SUSTAINABLE GROWTH AND ENVIRONMENT CAPITAL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	Agenda Item No. 6
5 SEPTEMBER 2013	Public Report

Report of the Executive Director of

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ENVIRONMENT CAPITAL UPDATE

1. PURPOSE

1.1 This report provides the Committee with an update on key elements of work associated with the delivery of the Environment Capital core priority.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 The Committee is asked to note the report and provide comments accordingly.

3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

3.1 This report directly contributes to the objectives and outcomes contained in the Sustainable Community Strategy and, in particular, the aspiration to 'create the UK's Environment Capital'.

4. BACKGROUND

4.1 An update detailing work relating to the city's Environment Capital agenda was last presented to this group in July 2012. A significant amount of work has been undertaken since then, as follows:

- A detailed survey has been undertaken, with over 1600 responses, to ascertain citywide knowledge and recognition of Environment Capital. The survey showed that 85% of respondents agreed that taking action to improve the local environment is a key priority for the city. More information can be found at:
http://www.peterborough.gov.uk/news/latest_news/2013/january/the_citys_journey_to_creating.aspx
- The Environment Capital brand has been developed to ensure consistency and encourage use across different partner organisations.
- Confirmed a date for a 2013 Environment Capital citywide event, building on the success of the 2012 conference. This will be a workshop style event aimed at leaders from businesses, schools and the private and voluntary sectors across the city.
- Developed the draft Environment Capital Action Plan, due to progress through the democratic process from September.
- Contributed to the city's success in securing £3m investment from the Technology Strategy Board for the Future City Demonstrator project. More information can be found at:
http://www.peterboroughfuturecity.co.uk/
- Shortlisted down to 1 of 12 cities to receive support from the Sustainable Food Cities Network. This will entail direct support to develop a local food strategy for the city.
- We have established the Sustainable Cities Network. This is a peer to peer knowledge share group that brings together cities from across the country including: London, Bristol, Brighton, Leicester, Middlesbrough, Newcastle, Glasgow and more.

This list is not intended to be comprehensive, but provide an overview of the work undertaken in the last 12 months. It is intended to discuss this in further detail, supported by further background information and an indicative overview of the Environment Capital Action Plan in presentation format at the meeting on 5 September 2013.

5. **KEY ISSUES**

5.1   Within the scope of this Committee's responsibilities, Members are asked to note the content of this report and the progress of Environment Capital work.

6. **IMPLICATIONS**

6.1   For the city to achieve its ambition of becoming the UK's Environment Capital, it must show a strong and evidenced track record of environmental achievement backed by a focus on addressing areas for improvement. This report provides documentation that will ensure Peterborough is able to direct its resources to the Environment Capital outcomes with a consistent and cohesive approach.

7. **CONSULTATION**

7.1   The Environment Capital documents outlined in this report have been subject to internal and partner consultation as part of their development.

8. **NEXT STEPS**

8.1   Feedback from the committee will help to inform the future of the Environment Capital ambition.

9. **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**
Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

9.1   A presentation providing more information will be given at the meeting on 5 September 2013.

10. **APPENDICES**

10.1   N/A