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# ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

# TUESDAY 13 MARCH 2018 7.00 PM

**Bourges/Viersen Room - Town Hall** 

# **AGENDA**

Page No

- 1. Apologies for Absense
- 2. Declarations of Interest and Whipping Declarations

At this point Members must declare whether they have a disclosable pecuniary interest, or other interest, in any of the items on the agenda, unless it is already entered in the register of members' interests or is a "pending notification " that has been disclosed to the Solicitor to the Council. Members must also declare if they are subject to their party group whip in relation to any items under consideration.

3. Minutes of the Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee Meeting 3 - 10 Held on

16 January 2018

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

The decision notice for each decision will bear the date on which it is published and will specify that the decision may then be implemented on the expiry of 3 working days after the publication of the decision (not including the date of publication), unless a request for call-in of the decision is received from any two Members of the relevant Scrutiny Committee. If a request for call-in of a decision is received, implementation of the decision remains suspended for consideration by the relevant Scrutiny Committee.

5. Report of the Task and Finish Group To Assist The Development Of A
New Homelessness Strategy

6. New Council House Provision 55 - 62



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# 8. Forward Plan of Executive Decisions

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# Committee Members:

Councillors: A Ansar, R Brown, J Bull (Vice Chairman), J R Fox, H Fuller (Chairman), M Hussain, D King, S Martin, L Serluca, A Shaheed and N Simons

Substitutes: Councillors: A Bond, A Ellis, S Lane and G Nawaz

Further information about this meeting can be obtained from Joanna Morley on telephone 01733 452468 or by email – joanna.morley@peterborough.gov.uk



# MINUTES OF THE ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 7PM ON WEDNESDAY 16 JANUARY 2018 BOURGES VIERSEN ROOMS, TOWN HALL, PETERBOROUGH

Committee Councillors H Fuller (Chairman), J Bull (Vice-Chairman), A Ali, Members Present: R Brown, N Simons, J R Fox, D King, L Serluca, A Ellis, E Murphy,

Parish Councillor N Boyce, Parish Council Co-opted Member

Also Present: Councillor I Walsh Cabinet Member for Communities

Officers in Wendi Ogle-Welbourn Corporate Director: People & Communities

Attendance: Will Patten Service Director: Commissioning
Oliver Hayward Assistant Director: Commissioning

Rob Hill Assistant Director: Communities & Safety

Matt Oliver Team Manager: Youth in Localities

Jane McDaid Head of Peterborough Property Services

Caroline Rowan Communities Estates Manager Joanna Morley Democratic Services Officer

### 36. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from. Councillor Martin, Councillor Shaheed and Councillor Hussain. Councillor Ellis attended as substitute for Councillor Martin and Councillor Murphy attended as substitute for Councillor Hussain.

# 37. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND WHIPPING DECLARATIONS

Councillor Bull, as a member of the judiciary, declared an in interest in item 5 on the agenda, the portfolio progress report of the Cabinet Member for Communities, where it referenced the Peterborough Enforcement Service (PES), Reducing Offending and the Safer Peterborough Partnership (SPP). Councillor Bull also declared an interest in item 6 on the agenda, the Community Asset Transfer Report, as she was a trustee of St. John's Hall.

Councillor Fuller declared an interest in item 6 as he was a trustee of Thorney Society which subleased the Bedford Hall.

Councillor Simons declared an interest in item 6 as he was a member of Thorney Parish Council and a member of the Bedford Hall Management Committee.

The Chairman advised that as the Community Asset Transfer report affected all wards, many of the committee members would have some interest in their community buildings and that therefore the discussion should be kept at a strategic level rather than referencing individual buildings and ongoing cases.

# 38. MINUTES OF THE ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 14 NOVEMBER 2017

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 November 2017 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

# 39. CALL IN OF ANY CABINET, CABINET MEMBER OR KEY OFFICER DECISIONS

There were no requests for call-in to consider.

# 40. PORTFOLIO PROGRESS REPORT: CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES

The Cabinet Member for Communities introduced the report which provided an overview of the work being undertaken under the Communities portfolio.

The Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee debated the report and asked questions of the Cabinet Member for Communities, the Assistant Director: Communities and Safety and the Team Manager: Youth in Localities. In summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- The report emphasised the need to meet local needs through stronger community engagement. By using volunteers and developing local groups to bring people together, communities could be empowered to take an active role in local problem solving.
- The Cabinet Member previously had the remit for all homelessness but homelessness and housing need had been transferred to the Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development whilst the Communities portfolio had kept the rough sleepers remit.
- At the last physical count rough sleepers had reduced to 17, however it was estimated that there were actually up to 30 people who slept rough each night in the City, which was an increase on last year's estimate of 23.
- A strategic and tactical focus group had been created to provide active support to individuals as well as looking at longer term approaches to address the issue of rough sleeping.
- Two additional outreach workers had been engaged to offer accommodation and provide support for rough sleepers.
- The Council had been working with voluntary and faith organisations to provide night shelter, severe weather emergency provision (SWEP) and befriending.
- The voluntary sector had been commissioned to provide The Peterborough Community Assistance Scheme (PCAS)
- A number of community hubs had been developed where the Council had worked with the
  public and partners so that people could come together. The future vision for the hubs was
  that they would be occupied by multi-agency groups that would help build resilient
  communities that could deal with local issues and needs.
- The cohesion team had continued to build excellent community links which had enabled Peterborough to avoid some of the issues faced by other cities.
- The Syrian resettlement programme had been supported incredibly well by residents of Peterborough and this partnership work had been recognised as one of the finalists for the Association for Public Service Excellence (APSE) Annual Service Awards 2017.
- Peterborough had been selected as one of five cities to participate in the Inclusive Cities project which was an externally funded project which aimed to tackle social inclusion.
- The PES (Peterborough Enforcement Service) had been developing its staff to be multiskilled so that they were better equipped to deal with people's needs.

- Many measures had been taken to ensure that the Council maintained a close working relationship with their enforcement partner, Kingdom. If a complaint was about how an enforcement notice was issued then it was directed to Kingdom but if the complaint was about why an enforcement notice had been issued then the complaint was directed to the Council for review. Any escalation of a complaint was also sent to the Council.
- The Inclusive Cities project was funded by the Paul Hamlin Society and so Peterborough's participation in the project did not require any additional funding from the Council. The project was an opportunity to share best practice and to develop future projects.
- All buildings would be considered as possible locations for future community hubs as the geographical location of these hubs would be vital to ensure that both the community and the multi-disciplinary services could easily access them.
- Councillors cautioned against hubs being led by the police service as there were people
  who would use hubs but not if they developed into replacements for police stations.
- Hubs were not intended as a replacement for police stations and were not designed for the police to be there full time. Instead hubs were a place where the police could drop in and where residents could access police services as a part of multi-agency provision.
- A mobile hub which visited rural parishes of the City was also suggested.
- The large spike in the November figures for the amount of Fixed Penalty Notices issued reflected the Christmas shopping period and the larger footfall that was in the City Centre at that time.
- Councillors commended the work being done by youth services and felt that the excellent achievements of Peterborough's young people should be much more widely publicised.
- The Youth Service was operating in a rapidly changing landscape with very little direction nationally around youth policy and was having to adjust, as was the trend nationally in many areas, to more community led provision. The Youth service was having to put in place officers that could co-ordinate, support and enable rather than actively deliver services.
- The development of the community hubs could provide the Council with an opportunity and a vehicle with which to promote youth services and the schemes that were available.
- It had been a cross party decision to replace the rural commission with parish council coopted members that sat on each of the scrutiny committees. This had been an attempt for
  parish councils to contribute to live policy rather than being a re-active body. Parish
  councils had a further degree of input through the Parish Council Liaison meeting.
- The Community Safety Strategy had had scrutiny support and had been amended to better highlight and prioritise local issues such as anti-social behaviour and environmental issues, before going to full Council in March.
- Members requested more information on the volunteering schemes that had been put in place to support victims of domestic abuse.
- The government had directed that the Prevent programme, which was concerned with radicalisation, was better suited to being led by local councils as there may have been some blockers to its success with the Police leading it. The target for this handover was between September and December 2018 and PCC had already started on the process of restructuring and owning this scheme. Officers would look to update the Committee on its progress later in the year.

# **ACTIONS AGREED**

The Committee considered and scrutinised the report and RESOLVED to endorse the approach being taken under the portfolio of the Cabinet Member for Communities and requested that:

1. The Team Manager: Youth In Localities provides a briefing note for the Committee outlining in greater detail the work being done by youth services and how they were

adapting to the changing landscape and the move to the co-ordination of more community led youth provision, rather than Council delivery of services.

- 2. The Cabinet Member for Communities provides a briefing note detailing the volunteering work done to support victims of domestic abuse.
- 3. The Assistant Director: Communities and Safety, at an appropriate time later in the year, provides a briefing note for the Committee giving an update on the progress made with the transfer of responsibility to the Council of the Prevent agenda and the resource allocated to it.

# 41. COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER REPORT

The Cabinet Member for Communities introduced the report which was presented to the Committee in order for them to review the progress made to date regarding community asset transfers and to agree the direction of travel for the future management of community buildings.

The Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee debated the report and asked questions of the Cabinet Member, the Head of Peterborough Property Services and the Communities Estate Manager. In summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- The Cabinet Member felt that it was important for this report to come before the Committee.
- The Community Asset Transfer (CAT) scheme had been running since 2013 and there
  had been difficult and complex issues in implementing the scheme. Progress had been
  slow but it was hoped that it would move more rapidly from this point onwards.
- Members of the CAT working group realised that they needed to narrow the options available for taking on a community asset. The option to develop a Trust model to hold community assets not transferring was no longer a viable option to take forward as only a small number of buildings fell under this model. Instead, where an existing community organisation did not wish to pursue a formal asset transfer, any sites that become vacant would be offered to other community groups within the City who had expressed an interest in owning and occupying a community venue.
- It was hoped that the simplification of the programme would help move things forward at a quicker pace.
- As community centres were a fundamental resource for neighbourhoods, Councillors stressed that they did not want a quicker pace for the CAT scheme to in any way jeopardise these buildings and residents' access to them.
- In response to claims that some buildings that had already transferred had been saddled
  with unforeseen bills and repairs officers stressed that the Council did not want to see any
  of the community groups fail to successfully manage the buildings and would do its utmost
  to make sure that they succeeded.
- Councillors questioned whether community volunteers had the necessary skills and capacity to manage a community building and asked what safeguards and reassurances were in place for those who took on the management role.
- Some community buildings were very well run and making a profit whilst others were run
  on a shoestring and had become very isolated and intractable and officers had not been
  able to get in contact with them to offer help. The Council offered free and impartial legal
  advice to community organisations and also kept a watchful eye on how they were
  progressing. Additionally the Charities Commission was available to help with accounts.
- Officers were very keen to pursue Councillor involvement and ideally would like to see all Councillors within a ward appointed to the board of a community centre. This would

- strengthen the group's skills hopefully allowing them to better represent their communities and additionally give them a route to feed into the Council if any intervention was required.
- The decision to withdraw the trust model option was taken as there was only a very small number interested in it and there was concern that a centralised trust would take away from the whole idea of local community use and empowerment. For those groups who did not want to take on that additional financial responsibility, other voluntary and charitable organisations that were interested in taking over the management of a centre would be approached and it was hoped they would work with the current community group to strengthen that association. Partnership with other charities therefore might be a more viable and successful option for some groups.
- The alternative option to the trust option was being offered as a way of keeping the buildings open and the community groups active; it would just be the management of the buildings that would change. In this way buildings could be safeguarded for community use and officers reiterated that there was no intention to close any of them.
- It was proposed that all existing community management organisations of buildings should confirm their intentions around community asset transfer by 31st March 2018. Officers stressed that this deadline was for groups to decide a direction of travel and give an indication of their aspirations rather than getting them to sign a binding contract.
- Members expressed concern that when existing management committees decided not to take on the building, that the community centres should not be sold to other community organisations without a proper asset valuation being conducted in case they were then sold on for profit.
- When buildings were transferred under the CAT scheme there was no intention that they
  would be closed and the land sold off as there was a use lease clause in the contract
  saying that the building must be used for community use. If there was a transfer of
  leasehold then there was a covenant which outlined the same restriction.
- Officers felt that a number of associations had not arranged meetings to discuss the CAT scheme and that there needed to be some rigour to the process. If groups had not indicated a direction by the March deadline then it was a clear indication that they were not interested in or not acting as an association.
- The Chair of Community Action Peterborough (CAP) who was present at the meeting, was invited to speak and told the Committee that they had been waiting for more information on the Trust model before they made a decision and had only been informed in the last week that this option was not now going forward. A request for flexibility on the March deadline was made as it was felt that not everyone was aware that it was just an indication that was required by this time and because most committees only met monthly.
- After the last CAT meeting, it was agreed that the best way forward would be to write letters to every centre to make clear the changes to the CAT scheme and the options available, and to copy in all ward councillors so that they too were aware of these changes and were fully informed.
- The Chair of CAP wanted to highlight that officers from PCC and members of CAP were working together and that although the information that was presented at the forum was received negatively by some, most members respected the honesty with which questions were answered and felt that it was the biggest step forward that they had made.

# **ACTIONS AGREED:**

The Committee scrutinised the report and requested that:

- 1. Officers provide a briefing note to members outlining what roles Councillors can take to support community assets and what their responsibilities would be.
- 2. A further report outlining the progress made regarding community asset transfers be presented at the July meeting of the Committee.

# **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Committee scrutinised and noted the report and **RESOLVED** to recommend that;

1. That the Community Asset Transfer programme and its current approach be continued but that the March deadline be extended in order that Community organisations had longer to consider and confirm their intentions around community asset transfer.

# 42. ADULT SOCIAL CARE COMMISSIONING ARRANGEMENTS

The Service Director and Assistant Director of Commissioning introduced the report which provided the Committee with further information on the commissioning arrangements within Adult Social Care and which followed on from two reports received at the previous meeting which had outlined the impact of the Transformation and Savings programme and the current performance of Adult Social Care.

The Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- There were three main areas covered in the report; strategic commissioning, the operational elements and their governance arrangements.
- Strategically the whole approach around commissioning was prevention and intervention specifically to help people remain independent and in their own homes for longer.
- The methodology was to manage the market and take a collaborative approach not just with the provider organisations but also with the Health sector to provide a joined up approach and to make sure the right services were commissioned.
- Operationally, strategic decisions were enacted through re-tender service improvement plans with providers and ultimately through the re-contracting arrangements.
- There had been some real rigour put around the governance arrangements in the last twelve months and these took a number of forms:
  - 1. The arrangement with Health to manage the better Care Fund (BCF) was done through the integrated commissioning board which linked to the Strategic Transformation Programme (STP).
  - 2. There was a joint commission board with partners in Cambridgeshire County Council which managed the decisions made around strategic and operational commissioning and provided very effective scrutiny from business partners in Finance, Legal and HR.
  - 3. Peterborough also had seven partnership boards: Careers Partnership Board, Older Peoples Partnership Board, Learning Disabilities Partnership Board, Mental Health Stakeholder Group, Autism Board, Physical Disability Board and Sensory Impairment Board. These boards were made up of service users and advocates of the users to make sure their voices were heard in the decision making process.
  - 4. There were independent arrangements with Healthwatch Peterborough and Cambridgeshire that provided effective scrutiny for decisions made on health services.
  - 5. A Quality and Improvement Safeguarding Team had been developed recently. This team worked primarily with domiciliary care agencies and care home providers, in partnership with the QCC, to look at, on a case by case basis, those areas that needed improvement. This scrutiny prepared providers for their next inspection but also ensured that the level of care in Peterborough was of a good quality. There has been a marked improvement in care levels, with 80% of people who were in a care home now being in one that was of good or better quality. This was notable when compared with other eastern county counterparts who did not perform as well.

- The Community Resilience Strategy outlined how community partners worked together to combat isolation and loneliness and to make sure that what was commissioned was needed and addressed specific needs rather than just buying units of care off the shelf.
- The Winter Plan had been developed with partners in Health and was largely financed by the Better Care Fund. The Plan made sure that there was investment in front line services such as the discharge and reablement teams and also ensured that there was additional capacity in the market so that when people were discharged from hospital and needed extra longer term care that it was available.
- The success of the Winter Plan so far could be measured by the DTOC (Delayed transfers
  of care) target which was 3.5%, measured by NHS and Adult Social Care contributable
  delays. Peterborough was well within this target coming within the top quartile nationally,
  and were under a fair amount of positive scrutiny from other local Authorities who wanted
  to see how Peterborough had approached its Winter Plan. The Director of Commissioning
  wanted to highlight that operational teams were doing a fantastic job in contributing to this
  achievement.

# **ACTIONS AGREED**

The Committee RESOLVED to note the contents of the report.

# 43. FORWARD PLAN OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

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

# **ACTION AGREED**

The Committee noted the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions.

# 44. WORK PROGRAMME 2017 - 2018

Members considered the Committee's Work Programme for 2016/17 and discussed possible items for inclusion.

# **ACTION AGREED**

The Committee noted the work programme for 2017/18

# 45. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

• 20 February Joint Scrutiny Of The Budget

• 13 March Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee

CHAIRMAN 7.00pm - 8.53pm This page is intentionally left blank

ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 6				
13 MARCH 2018	PUBLIC REPORT				

Report of:		TASK AND FINISH GROUP TO ASSIST THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW HOMELESSNESS REDUCTION STRATEGY						
Cabinet Member(s)	esponsible:	Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development						
Contact Officer(s):	Sarah Fergu and Youth Sean Evans	Tel. 01733 864083						

# REPORT OF THE TASK AND FINISH GROUP TO ASSIST THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW HOMELESSNESS STRATEGY

RECOMMENDATIONS									
<b>FROM:</b> Task And Finish Group To Assist The Development Of A New Homelessness Reduction Strategy	Deadline date: 13 March 2018								

It is recommended that the Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee:

- 1. Consider and comment on the Task and Finish Group Report attached at Appendix 1, and
- 2. Endorse the report and recommendations for submission to Cabinet.

# 1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 This report is submitted to the Committee following the development of a new Homelessness Strategy by a cross party Scrutiny Task and Finish Group.

# 2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 At its meeting on 12 September 2017 the Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee recommended that a cross-party Task and Finish Group be established to work alongside officers to develop a new draft Homelessness Strategy. The strategy would then be presented back to the Committee for endorsement before being presented to Cabinet for endorsement prior to approval at Full Council.
- 2.2 This report is for the Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference No.2.1, Functions determined by Council,
  - 3. Housing need (including homelessness, housing options and selective licensing);
- 2.3 This report links to the following corporate priorities:
  - · Keeping our communities safe, cohesive and healthy
  - Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults
- 2.4 How does this report link to the Children in care Pledge? N/A

# 3. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy	YES	If yes, date for	TBC
Item/Statutory Plan?		Cabinet meeting	

### 4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

4.1 The attached report of the task and finish group details the background, findings and objectives which have informed the final proposed strategy.

# The Proposed Strategy

The Council's previous Homelessness Strategy had 4 strategic aims. These will remain of value throughout the lifetime of this strategy with all success and learning acquired being maintained for its duration. These aims are:

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

Strategic Aim 2 - Increasing access to accommodation

Strategic Aim 3 – Reduce and prevent rough sleeping

Strategic Aim 4 – Promoting settled lifestyles and sustainable communities

Homelessness can be complex and not every case is the same. The situation is affected by national and local circumstances that are always changing, but this does not prevent the Council from aiming to achieve the best for its citizens. It must strive to prevent homelessness and break the cycle.

The actions the Council and its partner agencies will take to help deliver these aims are set out in these ten key objectives:

**Objective 1**: Eliminating the use of Travelodge type accommodation and reducing / eliminating the use of B&B type accommodation for temporary accommodation

**Objective 2**: Ensuring the effective implementation of the Homelessness Reduction Act and embracing the culture change this will bring

**Objective 3:** Creating a suite of prevention tools which will give the Housing Needs team improved chances of success in preventing homelessness

**Objective 4**: Support landlords and tenants to support them to overcome landlord/tenant issues which may lead to eviction action

**Objective 5**: Bringing together services to work holistically in ensuring financial inclusion, income maximisation and debt advice are accessible and prioritised in order to support preventative work

**Objective 6**: Increase the supply of self-contained temporary accommodation options in order to support the reduction of B&B use

**Objective 7**: Explore the potential of a Social Lettings Agency/Guaranteed Rent Scheme for private landlords

**Objective 8**: Ensure that information and advice on housing and homelessness prevention is widely available and that our customers are seen at the earliest possible opportunity

**Objective 9**: Maintain services and create an effective supported accommodation pathway for single homeless and rough sleepers

Objective 10: Increase the focus on performance supported by clearer data

# 5. CONSULTATION

5.1 The strategy has been developed through the cross party Task & Finish group. The group has had input and gathered evidence from a number of key partners and witnesses. A representative from Cross Keys Homes has been a co-opted member of the group and has fed in the views of the partner housing associations who form the Peterborough Homes Partnership.

# 6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

6.1 It is recommended that the Draft Homelessness Strategy be approved to be taken to Cabinet and Full Council for adoption.

# 7. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

7.1 The statutory requirement to conduct a review of homelessness and have a current homelessness strategy in readiness for the introduction of the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017

# 8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

8.1 No Alternative options were considered

# 9. IMPLICATIONS

# **Financial Implications**

9.1 It is not expected that there will be any additional financial implications, which have not already been accounted and budgeted for.

# **Legal Implications**

9.2 N/A

# **Equalities Implications**

9.3 N/A

# **Rural Implications**

9.4 N/A

# 10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

Housing Act 1996 (as amended by Homelessness Act 2002)
 Homelessness Code of Guidance for Local Authorities
 Homelessness Reduction Act 2017

# 11. APPENDICES

11.1 Appendix 1 - Task and Finish Group Report
Appendix 2 - Draft Homeless Reduction Strategy

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# ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TASK AND FINISH GROUP

# DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW HOMELESSNESS REDUCTION STRATEGY

13 MARCH 2018

Report of the Task and Finish Group

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

At its meeting on 12 September 2017, the Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee recommended that a cross-party Task and Finish Group be established to assist in the development of a new Homelessness Reduction Strategy. The final report with recommendations to be presented back to the Committee on completion of a draft Homelessness Reduction Strategy.

The Committee agreed the terms of reference at the meeting and the Senior Democratic Services Officer sought possible nominations to the Task and Finish Group to be confirmed following the meeting through the Group Secretaries.

The cross party Task and Finish group comprised the following members:



Chairman
Cllr Stephen Lane
Independent
Werrington Ward



Clr Asif Shaheed Liberal Democrat Paston & Walton Ward



Cllr June Bull Conservative Orton Longueville Ward



Cllr Stuart Martin Labour Bretton Ward



Cllr John Whitby UKIP Fletton and Stanground Ward

# Co-opted Members:



Ali Manji, Neighbourhood Project Manager - Cross Key Homes

Officers supporting the Task and Finish Group were:

• Adrian Chapman: Service Director: Community & Safety

• Sarah Ferguson: Assistant Director: Housing, Communities & Youth

Sean Evans: Housing Needs Manager

Paulina Ford: Senior Democratic Services Officer

• Joanna Morley: Democratic Services Officer

# 2. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

**Recommendation 1 -** That the Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee endorses the Homelessness Strategy 2018 - 2020 to be taken to Cabinet for approval and adoption.

**Recommendation 2 -** That the Cabinet member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development contacts (i) the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, (ii) the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, and (iii) the Local Government Association, seeking their support to amend legislation so that:

- (a) the Housing Benefit element of welfare benefit payments are paid direct to landlords rather than to tenants, in an attempt to encourage more landlords to offer their properties for homeless households or those at risk of becoming homeless; and,
- (b) Section 21 of the Housing Act 1988 (*Recovery of Possession on Expiry or Termination of Assured Shorthold Tenancy*) is reviewed with a view to ending its widespread use, and in its place introduce legislation that provides for greater tenancy security in the private rented sector.

# 3. TERMS OF REFERENCE

# **Purpose**

To work alongside officers to develop a new draft Homelessness Reduction Strategy for presentation back to the Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee. The strategy will build on the Council's existing Homelessness Prevention Strategy and position us well to manage the full impacts of Homelessness and prepare for the broader responsibilities the Council will assume when the Homelessness Reduction Act becomes live in April 2018.

# **Scope**

- To consider the existing and previous Homelessness Prevention strategies to determine what impacts actions have had, and what learning exists to influence the new strategy.
- 2. To consider similar strategies developed by other similar councils to identify good practice that may be transferable to Peterborough.
- 3. To consider similar strategies developed by the district councils across Cambridgeshire to identify if there are any benefits in collaborating on all or some actions.
- 4. To take into account national research and models of good practice promoted by relevant agencies, e.g. Shelter.
- To take into consideration the Homelessness Reduction Act to determine the impacts it will have on delivery of homelessness prevention and reduction activity in Peterborough.
- To identify and meet with expert witnesses to help inform discussions and recommendations
- 7. To give particular consideration to the medium and long term solutions to homelessness and to take into account if there is a link between homelessness and the lack of affordable housing

(as agreed at the Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee meeting 12/09/17)

# Reporting

The Task and Finish group will report to the Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee.

Approved on 12/09/17 – Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee

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# 4. PROCESS AND METHODOLOGY USED FOR THE INVESTIGATION

# 4.1 Methodology

- Questioning of Key Witnesses
- Local knowledge from members of the Task and Finish Group and Officers
- Current Legislation
- Desktop research national and Local the following items were provided:
  - Briefing paper Homelessness Reduction Act 2017
  - Cambridge City Interim Housing Strategy Statement 2017
  - Universal Credit presentation
  - Draft headings for Homelessness Strategy
  - East Cambridgeshire District Council Homelessness Strategy 2015 2018
  - National Audit Office Report on Homelessness 8 September 2017
  - Luton Homelessness Prevention Strategy: 2016 2021
  - Milton Keynes Homelessness (Statutory Need) Strategy: Cabinet report 11 July 2016
  - Milton Keynes Draft Strategy for meeting Statutory Housing Need

# 4.2 Process

The timetable of the events leading to the production of this report are set out below:

Meeting Date	Items Discussed / Guests Attending
16 October 2017	Scope the Review e.g. timeframe, how the review will be undertaken i.e. research, walkabout, stakeholder engagement, key witnesses etc.
7 November 2017	Review and discussion on information requested at previous meeting, discuss outline headings for strategy, format for questioning key witnesses
21 November 2017	Evidence gathering from key witnesses
20 December 2017	Evidence gathering from key witnesses
31 January 2018	Officers to present draft strategy for comment and review. Discussion regarding conclusions and recommendations
15 February 2018	Final review of strategy and confirmation of conclusions and recommendations to be included in the Task and Finish Group report.

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# 4.3 Key Witnesses / Expert Advisers interviewed:

- Damien Fogg MRICS | Local Representative, National Landlords Association
- Keith Jones Chief Executive, Citizens Advice Bureau
- Simon Machen, Corporate Director for Growth and Regeneration
- Cllr Peter Hiller, Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing & Economic Development
- Jeff Austin, Peterborough Direct Manager
- Peter Carpenter, Service Director, Financial Services

# 5. BACKGROUND

# **Statutory Duties**

In 2002, the Government amended the Homelessness Act 2002 to ensure a more strategic approach to tackling and preventing homelessness, in particular by requiring Local Authorities to produce a Homelessness Strategy.

The Council is required to review homelessness within the area and update its Homelessness Strategy every five years.

The cross party task and finish group developed this strategy at a time of increasing rates of homelessness, both locally and nationally, as well as the introduction of the Homelessness Reduction Act due in April 2018. The strategy details our aims over the next 2 years and will be reviewed in 2020.

The Council recognises the devastating effect that homelessness can have on households and that good quality housing providing a stable and secure home environment contributes to the health and wellbeing of our residents. The strategy will address the causes of homelessness in the area; introduce initiatives to prevent homelessness wherever possible; provide sufficient suitable temporary accommodation for those households that are or may become homeless; ensure that a good supply of suitable permanent accommodation is available and appropriate support for people who have previously experienced homelessness in order to prevent it happening again.

A positive action plan has been created which sets out the goals for the future and shows that the Council is dedicated to providing the best service for its clients.

# Methodology

In developing the strategy the Task & Finish group has gathered evidence in order to inform the required actions and strategic aims. This information was gathered by sourcing local knowledge from the task and finish group and officers, questioning of key witnesses, reviewing current and new legislation and reviewing the strategies of similar authorities.

# **Demand for Services**

In the period April 2016 - March 2017 the Council saw increasing levels of households applying to the Council for assistance. 1586 households were presented to the Council because they may be homeless or threatened with homelessness within the next 28 days. This represented an increase of 43% when compared to the previous year when 1109 presentations were made. The same three quarters of 2017 - 18 has similar levels of presentations to those of 2016 - 17.

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# Rental affordability issue increasing

The Council has previously been successful in utilising the private sector in preventing homelessness and discharging its homelessness duties; however recent increases in rental costs of private sector accommodation while local housing allowance rates have been frozen, has meant that the majority of properties available in the private sector are no longer affordable for those households that are reliant on benefits to cover or assist with rents.

In addition there appears to be an increasing reluctance from some landlords to accept households who will be in receipt of any support with Housing Benefits and Universal Credit. This is mainly as these benefits are paid in arrears and if any issues arise meaning benefits are suspended or reduced, landlords are already out of pocket making it more difficult to manage.

# **Supply of Accommodation**

Generally, those households to whom the Council accepts a full housing duty will be allocated accommodation with a social landlord.

Unfortunately while the demand from households requiring assistance has been increasing the availability of permanent accommodation options has at the same time been decreasing.

# Rising levels of rough-sleeping

Increases in homelessness and increases in rough sleeping generally go hand in hand and Peterborough is no different. Peterborough's last rough sleeper count/estimate, which was a snapshot of one typical night, identified that 31 rough sleepers were sleeping out in the city. This is an increase of 48% in the last 12 months.

# **Temporary Accommodation**

Increases in demand for services and a shrinking supply of permanent accommodation options has meant a bottle neck has been forming in temporary accommodation with more households going into temporary accommodation than have been leaving. This has proved both costly to the council and damaging to the households approaching us for assistance.

# **Future Challenges**

# The Full Rollout of Universal Credit (UC)

In November 2017 Universal Credit was rolled out to include all new benefit claimants and those currently in receipt of benefits who have a change in circumstances

# The Homelessness Reduction Act

The main thrust of the Homelessness Reduction Act is to refocus English local authorities on efforts to prevent homelessness.

The Act will have an impact on the delivery of services and will have a resource impact. Councils currently offer advice and assistance to all households who are homeless or threatened with homelessness, for those who are not in priority need our duty currently ends after we have given advice on how the applicant can secure accommodation themselves.

The Act would legally oblige local authorities to assess and provide more meaningful assistance to all people who are eligible and homeless or threatened with homelessness, irrespective of their priority need status.

The changes require us to formulate and work through an action plan with each applicant. This action plan would be owned by the advisor and the applicant and if followed effectively should result in the applicant not becoming homeless or being assisted in securing alternative accommodation before they have to leave their current home.

# Funding for short stay supported housing

The government intends to give councils funding responsibility for short-term supported housing schemes, such as women's refuges and homelessness accommodation, through ring-fenced grants and is currently consulting on its plans. Providers of these schemes have expressed concerns that the grants do not provide the same protections and rights for short-term supported housing residents as those living in long-term supported housing. It moves away from a model where service users enjoy the rights as tenants, with housing costs backed by an entitlement-based benefit system to a system of relatively short-term, scheme-based funding. This is viewed by providers as a backward-looking step and a return to an institutionalised model.

# 6. FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

# **Findings and Conclusions**

The current housing situation is complex and multifaceted, with many of the drivers for the Homelessness situation outside of the direct control of the City Council.

The city's rapid population growth over recent years, both unplanned and unexpected, has put huge pressure on housing, giving rise to higher rent. Other changes through Government legislation, such as Housing Benefits payments and the change to PIP and Universal Credit, create additional pressures, especially to those in need of social housing. This 'Perfect Storm' of issues has driven the current crisis

The Task and Finish group acknowledges that there is an increasingly complex background to the provision of housing and that with the introduction of the new Homelessness Reduction Act in April 2018 a new approach to dealing with homelessness in all its guises is required.

The development and subsequent implementation of a new homelessness reduction strategy would therefore not only build on the existing strategy to ensure that the Council met its legal obligations under the new act, but would also recommend the need for more collaborative working and preventative measures to prevent homelessness in the first instance. A more preventative approach would run alongside increasing the provision of housing to tackle immediate demands and bottlenecks in the system.

During the course of its investigations, the Task and Finish group concluded that:

- Information flows between housing providers and council teams needed to be improved so that interventions could be made before any legal recourse was taken.
- Once implemented, the Council would need to increase awareness of the strategy and the help that was available to those who were facing homelessness so that the action plans required by the new act could be put in place.
- The strategy would need to tackle the reluctance of private landlords to take on housing benefit recipients as tenants, by reducing the level of default payments that they experienced.
- With the decline in social housing supply, the lack of secure tenancy was one of the biggest problems facing tenants as most private sector rentals were on a short term basis.
- The increasing shortage of affordable homes was one of the primary causes of Peterborough's

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growing homelessness problem. The lack of social housing means many on low incomes rent privately with the help of benefits. As welfare reform has reduced the rents that such tenants can afford, more landlords have chosen not to renew their tenancies, instead letting to higher income households, who tend to be adult sharers rather than families.

- Without a consistent housing supply for rental accommodation, blockages would build up in the Hostel, and Bed & Breakfast accommodation provision.
- Rough sleepers are still an issue for the Council and some type of basic covered accommodation may need to be provided.
- Much of the increase in homelessness in recent years has been due to a steep rise in the numbers of non-UK nationals and single UK nationals for whom accommodation options are severely limited, as most are not entitled to the welfare benefits that could be used to cover rent.
- Rough sleepers often have complex support needs, so funding for mental health and other services is vital to supporting them off the streets and adapting to a settled lifestyle. Additionally, opportunities to access training, education, employment and enterprise initiatives need to be created.
- The Task and Finish Group noted that there had been an increase in capacity of the Housing Needs Team and hoped that this would ensure 24/7 availability of the Outreach team.
- Scrutiny and governance of the strategy needed to be put in place with regular reports being
  presented to cabinet and scrutiny committees to ensure that it continued to be fit for purpose and
  that any case-law challenges after the Act comes into force, were monitored.
- Government has stated its intention to cover the costs of additional legislative burdens, caused
  by the introduction of the new act but the level of resources that will be made available to councils
  is yet to be confirmed. As the implementation of the act comes at a time when councils face
  acute financial pressures, PCC should carefully monitor the Government to ensure it fulfils its
  commitments to cover all resulting costs
- An IT solution needs to be found that is capable of discharging the requirements of the Homelessness Reduction Act and which would provide an enhanced housing register and choice based lettings service that was fit for purpose.
- There needed to be more of a focus on the performance in reducing homelessness and this should be supported with clearer data and its analysis.

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# 7. RECOMMENDATIONS

The task and finish group makes the following recommendations:

Recommendation 1 - That the Council endorses the Homelessness Strategy 2018 - 2020

**Recommendation 2 -** That the Cabinet member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development contacts (i) the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, (ii) the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, and (iii) the Local Government Association, seeking their support to amend legislation so that:

- (a) the Housing Benefit element of welfare benefit payments are paid direct to landlords rather than to tenants, in an attempt to encourage more landlords to offer their properties for homeless households or those at risk of becoming homeless; and,
- (b) Section 21 of the Housing Act 1988 (*Recovery of Possession on Expiry or Termination of Assured Shorthold Tenancy*) is reviewed with a view to ending its widespread use, and in its place introduce legislation that provides for greater tenancy security in the private rented sector.

# 8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 It is not expected that there will be any additional financial implications, which have not already been accounted and budgeted for.

# 9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 It is not expected that there will be any legal implications in implementing the strategy.

# 10. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS AND RESEARCH SOURCES USED DURING THE REVIEW

- Housing Act 1996 (as amended by Homelessness Act 2002)
- Homelessness Code of Guidance for Local Authorities
- Homelessness Reduction Act 2017

Further information on this review is available from:

Democratic Services Team
Town Hall
Bridge Street
Peterborough
PE1 1HG
Telephone – (01733) 747474
Email – scrutiny@peterborough.gov.uk

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# Homelessness Strategy 2018

# Foreword



by Councillor Peter Hiller

Welcome to our new Homelessness Reduction Strategy.

This is a vitally important Strategy for this council, which sets out our ambitious but realistic plans to manage and reduce homelessness in Peterborough.

The homelessness problem in our City and across the country has increased significantly over the past two years. In Peterborough we have seen a 43% year-on-year increase in households approaching the council for help and advice because they are at risk of becoming homeless, and this has resulted in a sharp increase in the need for the council to accommodate households in temporary accommodation. Often, this accommodation is not appropriate for long term use - for example, bed and breakfast-style accommodation - and can be disruptive and unsettling for households. This Strategy sets out our plans to reduce the reliance we have on this kind of temporary accommodation and builds on the principle that it is far better to prevent a household from becoming homeless rather than dealing with the consequences once they have to leave their own home.

In response to the national homelessness challenge, the Government has introduced the Homelessness Reduction Act. I warmly welcome its introduction, shifting as it does the focus of councils and our partners more firmly towards *prevention*, and reducing the need to provide temporary, and often inappropriate, accommodation. This Strategy embraces all aspects of the new Act and builds on the already effective relationships we have with our partners.

This council, in recognition of the sharp increase in households approaching us for support because they are at risk of becoming homeless, has already introduced a number of key policy changes:

- We have secured the use of additional temporary accommodation through lease arrangements with private sector landlords
- We have bought a significant number of empty homes back into use, securing them for homeless households
- We have agreed to spend up to £35m to increase the availability of homes for households who are homeless or are at risk of becoming homeless
- We have made some key changes to our housing allocations policy to ensure that people with the greatest need are given as much opportunity as possible to secure housing
- We have increased investment in our Housing Needs service, who are on the front line
  of managing homelessness and supporting homeless households, so that they can
  refocus around the requirements contained within the Act

It's unlikely we'll eradicate completely the need for temporary accommodation, but our Strategy will endeavour to limit its use to those circumstances where it is completely unavoidable and also for the shortest time possible. To support this the Strategy does aim to

eradicate the need for the council to use bed and breakfast-style accommodation. We recognise it is important for households to have their own front door, even if their accommodation is temporary, and to have access to the household facilities that you and I most probably take for granted.

In recognition of the rapidly changing homelessness policy landscape, and to ensure we are responsive to the investments and policy changes we have already made ourselves in Peterborough, this methodology will be reviewed after two years. I firmly believe it needs to remain current and adapt proactively to whatever demands for service the council is faced with.

Finally, I would like to thank everybody involved in supporting the development of this Strategy, and in supporting our hard-working and professional council officers to manage the increased demands of homelessness in recent years.

I am excited about the ambition and the passion we have to help make a difference to those finding themselves in very difficult and challenging circumstances. I truly believe we must strive to restore dignity and hope and I look forward to our Strategy's rapid and effective delivery. This council will be at the forefront of homelessness prevention and will be well placed to support households and communities to succeed and thrive in our City.

# 1. Introduction

The Council continually strives to make Peterborough the best possible place to live, work and visit. This ambition is embedded in both the Council's Corporate Objectives and the Corporate Plan. All residents should have access to a home that is of a good standard which they can afford and are able to sustain and maintain.

The current population of Peterborough is expected to rise from 199,000 to 227,890 in 2036, and with this increase in population comes a range of opportunities and challenges for housing provision. Although around 20% of stock in Peterborough is affordable housing, the number of households accepted as 'statutory homeless' resulting in a duty for the Council to offer them temporary accommodation and assistance with re-housing, is higher than the average for England, despite the national picture also showing increases. Although we work extensively with households to try and prevent homelessness by providing advice and assistance on their housing situation and alternative housing options, the number of households accepted as statutory homeless continues to grow.

The Council is required to review homelessness within the area and update its Homelessness Strategy every five years. This strategy comes at a time of increasing rates of homelessness, both locally and nationally, as well as the introduction of the Homelessness Reduction Act due in April 2018. With this in mind this strategy will detail our aims over the next 2 years and will be reviewed in 2020.

The Council recognises the devastating effect that homelessness can have on households and that good quality housing providing a stable and secure home environment contributes to the health and wellbeing of our residents. Through this strategy the Council will address the causes of homelessness in the area; introduce initiatives to prevent homelessness wherever possible; provide sufficient suitable temporary accommodation for those households that are or may become homeless; ensure that a good supply of suitable permanent accommodation is available and appropriate support for people who have previously experienced homelessness in order to prevent it happening again.

A positive action plan has been created (explained fully in Appendix 1) which sets out the goals for the future and shows that the Council is dedicated to providing the best service for its clients.

# 2. Background

Sections 1-3 of the Homelessness Act 2002 requires all Councils to produce a Homelessness Strategy every five years. The purpose of the Strategy is to:

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

The Council has a legal duty to ensure that there is a free advice and information service about homelessness and the prevention of homelessness in the district. The Council also has a duty to take reasonable steps to make sure that accommodation continues to be available for someone who is threatened with homelessness and is likely to have a priority need under the terms of the homelessness legislation. The Code Of Guidance that accompanies the homelessness legislation goes further in that it states that Councils should offer a broad range of advice and assistance and not wait until homelessness is a likelihood or imminent before taking action.

### The Homelessness Reduction Act 2017

The Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 commenced on 3rd April 2018.

The main thrust of the Act is to refocus English local authorities on efforts to prevent homelessness. While many authorities already do this, it would become a duty to prevent as opposed to the current duty to assist when homeless. The Act amends Part 7 of the *Housing Act 1996*.

The Act will have an impact on the delivery of services and will have a resource impact.

### What is homelessness?

People can be homeless if they have nowhere to stay and are living on the streets, they can also be considered homeless even if they have a roof over their head. Homelessness can include households who are:

- staying with friends or family
- staying in a hostel, night shelter or bed & breakfast accommodation
- squatting
- at risk of violence or abuse in their home
- living in poor conditions that affects their health
- living apart from their family because they don't have a place to live together

The Council also works with households who are threatened with homelessness in order to prevent them from becoming homeless in the first place.

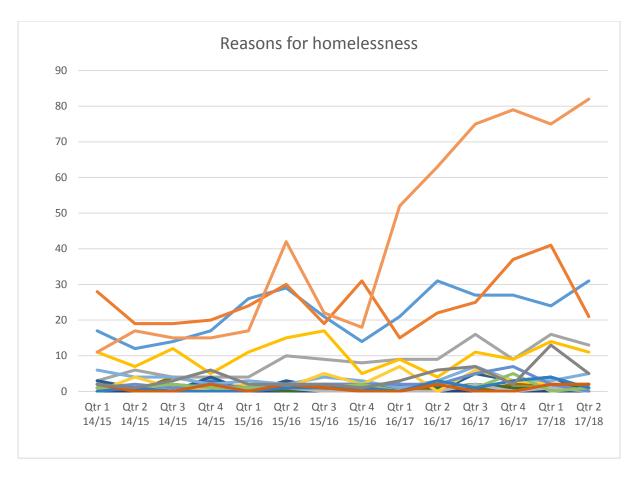
Some people consider homelessness, begging and rough sleeping to be the same; this is not the case. People who are involved in street begging are not always homeless, and people who rough sleep are not always involved in street begging, and as the above definition shows homelessness is much wider than just rough sleeping.

Traditionally the main reason for households becoming homeless has been due to relationship breakdown and parents or friends and family no longer willing to accommodate households whilst they secure a suitable permanent home through the housing register/choice based lettings scheme or the private sector.

A reduction in the availability and accessibility of the private sector has resulted in there being a significant shift in the main reason for homelessness.

The number one reason for homelessness in Peterborough mirrors the national picture, in that private sector assured shorthold tenancies being ended is now the main reason for households becoming homeless. The graph below shows the main reasons for homelessness since 2014:

	Apr 14 - Mar 15				Apr 15 - Mar 16					Apr 16 -	Apr 17 - Mar 18			
	Qtr 1 14/15	Qtr 2 14/15	Qtr 3 14/15	Qtr 4 14/15	Qtr 1 15/16	Qtr 2 15/16	Qtr 3 15/16	Qtr 4 15/16	Qtr 1 16/17	Qtr 2 16/17	Qtr 3 16/17	Qtr 4 16/17	Qtr 1 17/18	Qtr 2 17/18
Parent no longer willing to accom	17	12	14	17	26	29	21	14	21	31	27	27	24	31
Friends / relative cannot accommodate	28	19	19	20	24	30	19	31	15	22	25	37	41	21
Non-violent relationship breakdown (partner)	3	6	4	4	4	10	9	8	9	9	16	9	16	13
Violent relationship breakdown (partner)	11	7	12	5	11	15	17	5	9	4	11	9	14	11
Violent relationship breakdown (other)	0	1	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	2	1
Racially motivated violence	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other forms of violence	3	1	0	4	0	3	1	2	2	0	5	3	4	0
Racially motivated harassment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other harassment	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	2	1	0	1	0	0	1
Mortgage arrears	1	0	4	2	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	2
Rent Arrears (LA)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rent Arrears (RSL)	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	2
Rent Arrears (Private sector)	6	4	4	2	3	2	4	3	1	3	7	3	3	5
Termination of AST (Private)	11	17	15	15	17	42	22	18	52	63	75	79	75	82
Loss of private rented/tied accom (other)	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0
End of NASS supported accom	0	4	1	1	2	1	5	2	7	0	6	3	2	0
Prison leaver	1	2	1	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	5	7	2	0
Hospital discharge	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	0	3	1	5	0	1
Leaving LA Care	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	3	1	3	4	1
Left HM Forces	2	0	0	2	0	2	1	0	0	2	0	0	2	2
Other reason	2	1	3	6	2	2	2	1	3	6	7	2	13	5
Total Acceptances	90	78	82	85	94	145	110	92	124	152	191	190	206	178



## 3. The Previous Strategy

The Council's previous Homelessness Strategy 2013-18 had 4 strategic aims. These will remain of value throughout the lifetime of this strategy with all success and learning acquired being maintained for its duration. These aims are:

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

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

#### Strategic Aim 2 - Increasing access to accommodation

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

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

#### Strategic Aim 3 – Reduce and prevent rough sleeping

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

Strategic Aim 4 – Promoting settled lifestyles and sustainable communities

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

#### 4. Where are we now?

The detail below gives the context and challenges that face the city at the roll-out of this strategy. Key objectives and an action plan (Appendix 1) will focus on preventing homelessness and breaking a cycle of despair for many.

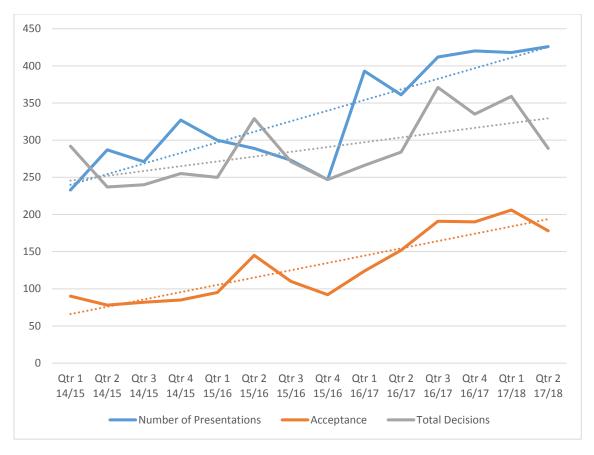
## Increasing numbers of households seeking assistance

The last year has been particularly challenging for the Housing Needs Team. In the period April 2016 - March 2017 the Council saw increasing levels of households presenting to the Council for assistance as they were homeless or threatened with homelessness. 1586 households presented to the Council as it was confirmed that they may be homeless or threatened with homelessness within the next 28 days. This represented an increase of 43% when compared to the previous year when 1109 presentations were made. In the first three quarters of 2017/18 the level of presentations has been at a similar level to 2016/17.

Where a homelessness presentation is made to the Council and we are satisfied that the household may be homeless and eligible to make an application for assistance this triggers a duty upon the Council to investigate whether the household is owed a full housing duty and is "Accepted as Homeless". This further investigation confirms the household is homeless or threatened with homelessness, takes into account any vulnerabilities of members of the household, the reasons for them becoming homeless and determines whether they have a connection with the City.

The graph below shows the number of homelessness presentations, decisions made and numbers of households accepted as homeless each quarter since 2014:

		Apr 14	- Mar 15 Apr 15 - Mar 16				Apr 16	- Mar 17		Apr 17	- Mar 18			
	Qtr 1 14/15	Qtr 2 14/15	Qtr 3 14/15	Qtr 4 14/15	Qtr 1 15/16	Qtr 2 15/16	Qtr 3 15/16	Qtr 4 15/16	Qtr 1 16/17	Qtr 2 16/17	Qtr 3 16/17	Qtr 4 16/17	Qtr 1 17/18	Qtr 2 17/18
Number of Presentation	233	287	271	327	300	289	273	247	393	361	412	420	418	426
Acceptance	90	78	82	85	95	145	110	92	124	152	191	190	206	178
Total Decisions	292	237	240	255	250	329	271	247	266	284	371	335	359	289



## Rental affordability issue increasing

The Council has previously been successful in utilising the private sector in preventing homelessness and discharging its homelessness duties; however recent increases in rental costs of private sector accommodation while local housing allowance rates have been frozen, has meant that the majority of properties available in the private sector are no longer affordable for those households that are reliant on benefits to cover or assist with rents.

In addition there appears to be an increasing reluctance from some landlords to accept households who will be in receipt of any support with Housing Benefits and Universal Credit. This is mainly as these benefits are paid in arrears and if any issues arise meaning benefits are suspended or reduced, landlords are already out of pocket making it more difficult to manage.

Changes to taxation rules, which mean that landlords are now unable to deduct mortgage interest costs from their profits before paying tax, has meant that some landlords with smaller portfolios no longer see this as profitable and are selling their properties. The opportunity for us to discharge homelessness duties or to utilise the private sector to prevent households' homelessness is now few and far between.

The increase in use of temporary accommodation, while partly down to the increase in the number of households approaching us for assistance, is being exacerbated by the supply of accommodation reducing at the same time effectively producing a bottleneck in temporary accommodation.

#### Rising levels of rough-sleeping

Increases in homelessness and increases in rough sleeping generally go hand in hand and Peterborough is no different. Peterborough's last rough sleeper count/estimate, which was a

snapshot of one usual night, identified that 31 rough sleepers were sleeping out in the city. The table below shows how this has changed over the last 8 years:

Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
No of Rough Sleepers	21	17	12	11	17	15	21	31
Percentage Change	n/a	-19%	-29%	-8%	55%	-11%	40%	48%
Percentage Change since 2010	n/a	-19%	-43%	-48%	-19%	-28%	0%	48%

Nationally numbers of rough sleepers have increased year on year over the same period and a percentage increase of 169% over the 8 years. The table below shows the changes nationally over the same period.

Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
No of Rough Sleepers	1768	2181	2309	2414	2744	3569	4134	4751
Percentage Change	n/a	23%	6%	5%	14%	30%	16%	15%
Percentage Change since 2010	n/a	23%	31%	37%	55%	102%	134%	169%

## **Temporary Accommodation**

Traditionally the Council used hostel accommodation to house homeless households while investigations were ongoing and until suitable permanent accommodation was secured. Where hostel accommodation was fully occupied B&B type accommodation was used as a short term emergency placement until a hostel vacancy could be secured.

B&B type accommodation is only meant as a short term option, but as the numbers of households presenting to the council has been increasing use of this type of accommodation has increased as no alternative accommodation options were available.

As well as being unsuitable accommodation for households over a prolonged period B&B accommodation is a costly option for the Council. The level of subsidy that the Council can recover from Housing Benefit to cover these costs leaves a significant shortfall.

In recognition of the increases in demand the Council has taken steps to reduce the use of B&B type accommodation by securing use of alternative self-contained temporary accommodation options this increased the contracted provision to 216 units.

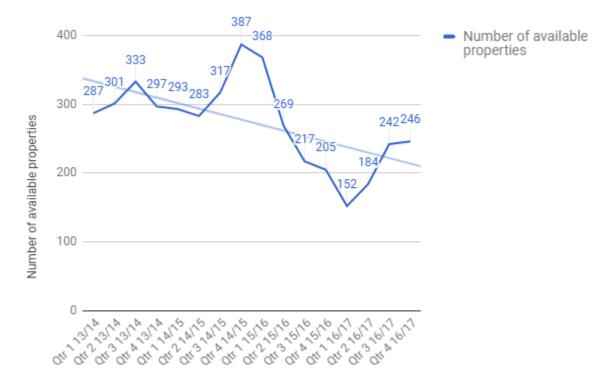
The Council has agreed to invest in Medesham Homes, the Council's joint venture with Cross Keys Homes, which will increase this provision further by c.250 properties over the medium to long term. These options may include the buying property off plan, conversion of office space to residential or buying property off of the open market. While this has and will continue to go some way to supporting the increased level of need this has not removed the need for use of B&B type accommodation at this time.

## **Supply of Accommodation**

Generally, those households to whom the Council accepts a full housing duty will be allocated accommodation with a social landlord. The Council has arrangements with ten housing associations in the city to allocate its vacant properties through the Peterborough Homes Choice based lettings scheme. The common allocations policy was developed to ensure that households who are accepted as homeless and therefore owed a full housing duty are given high priority in order to assist them with a prompt move into suitable permanent accommodation.

In addition to the Housing Register the Localism Act 2011 gave local authorities the power to discharge the full housing duty by securing suitable accommodation in the private sector. Previously the combination of these two options has been more than sufficient in meeting both the demand from households who have presented to the Council as homeless and those living in unsuitable housing allocated through the Housing Register.

Unfortunately while the demand from households requiring assistance has been increasing the availability of permanent accommodation options has been decreasing. The graph below shows the number of properties, which have been made available for allocation from our partner housing associations through the choice based lettings scheme:



The Homelessness Strategy is an annex of the Housing Strategy. The Housing Strategy 2016-21 identifies the need to increase the supply of homes which people can afford. It is essential that we increase the numbers of affordable rented homes in order to reverse the current trend if we are going to be successful in our ambitions to prevent homelessness or to reduce the time spent in temporary accommodation for homeless households.

#### 5. What are the challenges ahead?

## The Full Rollout of Universal Credit (UC)

In November 2017 Universal Credit was rolled out to include all new benefit claimants and those currently in receipt of benefits who have a change in circumstances. The main changes for households include:

- Integration of six core benefits and tax credits into a single payment. The claims
  processes for different benefits will be integrated and households will receive just one
  payment.
- A shift away from a mix of weekly, fortnightly, four-weekly and monthly payments to a standard monthly payment.
- A new 'fixed' monthly assessment system that will replace the annual 'flexible' assessment period for tax credits, with payment monthly in arrears.
- Payment of Housing Benefit to social tenants rather than direct to the social landlord.
- Introduction of a single recipient model where the award is paid into one bank account.

#### The Homelessness Reduction Act

The main thrust of the Homelessness Reduction Act is to refocus English local authorities on efforts to <u>prevent</u> homelessness. While many authorities already do this, it would become a duty to prevent as opposed to the current duty to assist when homeless. The Act amends Part 7 of the *Housing Act 1996*. Its measures include:

- An extension of the period during which an authority should treat someone as threatened with homelessness from 28 to 56 days.
- Clarification of the action an authority should take when someone applies for assistance having been served with a section 8 or section 21 notice of intention to seek possession from an assured shorthold tenancy.
- A new duty to prevent homelessness for all eligible applicants threatened with homelessness.
- A new duty to relieve homelessness for all eligible homeless applicants.
- A new duty on public services to notify a local authority if they come into contact with someone they think may be homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

The Act will have an impact on the delivery of services and will have a resource impact. Councils currently offer advice and assistance to all households who are homeless or threatened with homelessness, for those who are not in priority need our duty currently ends after we have given advice on how the applicant can secure accommodation themselves.

The changes require us to formulate and work through an action plan with each applicant. This action plan would be owned by the advisor and the applicant and if followed effectively should result in the applicant not becoming homeless or being assisted in securing alternative accommodation before they have to leave their current home.

Where successful this would prevent the need for costly emergency accommodation and would have significant benefits in reducing upheaval for families who are faced with homelessness. However, as detailed in this report the significant shortage of available accommodation both in the social and private sector will mean for certain households the chances of us securing alternative accommodation prior to a household becoming homeless is reduced.

In addition to the additional resource implications required to meet these additional burdens, there is likelihood that in order to be successful in preventing homelessness, we would need to have the ability to offer financial assistance to households in order to reduce arrears. While we offer this currently this would be extended to non priority groups.

## The future of Supported Housing

In October 2017, the Government announced details of how short stay supported housing will be funded in the future. The key elements of the new proposal are:

- Housing costs will continue to be paid through the benefit system up to LHA level
- A local authority top-up, with ring-fenced funds, will be transferred across from the Department for Work and Pensions and allocated by the Department for Communities and Local Government.

There are significant concerns about the long term security of a local ring fenced grant. The impact of the removal of the Supporting People ring-fence funding in 2009 is still being felt in the sector and there is nothing in the current proposals that provides confidence in the long term sustainability of funding. This may impact on the availability of short stay homeless provision that can be sourced from providers.

It is important that the Council ensures that services for homeless people continue to be supported. There is uncertainty that the Government will ensure that local authorities get the right amount of money and it is unlikely that this funding can grow in line with future need.

It is also essential that that existing tenants are protected in the transition from one system to another.

#### 6. Objectives

This strategy will continue to focus on all four strategic aims mentioned earlier. Homelessness can be complex and not every case is the same. The situation is affected by national and local circumstances that are always changing, but this does not prevent the Council from aiming to achieve the best for its citizens. It must strive to prevent homelessness and break the cycle.

The actions the Council and its partner agencies will take to help deliver these aims are set out in these ten key objectives:

**Objective 1:** Eliminating the use of Travelodge type accommodation and reducing / eliminating the use of B&B type accommodation for temporary accommodation

**Objective 2:** Ensuring the effective implementation of the Homelessness Reduction Act and embracing the culture change this will bring

**Objective 3:** Creating a suite of prevention tools which will give the Housing Needs team improved chances of success in preventing homelessness

**Objective 4:** Support landlords and tenants to support them to overcome landlord/tenant issues which may lead to eviction action

**Objective 5:** Bringing together services to work holistically in ensuring financial inclusion, income maximisation and debt advice are accessible and prioritised in order to support preventative work

**Objective 6:** Increase the supply of self-contained temporary accommodation options in order to support the reduction of B&B use

**Objective 7:** Explore the potential of a Social Lettings Agency/Guaranteed Rent Scheme for private landlords

**Objective 8:** Ensure that information and advice on housing and homelessness prevention is widely available and that our customers are seen at the earliest possible opportunity

**Objective 9:** Maintain services and create an effective supported accommodation pathway for single homeless and rough sleepers

Objective 10: Increase the focus on performance supported by clearer data

#### 7. Annual Review

The 2018 - 2020 Homelessness Reduction Strategy, along with its Action Plan, will be monitored and reviewed annually, and reported to the Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee.

Key indicator progress to be monitored will be:

- 1) The total number of households approaching the Housing Needs Service for assistance who at the point of presentation are:
  - a) Homeless
  - b) Threatened with homelessness within 56 days
  - c) Have received a valid section 21 notice from their landlord
- 2) The number of households who were homeless, but had their homelessness relieved
- 3) The number of households who were threatened with homelessness who had their homelessness:
  - a) Prevented
  - b) Relieved
- 4) The number of households accommodated in temporary accommodation
- 5) The number of children accommodated in temporary accommodation
- 6) The number of households accommodated in B&B type accommodation
- 7) The number of households accommodated in B&B type accommodation in excess of 6 weeks
- 8) The number of 16 & 17 year olds accommodated in B&B accommodation
- 9) The number of rough sleepers known to be sleeping out
- 10) The number of known rough sleepers who have left the streets
- 11) The number of new rough sleepers

Ob	jective	Action	Target	Partners	Officer(s)	Target Date
1	Eliminating the use of Travelodge type accommodation and reducing / eliminating the use of B&B type accommodation for temporary accommodation	Investigate with current providers who have B&B type/shared accommodation within Peterborough the possibility of expansion of their portfolio to support our ambition to keep households in the city.	To increase the provision of provision in area by up to 50 units to meet current demand	B&B providers / Private Developers / Landlords	Head of Housing Needs / Temporary Accommodation Lead Officer	Aug 2018
		Research other providers capacity/willingness to work with the council in providing accommodation in the Peterborough area for homeless households.	To increase the provision of provision in area by up to 50 units to meet current demand	B&B providers / Private Developers / Landlords	Head of Housing Needs / Temporary Accommodation Lead Officer	Aug 2018
		Investigate with registered providers potential opportunities for increasing hostel type provision for temporary accommodation	To identify whether any potential sites exist and assess costs for development/operation	Registered Providers	Head of Housing Needs / Temporary Accommodation Lead Officer	Nov 2018
		Ensure no 16 or 17 year olds are placed into unsuitable B&B type temporary accommodation	A partnership approach adopted to ensure no unsuitable placements	Children's Services / Youth Services / Supported Accommodation Providers	Housing Needs Operations Manager / Team Manager – Family Safeguarding	May 2018
		Utilise preventative tools to keep households in their current accommodation	Support those at risk of eviction to remain in their own home by assisting with arrears / affordability issues / mediation	Private Landlords / Householders / County Court	Housing Solutions Officers / Visiting Officers / STS Client Team	June 2018

		Utilise preventative tools to secure alternative suitable accommodation prior to having to leave the current accommodation	Support those who cannot be kept in their current home to move to alternative suitable permanent accommodation	Private Landlords / Registered Providers / Revs & Bens	Housing Solutions Officers / CBL Officers / Placements Officers / STS Client Team	June 2018
		Where homelessness cannot be prevented utilise preventative tools to keep households in their current accommodation for as long as possible in order to identify more suitable temporary accommodation	Early identification of potential T/A need to enable suitable accommodation to be found	Private Landlords / Householders / County Court	Housing Solutions Officers / Temporary Accommodation Officer / Placement Officers	July 2018
2	Increase the supply of self- contained temporary accommodation options in order to support the reduction of B&B use	Work with private developers / landlords to procure additional units of self contained temporary accommodation to be used as an alternative to B&B type	Identify supply of c.100 units of self contained accommodation to be leased	Private Developers / Landlords	Head of Housing Needs / Temporary Accommodation Officer	April 2019
		Work with Medesham Homes to identify / deliver a pipeline of suitable self-contained accommodation to be used as temporary accommodation while demand exists and permanent supply going forward.	Identify / deliver c. 250 units of self contained units of accommodation. Use to be determined at handover.	Medesham Homes	Head of Housing Needs	March 2020
		Review the current lease with Stef & Philips for St Michael's Gate prior to agreed break to confirm need and make decision relating to entering final year.	To make an informed decision relating to the future need to enter into the 3 <sup>rd</sup> year and whether talks should be entered to discuss a lease beyond the current one	Stef & Philips / Commissioning Team / Legal Services	Head of Housing Needs	Nov 2018

		Review the current lease with Cross Keys Homes for Elizabeth Court prior to ending to determine whether continued need and possible extension.	To make an informed decision relating to the future need and whether talks should be entered to discuss a lease beyond the current one	Cross Keys Homes / Commissioning Team / Legal Services	Head of Housing Needs	June 2020
3	Ensuring the effective implementation of the Homelessness Reduction Act and embracing the culture change this will bring	To review the current structure of the Housing Needs team and restructure the service to meet the requirements of the new legislation	To have a structure that is fit for purpose in effectively delivering on the requirements of the Homelessness Reduction Act	Human Resources	Assistant Director for Housing , Communities & Youth / Head of Housing Needs	April 2018
	bring	Develop and implement a comprehensive training matrix for the Housing Needs Team to equip officers to meet the requirements of the act.	Housing Needs Officers have a full understanding of the duties under the act and feel well equipped to support clients effectively	Training & Development Team	Housing Needs Operations Managers	August 2018
		To upgrade/replace current Northgate Housing System to ensure an effective Housing Register and CBL solution is in place while ensuring officers are supported with the management of caseloads and to support clients in maintaining personalised housing plans.	To have a supported IT solution, which meets the needs of the service and its reporting requirements	Serco ICT	Head of Housing Needs	April 2018
		To review the current customer journey and adapt, embracing the opportunity for officers to work agile following the physical office move to Sandmartin House	Ensuring officers have suitable Communications/IT equipment to support Agile Working and customers are able to effectively access the service via a number of differing routes	Serco ICT / Property Services	Housing Needs Operations Managers	July 2018
		Ensure systems capture the required information and data	To be in a position to report the IT data required from the	Serco ICT	Head of Housing Needs / Housing	July 2018

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to meet the DCLG's H-CLIC reporting requirements	launch of the Homelessness Reduction Act		Systems & Performance Officer	
Develop the Housing Pages on the councils website to ensure that information provided is accurate, current, supports applicants to make informed choices, gives realistic information not raising expectations and enables customers to self-help or electronically refer themselves into the service.	Pages to be fully updated and reviewed regularly so remaining current to reduce unnecessary contact with the service. Facility for clients to self-refer via web form.	Media - Comms Team	Head of Housing / Housing Needs Operations Manager	Oct 2018
Develop a Landlord forum for both private and social landlords are in attendance to discuss and remedy issues faced by landlords and the council in order to prevent the need for eviction action to take place.	Forum set up giving landlords and the Council networking opportunities in an informal setting	Private & Social Landlords	Head of Housing / Housing Needs Operations Manager	Dec 2018
Develop a Homelessness Forum with Statutory, Voluntary and Faith Sector partners to provide governance of the strategy moving forward.	Set up regular forum to review and progress the homelessness strategy	Registered Providers, Voluntary Sector Partners, Faith Sector Partners	Service Director for Communities & Safety	July 2018
Investigate & commission independent mystery shopper and stake holder surveys to constantly review and improve customer journey		Shelter/Crisis	Head of Housing / Housing Needs Operations Manager	April 2019
Develop an effective communications plan around homelessness and rough sleeping which provides		Media - Comms Team	Head of Housing / Housing Needs Operations Manager	Oct 2018

		information on key changes, successes and case studies year round.				
4	Creating a suite of prevention tools which will give the Housing Needs team improved chances of success in preventing homelessness	Change the use of the Rent Deposit Loan Scheme and expand to cover rent in advance & deposit where a potential property is affordable and suitable. Extending repayments period to 5 years	Increased opportunity to prevent and relieve homelessness by providing interest free loans		Housing Needs Operations Manager / Housing Solutions Officers	April 2018
		Review the current Discretionary Housing Payments Fund (DHP) to allow payments to clear rent arrears in order to keep households in their home.	Increased opportunity to prevent and relieve homelessness by clearing housing related debt	Serco Revs & Bens / STS client team	Senior Policy Manager / Housing Needs Operations Manager / Housing Solutions Officers	Aug 2018
		Utilise the Homelessness Prevention Fund to allow those not eligible for a DHP to be assisted in the same way.	Increased opportunity to prevent and relieve homelessness by clearing housing related debt		Housing Needs Operations Manager / Housing Solutions Officers	June 2018
		Create a landlord assurance scheme to support landlords concerned about the impact of Universal Credit and lower Local Housing Allowances rates to cover rent shortfalls where a tenant is in receipt of benefits	Increased opportunity to prevent and relieve homelessness by supporting potential rent arrears accrual		Housing Needs Operations Manager / Housing Solutions Officers	Aug 2018
		Investigate the setting up of a local mortgage rescue scheme based on the Government's Mortgage Rescue Scheme, which ended in 2015.	Prevention of homelessness by supporting a household to remain in their home and increasing available	Registered Providers	Head of Housing Needs	Dec 2018

			social/affordable housing stock			
5	Support landlords and tenants to support them to overcome landlord / tenant issues which may lead to eviction action	Set up referral processes so landlords are able to refer "at risk" cases into the service in order to receive support from a dedicated officer to overcome issues.	Online referral routes created and referrals received	Private Landlords / Registered Providers	Housing Needs Operations Managers / Housing Solutions Officers	November 2018
		Use prevention tools such as DHP and homelessness prevention fund to assist with rent shortfalls / payment shocks / rent arrears in order to prevent possession action	Clients supported to remain in their homes	Private Landlords / Registered Providers / Serco Revs & Bens / STS client team	Housing Needs Operations Managers / Housing Solutions Officers	September 2018
		To act as mediator between landlord and tenant where poor communication could lead to landlords seeking to obtain possession of their property.	Clients supported to remain in their homes	Private Landlords / Registered Providers	Housing Needs Operations Managers / Housing Solutions Officers	August 2018
		To support landlords faced with issues of anti-social behaviour from their tenant or associated persons where eviction action is being considered.	Clients supported to remain in their homes	Private Landlords / Registered Providers / Prevention & Enforcement Service	Housing Needs Operations Managers / Housing Solutions Officers / Senior Prevention & Enforcement Officer	August 2018
		Investigate scheme to support landlords left with no option but to sell their property due to financial difficulties or constraints related to repair obligations.	Clients supported to remain in their homes / increase the supply of affordable housing	Private Landlords /	Head of Housing Needs / Empty Homes	March 2019

51			Create and host a pre-tenancy training course for clients and encourage mandatory completion to prepare clients for the responsibilities they will have when they are offered a property.	Setting clients up to reduce the chances of repeat homelessness	Serco ICT / Training & Development / Registered Providers	Housing Needs Operations Manager
	6	Bringing together services to work holistically in ensuring financial inclusion, income maximisation and debt advice are accessible and prioritised in order to	Investigate the co-location of Housing Needs, CAB advice, Benefits/Welfare Advice and set up effective referral processes to enable priority access to those who may be at risk of homelessness	Co-located prevention hub, one stop shop around homelessness prevention	CAB / Serco ICT / Property Services	Assistant Director for Housing , Communities & Youth / Head of Housing Needs / Senior Policy Manager
		support preventative work	Review current admin and decision making in relation to the DHP fund and consider locating within the Housing Needs team.	Decisions for DHP made based on prevention of homelessness	STS Client Team / Serco Revs & Bens	Head of Housing Needs / Senior Policy Manager
			Investigate the benefits of the creation of a homelessness	Co-located prevention hub, one stop shop around	CAB / Serco Revs & Bens /	Assistant Director for Housing,

Support tenants to challenge

landlords are not complying

with the requirements of the Deregulation Act 2015

prevention hub drawing in a number of other service

partners from the faith and

voluntary sector to ensure a

holistic approach to prevention

possession action where

Clients supported to remain

in their homes / Possession

delayed for non compliance

homelessness prevention

CAB

Commissioning

Team

Housing Needs

Communities &

Youth / Head of

Senior Policy

Manager

Housing Needs /

Managers / Housing Solutions Officers

Operations

August

July 2018

September

July 2018

March

2019

2018

2018

		Develop effective referral pathways ensuring that identified vulnerable groups are able to access services at the earliest opportunity and personalised action plans effectively support prevention and move on.	Individual pathways set up	Prisons / Armed Forces / NHS Hospitals / Leaving Care Teams / Housing Association Partners	Head of Housing Needs / Housing Needs Operations Managers / Senior Policy Manager	October 2018
7	Explore the potential of a Social Lettings Agency/Guaranteed Rent Scheme for private landlords	Investigate the benefits of the creation of a social letting agency, offering services to landlords in the private sector enabling the increase of supply of accommodation for households in housing need.	Increase the supply of accommodation for households in housing need	Private Landlords / Commissioning Team	Head of Housing Needs / Director of Commissioning / Empty Homes	September 2018
		Assuming viability create a business model demonstrating benefits and identifying resource requirements and seek approvals for creation	Increase the supply of accommodation for households in housing need	Private Landlords / Commissioning Team	Head of Housing Needs / Director of Commissioning / Empty Homes	October 2018
		Formulate a package offer for landlords giving a suite of options, which best fits their individual needs, but ensure access to accommodation in the private sector who might currently struggle.	Increase the supply of accommodation for households in housing need	Private Landlords / Commissioning Team	Head of Housing Needs / Director of Commissioning / Empty Homes	November 2018
		Set up scheme and roll out	Increase the supply of accommodation for households in housing need	Private Landlords / Commissioning Team	Head of Housing Needs / Director of Commissioning / Empty Homes	April 2019

8	Ensure that information and advice on housing and homelessness prevention is widely available and that our customers are seen at the earliest possible	In reviewing the customer journey ensure that customers are able to access preventative support at the earliest opportunity	Early intervention opportunities maximised	Media - Comms Team / Serco – Front Door	Head of Housing / Housing Needs Operations Manager	October 2018
	opportunity	Review current web based information and ensure comprehensive information is available around all aspects of the service to enable clients to self-help where needed, but being careful not to discourage contact where essential	Pages to be fully updated and reviewed regularly so remaining current to reduce unnecessary contact with the service. Facility for clients to self-refer via web form.	Media - Comms Team	Head of Housing / Housing Needs Operations Manager	October 2018
		Ensure that other Council departments/ Partners and Members are briefed on the warning signs of homeless and encouraged to refer clients into the service where a risk of homelessness is evident.	Early intervention opportunities maximised	All relevant Council Departments / Members Services / Partners	Head of Housing Needs / Housing Needs Operations Manager	December 2018
S	Maintain services and create an effective supported accommodation pathway for single homeless and rough sleepers	Continue to review the work of the council and its partners as part of the rough sleeping strategic group to achieve the recommendations of the cross party task and finish group around rough sleeping	Ensuring rough sleepers are supported with an offer to leave the streets	Rough Sleeper Strategic Group	Head of Housing Needs	April 2018
		Maintain current resource levels around rough sleeping to support our ambitions to reduce rough sleeping	Ensuring rough sleepers are supported with an offer to leave the streets		Assistant Director for Housing , Communities & Youth / Head of Housing Needs	Ongoing

		Create and take the lead role in a supported accommodation pathway for single homeless persons, ensuring effective management of supported accommodation resource.	Ensuring effective use of supported accommodation provision and move on	Supported Accommodation Providers / Housing Programmes	Housing Needs Operations Manager	January 2019
		Work with the Councils Prevention & Enforcement service to ensure that effective enforcement action is being taken to tackle street based activity, often confused with rough sleeping.	Address the prevalent issue of begging & street drinking, which is not always associated with rough sleeping	Prevention & Enforcement Service	Head of Housing Needs	October 2018
10	Increase the focus on performance supported by clearer data	Measure the performance of officers on outcomes in relation to homelessness prevention rather than timescales to process to ensure high quality of casework	Officers have clear direction		Head of Housing Needs / Housing Needs Operations Manager / Housing Systems & Performance Officer	August 2018
		Create monitoring systems which can provide live feedback on cases to reduce delays in processing due to information hunting	Supporting efficient processing of applications / allocations	Serco ICT	Head of Housing Needs / Housing Needs Operations Manager / Housing Systems & Performance Officer	January 2019
		Produce an effective relevant list of key performance indicators (KPI) in relation to homelessness and homelessness prevention	Effective relevant reporting		Head of Housing Needs / Housing Needs Operations Manager / Housing Systems & Performance Officer	April 2018

ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 7
13 MARCH 2018	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:		Simon Machen, Corporate Director for Growth and Regeneration	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:		Cllr Peter Hiller, Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development & Environment Capital	
Contact Officer:	Anne Keogh	n, Housing & Strategic Planning Manager	Tel. 863815

## NEW COUNCIL HOUSE PROVISION FOR PETERBOROUGH

RECOMMENDATI	ONS
FROM: Corporate Director for Growth and Regeneration	Deadline date: N/A

It is recommended that the Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee:

- Notes the challenges to delivering council houses in the traditional sense for Peterborough as a local authority that has transferred its housing stock and no longer has a Housing Revenue Account
- Notes the mechanism that the Council has already put in place to enable the provision of social housing that Peterborough City Council is directly engaged in delivering, through the establishment of the housing joint venture with Cross Keys Homes, Medesham Homes
- Recommends to Full Council that the Council's focus for delivering social housing should continue to
  be through the now established joint venture housing company, Medesham Homes, rather than
  seeking to return to providing council housing in the traditional sense. This vehicle has the flexibility
  to deliver a range of tenures and to take advantage of the capability of each partner to provide land,
  funding and capacity and share risk when responding to the challenges of austerity and the housing
  crisis

#### 1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

This report is presented to Committee in response to the following Motion that was carried at Full Council on 24 January 2018:

"Council resolves that the Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee looks at the benefits, social value and business case for new council house provision and reports back its conclusions and any recommendations to Full Council."

#### 2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

2.1 This report is being presented to the Committee to provide the national context relevant to the delivery and ownership of social housing stock by local authorities in general, and to provide the background to the delivery and ownership of social housing stock by Peterborough City Council. This information is then used as a frame of reference to consider the benefits, social value and business case for new council house provision in Peterborough, and to draw conclusions and make recommendations.

- 2.2 This report is for Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference No. 2.3
  - 2.3 Housing Need (including homelessness, housing options and selective licensing)
- 2.4 How does this report link to the Corporate Priorities?

Driving growth, regeneration and economic development and Keeping all our communities safe, cohesive and healthy

#### 3. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy	NO	If yes, date for	N/A
Item/Statutory Plan?		Cabinet meeting	

#### 4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

4.1 For the purposes of this report, the term social housing is used to refer to housing stock owned and managed by local authorities and housing stock owned and managed by Registered Providers also known as Housing Associations.

## The national context for the delivery and ownership of social housing by councils

The DCLG local authority housing statistics for England released in January 2018 showed that on 1 April 2017 local authorities in England owned approximately 39% of all social housing stock (council housing) with the remainder mainly comprising Registered Provider (RP/ Housing Association) stock and some other public sector dwellings such as armed forces, NHS and Police service owned stock.

There are 353 local authorities in England including district, borough unitary and county councils. In 2014, 167 local authorities (less than 50% nationwide) owned and managed social housing stock. This figure includes 47 authorities that have their housing managed by an arms-length management organisations (ALMOs). This position reflects the large scale voluntary transfer of local authority stock to Registered Providers which has been undertaken by many local authorities in response to government policies from the 1980's onwards.

The national shift in social housing ownership from local authorities to RPs, and the major changes in funding for social housing, resulted in a dramatic reduction in numbers of new local authority owned social housing dwellings being built but a significant increase in the number of RP dwellings built. Between 2010 -2015 8,000 social homes were built by local authorities and in the same period 150,000 social homes were built by RPs.

Changes to Government's funding arrangements for stock holding local authorities from April 2012, introduced through the Localism Act 2011, were expected to result in greater capacity for them to build more homes. Stock holding local authorities were given control over their Housing Revenue Accounts (HRA) in return for taking on a one-off share of the national housing debt. The HRA is the account in which a council's housing revenue (e.g. tenants' rent) and housing costs (e.g. property management and maintenance) are kept. Funding for the provision of local authority social housing had, up until this point, been managed at national level. All local authority social housing rents were pooled centrally and then redistributed (in accordance with a formula) back to stock holding local authorities to fund the management, maintenance and any major improvements of the housing stock, and to support their borrowing costs associated with their existing housing debts. Giving local authorities control of their HRAs, meant that councils could

retain all rental streams in respect of their housing stock going forward and take more decisions at a local level regarding investment in their housing stock.

This 'deal' however has not provided the self-financing capacity originally anticipated for stock retaining local authorities. From 2012 the level of discounts available to local authority tenants exercising their Right to Buy (RTB) were increased. This resulted in an increase in the number of RTB sales nationally, and despite the 'one-for-one additions policy' which allows for replacement of the homes sold within three years of the date of sale, this loss of existing stock has impacted on stock holding authorities' business plans which are informed by forecasts about their income from rental streams and the value of their assets.

The rent reduction policy announced as part of the budget in July 2015 has further impacted on the capacity of stock holding local authorities to expand their stock. The policy requires that rents in social housing be reduced by 1% a year for four years from April 2016, resulting in a 12% reduction in average rents by 2020-21. Previously, social housing rents could increase by 1% more than inflation – a formula set by the chancellor in 2013 and intended to last for 10 years.

This rent reduction policy not only applies to stock holding local authorities, but RPs as well, and consequently had a general impact on the business plans of all social housing providers in terms of their forecasts for building new homes.

Concerns about the provision of an adequate housing supply of not just social housing but also wider market housing have been expressed nationally and locally and the housing shortage has been described by Government as a housing crisis. In 2014 Government commissioned an independent review into the role of local authorities in housing supply. The report published in January 2015, investigated ways in which councils could support housing delivery both as direct providers and by enabling delivery in the wider market. It acknowledged the need for a huge national building programme to address the lack of housing supply. The report recommends that councils change from statutory providers to Housing Delivery Enablers and states that this role can be met through (i) community leadership and strategic clarity; (ii) creating housing opportunity; (iii) business leadership; (iv) management of housing supply; and (v) shaping a stronger housing finance market.

The Housing White Paper, 'Fixing our broken housing market' (2017) stated that the housing supply problem is threefold: "not enough local authorities planning for the homes they need; house building that is simply too slow; and a construction industry that is too reliant on a small number of big players".

More and more local authorities are now engaging in the provision of housing through a wide range of mechanisms in response to the housing shortages they are experiencing in their localities arising from the national housing crisis.

A report funded by the Royal Town Planning Institute and the National Planning Forum called 'Local authority direct provision of housing' was published in December 2017. This report looked at the extent, the motivations, and the means by which local authorities are directly engaging in housing delivery. It is informed by desk based research, case studies, roundtable discussions and a large scale survey of local authorities. A total of 197 different local authorities responded to the survey representing 56% of the total in England.

The report found that local authorities are finding a wide variety of means by which they can engage directly in housing development. This does include the traditional route of building through HRAs for some stock holding authorities, but also includes building through general funds accounts, developing joint venture housing company partnerships with other providers and establishing wholly owned local authority housing companies. Forty four per cent of the local authorities that responded to the survey stated that they had established a housing company and

according to the report 30 housing companies were set up during 2017 alone.

The findings from the survey indicated that the most important factor motivating local authorities to engage in housing provision was to meet local housing requirements, followed by a desire to tackle homelessness and then to generate income to provide income to replace the Revenue Support Grant and these three factors were rated as top motivating factors by most authorities.

#### The delivery and ownership of social housing in Peterborough

In 2004 Peterborough City Council transferred its housing stock to the Registered Provider Cross Keys Homes (CKH). The decision to seek to transfer was informed by an independent consultant's report that concluded that the Council would be unable to generate the money needed to bring its 10,000 homes up to the required Decent Homes standards set by Government. In December 2003, tenants were balloted regarding the proposal to transfer the Council's housing stock to a Registered Provider and 82 percent of tenants who took part in the ballot voted 'Yes' to the housing transfer. The Council's housing management staff were transferred to CKH pursuant to the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 (TUPE) and the RP officially took over the management of the housing stock on 4 October, 2004 with a commitment to ensure that the dwellings met the Decent Homes standard by the Government's deadline of December 2010. Achieving this involved CKH investing the considerable sum of £108 million into improvements to the transferred stock.

As part of the terms of stock transfer agreement, the Council receives part of the sale proceeds from Preserved Right to Buy transactions (where council tenants transferred to CKH who retained the right-to-buy purchased their home). These funds have supported the Council's affordable housing capital fund since 2004 and supplements funds accumulated from affordable housing commuted sums payments received from developers via S.106 planning obligations in lieu of onsite affordable housing provision on qualifying sites.

The changing national and local picture in terms of housing delivery gave rise to the following motion which was proposed and approved by Full Council on 15 April 2015;

"That this Council notes that social housing was transferred to partners in 2003 and the strategy of the Council has not been reviewed since. I respectfully ask that this Council creates a cross party review of the present strategy and to consult and create a new fit for purpose strategy recommendation that reflects our changing city to enable a future proof and resilient strategy going forward. The provision of social housing has changed significantly since 2003 and update of what social housing could and should be achieving, and delivering, is long overdue".

A recommendation was agreed to establish a cross party task and finish group to consider the Council's strategy for housing, recognising the changes to the city and its economy over the years since the Council transferred its stock to CKH in 2004.

In January 2016 the task and finish group submitted a report to the Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee. The report's recommendations included that the Council should 'finance and build new homes to meet specific needs' and that it should finance more building of affordable rented housing by supporting housing associations with access to finance'.

On 25th July 2016 Cabinet approved the Council's establishment of a Joint Venture (JV) housing company with CKH. The decision to establish the JV was in part in response to the recommendations of a task and finish group's report.

The housing company JV between the Council and CKH has an objective to deliver new housing of all types and tenure, so as well as providing social housing it will also deliver market housing in response to the need for increased housing supply. This approach will enable cross subsidy for the social housing provision from the sale of homes built for market sale and supports the Council's motivations for re-engaging in delivering housing. These motivations are the same as

those shared by most local authorities that have decided to re-engage in the direct delivery of social housing: meeting local housing requirements for both social and market housing; tackling homelessness and dependency on expensive temporary accommodation and generating income to replace the ever dwindling levels of Revenue Support Grant from Government.

When the structure for the proposed housing company was being considered, the Council looked at the option of setting up a wholly owned local authority housing company. This option was rejected on the grounds that it did not play to the Council's strengths in terms of what it can contribute to delivery. Since the stock transfer in 2004 the Council no longer has in-house skills in housing management and development (as these staff were transferred across with the housing stock to CKH) and the time and resources involved in rebuilding these skills would be considerable and disproportionate to the likely sale of stock.

Cross Keys Homes were considered a logical choice for partner for the JV housing company, as the largest residential social landlord in Peterborough and an existing key strategic partner with the Council. The housing joint venture which is called Medesham Homes, has been structured so that the Council would own 50% of the JV partnership and Cross Keys (through their whollyowned development company) owns the other 50%.

While this JV will not provide "council houses" in the traditional sense, it will provide social housing that Peterborough City Council as a local authority is directly engaged in delivering. The benefits of a JV housing company approach for Peterborough, is not only the access to the skills that CKH can bring to aid delivery and management of the housing stock once it is completed, but also the shared financial input to support the delivery of new homes.

Peterborough committed £100,000 to Medesham Homes for operating capital and to set aside an allocation of £20m 'invest to save' capital to support the Council's share of investment in future schemes to be delivered by the JV. As part of budget approval decision by Full Council for 2016/17 that agreed to the creation of a housing company, it was also agreed that the £14.6m funds accumulated from capital receipts received from Cross Keys Homes from income generated from qualifying RTB sales, would be directed to the housing company to build new affordable homes in Peterborough.

The first scheme to be delivered by Medesham Homes is now on site and will deliver 29 social homes for rent that will contribute towards alleviating the pressures experienced by homeless families currently living in temporary accommodation (in many cases hotels or hostels) and also reduce the Council's revenue financial burden arising from spiralling temporary accommodation costs.

Beyond this first scheme, Medesham Homes has schemes that total just under 200 units at feasibility stage and in excess of another 100 units in a pre-feasibility stage around the Peterborough area, all of which would be delivered over the next three years if they come forward as currently being explored. Additionally, Medesham is engaged - and will continue to engage - with public and private organisations to build a long-term development pipeline, focusing primarily on social housing provision and is working within the Combined Authority. The Combined Authority has a budget of £170m to deliver affordable housing in Peterborough and Cambridgeshire over a 5 year period from April 2017. Medesham Homes will be submitting bids to access these funds to support its delivery programme over the next few years.

#### The benefits, social value and business case for new council house provision

In response to the motion to look into the benefits, social value and business case for new council house provision, the following considerations have been taken into account:

## The benefits/social value to be gained from new council house provision

- Providing homes to meet the housing needs of households that cannot afford to access market rented or home ownership
- Increasing the capacity to meet the demand for social rented housing on the housing register
- Ensuring that the homes built are the right type and size to reflect the needs of households on the housing register particularly in light of the under occupancy charge known as the 'bedroom tax' that is applied to social housing tenants deemed to occupy larger accommodation than they need
- Alleviating the demand for temporary accommodation for homeless households
- Increasing the supply of well maintained and well managed rented housing available in Peterborough
- Ensuring that homes are built in the right locations to support sustainable development in Peterborough
- Reducing expenditure on temporary accommodation for homeless households by increasing the supply of housing that is available to the Council to meet their housing needs

## Is there a business case for new council house provision in Peterborough?

- In order to deliver council housing in the traditional sense to any scale, the Council would need to have a HRA. Peterborough has not had a HRA since the stock transfer in 2004
- The HRA is a ring fenced account therefore any income generated from building council
  houses cannot be used to subsidise income lost from the reductions in Revenue Support
  Grant.
- Although the Council could deliver up to 200 houses without a HRA, each property would need to be individually notified to the Secretary of State for approval and therefore there would be a large administrative burden and place an artificial limit placed on the number of homes to be provided.
- Council houses are subject to Right to Buy therefore new stock built could be lost to the
  private sector and therefore no longer available to meet the need for social rented
  accommodation. The Right to Buy also impacts on the Council's business plan because of
  the loss of income from an ongoing rental stream. Homes built by housing companies
  (including Medesham Homes) are not currently subject to the Right to Buy.
- In order to deliver council housing in the traditional sense, the Council would need to have staff to oversee the delivery and management of the stock. This would mean recruiting new staff with the appropriate skills and experience at a time when the Council already is faced with major budget constraints. Alternatively the Council could pay an RP to manage the housing which would be an added pressure/consideration for the business plan for any new scheme.
- In order to understand the full implications of returning to delivering council housing in the traditional sense, the Council would need to invest considerable time and resources including seeking specialist Legal Advice, in order to understand the legal and financial complexities that this would involve before being able to prepare a business plan.

#### Conclusion

The challenges to delivering council houses in the traditional sense as a local authority that has transferred its housing stock and no longer has a Housing Revenue Account, means that there is no obvious business case for returning to this approach to delivering social housing for Peterborough.

All of the benefits/social value that could be gained from new council house provision in the traditional sense can be gained from the provision of social housing delivered through the

Council's JV housing company with CKH, Medesham Homes. This vehicle has the flexibility to deliver a range of tenures and to take advantage of the capability of each partner to provide land, funding and capacity, and to share risk when responding to the challenges of austerity and the housing crisis.

The Council has already invested considerable time and resources in setting up Medesham Homes and has committed substantial finances to supporting the future delivery of housing development through this vehicle. If the Council now moved to an alternative delivery model this could jeopardise the existing partnership with CKH and the pipeline of schemes that partnership are preparing to deliver.

#### 5. CONSULTATION

5.1 There is no requirement for formal consultation in relation to this matter.

#### 6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

6.1 It is anticipated that this report will provide the Committee with an overview of the key considerations that have informed the conclusions and recommendations proposed in response to the Motion approved by Full Council.

## 7. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

7.1 To ensure that the Council's approach to delivering social housing in Peterborough is appropriate, taking into account our position as a as a local authority that has transferred its housing stock and no longer has a Housing Revenue Account and our existing mechanisms already in place.

## 8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 8.1 1. For the Council to return to delivering 'council houses' in the traditional sense. This was rejected because of the hurdles involved as a local authority that had transferred its stock and no longer has a HRA as set out in the report
  - For the Council to deliver social housing through a wholly owned housing company. This is
    referred to in the report as an option that was rejected at the stage when Cabinet approved
    the establishment of the existing JV housing company delivery vehicle. This was rejected on
    the grounds that it did not play to the Council's strengths in terms of what it can contribute to
    delivery.

## 9. IMPLICATIONS

## **Financial Implications**

9.1 There are no new Financial Implications arising from the recommendations of this report. The financial implications arising from the decision to create the Housing Company JV were approved by Cabinet on 25th July 2016 when approval was granted for the Council's establishment of a Joint Venture.

## **Legal Implications**

9.2 n/a

## **Equalities Implications**

9.3 n/a

# **Rural Implications**

9.4 n/a

## 10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

- The Elphicke-House Report: From statutory provider to housing delivery enabler: Review into the local authority role in housing supply. Published January 2015
  - 2. The Smith Institute: Delivering the renaissance in council-built homes: the rise of local housing companies. Published October 2017
  - 3. Professor J Morphet & Dr B Clifford, Bartlett School of Planning, University College London: Local authority direct provision of housing. Published December 2017
  - 4. The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government: Local authority housing statistics: Year ending March 2017, England. Published 18 January 2018

## 11. APPENDICES

11.1 None

ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 8
13 MARCH 2018	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:		Fiona McMillan, Interim Director of Law and Governance		
Contact Officer(s): Paulina Fore		d, Senior Democratic Services Officer	Tel. 01733 452508	
Joanna Mor		ley, Democratic Services Officer	Tel: 01733 452468	

# MONITORING SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS		
FROM: Director of Governance		Deadline date: N/A

It is recommended that the Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee:

1. Considers the responses from Cabinet Members and Officers to recommendations made at previous meetings as attached in Appendix 1 to the report and provides feedback including whether further monitoring of each recommendation is required.

#### 1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 The Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee agreed at a meeting held on 12 September that a report be provided at each meeting to note the outcome of any recommendations made at the previous meeting held thereby providing an opportunity for the Committee to request further monitoring of the recommendation should this be required.

#### 2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 The report enables the Scrutiny Committee to monitor and track progress on recommendations made to the Executive or Officers at previous meetings.
- 2.2 This report is for the Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference No. *Part 3, Section 4 Overview and Scrutiny Functions, paragraph 3.3:*

The Scrutiny Committees will:

- (a) Review and scrutinise the Executive, Committee and officer decisions and performance in connection with the discharge of any of the Council's functions;
- (b) Review and scrutinise the Council's performance in meeting the aims of its policies and performance targets and/or particular service areas;
- (c) Question Members of the Executive, Committees and senior officers about their decisions and performance of the Council, both generally and in relation to particular decisions or projects;
- (d) Make recommendations to the Executive and the Council as a result of the scrutiny process

#### 3. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy	NO	If yes, date for	N/A
Item/Statutory Plan?		Cabinet meeting	

#### 4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Appendix 1 of the report sets out the recommendations made to Cabinet Members or Officers at previous meetings of the Scrutiny Committee. It also contains summaries of any action taken by Cabinet Members or Officers in response to the recommendations.
- 4.2 The progress status for each recommendation is indicated and if the Scrutiny Committee confirms acceptance of the items marked as completed they will be removed from the list. In cases where action on the recommendation is outstanding or the Committee does not accept the matter has been adequately completed it will be kept on the list and reported back to the next meeting of the Committee. It will remain on the list until such time as the Committee accepts the recommendation as completed.

#### 5. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

5.1 Timelier monitoring of recommendations made will assist the Scrutiny Committee in assessing the impact and consequence of the recommendations.

## 6. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

To assist the Committee in assessing the impact and consequence of recommendations made at previous meetings.

#### 7. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

7.1 Minutes of meeting held on 16 January 2018

#### 8. APPENDICES

8.1 Appendix 1 – Monitoring Recommendations

## RECOMMENDATIONS MONITORING REPORT

# ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Meeting date Recommendat ions Made	Portfolio Holder / Directorate Responsible	Agenda Item Title	Recommendation Made	Action Taken	Progress Status
16 January 2018	Cabinet Member for Communities/ Adults and Communities	Community Asset Transfers	That the Community Asset Transfer programme and its current approach be continued but that the March deadline be extended in order that Community organisations had longer to consider and confirm their intentions around community asset transfer		Complete

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ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 8
13 MARCH 2018	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:		Fiona McMillan, Interim Director of Law and Governance				
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:		Cabinet Member for Resources				
Contact Officer(s):	Joanna Mor	ley, Democratic Services Officer	Tel. 01733 452468			

# FORWARD PLAN OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS						
FROM: Democratic Services Officer	Deadline date: N/A					

It is recommended that the Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee:

1. Considers the current Forward Plan of Executive Decisions and identifies any relevant items for inclusion within their work programme or request further information.

## 1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 The report is presented to the Committee in accordance with the Terms of Reference as set out in section 2.2 of the report.

#### 2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 This is a regular report to the Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee outlining the content of the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions.
- 2.2 This report is for the Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference No. Part 3, Section 4 Overview and Scrutiny Functions, paragraph 3.3:

The Scrutiny Committees will:

- (f) Hold the Executive to account for the discharge of functions in the following ways:
  - *ii)* By scrutinising Key Decisions which the Executive is planning to take, as set out in the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions;

#### 3. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy	NO	If yes, date for	N/A
Item/Statutory Plan?		Cabinet meeting	

#### 4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

4.1 The latest version of the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions is attached at Appendix 1. The Forward Plan contains those Executive Decisions which the Leader of the Council believes that

the Cabinet or individual Cabinet Member(s) can take and any new key decisions to be taken after 2 April 2018.

- 4.2 The information in the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions provides the Committee with the opportunity of considering whether it wishes to seek to influence any of these executive decisions, or to request further information.
- 4.3 If the Committee wished to examine any of the executive decisions, consideration would need to be given as to how this could be accommodated within the work programme.
- 4.4 As the Forward Plan is published fortnightly any version of the Forward Plan published after dispatch of this agenda will be tabled at the meeting.

#### 5. CONSULTATION

5.1 Details of any consultation on individual decisions are contained within the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions.

#### 6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

6.1 After consideration of the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions the Committee may request further information on any Executive Decision that falls within the remit of the Committee.

#### 7. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

7.1 The report presented allows the Committee to fulfil the requirement to scrutinise Key Decisions which the Executive is planning to take, as set out in the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions in accordance with their terms of reference as set out in Part 3, Section 4 - Overview and Scrutiny Functions, paragraph 3.3.

#### 8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

8.1 N/A

#### 9. IMPLICATIONS

**Financial Implications** 

9.1 N/A

**Legal Implications** 

9.2 N/A

#### 10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

10.1 None

#### 11. APPENDICES

11.1 Appendix 1 – Forward Plan of Executive Decisions

#### **PART 1 – KEY DECISIONS**

In the period commencing 28 clear days after the date of publication of this Plan, Peterborough City Council's Executive intends to take 'key decisions' on the issues set out below

# PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL'S FORWARD PLAN OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

PUBLISHED: 2 MARCH 2018

in **Part 1**. Key decisions relate to those executive decisions which are likely to result in the Council spending or saving money in excess of £500,000 and/or have a significant impact on two or more wards in Peterborough.

If the decision is to be taken by an individual Cabinet Member, the name of the Cabinet Member is shown against the decision, in addition to details of the Councillor's portfolio. If the decision is to be taken by the Cabinet, this too is shown against the decision and its members are as listed below:

Cllr Holdich (Leader); Cllr Fitzgerald (Deputy Leader); Cllr Ayres, Cllr Elsey; Cllr Hiller, Cllr Lamb; Cllr Smith; Cllr Seaton and Cllr Walsh.

This Plan should be seen as an outline of the proposed decisions for the forthcoming month and it will be updated on a fortnightly basis to reflect new key-decisions. Each new Plan supersedes the previous Plan and items may be carried over into forthcoming Plans. Any questions on specific issues included on the Plan should be included on the form which appears at the back of the Plan and submitted to philippa.turvey@peterborough.gov.uk, Democratic and Constitutional Services Manager, Governance Department, Town Hall, Bridge Street, PE1 1HG (fax 08702 388039). Alternatively, you can submit your views via e-mail to or by telephone on 01733 452460. For each decision a public report will be available from the Democratic Services Team one week before the decision is taken.

#### PART 2 – NOTICE OF INTENTION TO TAKE DECISION IN PRIVATE

Whilst the majority of the Executive's business at the Cabinet meetings listed in this Plan will be open to the public and media organisations to attend, there will be some business to be considered that contains, for example, confidential, commercially sensitive or personal information. In these circumstances the meeting may be held in private, and on the rare occasion this applies, notice will be given within **Part 2** of this document, 'notice of intention to hold meeting in private'. A further formal notice of the intention to hold the meeting, or part of it, in private, will also be given 28 clear days in advance of any private meeting in accordance with The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

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

#### PART 3 - NOTIFICATION OF NON-KEY DECISIONS

complete transparency relating to the work of the Executive, this Plan also includes an overview of non-key decisions to be taken by the Cabinet or individual Cabinet Members, these decisions are listed at **Part 3** and will be updated on a weekly basis.

You are entitled to view any documents listed on the Plan, or obtain extracts from any documents listed or subsequently submitted to the decision maker prior to the decision being made, subject to any restrictions on disclosure. There is no charge for viewing the documents, although charges may be made for photocopying or postage. Documents listed on the notice and relevant documents subsequently being submitted can be requested from Philippa Turvey, Democratic and Constitutional Services Manager, Governance Department, Town Hall, Bridge Street, PE1 1HG (fax 08702 388038), e-mail to <a href="mailto:philippa.turvey@peterborough.gov.uk">philippa.turvey@peterborough.gov.uk</a> or by telephone on 01733 452460.

All decisions will be posted on the Council's website: <a href="www.peterborough.gov.uk/executivedeisions">www.peterborough.gov.uk/executivedeisions</a>. If you wish to make comments or representations regarding the 'key decisions' outlined in this Plan, please submit them to the Democratic and Constitutional Services Manager using the form attached. For your information, the contact details for the Council's various service departments are incorporated within this Plan.

# PART 1 – FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

KEY DECISIONS FROM 2 APRIL 2018									
KEY DECISION REQUIRED	DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT APPENDICES AND REASONS FOR EXEMPTION		
SACRE Agreed Syllabus – KEY/02APRIL18/01 To adopt the SACRE (Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education) Agreed Syllabus	Councillor Lynne Ayres, Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University	April 2018	Children And Education	All Wards	Schools	Lynne Rayner - Governor Services Manager - 01733 863643 - Lynne.Rayner@p eterborough.gov. uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.		
Amendment to Loan Facility – KEY/02APRIL18/02 To agree an amendment to the Council's loan facility	Councillor David Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources	April 2018	Growth, Environment & Resources Scrutiny Committee	All wards	Relevant stakeholders and Serco.	Marion Kelly, Corporate Director, Resources Tel: 01733 452520 Email: Marion.kelly@pet erborough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.  The decision will include an exempt annexe. By virtue of paragraph 3, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).  Advice provided by the Council's external financial and legal advisers		

PREVIOUSLY ADVERTISED KEY DECISIONS								
KEY DECISION REQUIRED		DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT APPENDICES AND REASONS FOR EXEMPTION
<b>1</b> . 72	Personal Care and Support (Homecare) in Peterborough – KEY/02MAY16/01 To approve the awarding of a contract to an external provider following a competitive tender exercise.	Councillor Wayne Fitzgerald Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Integrated Adult Social Care and Health	April 2018	Adult and Communities Scrutiny Committee	All wards	Relevant internal and external stakeholders	Rajnish Ahuja Procurement Project Manager (Interim) Tel: 01733 317471 Email: rajnish.ahuja@peter borough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.
2.	Peterborough Serco Strategic Partnership Contract Amendments – KEY/28NOV16/02 To agree amendments	Councillor David Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources	March 2018	Growth, Environment & Resources Scrutiny Committee	All wards	Relevant stakeholders and Serco.	Peter Carpenter, Service Director – Financial Services Tel: 01733 384564 Email: Peter.carpenter@pe	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.

terborough.gov.uk

Partnership Contract

to the Serco

KI	EY DECISION REQUIRED	DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT APPENDICES AND REASONS FOR EXEMPTION
3.	Serco ICT Contract Amendments – KEY/28NOV16/03 To agree amendments to the Serco ICT Contract.	Councillor David Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources	March 2018	Growth, Environment & Resources Scrutiny Committee	All wards	Relevant stakeholders and Serco.	Peter Carpenter, Service Director – Financial Services Tel: 01733 384564 Email: Peter.carpenter@pe terborough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.
734.	Affordable Warmth Strategy 2017 – 2019 KEY/17APR17/03 Recommendation to approve the Affordable Warmth Strategy 2017 – 2019	Councillor Walsh, Cabinet Member for Communities	March 2018	Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee	All wards	Relevant internal and external stakeholders.  The draft strategy will be placed on PCC Consultation pages for 3 week consultation period	Sharon Malia - Housing Programmes Manager, Tel: 01733 863764 sharon.malia@peter borough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.  BRE Integrated Dwelling Level Housing Stock Modelling Report July 2016 Housing Renewals Policy 2017 - 2019

KEY DECISION REQUIRED		DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT APPENDICES AND REASONS FOR EXEMPTION
5.	Real Time Passenger Information - KEY/15MAY17/02 Award of the Contract along with the agreement to sign the partnership and data sharing agreements with neighbouring local authorities and bus operators associated with this contract	Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development	March 2018	Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee	All	Relevant internal and external stakeholders.  Consultation has taken place with bus operators in the city and will continue to do so for the duration of the tender process	Peter Tebb Network and Traffic Manager Tel: 01733 453519 Email: Peter.tebb@pet erborough.gov.u k  Amy Pickstone Senior ITS Officer 5 317481 Email:amy.picks tone@peterboro ugh.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.  The decision will include an exempt annexe. By virtue of paragraph 3, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

KEY	DECISION REQUIRED	DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT APPENDICES AND REASONS FOR EXEMPTION
6. 75	Approval to early infrastructure works to facilitate the design and build of two new schools on the Paston Reserve site – KEY/15MAY17/03  There is a requirement for infrastructure works to be undertaken on land identified under a S106 Agreement to accommodate a new 2 form entry primary school and an 8 form entry secondary school at the Paston Reserve site.  These works include a new access road into the site from Newborough Road, relocation of overhead power cables and fencing to secure the site upon transfer to the Council. These works must be completed ahead of the programme to deliver the new school.	Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development in consultation with Councillor Holdich, Leader of the Council	March 2018	Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee	Guntho	Relevant internal and external stakeholders.	Emma Everitt Capital Projects and Assets Officer Tel: 01733 863660 Email: emma.everitt@pet erborough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.

KEY DECISION REQUIRED		DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATIO N	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT APPENDICES AND REASONS FOR EXEMPTION
<b>7</b> . 76	Approval to award places on the Pseudo DPS for Residential Care Providers - KEY/29MAY17/04 Provide permission for the Council to enter into contractual arrangements with Residential Care Providers following the publication of a PIN notice inviting providers to submit prices and sign up to the Council's Residential Care Terms and Conditions. This ensures compliance with the Public Procurement Regulations 2015 and the Care Act 2014	Councillor Fitzgerald, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Integrated Adult Social Care and Health	July 2018	Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee	All wards	Relevant internal and external stakeholders.	Gary Jones, Interim Head of Adults Commissioning Social Care Tel: 01733 452450, Email: gary.jones@peterb orough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.

KEY DECISION REQUIRED		DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT APPENDICES AND REASONS FOR EXEMPTION
8.	Award of Contract - Social Care Platform - KEY/24JULY17/01 To approve the award of a contract to develop and implement a technology platform that would sit across the current adult and children's social care IT systems	Councillor David Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources	March 2018	Growth, Environment & Resources Scrutiny Committee	All Wards	Relevant internal and external stakeholders. N/A	Peter Carpenter, Service Director – Financial Services 01733 384564 Peter.carpent er@peterbor ough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.  The decision will include an exempt annexe. By virtue of paragraph 3, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
9.	Award of Contract - Social Care e- marketplace - KEY/24JULY17/02 To approve the awarding of a contract to provide a social care e-marketplace IT system	Councillor David Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources	March 2018	Growth, Environment & Resources Scrutiny Committee	All Wards	Relevant internal and external stakeholders. N/A	Peter Carpenter, Service Director – Financial Services 01733 384564 Peter.carpent er@peterbor ough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.  The decision will include an exempt annexe. By virtue of paragraph 3, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

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<b>10.</b> 78	Award of Contract - Social Care Operating Model – KEY/24JULY17/05 To approve the awarding of a contract to develop a social care operating model	Councillor David Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources	March 2018	Growth, Environment & Resources Scrutiny Committee	All Wards	Relevant internal and external stakeholders. N/A	Peter Carpenter, Service Director – Financial Services 01733 384564 Peter.carpente r@peterborou gh.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.  The decision will include an exempt annexe. By virtue of paragraph 3, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

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<b>11</b> . 79	Acquisition of Regeneration Site – KEY/24JULY17/06 To approve the acquisition of a local regeneration site.	Councillor David Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources	March 2018	Growth, Environment & Resources Scrutiny Committee	Central	Relevant Internal and External Stakeholders.	Jane McDaid Head of Peterborough Property services Tel: 01733 384540 Email: Jane.mcdaid@ peterborough.g ov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.  The decision will include an exempt annexe. By virtue of paragraph 3, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
12.	Replacement Social Care System For Adult Social Care – KEY/21AUG17/01 Approval for purchase and implementation of replacement social care system for adult social care.	Councillor Fitzgerald, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Integrated Adult Social Care and Health	March 2018	Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee	All	Relevant internal and external stakeholders.	Caroline Townsend, Programme Manager, Tel. No: 07920 160512, Email:caroline. townsend@pet erborough.gov .uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.

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13.	Award of Insurance Contract – KEY/18SEP17/01 Evaluation of insurance tenders received to be reviewed and award of contract to be made.	Councillor David Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources	March 2018	Growth, Environment & Resources Scrutiny Committee	All	Relevant internal and external stakeholders.  None.	Steve Crabtree, Chief Internal Auditor, 01733 384557,steve. crabtree@Pet erborough.gov .uk	Evaluation of insurance tender submissions prepared by the Council's brokers, JLT.
<b>14.</b> 80	Continuation of Housing Renewal Policy grants through the Care & Repair Agency – KEY/18SEP17/02 Permission is sought to continue to use the current tendering processes for non framework works funded through Repairs Assistance Grants and Disabled Facility Grants. A full procurement process is being undertaken to introduce frameworks for all of this work which is aimed to be in place by the 1st May 2018. This interim arrangement will allow the capital programme to be continued	Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development	March 2018	Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee	All	Relevant internal and external stakeholders.  CMDN published on website	Sharon Malia Housing Programmes Manager sharon.malia @peterboroug h.gov.uk	None

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<b>15</b> .	Award of contract for the expansion and partial remodelling of Ken Stimpson Community School – KEY/18SEP17/03 The intention is to expand the school by 2 forms of entry (300 additional pupils plus 150 sixth form) to meet the growing need for secondary school places. A new building block is planned on the site with an extension to the dinning hall and minor remodelling to an adjacent building. As part of the remodelling the on site library will be demolished following its relocation to a suitable site close by.	Councillor Lynne Ayres, Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University	March 2018	Children and Education Scrutiny Committee	Werrington	Relevant internal and external stakeholders.  Consultation will include: Senior School Management team, Sport England, local residents and the Department For Education	Stuart Macdonald. Schools Infrastructur e. 07715 802 489. stuart.macd onald@pet erborough.g ov.uk	School Organisation Plan 2015 -2022

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16.	Approval of Contract of Generalist Advice Services – KEY/16OCT17/04 To approve the contract to deliver general advice services to clients requiring help particularly around welfare benefits, debt and money management.	Councillor Seaton, Cabinet Member for Resources	March 2018	Adults and Communities	City wide service provision	Relevant internal and external stakeholders.  Voluntary sector advice agencies consulted in service design. Market testing of providers has also taken place.	Ian Phillips, Senior Policy Manager ian.phillips@ peterborough .gov.uk 863849	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published
<b>∞17</b> .	ICT Infrastructure works for Fletton Quays – KEY/13NOV17/02 To agree to the procurement of ICT infrastructure works for Fletton Quays	Councillor Seaton, Cabinet Member for Resources	March 2018	Growth, Environment & Resources Scrutiny Committee	N/A	Relevant internal and external stakeholders	Peter Carpenter, Service Director – Financial Services 01733 384564 Peter.carpent er@peterbor ough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published. The decision will include an exempt annexe. By virtue of paragraph 3, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

KE	Y DECISION REQUIRED	DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT APPENDICES AND REASONS FOR EXEMPTION
18	Allocation of grant to provide 29 affordable homes at a site on Midland Road - KEY/11DEC17/02  To approve the allocation of grant to provide affordable homes	Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development	March 2018	Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee	Central Ward	Relevant internal and external stakeholders.  None - Ward Cllrs for Central Ward will be consulted	Anne Keogh Housing and Strategic Planning Manager tel: 01733 863815 anne.keogh1 @peterborou gh.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published
19	Expansion and Remodelling of Marshfields School – KEY/11DEC17/03 To approve the proposed expansion and remodelling of Marshfields school	Councillor Lynne Ayres, Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University	March 2018	Children and Education Scrutiny Committee	Dogsthorp e Ward	Relevant internal and external stakeholders.  Public Consultation Meeting	Sharon Bishop, Capital Projects & Assets Officer Sharon.bisho p@peterboro ugh.gov.uk	School Organisational Plan

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<b>20</b> .	Purchase of land and building in the centre of Peterborough – KEY/11DEC17/06 To delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Growth and Regeneration to purchase the property	Councillor David Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources	March 2018	Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee	Central	Relevant internal and external stakeholders	Jane McDaid Head of Peterborough Property services Tel: 01733 384540 Email: Jane.mcdaid @peterborou gh.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.  The decision will include an exempt annexe. By virtue of paragraph 3, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
21.	Disposal of freehold in Centre of the City – KEY/11DEC17/07 To delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Growth and Regeneration to sell the property	Councillor David Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources	March 2018	Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee	Central	Relevant internal and external stakeholders	Jane McDaid Head of Peterborough Property services Tel: 01733 384540 Email: Jane.mcdaid @peterborou gh.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.  The decision will include an exempt annexe. By virtue of paragraph 3, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

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<b>22.</b>	Purchase of building in the centre of Peterborough – KEY/11DEC17/08  To delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Growth and Regeneration to purchase the property	Councillor David Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources	March 2018	Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee	Central	and external stakeholders	Jane McDaid Head of Peterborough Property services Tel: 01733 384540 Email: Jane.mcdaid@ peterborough. gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.  The decision will include an exempt annexe. By virtue of paragraph 3, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
23.	Purchase of land to the east of the city - KEY/25DEC17/02 Delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Growth and Regeneration to purchase the property.	Cabinet Member for Resources, Councillor Seaton	March 2018	Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee	East	and external stakeholders	Jane McDaid Head of Peterborough Property services Tel: 01733 384540 Email: Jane.mcdaid@ peterborough. gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.  The decision will include an exempt annexe. By virtue of paragraph 3, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

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<b>24</b> .	A605 Whittlesey Access Phase 2 - Stanground Access - KEY/25DEC17/03 To approve the design and construction of the A605 Stanground East Junction Improvements for the financial year of 2017/18 - 2018-19 and authorise the associated package of work to be issued to Skanska Construction UK Limited under the Council's existing agreement with SKANSKA dated 18th September 2013 (the Highways Services Agreement).	Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development	March 2018	Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee	Stanground South	Relevant internal and external stakeholders.  The scheme is included in the fourth Local Transport Plan. Further consultation will be undertaken during the design process, including ward Councillors.	Lewis Banks, Principal Sustainable Transport Planning Officer.  Tel: 01733 317465, Email: lewis.banks @peterborou gh.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.  Fourth Local Transport Plan: www.peterborough.gov.uk //tp National Productivity Investment Fund for the Local Road Network Application Form: https://www.peterborough.gov.uk/upload/www.peterborough.gov.uk/residents/transport-and-streets/A605Application.pdf?inline=true

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<b>25</b> .	Approval of funding allocation for the improvement to open spaces in the CAN Do area of the city as part of the capital regeneration programme for the area - KEY/25DEC17/04 Improvement to open spaces in the CAN Do area of the city as part of the capital regeneration programme for the area	Councillor Elsey, Cabinet Member for Waste and Street Scene	March 2018	Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee	Central, North & Park wards	Relevant internal and external stakeholders.  Community engagement with local residents, businesses & partner organisations	Cate Harding, Community Capacity Manager.  Tel: 01733 317497. Email: Cate.harding @peterborou gh.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.  Budget allocation in MTFP 2017/18
26.	Approval of funding allocation for community facility improvements in the CAN Do area of the city as part of the capital Regeneration Programme for the area - KEY/25DEC17/05 community facility improvements in the CAN Do area of the city as part of the capital Regeneration Programme for the area	Councillor Seaton, Cabinet Member for Resources	March 2018	Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee	Central, North & Park wards	Relevant internal and external stakeholders.  Community engagement with residents, groups, businesses and partner organisations	Cate Harding, Community Capacity Manager.  Tel: 01733 317497. Email: cate.harding @peterborou gh.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.  Budget allocation of £4m in MTFP 2017/8

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27.	Approval of funding allocation for the public realm improvements within the CAN Do area of the city as part of the capital regeneration programme for the area - KEY/25DEC17/06 public realm improvements within the CAN Do area	Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development	March 2018	Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee	Central, North & Park wards	Relevant internal and external stakeholders.  Community engagement with local residents, groups, businesses and partner agencies	Cate Harding, Community Capacity Manager.  Tel: 01733 317497. Email: cate.harding @peterborou gh.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.  Budget allocation £3m in MTFP 2017/18
<b>©28</b> .	Approval of the Transport Programme of Capital Works KEY/5FEB18/01 To Approve The Transport Programme Of Capital Works For The 2018/19 - 2020/21 Financial Years	Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development	March 2018	Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee	All	Relevant internal and external stakeholders	Lewis Banks, Principal Transport Planning Officer, 01733 317465, Lewis.Banks @peterborou gh.gov.uk	Peterborough Local Transport Plan 4 (2016 – 2021) http://www.peterborough.g ov.uk/ltp

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<b>29</b> .	Housing Related Support Grant Agreements 2018/2019 – KEY/5FEB18/02 A decision is required to award specific grants for the funding of Housing Related Support, which will be funded through the Housing Related Support (formerly Supporting People) Programme for the period 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019	Councillor Seaton, Cabinet Member for Resources	March 2018	Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee	N/A	All existing providers of HRS will be consulted	Sharon Malia, Housing Programmes Manager, Tel: 01733 863764 sharon.malia @peterborou gh.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published
30.	Healthy Schools - KEY/19FEB18/01  Decision required is for Peterborough City Council to enter into an agreement with Cambridgeshire County Council to jointly commission a Healthy Schools programme to be delivered across Peterborough and Cambridgeshire from 01 September 2018. The proposed contract will be for three years with an option to extend by a further two years. The total contract value over a five year period would be £1,100,000. The Peterborough City Council contribution to this total over a five year period would be £310,000.	Councillor Lamb, Cabinet Member for Public Health	March 2018	Health Scrutiny Committee	All	Relevant internal and external stakeholders. A market testing exercise will be undertaken.	Julian Base Head of Healthy Living Tel: 01733 207180 Email: julian.base@ peterborough .gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.

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<b>31.</b>	Adult Social Care Contracts for Placements in Care Homes - KEY/19FEB18/02 The Cabinet Member is recommended to authorise the Corporate Director for People and Communities to make residential placements in care homes until November 2018.	Councillor Fizgerald, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Integrated Adult Social Care and Health	March 2018	Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee	All	Relevant internal and external stakeholders. Extensive consultation with the local care homes that focused on the terms and conditions of the service contract the Council will employ.	Gary Jones, Head of Service - Interim Head of Adults Commissioni ng, Tel- 01733 452450 Email: gary.jones@ peterborough .gov.uk;	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.
32.	Approval of Better Care Fund Section 75 agreement – KEY/19MAR18/01 To approve the revised Better Care Fund Section 75 Agreement between the Council and Clinical Commissioning Group to reflect the 2017-19 Better Care Fund plans and associated financial arrangements.	Councillor Fitzgerald, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Integrated Adult Social Care and Health	March 2018	Health Scrutiny Committee	All	N/A	Caroline Townsend, Programme Manager Better Care Fund, 07920 160512, caroline.town send@peterb orough.gov.u k	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published

### PART 2 – NOTICE OF INTENTION TO TAKE DECISIONS IN PRIVATE

KEY DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN IN PRIVATE										
KEY DECISION REQUIRED	DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER			
NONE										

## PART 3 – NOTIFICATION OF NON-KEY DECISIONS

# **NON-KEY DECISIONS**

NON KEY DECISION REQUIRED	DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT APPENDICES AND REASONS FOR EXEMPTION
Public Space Protection Order The Cabinet Member to authorise commencement of the necessary public consultation for the Public Space Protection Order under Section 72 (3) of the Anti-Social Sehaviour, Crime & Policing Act 2014	Councillor Walsh, Cabinet Member for Communities	April 2018	Adults and Communities	Fletton and Woodston	Police, Fire Service, Internal PCC departments, local residents	Laura Kelsey, Senior PES Officer E-mail: laura.Kelsey@pet erborough.gov.uk Tel: 01733 453563	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.
ICT Strategy The Cabinet member to authorise the Council's ICT Strategy and Client arrangements to ensure that ICT Services are fit for purpose to deliver the Council's objectives	Cabinet	26 March 2018	Growth, Environment and Resources	N/A	N/A	Peter Carpenter, Service Director - Financial Services Tel: Email:peter.carpe nter@peterborou gh.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.

NON KEY DECISION REQUIRED	DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT APPENDICES AND REASONS FOR EXEMPTION
Approval of draft updated Regulation 123 list and consolidated Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) governance policies.  Agreement from Cabinet to go out to consultation on a refreshed Regulation 123 list and the consolidated Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) governance policies.	Cabinet	16 July 2018	Growth, Environment & Resources Scrutiny Committee	All Wards	A public consultation will take place once the draft documents have been approved for consultation by Cabinet	Phil Hylton Senior Strategic Planning Officer, tel: 863879 philip.hylton@pet erborough.gov.uk	Draft Reg 123 list and draft CIL governance policy

	PREVIOUSLY ADVERTISED DECISIONS											
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<b>1</b> .	Vivacity Funding – To fund Vivacity £1278 until March 2017 (via DWP grant funding) to provide digital support for UC claimants to make benefit claims online at Central Library.	Councillor David Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources	March 2018	Growth, Environment & Resources Scrutiny Committee	All	Relevant internal and external stakeholders.	lan Phillips Social Inclusion Manager Tel: 01733 863849 lan.phillips@peterbo rough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.  Service Specification and SLA to jointly commission with Cambridgeshire County Council				
2.	Delivery of the Council's Capital Receipt Programme through the sale of Welland House, Dogsthorpe - To authorise the sale of Welland House, Dogsthorpe	Councillor David Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources	March 2018	Growth, Environment & Resources Scrutiny Committee	Dogsthor pe Councill ors: Ash, Saltmars h, Sharp	Relevant internal and external stakeholders.	David Gray Capital Projects Officer Tel: 01733 384531 Email: david.gray@peterbo rough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.				

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3.	Proposal for Loan of Senior Management Staff Under Joint Arrangements  To approve a sharing agreement for senior management staff.	Councillor David Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources	March 2018	Growth, Environment & Resources Scrutiny Committee	All	Relevant internal and external stakeholders.	Fiona McMillan Interim Director of Law and Governance Tel: 01733 452361 Fiona.McMillan@p eterborough.gov.u k	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.
<b>4</b> .	Funding of Information, Advice and Guidance services within the voluntary sector - To authorise award of grants.	Councillor David Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources	March 2018	Growth, Environment & Resources Scrutiny Committee	All	Relevant internal and external stakeholders	Ian Phillips Senior Policy Manager Tel: 01733 863849 Email: ian.phillips@peterb orough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.
5.	Daily cleanse around Gladstone Street and nearby streets - Daily mechanical cleanse in the area focused around Gladstone Street and other nearby streets. This will encompass a mechanical sweeper and operative.	Councillor Elsey, Cabinet Member for Waste and Street Scene	March 2018	Growth, Environment & Resources Scrutiny Committee	Central Ward Cllrs Hussain, Amjad Iqbal, Jamil	Relevant internal and external stakeholders. Cross party task and finish group report which went to the Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee. It was also part of the full council decision to implement as part of the budget for 2017-18.	James Collingridge, Amey Partnership Manager, Tel: 01733 864736 Email: james.collingridge @peterborough.go v.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.

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<b>6</b> .	A Lengthmans to be deployed on Lincoln Road Millfield - There will be a daily presence along Lincoln Road, the operative will litter pick, empty bins as well as report fly-tips and other environmental issues.	Councillor Elsey, Cabinet Member for Waste and Street Scene	March 2018	Growth, Environment & Resources Scrutiny Committee	Central Ward Cllrs Hussain, Amjad Iqbal, Jamil	Relevant internal and external stakeholders.  Cross party task and finish group report which went to the Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee and it was also approved at Full Council as part of the 2017-18 Budget.	James Collingridge, Amey Partnership Manager, Tel: 01733 864736 Email: james.collingri dge@peterbor ough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.
7.	2017/18 VCS grant funding - Award of grant to VCS organisations to provide Information, Advice and Guidance services	Councillor Seaton, Cabinet Member for Resources	March 2018	Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee	All wards	Relevant internal and external stakeholders.	Ian Phillips Senior Policy Manager Tel: 863849 Email: ian.phillips@p eterborough.g ov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.

Di	DECISION REQUIRED		DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT APPENDICES AND REASONS FOR EXEMPTION
8.	Draft Developers Contribution Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) To approve the draft Developers Contribution SPD for public consultation	Cabinet	26 March 2018	Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee	All	Relevant internal and external stakeholders	Anne Keogh Housing and Strategic Planning Manager tel:863815 anne.keogh1 @peterboroug h.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published
9 <b>9</b> .	Approval of the Preliminary Draft of the Minerals and Waste Local Plan for Public Consultation – Approval of the Preliminary Draft of the Minerals and Waste Local Plan for Public Consultation	Cabinet	26 March 2018	Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee	All	Relevant internal and external stakeholders.  Public consultation will follow approval by Cabinet	Richard Kay, Head of Sustainable Growth Email: richard.kay@p eterborough.g ov.uk Tel: 01733 863795	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.

DECISION REQUIRED		DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT APPENDICES AND REASONS FOR EXEMPTION
<b>10</b> .	Inclusion of Investment Acquisition Strategy in the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) - To recommend to Council that the Investment Acquisition Strategy be included in the Medium Term Financial Strategy to enable the Council to acquire investment properties	Cabinet	26 March 2018	Growth, Environment and Resources	N/A	Relevant internal and external stakeholders	Jane.McDaid @peterboroug h.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.  The decision will include an exempt annexe. By virtue of paragraph 3, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
11.	Grant funding for voluntary organisations – To provide funding for voluntary organisations in Peterborough to carry out essential support for vulnerable people, particularly in relation to welfare benefits assistance and other crisis support.	Councillor Seaton, Cabinet Member for Resources	March 2018	Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee	N/A	Relevant internal and external stakeholders.	Ian Phillips Social Inclusion Manager  Tel: 01733 863849 Email: Ian.Phillips@p eterborough.g ov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.

DECISION REQUIRED		DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT APPENDICES AND REASONS FOR EXEMPTION
99	Decision required is for Peterborough City Council to enter into an agreement with Cambridgeshire County Council to jointly commission a Healthy Workplace programme to be delivered across Peterborough and Cambridgeshire from 01 April 2018. The proposed contract will be for three years with an option to extend by a further two years. The total contract value over a five year period would be £350,000. The Peterborough City Council contribution to this total over a five year period would be £125,000.	Councillor Lamb, Cabinet Member for Public Health	March 2018	Health Scrutiny Committee	All	Relevant internal and external stakeholders.  A market testing exercise has been undertaken.	Julian Base Head of Healthy Living  Tel: 01733 207180 Email: julian.base@p eterborough.g ov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.

### PART 4 – NOTIFICATION OF KEY DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER URGENCY PROCEDURES

DECISION REQUIRED	DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT APPENDICES AND REASONS FOR EXEMPTION
1. Disposal of freehold in North West of the City – KEY/11DEC17/05  To delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Growth and Regeneration to sell the property	Councillor David Seaton e Cabinet Member for Resources	March 2018	Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee	Ravens thorpe	Relevant internal and external stakeholders	Jane McDaid Head of Peterborough Property services Tel: 01733 384540 Email: Jane.mcdaid@ peterborough. gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.  The decision will include an exempt annexe. By virtue of paragraph 3, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

#### **DIRECTORATE RESPONSIBILITIES**

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

City Services and Communications (Markets and Street Trading, City Centre Management including Events, Regulatory Services, Parking Services, Vivacity Contract, CCTV and Out of Hours Calls, Marketing and Communications, Tourism and Bus Station, Resilience)

Strategic Finance

Internal Audit

Schools Infrastructure (Assets and School Place Planning)

Waste and Energy

Strategic Client Services (Enterprise Peterborough / Vivacity / SERCO including Customer Services, ICT and Business Support)

#### PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES DEPARTMENT Corporate Director's Office at Bayard Place, Broadway, PE1 1FB

Adult Services and Communities (Adult Social Care Operations, Adult Social Care and Quality Assurance, Adult Social Care Commissioning, Early Help – Adults, Children and Families, Housing and Health Improvement, Community and Safety Services, Offender Services)

Children's Services and Safeguarding (Children's Social Care Operations, Children's Social Care Quality Assurance, Safeguarding Boards – Adults and Children's, Child Health, Clare Lodge (Operations), Access to Resources)

Education, People Resources and Corporate Property (Special Educational Needs and Inclusion, School Improvement, City College Peterborough, Pupil Referral Units, Schools Infrastructure)

Business Management and Commercial Operations (Commissioning, Recruitment and Retention, Clare Lodge (Commercial), Early Years and Quality Improvement)

#### **GOVERNANCE DEPARTMENT** Director's Office at Town Hall, Bridge Street, Peterborough, PE1 1HG

Legal and Democratic Services

**Electoral Services** 

Human Resources (Business Relations, HR Policy and Rewards, Training and Development, Occupational Health and Workforce Development)

Performance and Information (Performance Management, Information Governance, Systems Support Team, Coroner's Office, Freedom of Information)

#### GROWTH AND REGENERATION DEPARTMENT Corporate Director's Office Stuart House, St Johns Street, Peterborough, PE1 5DD

Development and Construction (Development Management, Planning Compliance, Building Control)

Sustainable Growth Strategy (Strategic Planning, Housing Strategy and Affordable Housing, Climate Change and Environment Capital, Natural and Built Environment)
Opportunity Peterborough

Peterborough Highway Services (Network Management, Highways Maintenance, Street Naming and Numbering, Street Lighting, Design and Adoption of Roads, Drainage and Flood Risk Management, Transport Policy and Sustainable Transport, Public Transport)

Corporate Property

<u>PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT</u> Director's Office at Town Hall, Bridge Street, Peterborough, PE1 1HG Health Protection, Health Improvements, Healthcare Public Health.



# PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL'S CABINET MEMBERS WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU

The Leader of Peterborough City Council is offering everyone a chance to comment, or raise queries on the decisions highlighted on the Council's Forward Plan.

Your comments and queries can be submitted to the Council's Governance Team using the form overleaf, or alternatively by telephone or email. The Governance team will then liaise with the appropriate Cabinet Member and ensure that you receive a response. Members of the Cabinet, together with their areas of responsibility, are listed below:

Councillor Holdich Leader of the Council and Member of the Cambridgeshire and

Peterborough Combined Authority

Councillor Fitzgerald Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Integrated Adult Social Care and

Health

Councillor Ayres Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University

Councillor Elsey Cabinet Member for Waste and Street Scene

Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic

Councillor Hiller Development

Councillor Lamb Cabinet Member for Public Health

Councillor Smith Cabinet Member for Children's Services

Councillor Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources

Councillor Walsh Cabinet Member for Communities

# SUBMIT YOUR COMMENTS OR QUERIES TO PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL'S CABINET

Your comment or query:
How can we contact you with a response? (please include a telephone number, postal and/or e-mail address)
Name
Address
Tel:
Email:
Who would you like to respond? (if left blank your comments will be referred to the relevant Cabinet Member)

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