

SUSTAINABLE GROWTH AND ENVIRONMENT CAPITAL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	Agenda Item No. 7
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Report of the Chief Executive

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SUSTAINABLE GROWTH: INTRODUCTION, OVERVIEW AND WORK PROGRAMME

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 This report sets out the approach to be taken at the first Scrutiny Committee of the municipal year, during which Members will be presented with an overview of the issues, opportunities, priorities and challenges in connection with the sustainable growth theme, with the aim of establishing a scrutiny work programme for the year. (The environment capital theme is addressed in an accompanying report.)

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To discuss the detail contained in the report and accompanying presentation that will be given during the meeting, and to agree a scrutiny work programme for the year for the sustainable growth theme.

3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

- 3.1 Adopting this approach for the first Scrutiny meeting of the year will ensure that a scrutiny work programme is developed and agreed which directly contributes to the objectives and outcomes contained in the Sustainable Community Strategy.

This committee in particular most directly contributes to the priorities 'Delivering Substantial and Truly Sustainable Growth' and 'Creating the UK's Environment Capital' in the Sustainable Community Strategy. This report focuses on 'Delivering Substantial and Truly Sustainable Growth'.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The presentation that will be given at the committee meeting will review progress against the sustainable growth priority made in the previous year; current and forthcoming issues; and national and local policy changes to create an overall framework.

In summary, there are currently three teams tasked with the delivery of Growth within the city:

- Growth and Regeneration: Tasked with the physical delivery on site. The overarching role of this team is to bring together potential partners from both the public and private sectors and get them working together to deliver growth.
- Opportunity Peterborough: tasked with delivering economic development services to the business community. This broadly focuses on the following key elements:
 - Ensuring that Peterborough is visible to investors
 - Supporting local business ambitions
 - Creating conditions to increase skills level across our communities
 - Increasing our knowledge of the local economy and utilising intelligence

- effectively
- Ensuring that Peterborough gets maximum value from the Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Local Enterprise Partnership
- Planning, Transport and Engineering: This department fulfils the statutory roles of the Council as local planning authority and local highway authority. The functions of the team are as follows:
 - Development Management
 - Building Control
 - Planning Policy
 - Housing Strategy
 - Highway Management and Maintenance
 - Transport and Infrastructure Planning and Delivery
 - Climate Change
 - Emergency Planning, Resilience and Business Continuity
 - Natural and Built Heritage
 - Biodiversity
 - Passenger Transport
 - Drainage and Flood Risk Management

The three teams work closely to ensure that we have a seamless approach to working with the business community. The teams have evolved simple communications to ensure that opportunities are actioned in a timely manner and that any issues are handled by the appropriate team, with the correct result being achieved.

The presentation during the meeting will give further information about the particular roles of the three teams and the projects they are working on so that members will be able to identify and agree those aspects that they wish to scrutinise during the year.

5. KEY ISSUES

- 5.1 The Committee needs to consider and note the way in which each of these separate departments work together to deliver sustainable growth within Peterborough.

6. IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Members will be provided with sufficient information and evidence to enable them to be confident about their role on this scrutiny committee, and to identify a work programme for the year.

7. CONSULTATION

- 7.1 Information provided during the meeting will be drawn from a range of sources, including from across the Council, Opportunity Peterborough and our partners.

8. NEXT STEPS

- 8.1 Following the committee meeting, a work programme will be produced, lead officers identified and timescales set to ensure maximum effectiveness of the scrutiny process.

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

- 9.1 N/a

10. APPENDICES

- 10.1 N/a