above the previous year and the council were already ahead of the previous year.</p> <p>The published figures for council tax collection were as of 31 March. The ultimate collection rate was around 98% or more and was continuously under review.</p>

Item	Section of the Budget	Questions / Comment	Response from relevant Cabinet Member / Corporate Director
		<p>What are the inflation assumptions?</p> <p>How many other councils were raising tax and how many were taking the Adult Social Care precept?</p> <p>Some Members questioned why the budget was being presented in two Phases and felt that there was little information in the Phase One budget document.</p> <p>Members sought clarification on monies from Capital Assets that go back into running costs. Where did they come from and how were they calculated.</p>	<p>The information was not available but the specific assumptions could be circulated after the meeting.</p> <p>It was unknown how many other councils would take the 2%. However since the government had withdrawn the grant support that they were previously giving far more councils had taken the 2%.</p> <p>With regard to the Adult Social Care precept in the first year which was last year 95% of councils took the extra 2%.</p> <p>In previous years there had been one budget which meant that nothing could be put in place until March. Presenting the budget in two phases allowed savings to be made earlier which assisted in dealing with future challenges.</p> <p>When Capital Assets were sold in the past the money could only be used on Capital Assets. This had now changed and the money from the sale of Capital Assets could now be used to fund revenue expenditure. A disposal list would be brought forward in Phase 2 to show how the money feeds through to the revenue expenditure.</p>
The Committee noted this section of the budget.			
ACTION			
The Cabinet Member for Resources to provide the Committee with the inflation assumptions.			
4.	People and Communities	Members sought clarification as to how much additional investment would be	There had been an increase in unaccompanied asylum seeking children in the city which had led to

Item	Section of the Budget	Questions / Comment	Response from relevant Cabinet Member / Corporate Director
Appendix 2 (Pages 13 – 19 Budget Book) (Pages 25 – 31 Agenda pack)		needed to provide placements for unaccompanied asylum seeking children in the Councils care. Was the figure of £600K quoted accurate?	unit costs going up. The figure quoted was currently the best estimate.
		Was there a problem with bed blocking and if so should the council be putting money aside to alleviate the problem.	The Council did not have a problem with bed blocking. There was a bed blocking problem but it was not with patients that the Council were responsible for. The Council worked as part of a system and in terms of the home support delivery service and reablement service the Council worked with health colleagues and the hospital to assist with any issues.
		Members sought clarification as to what the additional 2% Adult Social Care precept would be spent on.	There would be investment into Adult Social Care some of which had been agreed in the previous budget including extra funding due to additional clients and also the money which had to be put in last year because of the national living wage. There would also be additional investment as part of the Better Care Fund projects. There were also savings being achieved within the department, so there would not be a net increase in budget. These investments would not be possible without the precept and were within the government guidance.
		Should the Council invest more money in supporting the cities primary schools?	The overall level of funding across all authorities for schools was determined by central Government and the total amount was based on a census of the number of pupils that were in schools. The Government then sets rules on how that money could be distributed and there was only a small degree of local flexibility. If the Council decided to use that flexibility, how it was used would have to be agreed by the Schools Forum. The flexibility and room for manoeuvre was limited.
		What up take and projected savings would there be through the Digital Front Door project.	The project was not a digital by default project it provided service users the option to engage with the Council digitally. By more people engaging digitally it

Item	Section of the Budget	Questions / Comment	Response from relevant Cabinet Member / Corporate Director
		Did the project have an impact on staff and were any redundancies expected as a result of the project.	then ensured that staff had more time and opportunities to provide intensive support to those who needed it most. It was not about reducing the head count it was about managing the demand differently.
		What was the cost to the Adult Social Care budget from the increase in the national living wage and other legislation?	The legislation was coming in over a number of years and the cumulative impact was not to hand. An extra £500,000 had been put into the budget next year to cover the expected costs for the national living wage.
The Committee noted this section of the budget.			
5.	Resources including Strategic Commissioning and Partnerships Appendix 3 (Pages 20 – 25 Budget Book) (Pages 32 – 37 Agenda Pack)	What would have been the extra cost incurred if another authority had signed the contract for the lease of St Michael's Gate properties. What impact would this have had on the services in the city?	The forecast pressure on the budget for the provision of bed and breakfast accommodation for the homeless would have been £2 million. A series of areas would have been impacted if the Council had not signed the contract for the lease of St Michael's Gate. This would have included provision of housing, school places, adult social care costs, children's services costs and the impact on the health care system including GP's.
		If the Council are working on other solutions to the problem of homelessness so that the Council can move away from the Stef and Phillips agreement would this not then allow other authorities to still come into the city and use the properties.	The Council would not be terminating the agreement with Stef and Phillips until the national scene changed. The Council would not leave those properties for another authority to occupy.
		Members welcomed the news that the park attendants were to be restored and sought clarification as to why they had only been restored during the winter period.	The rationale behind the decision was that there was always staff in the park during the summer months. The reason for reinstating them was because there was an increased element of antisocial behaviour which would not go away during the winter months. The attendants going back into the park would be

Item	Section of the Budget	Questions / Comment	Response from relevant Cabinet Member / Corporate Director
		<p>It was noted that an additional £100k would be put into the budget for shrub cutting. In some other authorities this service had been passed down to the Parish Councils. Can the Parish Councils take on ground maintenance or does the service have to be delivered by Amey.</p> <p>Members congratulated the Cabinet Member for Waste and Street Scene for the U turn on shrub cutting and for listening to the residents.</p> <p>Members sought clarification on why the internal audit partnership with Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council was no longer workable which would result in a loss of income.</p> <p>If the council does not continue to work with Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council could the Council sell the service outside of Peterborough.</p>	<p>trained and would have the powers to deal with anti social behaviour and issue fines.</p> <p>Parish Councils can take on this service. Amey were responsive to people taking on this service and the use of gluttons have been made available to Parish Councils.</p> <p>The Council currently ran a shared service with Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council but those two councils were currently starting to work more closely with Huntingdonshire District Council in a number of areas. It was indicated that internal audit would be one of the services considered but it was not deemed beneficial to Peterborough to have a four way partnership. All options were being looked at and the Head of Internal Audit has contacted other neighbouring authorities to see if they would consider a partnership but so far nothing had come of this.</p> <p>Commercialisation of services was a big change and the Council had picked up a lot of income from doing this.</p>
The Committee noted this section of the budget.			
6.	Growth and Regeneration	Have the Council considered using the	Councils could borrow at low rates through the Public

Item	Section of the Budget	Questions / Comment	Response from relevant Cabinet Member / Corporate Director
	Appendix 4 (Pages 26 – 29 Budget Book) (Pages 38 – 41 Agenda Pack)	beneficial rates of interest to invest in long term investments.	Works Loan Board. All opportunities were investigated where with adequate security the Council might be able to lend that on and make a margin. This would also give the organisation lending to a beneficial rate.
		Has the LED lighting replacement programme been completed and if not could it be speeded up.	The light replacement programme had another three years to run. The programme had started in the 'Can do area' and would progress throughout the city. Workshops and events would be held in each area to advise people of what was happening.
		Other authorities were using lamp posts to use other technology, how are we progressing the use of this in the city.	There will be a report to the January meeting of the Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital Scrutiny Committee. The new technology being put into the street lamps will be capable of using Wi-Fi but this was for use at a later stage.
		Is it true that Hawksworth Securities can start work on North Westgate in 12 months and how much of North Westgate does Hawksworth Securities own.	Hawksworth Securities own about 20% of the site in separate parcels but not enough to deliver the scheme they were putting forward. They would not be able to start a scheme in 12 months time.
		The Hawksworth scheme included a cinema and they are stating that the viability of the scheme was reliant on the cinema. Planning permission had also been given to Queensgate for an additional cinema. Could the Council have refused permission for this additional cinema?	No the Council could not have refused permission and this was upheld following a Judicial Review.
Members sought clarification as to why there was a saving of £686k for concessionary bus fares.	The savings had come about by undertaking an analysis of the number of concessionary fare journeys taking place each year and the fact that the use of bus passes had been lower than predicted partly because the age for concessionary bus pass eligibility had		

Item	Section of the Budget	Questions / Comment	Response from relevant Cabinet Member / Corporate Director
		<p>Are the Council able to monitor how many people have concessionary bus passes and how many people actually use them?</p>	<p>increased in line with the pensionable age for women. The savings reflected the actual level of demand for concessionary bus travel.</p> <p>Stage Coach were a commercial entity and the Council do try and regulate their charges where possible.</p> <p>To Council only pay for the journeys taken and the Council had access to records of how many people had taken journeys using a concessionary bus pass.</p>
		<p>Members sought clarification as to why the reduction in budget for highway maintenance schemes for one year to 2017 of £450k had now been extended to March 2022 at a further £450K per year. Members felt that this would have a detrimental effect on some roads and pathways which were already in bad condition. Members requested that this not be extended.</p> <p>Councillor Khan seconded by Councillor Ellis made a recommendation to Cabinet that the reduction in the budget of £450,000 for the highway maintenance programme should not be extended until March 2022 and remain at October 2017 as originally agreed with a view to reconsidering it again in 2018/2019.</p>	<p>Road and pathways maintenance had not stopped and were continuing to be repaired and were assessed on a safety basis. Maintenance and safety of residential streets was paramount and an extra £250k a year would be put into maintenance of residential areas to undertake preventative work. The £450k savings would be from the lower category residential roads.</p> <p>Members were advised that if the recommendation was agreed it would leave a gap in the savings of £450,000.</p>

Item	Section of the Budget	Questions / Comment	Response from relevant Cabinet Member / Corporate Director
		<p>Councillor Sandford seconded by Councillor Shaheed put forward an amendment to Councillor Khan's recommendation to change the wording to: It is recommended that Cabinet investigate the feasibility of not extending the reduction in the budget of the £450,000 for the highway maintenance programme to March 2022 and remaining at October 2017 as originally agreed.</p> <p>Following a vote (2 in favour 20 against), the amendment was DEFEATED.</p> <p>Following a vote on Councillor Khans original recommendation (7 in favour 18 against), the original recommendation was DEFEATED.</p>	
		Do the Cabinet have any plans to change the amount of public transport subsidy.	No.
		Were other Local Authorities coming through Peterborough City Council to use Skanska and if so how much income were the Council receiving from this service.	Other Local Authorities were coming through Peterborough City Council to use Skanska. The figures for income from this were not available at the meeting.
		<p>Will there be any capital receipts from the community asset transfer programme yet.</p> <p>Members commented that the Lindens had been gifted to the city in 1950 and sought clarification as to whether the Council were able to dispose of the building as it was gifted to the city.</p>	<p>The disposal list will be published in Phase Two of the budget. Phase One did not take into account any bids from organisations. The process was ongoing and too premature to answer.</p> <p>If a building is gifted to the city and is a Council asset then the Council can dispose of it as it wishes. No one had come forward as yet to purchase it.</p>

Item	Section of the Budget	Questions / Comment	Response from relevant Cabinet Member / Corporate Director
	Members recommended using the Invest to Save fund in bringing forward the LED light replacement scheme around the city to bring forward the anticipated savings.	The Invest to Save fund was already being used for this scheme. The length of the scheme was due to the fact that several thousands of LED replacement lights were required and they were not all available at the same time.	The Committee noted this section of the budget.
7. Governance Appendix 5 (Page 30 – 32 Budget Book) (Pages 42 to 44 Agenda Book)	Members sought clarification as to why there was a proposal to increase the salary of each lawyer by one pay grade at a time when savings were needed to be made.	The Legal team won the Local Government Legal Team of the Year award in 2015 which has resulted in other local authorities poaching members of the legal team from Peterborough. If the council were unable to recruit at the current rate it would mean having to go out to external lawyers at a much more costly rate. The proposed salary increase will hopefully provide an incentive to encourage staff to remain working at Peterborough City Council.	Members noted that under the member allowances scheme it stated that there could also be some savings arising through an increase in car parking fees for Members. How significant would those savings be?
The Committee noted this section of the budget.			
8. Staff Implications Appendix 6 (Pages 33 Budget Book) (Page 45 Agenda Pack)	No comments or questions were made on this section of the budget.		The Committee noted this section of the budget.

Item	Section of the Budget	Questions / Comment	Response from relevant Cabinet Member / Corporate Director
10.	Council Tax Support Scheme Page 47 Appendix C of the Agenda Pack	No comments or questions were made on the Council Tax Support Scheme.	The Service Director Financial Services provided a brief introduction and explanation around the Council Tax Support Scheme.
The Committee noted this section of the budget.			
11	General Comments, any overall recommendations and Conclusion		
	There were no further comments, questions or recommendations.		