

Phase two Budget Conversation Feedback

This appendix contains:

1. A summary of the consultation feedback received to date
2. Feedback from CMT members on the outcomes of the various phase two engagement events that have taken place.
3. Budget consultation responses received to date and responses to these comments.
4. Feedback from Joint Scrutiny on the phase two budget proposals.

1. Consultation response Summary

- 1.1. This note contains Phase 2 Consultation responses received between 17th February and 23rd February 2017 A summary of the responses received to date is given in this section.

- 1.2. In total 29 responses have been received:

Survey Monkey online form	29
Email and letter responses	0
Total	29

- 1.3. **Question 1** - 24 respondents answered question 1 which was *'Do you have any comments to make about the second round budget proposals?'*

Response	Number of Responses
Positive	2
Neutral	9
Negative	13
Total	24

- 1.4. **Question 2** – Respondents were asked, *'after having read the phase 2 proposals document, how much do you now feel you understand about why the council must make savings of £28million in 2017/18?'* Answers can be broken down as follows:

Response	Number of Responses
A great deal	7
A fair amount	12
Not very much	10
Total	29

- 1.5. **Question 3** – Of the 29 responses received, 20 answered question 3 which was *'If you have any specific ideas about how the council can save money*

and protect services, please state these here:'. A list of subjects raised is given below.

Response Theme	Respondents Citing Issue
Business Improvement District	1
Councillors Pay	8
Number of Councillors	1
Reduction in departments	1
Senior Management Salaries	
Work life balance	1
Street Scene technology	1
Woodland and Trees	1
Business Rates	1
Council Tax Referendum	1
Sale of the Football Ground	1
Introduction of a Lottery	1
Peterborough Projects not benefiting residents	1
Staff pay- unfair reductions	1
Social Care	1
Removal of Mayor position	1
Local Government Pensions	1

2. Feedback from Conversation Events

2.1. A number of events have been held to date, with the following feedback being received:

- 3rd February- **Connect Group**
 - Attended by Adrian Chapman and Gillian Beasley, the phase two document was noted, and the following feedback received:
 - AC advised a Can Do Forum has been established consisting of ward councillors, established local groups, residents associations and others with an interest in the area. CM requested that Rev Ron Watkinson be invited to attend future meetings. Cate Harding at the City College is forming a sub group to take on the decision making function.
 - MJ is concerned about the impact of the £50K reduction in PCAS funding for the Council Tax support scheme. AC confirmed that to date only 2 applications had been made and those in genuine need would still be assisted from £5K which will be set aside monthly.
 - CM asked what could be done to encourage community engagement in the Millfield area. He is aware there are many immigrants now feeling unwelcome in the City. AC advised the City College run Community Serve which encourages communities to come together and do more for themselves. They are currently focussing on the 4 high need areas : Can Do, some of the Ortons, Westwood/Ravensthorpe and Parnwell. They are using models such as Meet and Eat and there have been initial talks about holding a carnival in the Can Do area. It was agreed to invite Pat

- Carrington, City College Principal, to the next Connect meeting to give an overview of the Community Serve work
- JK advised that 2 new community connectors with a focus on women and youth are joining his team. They will work closely with area co-ordinators from the College. JK will liaise with CM to link these in with Churches Together.
 - GB confirmed 2018/19 would be challenging and decisions would need to be made regarding reduction in expensive services and generating additional income. CM voiced concerns the group had with proposals for a Local Lottery and how this could encourage people into debt. SS to ask Kim Sawyer to provide more details to the group to enable them to make a measured submission to the budget proposals. Comments received by 23 February will be considered by Cabinet on 27 February, final deadline is 6 March.
- **13th February- Trade unions Joint Consultative Forum.**
 - Attended by Steven Pilsworth, the phase two document was noted, and the following feedback received:
 - Schools Becoming Academies – They expressed a concern that the projected numbers of new academies in the next 12 months was low given the government's aggressive programme of academisation and Peterborough's overall standing in the education league tables.
 - Was the Council in a position to step in should an academy trust fail given the Council's statutory responsibility to provide school places?
 - Terms and Conditions - Concern that by reducing employee terms and conditions, the Council was in effect, asking employees to subsidise the Council and in particular, concern was expressed that members were not experiencing the same reductions.
 - Shared services with Cambs - Given the recent moves towards sharing at Senior Management level and also certain services being considered i.e the Trading Standards, is this a trend that will continue and will the Unions be advised.
 - **14th February- Peterborough Community Assistance Scheme**
 - Attended by Ian Phillips, the phase two document was noted, and comments were received in relation to the proposed Council Tax Increase. The group felt that this increase will continue to hit the lowest paid residents the hardest and will affect families who are just about managing.
 - **14th February- Youth Council**
 - Attended by Emma Riding, the phase two document was noted, and the following feedback was given:

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<p>Kingdom Private enforcement proposal- what assumptions were used to come back to the level of income were expecting? Assumptions were based on data Kingdom held from 28 other local authorities on collection rate and the amount of tickets being issued was based on 6 officers working, 6 days a week, issuing on average 4 tickets per day.</p>
<p>Council Tax Increase- The council discussed the council tax increase at length, and the feeling was that they agreed we needed to increase council tax to provide council services. There were concerns raised over affordability and older people but It was noted that there is the council tax support scheme which helps support these residents.</p>
<p>Schools Transferring to Academies- The group agreed with the principle of charging the schools for transferring over to academies and expresses that they would have agreed to the charge being a higher amount. There was an opposition to the academy approach to schooling by a member of the council.</p>
<p>Transport Projects- The group wondered if there had been a public consultation over the J18 Rhubarb Bridge works? The highways department have confirmed that there has be no public consultation yet as this is still in the very early stages of modelling.</p>
<p>Councillors Pay- The group expressed that they disagreed with the increase, they didn't feel the understood the necessity for such a large increase, especially since it didn't seem right given the extent of the financial pressures the council is facing. They appreciated the role that councillors undertake, and that they had had their pay and allowances frozen for many years, but felt it should have been compared to the low level of increases staff have received over that period. They also felt that potentially smaller increases 'little and often' possibly may have been a better approach than managing a one large increase.</p>
<p>Can Do Investment- The group felt this seemed like a large investment to be made in this area, and struggled to see where the council would make a return from this. When explained that Kingdom Enforcement will be in this area tackling environmental crime, they appreciated that there two proposals went hand in hand.</p>
<p>Can Do Investment- A point was raised over potential rental increases in this area, as a fall out from the investment in the area. Did we envisage that house prices would increase in this area following the investment in infrastructure, open spaces and a community hub, this could potentially drive rent up and put pressure on current residents? This feedback was welcomed and will be provided to businesses to include within their plans.</p>

- 15th February- **Parish Council Meeting**
 - Attended by Steven Pilsworth, the phase two document was noted, and the following feedback received:

The Co-opted Members who attended the scrutiny of the Budget meeting on Wednesday 08 February gave the following feedback;

- All felt that, in spite of reading the budget material provided, that they had little comprehension of the figures and that some areas seemed extraordinarily complex. They felt that it was essential that they had an understanding of the topic area in order to effectively scrutinise it and therefore requested some specialist training.

ACTION: Steven Pilsworth and Pippa Turvey to organise dedicated finance sessions for the co-opted Parish Councillors. This would be similar to the training received by new Members at the start of the council year

- Two budget documents were provided and co-opted members at certain times were unsure which document was being referred to.
- It was very difficult to understand the implications for Parishes from the aggregate figures
ACTION: Finance would look at the presentation of material to see how they could signpost areas that would impact on Parishes

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- The social care platform was a joint initiative with an IT company that would look at drawing out information from adult and children's social care and even health. This system would be the first of its kind on the market and in future could be sold to other councils.
- Vivacity, was a completely separate organisation and relied heavily on the income they generated rather than the funding provided by the Council. PCC wanted to invest in facilities such as coffee shops for example that would increase this income. PCC would look to take a share of this increased income.
- Kingdom Private Enforcement would be employed, in a pilot role initially, to curb anti social behaviour and would be able to issue notices for low level offences. Kingdom and the council would share the income from this.
- When the contract with Amey finished, some service areas would be transferred to existing contractors and then the contract specifications could be fully reviewed. Savings would be made by increasing the recycling levels in the City and therefore reducing waste and landfill costs
- Orton Waterville Parish had previously requested to take on responsibility for the management of their open spaces but were told they wouldn't be able to because of the contract in place with Amey. They expressed a desire to take back the management now that the contract had finished rather than it be reallocated by the Council.
ACTION: Steven Pilsworth and Councillor Walsh to feed this back to Cabinet
- Normally the assets that were sold were the ones that were no longer being used. However some properties that once generated income were now being sold because their income stream had dried up and further investment could not be justified.
- The Government set the business rates and also determined what relief there would be, if any. Businesses that ceased trading tended to be offset by new businesses coming through.
- The Combined Authority had a completely separate budget that came from Central Government. The considerable amount of officer time spent on setting up the Combined Authority was charged back to the Combined Authority and the City Council was reimbursed for it. In the future the Combined Authority would be able to raise a small amount of money from setting its own council tax.
- There were no proposals as part of this Budget to amend or reduce the grant for burial and recreation grounds. At least a year's notice had been given in the past if any grants had been withdrawn.
- Council Tax could be increased further by means of holding a simple majority referendum. This action was not recommended as they were usually overwhelmingly rejected and then the Council incurred the additional costs of holding the referendum.
- The extra 3% Adult Social Care Precept had not solved the Adult Social Care funding problem and the Council had had to put in extra resources to maintain services.

Community support intervention would be a great way of helping and potentially reducing costs. Castor Parish as a pathfinder parish, had looked at a street warden system to look at how people may need help.

ACTION: Sylvia to put Community Support Intervention as an agenda item for the next Parish Council Liaison Meeting on 02 March 2017. Neil Boyce to feedback from his meeting with Belinda Child

- The £7.5m investment in the Gladstone, Millfield and New England neighbourhoods was a one off capital amount that would be invested in community projects (after consultation with residents.) The council wanted to create a strong sense of 'place', as there is in rural areas, so that going forward, the Community would come forward and deliver the project themselves. The areas were recognised as areas of high need/low life expectancy with a high degree of anti-social behaviour that had needed investment for some time. The Council needed to invest directly in the area as being in the already developed City Centre, there had not been any developer contributions such as other outlying wards had relied on.
- It was noted that Story Barrs Field had a severe problem with fly-tipping as well as burnt out cars and rubbish being brought over from neighbouring houses.
ACTION: Sharon to request response from Adrian Chapman for Councillor Magnus from Eye Parish.
- Regeneration of the Whitworth Mill area was to finally go ahead, with the engine sheds, which had listed building status, becoming new offices for the Council. The council had applied for grants for the Mill itself (part of which is listed) and it was hoped that it could be developed into an Arts Centre /Digital Hub that would become a landmark building.
 - **Churches Together-** This meeting was attended by Gillian Beasley and Adrian Chapman. The Group expressed their opposition towards the Peterborough Lottery proposal as it encourages people to gamble. Their primary concerns were linked to promoting gambling and how that could worsen the situation for many households already struggling with debt. They were also anxious about ensuring any funding reached local good causes if it did go ahead. A formal written response is to follow.

2.2. The following events are still to take place or information will be circulated to the groups:

Forum	Date	Attendee
Disability Forum	23/02/17	Kim Sawyer
Schools Forum	NA	There isn't a meeting within the consultation period. The Budget Conversation document has been circulated electronically, and feedback requested through the online survey.
Bondholder Breakfast	NA	The budget conversation will be marketed on social media and featured within the February Newsletter on behalf of the Council by

		Rebecca Mills. Feedback requested through the online survey.
Greater Peterborough Executive Partnership Board	NA	The Budget Conversation document has been circulated electronically, and feedback requested through the online survey.
Peterborough Housing Partnership	TBC	Simon Machen
Greater Peterborough Partnership City Leaders Forum	TBC	Simon Machen

3. Feedback from the Budget Conversation online survey.

3.1. The following table the feedback received from the online survey and Cabinet responses

	Do you have any comments to make about the phase two budget proposals?	Having read the phase two proposals, how much do you now feel you understand about why the council must make total savings of almost £28million in 2017/18? Select the answer you agree with.	If you have any specific ideas about how the council can save money or generate additional income to protect services, please state these here:	Cabinet Response
1	Not enough detail. Too vague	Not very much	Do not give councillors another 18% pay rise	The level of member allowances is recommended by an independent panel. Councillors had not accepted any increases to their allowances since 2009. We are required by law to ask an independent panel to review our members' allowances on an annual basis.
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2	Is it possible to obtain an answer to any comments we as residents make you want our comments on the proposals but we never get an answer to our questions with these council tax increases can you tell me why your disgraceful act of increasing your payments when ordinary residents by an increase in council tax are expected to pay for it which means it will not have to come out of your current payments many ordinary working class resident have had very little in pay rises	A fair amount		All comments made as part of the budget conversation receive a specific response in the budget documents. The Council has chosen to freeze council tax four out of the last six years, and we currently have one of the lowest rates in the country. As there is now no freeze grant available and we have increasing demand and higher complex needs within adult social care demand we feel we have little choice but to increase council tax. 3% of the council tax increase is a result of the Adult Social Care Precept, which will be used to support vital services with increasing demands in Adult Social Care.
3	Yes. Please stop the lies that there are no cuts to services. The termination of the Amey contract is only a good thing if replaced by an improved, more strategic service. With your	Not very much	Reduce the number of cllrs in receipt of additional income from chairing scrutiny committees	The level of member allowances is recommended by an independent panel. Councillors had not accepted any increases to their allowances since 2009. We are required by law to ask an independent panel to review our

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	stated aim of a reduction in delivery cost of £100,000, this seems very unlikely.			members' allowances on an annual basis. The termination of the Amey contract will not see any cuts in service and it should be noted that there are several investments into street cleansing and grounds maintenance as part of budget Phase 2. The £100,000 is going to be found through efficiencies and increasing recycling levels.
4 27	While the £7.5M investment in the Millfield and Gladstone area is welcome (thanks to Lab cllrs for fighting for this for so long), why is it OK to trial a new approach to tackling enviro-crime in the same area, in an unproven partnership with Fenland D.C. and private company, Kingdom? Is this an admission of failure? If so, it's something of a shock given the much vaunted launch of the PES, with promises of how this would address the issues.	Not very much	Stop the excessive sums being paid to some cllrs	<p>The level of member allowances is recommended by an independent panel. Councillors had not accepted any increases to their allowances since 2009. We are required by law to ask an independent panel to review our members' allowances on an annual basis.</p> <p>The use of private sector enforcement is a tried and tested method of increasing capacity of council officers in areas where there is higher demand. In this case, Kingdom are an experienced company used by other councils across the UK. Kingdom officers would be a visible presence in the area in addition to the existing PES resource, but will be available for longer hours (early mornings and into the evenings), and will enable our own well-trained PES staff to focus on more complex cases involving investigations, prosecutions etc</p>
5	As usual another round of cuts to services with increased costs to residents	A great deal	Cut the number of departments and stop spending money on vanity schemes like the LincolnRoad/Glastone refurb. A total waste of cash which will not benefit anyone	<p>The budget proposals contain no reductions in service.</p> <p>Refurbishment of areas such as this are invested in to and improved by the council to create a better place for residents, visitors and people who work within the city. The improvements will improve infrastructure and community well being.</p>

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6	It's absolutely disgusting!	A fair amount	Yes, drop the salary down of people that make these stupid decisions so that people that work 60+ hours a week to make ends meet can afford a healthy work life balance!	Within the budget proposals for 2016/17 there were a number of reductions to pay and allowances, such as an incremental pay freeze and the introduction of 3 days unpaid leave to be taken over the Christmas period. The Council has an Occupational Health service that promotes employee well being. Each year we hold an employee Boost Week whereby we promote specific initiatives, aimed at further promoting a range of options for our employees well being
7	With limited scope for change the council should have a clearer focus, within those few areas where it has discretion, on issues that affect people on an individual level - environment, education, health and social care.	A great deal	A 'business improvement district' for the city centre was mooted a few years ago but was rejected. It is time to look at that idea again, I suggest.	Thank you for your suggestion around Business improvement district, we will refer this to the relevant department to investigate the potential to revisit this proposal.
8 28	I think raising the council tax rate by 10% over the course of two years is an absolute joke. I pay over £1000 a year already and your making working class people suffer. Working class people should not have to suffer when we are already having to struggle to make ends meet.	Not very much	I think council members should stop giving themselves payrises whilst the rest of us who work hard to feed our families get nothing at all. I think the council should stop wasting money on unnecessary projects like the one on lower bridge street which wasn't needed at all and concentrate on things that are more important.	<p>The Council has chosen to freeze council tax four out of the last six years, and we currently have one of the lowest rates in the country. As there is now no freeze grant available and we have increasing demand and higher complex needs within adult social care demand we feel we have little choice but to increase council tax. 3% of the council tax increase is a result of the Adult Social Care Precept, which will be used to support vital services with increasing demands in Adult Social Care.</p> <p>The level of member allowances is recommended by an independent panel. Councillors had not accepted any increases to their allowances since 2009. We are required by law to ask an independent panel to review our members' allowances on an annual basis</p>

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9	<p>I am encouraged by the approach to adopt innovative technologies. A 'spend to save' investment will be required in the first instance.</p>	<p>A fair amount</p>	<p>Making the use of 'intelligent bin' technologies as those adopted in Edinburgh can both save money whilst improving the street scene for residents. As more communal housing is constructed further saving can be realised from vehicle route optimisation technologies.</p>	<p>We have recently optimised our litter bin provision replacing all small post mounted bins with 180ltr bins, this enabled us to rationalise our collection rounds. We have spoken with various intelligent bin companies and at present they cannot offer us further savings but we will continue to explore options that could be adopted in the future.</p>
10 29	<p>Page 41 of the phase 2 document refers to staff implications. It's clear staff will be penalised if loss of enhancements is agreed. These staff willingly work unsocial hours to provide essential services e.g. respite care for families unable to cope 24/7 with severely disabled children. Just hitting higher grade workers is still unfair - undermines their extra expertise, skills, experience. Because a lot of work is carried out at weekends and evenings it will affect staff unreasonably and shows a council which does not appreciate them. This creates a risk of losing the good ones, the most valuable ones and affecting the quality, if not the quantity of care available. Increasing the mileage allowance to 30p still leaves it well short of what it was and still means staff are subsidising the council whenever they need to travel. PCC should not be joining private care organisations in the race to the bottom in terms of staff rewards. It should be setting a good example. Is it true there are also proposals to not pay sick pay for the first 3 days? In some jobs staff who have a virus/infection are not allowed to return to work even if they feel ok until the sickness has cleared. Why would they then be penalised?</p>	<p>A fair amount</p>	<p>If staff lose income in any way, so should councillors - no increase in allowances at all, no matter how justified they may appear to be. Morally wrong. Abolish the role of mayor and all the costs associated with it - has very little value and just for window dressing. Why do we need a mayor and a council leader, really?</p>	<p>The level of member allowances is recommended by an independent panel. Councillors had not accepted any increases to their allowances since 2009. We are required by law to ask an independent panel to review our members' allowances on an annual basis.</p> <p>The Council made a conscious decision in the budget setting last year not to cut jobs. Therefore there were no redundancies. However the extremely challenging financial position left us with the only alternative which is to change staff terms and conditions. All through the process the aim has been to try where possible to spread the impact across the Council as equitably as possible. We remain committed to reaching a collective agreement with trades unions on this matter. On an overall level Peterborough employees will still have more favourable terms and conditions of service than many other employers. For example it should be remembered that the local government sector remains one of the few employers to provide a defined benefits pension scheme. With regards to sick pay, I can confirm that no proposals have been made to change sick pay.</p> <p>The Mayor plays a key democratic role in the city. After being chosen and appointed by Councillors, they act as a politically impartial chairman of the city council making sure that proper conduct takes place in the council chamber during Full Council meetings. Another important role for the Mayor is to act as ambassador for the city, locally and at a national or</p>

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				<p>international level. As Peterborough's first citizen, the mayor is expected to speak and act for all of the diverse communities in the city. The Mayor also takes the lead in highlighting causes and helping members of the community receive the recognition they deserve.</p> <p>It is probably the Mayor's civic role that residents are the most familiar with. The mayor is frequently invited to attend events in the community, such as openings and fund-raising events organised by voluntary organisations. Fund-raising events are also held for the Mayor's charities, which are chosen by the new Mayor at the start of the civic year.</p> <p>The Mayor will attend around 300 events during their year in office; raising tens of thousands for their selected local charities.</p> <p>The Leader of the council's role is different to the Mayor. The Leader of the Council is a member of the Cabinet and chairs its meetings. The Leader appoints the Cabinet and plays a key role in developing policies, making spending plans and establishing priorities for the council and the city.</p>
33		A fair amount	Cancel increased allowances for Councillors.	<p>The level of member allowances is recommended by an independent panel. Councillors had not accepted any increases to their allowances since 2009. We are required by law to ask an independent panel to review our members' allowances on an annual basis.</p>
12	<p>The statistics used are incorrect, for 2015/16 Peterborough is the 14th lowest charge, not 5th lowest. This shows a lack of understanding for arithmetic or mathematics and makes any other comment superfluous. On what basis are the increases in senior citizen numbers based - a 40% increase seems very high, current statistical trends suggest a rate of growth that is declining and is around 5% per annum. That would give around 22% increase from 2017 to 2021, not 40%. Why is there an assumption that individuals between 55 and 85 are going to</p>	Not very much		<p>The Council tax statistics were taken from published data on the gov.uk website. The following link details the council tax levels set by local authorities in 2016/17, if you refer to the unitaries tab on table 7 this ranks Peterborough as the 5th Lowest, as quoted within our budget document.</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/council-tax-levels-set-by-local-authorities-in-england-2016-to-2017</p> <p>The number in relation to the increase in senior citizens aged 85+ was taken from Public Health Data Sets, Office for National Statistics 2012 and 2014, Fact Box 'The Growth PE population calculations for 2012 and 2014 (revised)'. The increase in those suffering from</p>

have an increasing reliance on council funding. Turning to dementia the UK average growth in dementia cases is around 2% p.a., why is Peterborough forecasting a growth rate of 2.5% approx. Why is there a growing reliance, and therefore cost, on the council to provide transport for children of school age, is this, for the able bodied, as a result of the reluctance of the chosen public transport contractors to provide suitable services? Fly tipping costs are said to be rising - how do the increases here relate to the savings made by reducing the frequency of bin collections and large item disposal schemes? Has a similar exercise been conducted on the savings vs additional income position on the garden waste scheme changes? There has been an inevitable impact here on the amount of material going to landfill as garden waste is relatively dense thus skewing figures adversely for weight of material going to landfill? What financial penalty has resulted for the council? Why is the investment in the "Can Do" area rising so sharply, is it due to residents not caring for their environment and the area therefore becoming a moneypit soaking up council resources? What enforcement is going to be applied? To what extent has the replacement of Amey for the council waste contract been researched and costed, the information published stating that there is no plan for the scheme to replace Amey yet in place but this uncosted and unplanned new 'contract' is going to save money - how on earth can such a statement be made? There is no statement regarding unpaid council tax, collections rates are, on average, falling. What is the current council position

dementia are those that recognise that not all cases are currently diagnosed. A recent paper to the Public Health Board identified the projected growth to 2021 being 15%. See extract below.:

It is estimated by NHS England that in April 2016, there were 1,734 people with dementia registered with one of Peterborough's 29 General Practices. However, nationally it is estimated that only 66.4% of people with dementia have received an appropriate diagnosis; the true number of people in Peterborough with dementia may therefore be closer to 2,600, a difference of approximately 870 people. As shown by figure 1 below, the number of over 65s in Peterborough with dementia is expected to increase 60% over the next 15 years, from around 1,660 people to 2,660. Assuming a 66.4% diagnosis rate, the actual number of people aged 65+ with dementia in Peterborough in 2015 is more likely to be approximately 2,500 people, rising to approximately 4,000 by 2030.

This cost of home to school transport has increased mainly due to the rising number of pupils with special educational needs which entitles them to transport to and from their school.

The overall cost of education continues to rise across the city due to the growing school population. As an example, the number of four year olds starting school in the city has increased from 2,165 in 2006 to 3,118 - an increase of 44 per cent in a decade. As well as transport costs rising so does the cost of providing school places. As you will also see we are bringing forward passenger transport savings as part of these proposals. In the short-term we will be reviewing routes to ensure there is no duplication and the cost of leasing vehicles. We are also developing a plan to produce larger long-term savings across passenger transport, including school transport.

The current bulky waste collection scheme is £23.50 for any number of items from list A (which is most household items) this is an very competitive price compared to neighbouring authorities. Anecdotally we did not see any increase in fly tipping when we stopped the free bulky

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and what is required, if anything, to improve upon that position? the council is proposing to move to cloud storage for its computing needs. Has the security (or lack thereof) of cloud computing been properly researched and what proposals do the council have to ensure that sensitive data is properly protected. Roads and highways - many roads are in a poor state of repair and some that have recently been repaired are already in need of further work. What is being done to clear the backlog of work and ensure that any repairs are to a standard that ensures a reasonable life expectancy for the road? Turning to the parkways some of these are in poor condition despite repair work having been carried out in the last two years (A47 approaching Nene Parkway from the east for example is subsiding badly less than 18 months after repair work).As some are part of the trunk route network is there scope for central government part funding for repairs?

service(which collected 5 items for free), we have recently trailed a free bulky collection service paid for by a parish council. we took the fly tipping data for the 6 months prior to the scheme and compared it to the 6 months following and fly tipping had actually increased. The garden waste service saves the authority Circa £800,000 per annum we have seen a increase in garden waste in the black bins but also at the HRC where it is also recycled and home composting. With the introduction of the new Energy Recovery Facility this has seen us move to a zero to landfill service.

The investment in to the Can Do area will improve the street scene within this area, focusing on improvements to community buildings and open spaces. There is also another proposal for enforcement within the area, to be undertaken by a private company, Kingdom. This will help create a cleaner and safer environment, and reduce the burden this places on council by generating some income. These proposals go hand in hand to creating a better Peterborough.

The new delivery model will look to increase the current levels of recycling which will result in considerable savings to the authority it will also look at how the current assets can be fully utilised to bring third party income.

The council has conducted research and is fully assessing all of the risks to ensure the highest security for information held within the council systems. The cloud storage will not be enrolled until we are satisfied that the security requirements have been met.

Peterborough City Council's road condition indicators are comparable with other authorities in the eastern region and better than any of our neighbouring authorities. Peterborough's Principal 'A' road network is in the best condition of any authority in the eastern region.

Considerable investment has been made on our Parkway network in recent years, as would be expected given their importance to the City both from a Transport perspective but also in support of our growth agenda: Recent examples are Fletton Parkway Jct 17 to 2 and the A1260

				<p>Nene Parkway. With regard the A47 through Peterborough, this road doesn't fall under Peterborough City Councils responsibility as it forms part of the Strategic Road Network (Motorways and trunk roads) for which Highways England are responsible who are funded by central government.</p> <p>It is a fact that any highway network will include assets in different states of repair and at different points in their lifecycle. Peterborough City Council routinely surveys all of its roads in order to inform national DfT data sets and future work programmes applying asset management principles in identifying sites in need of planned maintenance. Currently, the authority is developing a 2 to 3-year forward work programme in order to better manage the needs of the network, not least by being better able to coordinate programmes from different disciplines to avoid disruption and achieve other efficiencies.</p>
3	<p>We wish to stress the importance of trees, woods and green space and ensuring that the budget for this is not cut. Extract from the Government response to Independent Panel on Forestry Report (January 2013): Woodlands have value across many sectors of the economy and society.English woodlands already play an important part in the growth of the UK forest carbon market and in ground-breaking projects that use land management to improve water quality, reduce flood risk, enhance biodiversity and adapt to impacts of climate change. Such markets help to demonstrate the fundamental role of natural capital in sustaining economic development and the need to protect and enhance this capital for future generations.</p>	<p>A fair amount</p>	<p>The Woodland Trust has published a report entitled 'trees or turf' looking at potential cost savings from various woodland regimes, as opposed to mown grass. This may present an opportunity to save money; whilst also providing many other benefits (eg improved air quality, reducing the heat island effect). Trees or turf report: https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/mediafile/100083921/trees-or-turf-report.pdf</p>	<p>We have a regular program of planting trees and try to not cut grass as regular under shelter belt areas we have also allowed some shelter belts and woodlands to naturally regenerate. We have 7 sites across the city designated as biodiversity sites and have installed wildflower meadows to bring in vibrant colour.</p>

<p>14</p> <p style="text-align: center;">34</p>	<p>Some good ideas such as regeneration in Can Do area and removing Amey from their contract, Good to see emphasis on street cleaning. Like idea to have a cultural hub although you could buy the Broadway. Disagree totally that residents should have to pay more to park outside their houses. Will agile working staff get money for heat and light when working at home as not enough desks in Fletton?</p>	<p>A fair amount</p>	<p>If you actually reduced business rates for independent shops you would get shops being taken up (loads empty in the arcade) and interesting shops would attract people to the city. Switch lights off in offices at the end of the day.</p>	<p>The rate of business rates is based on a business valuation set by the VOA and rates and reliefs which are set by DCLG, unfortunately the council has little control over these. The government is encouraging the growth and innovation and new businesses, and as part of enticing people to set up new businesses, in the Autumn statement Government increased the reliefs available to small business. This should help with reducing the burden of overheads for these small businesses, and make the opportunity more realistic and achievable to a much wider range of business owners.</p> <p>Staff that work from home don't receive money for heating and lighting, the proposal for the council to become more agile is to enable members of staff to increase efficiency and be able to work from any location. Some members of staff spend a lot of time out of the office and with updated technology we can now enable them to save on time travelling back to the office and have the ability to work from their current location. This will benefit the council and to staff wellbeing. When the council move to Fletton Quays there will be a reduced employee to desk ratio, but this has been trailed in areas of the council and monitoring is ongoing to ensure that the balance is right. There will be a change management programme to ensure that working requirements are met and staff transition to this new way of working with as little upset and disturbance.</p>
<p>15</p>	<p>There is not a clear and comprehensive explanation of how savings will be made in the information attached to this consultation e.g what council assets will be sold? I would like to have the option of a full and comprehensive financial breakdown of savings available to consider. From the information available I broadly support the proposals especially the proposal to protect services for vulnerable people through the Adult Social care precept.</p>	<p>A great deal</p>		<p>We believe that the council goes above and beyond what many other councils provide in order present our budget proposals. This includes producing an overview of each individual proposal with explanation. It's important to note that the document does not seek to outline all the services we provide or how our total budget is spent. Rather it outlines the financial challenges we face and how we intend t respond to these challenges. As well as new investments that we are proposing. However, we are always happy to act upon feedback. A number of these proposals are complicated and we try our best to make them as understandable as possible for anyone wanting</p>

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				<p>to take part in the consultation. We have published our proposals in the same form for a number of years and last year the overwhelming majority of respondents said after reading the consultation document they understood the council's proposals either 'a great deal' or a 'fair amount'.</p> <p>The list of assets that we plan to sell is included within the overall MTFS</p>
16		A great deal		No response required
17		A great deal	Have a referendum and put up council tax to pay for services the taxpayer wants	The council didn't make the decision to propose a council tax increase of 4.99% lightly, it is felt that if we were to increase above this level it would be most felt by those working just about managing families. If Peterborough was to propose an increase which required a local referendum we would have to follow strict legislation set by government and it would be expected to cost the council in the region of £250k, with the likely outcome being unsuccessful. Bedfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner recently held a referendum which was unsuccessful and cost £600k.
35				
18	I found these proposals very difficult to interpret. Too much 'Council Speak'. If you really want input from ordinary people you need to find away to translate them into understandable english.	Not very much	Wish I did.	We believe that the council goes above and beyond what many other councils provide in order present our budget proposals. This includes producing an overview of each individual proposal with explanation. It's important to note that the document does not seek to outline all the services we provide or how our total budget is spent. Rather it outlines the financial challenges we face and how we intend to respond to these challenges. As well as new investments that we are proposing. However, we are always happy to act upon feedback. A number of these proposals are complicated and we try our best to make them as understandable as possible for anyone wanting to take part in the consultation. We have published our proposals in the same form for a number of years and last year the overwhelming majority of respondents said after reading the consultation document they understood the council's proposals either 'a great deal' or a 'fair amount'.

19	Total disgrace. No thought for Joe Public as usual.	A fair amount	Stop paying indecent pay rises to councillors who already milk expenses. Stop paying huge rises to senior council officials - totally undeserved and not warranted.	The level of member allowances is recommended by an independent panel. Councillors had not accepted any increases to their allowances since 2009. We are required by law to ask an independent panel to review our members' allowances on an annual basis.
20	<p>(Approach to tackling the financial gap) These are a series of generic statements which do not outline a specific strategic approach to improving the financial position of Peterborough city council. Simply stating we want to build a strong and healthy economy which provides jobs and helps reduce dependency on welfare benefits is not a sufficient proposal. The proposal should clearly outline how it aims to improve Peterborough economy for example: We propose to invest £XXXX into developing the following XXX industry sectors in order to facilitate growth, improve employment opportunities. This includes create a business economic zone in central Peterborough to encourage business to invest, in addition due to Peterborough close proximity to London the council should look at improving partnerships with London based companies. Generating income in new ways to make the council less dependent on Government funding. again how exactly what is your proposal on generating new, be specific people rather than just increasing public sector service charges such as transport and parking. i.e we are looking at offering XXX in a bid to increase revenue. Even if you aim is to increase service charges state why and put a positive spin on it. For example we will look to increase revenue by raising parking charges by £0.30p this in turn will generate an additional forecast of £xxx,xxx over the course of the next years,</p>	Not very much	Sell the football ground back to Peterborough United Football club and use the funds to invest in 'sports zone' for the city between Peterborough regional gym, lido area.	<p>We believe that the council goes above and beyond what many other councils provide in order present our budget proposals. This includes producing an overview of each individual proposal with explanation. It's important to note that the document does not seek to outline all the services we provide or how our total budget is spent. Rather it outlines the financial challenges we face and how we intend to respond to these challenges. As well as new investments that we are proposing. However, we are always happy to act upon feedback. A number of these proposals are complicated and we try our best to make them as understandable as possible for anyone wanting to take part in the consultation. We have published our proposals in the same form for a number of years and last year the overwhelming majority of respondents said after reading the consultation document they understood the council's proposals either 'a great deal' or a 'fair amount'. The rent from the football ground off sets the borrowing costs from purchasing the ground. If the council were to sell this asset we would then lose the revenue benefit of the rental income.</p>

	<p>we aim to invest this in proving xxx. Changing the way we deliver services and the way we work. Again what services are you proposing changes to and how are they to implemented in the local area, what are you actually proposing? As mentioned above the approach and priorities highlighted in the budget proposal are very vague and should focus more on local developments and investment opportunities. The costs increase and pressure clearly highlight a lack of infrastructure, workforce, and healthcare planning.</p>			
<p>21 37</p>	<p>It would be helpful if the proposals were made much simpler for the average person to get a clear understanding of what is trying to be achieved and how.</p>	<p>A fair amount</p>	<p>Introduce a City Residents Lottery</p>	<p>We believe that the council goes above and beyond what many other councils provide in order present our budget proposals. This includes producing an overview of each individual proposal with explanation. It's important to note that the document does not seek to outline all the services we provide or how our total budget is spent. Rather it outlines the financial challenges we face and how we intend t respond to these challenges. As well as new investments that we are proposing. However, we are always happy to act upon feedback. A number of these proposals are complicated and we try our best to make them as understandable as possible for anyone wanting to take part in the consultation. We have published our proposals in the same form for a number of years and last year the overwhelming majority of respondents said after reading the consultation document they understood the council's proposals either 'a great deal' or a 'fair amount'. With regards to a City Residents Lottery, there is a proposal to introduce a Peterborough Local Lottery, this will generate income for local good causes, and there will also be the opportunity for specific good causes to sign up where the ticket purchaser can select a specific good</p>

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				cause to receive the proceeds. The tickets will be £1 each with a maximum prize of £25,000.
22	Is this available in hard copy	Not very much	Would need more detailed information	Yes This is available in hard copy in all of the Libraries and in reception at Town Hall and Bayard Place.
23	I believe this budget is to mainly to make up for the amounts wasted by PCC on projects other than those beneficial to the city	Not very much	Stop wasting money on non-essential projects that do not benefit the majority of Peterborough residents.	The council has invested in a number of projects which have been very successful in generating saving which have protected further cuts to front line service such as adult social care. Some of these projects include the Energy for Waste plant and Fletton Quays the council has also Lends to organisations such as Axiom and Empower, generating a return but also delivering benefits for residents. The regeneration of the city centre has also been a key project for the council, this has helped keep it buoyant during the recession, and we have seen new retailers and restaurants such as Wagamama, Kaspas and Middletons Steak House etc come in to the city.
24	It is unfair to reduce the mileage rate for staff and you should return to 45p per mile.	A great deal	Pay existing staff what they are worth	In formulating the terms and conditions the council has endeavoured to ensure that items put forward are in line with other local authorities and have minimal impact on staff. We have consulted with Trade unions on the proposals and have offered a small increase to staff in terms of a living wage increase and increase in the mileage rate. Staff will also see incremental increases have been unfrozen this year and staff will receive a 1% pay rise.
38				
25	yes are actually serious???????	Not very much	stop the funding of local government pensions and gold plated pensions... Why have have you awarded a pay rise of £186,000	The level of member allowances is recommended by an independent panel. Councillors had not accepted any increases to their allowances since 2009. We are required by law to ask an independent panel to review our members' allowances on an annual basis. The Local Government pensions scheme is offered nationally and the rates of contributions are set by the Local Government Pension Scheme.
26		A fair amount		
27		A fair amount		
28	Challenging times and so many priority pressures on the budget	A fair amount	Ensure everyone who is CHC or CHC or social care or social care correctly grouped according to current needs which may have	Thank you for your comments.

			<p>changed over the years so moneys in each pot accurately know.</p>	
<p>29</p> <p>39</p>	<p>Lottery is not a good idea - encourages those on low income to spend money they can't afford. Scratch cards are particularly pernicious. Not convinced it will actually make any money - without seeing the details of the scheme.</p>	<p>A great deal</p>		<p>Lottery adopts the same principle as many other lotteries available across the country such as the health lottery, the postcode lottery and the National lottery. This approach to generating funds is being adopted by a number of councils, and will help to support local charities as well as fund organisations that provide services to the council (that meet the criteria), Hence by using these funds instead of tax payers money savings can be made. Scratch cards will not be promoted or part of the Peterborough Lottery. We acknowledge there are concerns around encouraging gambling and debt, and this will be incorporated and carefully managed throughout its operation.</p> <p>The scheme has been successful with other local authorities Aylesbury Vale District Council in particular have generated revenue for this and have seen a noticeable increase in up take, over its short existence.</p>

4. Feedback from Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions meeting held on 8th February 2017.

4.1. The Committee actions and recommendations for Cabinet are outlined in the following table:

Section of the budget	Scrutiny Recommendation	Cabinet response
Resources	Review their decision to provide the facility for online gambling through the provision of a local lottery scheme.	<p>The local lottery scheme will a tightly defined and controlled lottery. It is not setting up an on-line gambling facility.</p> <p>The set-up of such lotteries is heavily regulated. In order to be able to establish the lottery, the Council will need to develop a range of policies, and submit these to the regulator for approval. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and vulnerable persons protection policy • Social responsibility in gambling policy • Protection from source of crime and disorder policy • Fair and open gambling policy • Implementation procedures policy <p>If these policies and approaches are not deemed to address the issues sufficiently by the regulator, then the Council would not be able to proceed with the lottery.</p> <p>Given the very strict safeguards that have to be in place, and the potential to raise funds for the Council, Cabinet considers that it is worth continuing with this proposal.</p>
Resources	Consider using the income from the revenue received from Parking Permits to improve traffic management conditions and road conditions for cyclists and pedestrians in the most deprived areas of the city where the parking schemes are in place.	<p>The cost of parking permits has not increased since 2009.</p> <p>Parking permits are used as part of traffic management arrangements in a range of central areas of the city.</p> <p>If deemed necessary, such investment would be identified through the local transport plan process.</p>
Resources	Check whether there are any other budgets that can be used to fund the issue of new Chromebooks and to consider if there have been any savings made by moving over to agile working to reduce the	<p>The Council does not have any other budgets to fund the new chromebooks.</p> <p>Standardising devices and moving to a Chromebook environment can have a variety of benefits such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitating agile and flexible working, increasing productivity and increasing efficiencies which can lead to cashable savings. People and Communities have a savings target within the MTFS from this.

Section of the budget	Scrutiny Recommendation	Cabinet response
	£600K investment from capital.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chromebooks are automatically kept up to date including anti virus updates without the need for additional 3rd party tools • As very little is stored on a chromebook the risk of data breach due to lost or stolen devices is significantly reduced • Officers can utilise the full functionality of google such as hangouts (video conferencing) which can also lead to reduced travelling time, increasing officer overall productivity, reduced mileage claims and reduced printing. • The Chromebook can be used outside of the council's network environment, meaning staff are still able to access emails and drive documents and other applications hosted on the Cloud, even if the PCC network is unavailable • Standardisation of ICT desktop equipment to support the move to Fletton Quays • Long life battery life - in excess of 11 hours of battery life • Cheaper than a Laptop, Desktop, Wyse terminal and iPad

ACTIONS

Lead Directors will feedback to Scrutiny members on the actions below

4.2. People and Communities

The Cabinet Member for Resources to provide a copy of the Cabinet report detailing the specific schools requiring further grants to Councillor Ayres.

4.3. Resources

1. The Committee requested that the Corporate Director for Resources provide the following:
 - a) Further details on the Norse Group and how they are currently working with the public sector and what services they can provide.
 - b) Information on if there is a limit on the number of resident parking permits issued according to the amount of space available for car parking.
 - c) A detailed briefing note with regard to parking permits and the Cabinet Member for City Centre Management, Culture and Tourism to provide a copy of the briefing note sent to Councillor Fower on the same subject to all Committee Members.
 - d) Clarification on whether Buglife intend to manage the Eye Green Nature Reserve on a voluntary basis and if so will there be a saving of £10K.
 - e) Any Member with information on a policy which states that money received from residents parking permits should be invested in the areas where there are resident parking zones to provide the Corporate Director for Resources with the information.
2. The Service Director for Adults and Communities to provide:

- a) A briefing note on Disability Parking and clarification with regard to Disability Parking and if a person using a disability badge was given a parking fine would the fee be enforced.
- b) The outcome of the officer review into Grass Verge Parking to be shared with all Councillors and Councillors to be advised of when any approved recommendations would be implemented.

4.4. Growth and Regeneration

1. The Committee requested that the Head of Peterborough Property Services provide confirmation that no community assets had been handed over to any community organisations yet.
2. The Committee requested that the Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development provide the following information:
 - a. Further detail with regard to the public realm work to improve Broadway, Midgate and Northminster areas of the city centre.
 - b. The Committee requested that the Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development ask the Chief Executive of Opportunity Peterborough to arrange a presentation to all Councillors on the work of Opportunity Peterborough. This to include Opportunity Peterborough's costs against inward investment.

4.5. Staff Implications

The Director of Governance to provide Councillor Davidson with information on which allowances were being proposed to be regularised and which ones would remain in regard to the changes to staff terms and conditions.

4.6. The minutes from the meeting are outlined in the following table:

Item	Section of the Budget	Questions / Comment	Response from relevant Cabinet Member / Corporate Director
Introduction of the Budget and Overall Budget Position including Report of the Chief Finance Officer, Revenue Outturn Forecast and Budget Proposals, Key Figures & Cash Limits and Council Tax		Clarification was sought on whether all of the Adult Social Care Precept would be used on Adult Social Care and which aspects of Adult Social Care would be supported if the precept were to be agreed.	All of the Adult Social Care precept (£1.9M) would be used on Adult Social Care with an additional amount of £2.4M being provided from the extra council tax. The detail of where the precept will be spent was listed on page 28 of the MTFs book.
		Page 3 Overall Position table. Is it possible to predict the Grant Equalisation (GE) reserve add back for 2019/20 and 2020/21. Where did this money come from.	The GE reserve came from additional savings made in last year's budget. The intention was that this reserve would be used over the following two years to smooth the impact of the grant reductions facing the council. The budget strategy for the next two years will see the grant reserve used and therefore there were no further figures for later years.

Item	Section of the Budget	Questions / Comment	Response from relevant Cabinet Member / Corporate Director
			Page 12 of the MTFS book and the table on the Overall Position provided further explanation and was repeated in the Overall Position table on page 3 of the Cabinet report.
		Page 19, paragraph 11.10 – General Fund working balance. Concern was raised that the Council had one of the smallest level of reserves compared to other Unitary Councils. Were there any plans to raise the reserves.	The minimum working balance had been at £6M since 2006. Every year the overall adequacy of the reserves and balances were assessed and there was no reason to believe that £6M in reserve would not be adequate. There was no plan to increase or decrease the amount in reserve.
		How was the figure of £6M reserve arrived at.	<p>The following areas would be taken into consideration when deciding on a figure and the assessment would be completed annually:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The size of the budget and individual risks • Impact on local economy • Any potential in year risks • High risk budgets • Track record of the authority delivering its budget • Regard of any other reserves that could be called upon
People and Communities Appendix 2 (Pages 15 - 23)		Adult Precept allocation of funds.	Following on from a previous question on allocation of funds from the Adult Precept Members were referred to page 16/17 and informed that the service area would forecast the total overall budget and requirements. If any Member required further detail of the budget for this area they could contact the finance area for the People and Communities Directorate.
		Clarification was sought with regard to the funding agreement for the Dementia Resource Centre. The current agreement was for 3 years and then an additional 2 years. The first of the additional 2 years had been agreed but not the second year. Confirmation was sought as to whether the second year of funding would be put in place.	The extension for the first year of the additional funding had been confirmed and the additional funding for the second year would be considered later this year.
		Assurance was sought that the additional money for Adult Social Care would go to front line services.	The money that was in the budget would go to provide the services needed. A comprehensive paper had been prepared on the budget drivers in Adult Social Care detailing all areas with budget pressures.

Item	Section of the Budget	Questions / Comment	Response from relevant Cabinet Member / Corporate Director
			Members were referred to Pages 33-34 of the Report of the Chief Finance Officer which provided the detail of budget pressures (assumptions) on Adults Commissioning 2017/18.
		Concern was raised regarding the announcement sent out from the Corporate Director of Growth and Regeneration on how the money would be spent in the Can-do area. There had been no consultation with ward Councillors or community groups.	To secure the investment there was a need to be clear about what the community investment could support based on evidence need. At this stage only two areas of activity had been referred to. Investment one was a physical building on derelict land in Lincoln Road and the second investment was to public realm improvements along Lincoln Road. Members were assured that any further investment would include the appropriate consultation with ward councillors.
		Page 19, Passenger transport. Clarification was sought with regard to which routes would be reviewed and possibly cut. Further clarity was sort as to the meaning of passenger transport.	Members were advised that short term savings included a review of routes to ensure that duplication was avoided and routes were merged where possible as well as a review of social care vehicle leases in an effort to reduce cost. Passenger transport refered to transport to and from school, people in care, social care transport for adults and the Dial a Ride and community link transport provided by social services. It did not refer to general passenger transport.
		Page 23, Environmental Enforcement. Assurance was sought that when engaging the private sector enforcement agency Kingdom to target environmental crime such as fly tipping and graffiti in the Can-do area that this would not reduce the current number of Prevention and Enforcement Service offices in operation in the Can-do area. It was noted that if approved the Kingdom contract would be shared between Peterborough City Council and Fenland District Council. Was the money ring fenced. If insufficient fines were generated would the Council need to top it up.	The Kingdom resource would be an additional resource to the existing Prevention and Enforcement Service (PES) officers and there was no intention to reduce the number of PES officers in the Can-do area. It was ring fenced in that it was contributing to the bottom line of the directorate. The contract for Kingdom would be at zero cost to the Council and there would be an income target included in the contract which was based on quality ticketing and tickets paid. Kingdom have a number of contracts with other councils. The contract

Item	Section of the Budget	Questions / Comment	Response from relevant Cabinet Member / Corporate Director
		<p>Investment in Operation Can Do area. It was noted that a capital investment of £7.5M was proposed for targeting issues in the Can-do area. Why had other areas of the city not been considered for capital investment.</p> <p>Page 21, Schools Organisation Plan. Which schools were being referred to that need further grants.</p>	<p>would be a pilot for a year and contracted service not a partnership or collaboration.</p> <p>The Can-do area represented some of the most deprived areas in Peterborough and suffered from deeply entrenched issues. Attempts in the past to make improvements had not yielded results. The belief was that regeneration of the physical space in the Can-do area with a leaning towards health and wellbeing would make a difference to the community. It was a densely populated area with no scope for growth as opposed to other areas of the city which were also densely populated but did have scope for growth.</p> <p>There was a report to Cabinet that covered the specific schools requiring further grants and this could be provided to Councillor Ayres.</p>
Resources Appendix 3 (Pages 24 – 35))		<p>How did Peterborough Today know before councillors that the contract with Amey was to be terminated.</p>	<p>Rumours had got out and there was a duty to the employees of Amey who had a scheduled meeting with their employers on a certain date. It was therefore decided that it would be better to provide an embargoed briefing to the PT rather than they publish something from the rumours to allow time for Amey to deliver the news to their employees before it became common knowledge.</p> <p>The rumours had come from someone on the budget working group.</p>
		<p>Could you provide more detail on the type of contract and what alternative ways were being considered to deliver the services that Amey currently provide.</p> <p>When will the Amey contract be terminated.</p>	<p>The intention was to have a mutual termination with Amey to be completed during the summer.</p> <p>Future arrangements. The Council was not looking to put the contract out to tender and not looking to put it out to the private sector again. The Council were considering a potential public partnership with the Nors Group who were the commercial trading arm of Norfolk County Council which is part of the Norfolk Property Services NPS Joint Venture Company. Part of the property work done by Amey would naturally fit with work done by NPS. The remaining services provided by Amey would come under a separate Joint Venture with the Nors Group.</p>

Item	Section of the Budget	Questions / Comment	Response from relevant Cabinet Member / Corporate Director
		<p>£100K is to be cut from the budget from 2018/2019 due to the termination of the Amey contract. Could the saving be made this year.</p> <p>Clarification was sought as to what had changed to bring about the decision to terminate the Amey contract.</p> <p>Members were concerned that there was a lack of long term co-ordination from the Council with regard to a long term financial strategy. An example of which was the Amey contract and savings that had been made in 2013 to services such as grass cutting, shrub maintenance, park attendants and trees. However In Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the current budget it was showing £20K going back in to grass cutting, £83K going back into shrub management, over £50K going in to park attendants and £400K going into trees.</p>	<p>This was an £8M contract and the predictions had been frugal with regard to savings and until the new operating model was in place it was difficult to accurately predict the savings therefore none could be made in 2017/2018.</p> <p>The intention was to bring the service back into the local authority so that any money coming back to the Council would be reinvested in the services.</p> <p>The termination of the contract was by mutual agreement. Amey were now owned by a Spanish company who were changing their model and as such were happy to terminate the contract without financial penalty on either side. This would not have been the case a year ago. In 2011 the original contract was with Enterprise and Amey subsequently bought Enterprise out.</p> <p>There had been a £2M saving when the Council first entered in to the contract with Amey. There were two areas for consideration. The first being a decision the Council made around the standard of service and when the contract was entered into the Council made a decision as to the standard of service. The standard of service had to be separated from that of trees and arboriculture. There were clear reasons and evidence from surveys as to why money needed to be put back into trees.</p>
		<p>Page 29. Increase to the cost of residential parking permits. It was unfortunate that there was to be an increase in residential parking permits from £19 to £25. Issues had been raised with officers regarding the number of cars being parked in the Can-do area. An officer had confirmed that regulations regarding parking permits had not been adhered to correctly therefore allowing a household to have 5 or 6 parking permits.</p>	<p>The increase of £6 per annum for residents parking permits would seem a lot but it should be noted that the last increase was in 2007.</p>

Item	Section of the Budget	Questions / Comment	Response from relevant Cabinet Member / Corporate Director
		The officer had since advised that the regulations would now be adhered to which will mean a reduced number of parking permits for any household. Had this reduction in income from parking permits been factored into the figures.	
		Members had understood that the money from residents parking permits was ploughed back into those areas of the city where the resident parking zones were?	The Corporate Director for Resources was unaware of this and asked Members to provide him with the details of where this information could be found.
		Was there a limit to the number of resident parking permits issued to the amount of space available to park the cars?	The information was not available at the meeting. The Corporate Director advised that there were many areas that needed further investigation with regard to permit parking including business / commercial permits. The Corporate Director invited Members to submit any further questions to him directly and he would provide a detailed briefing note. The Cabinet Member for City Centre Management, Culture and Tourism advised that a briefing note had already been provided to Councillor Fower and this could be forwarded to Members of the Committee.
		There was concern that the increase may put people off signing up to future residential parking schemes.	Until the consultation had finished it was difficult to know if people would be put off signing up to future schemes. However it should be noted that the increase only amounted to 10p a day for five days a week parking outside their home.
		There were often issues regarding residents parking on grass verges and Members asked if consideration could be given to implementing a fee for doing this.	Members were informed that there was currently an Officer Working Group looking at parking on grass verges and would shortly be providing a report with recommendations. Some of the recommendations may be around increasing the capacity for enforcement and also turning some of the grass verges into permanent parking spaces.
		Page 32-33. Eye Green Nature Reserve. Will Buglife be managing the site on a voluntary basis and if so was there a cost saving on the £10K allocated per year.	The information was not available at the meeting.
		Concern was raised regarding the proposal to establish a Peterborough local lottery and that people who were already in financial difficulties could end up in	Subject to approval of the scheme policies were already being drafted that were required to establish a lottery scheme and to ensure the necessary safeguards were in place. The option of a full blown scheme

Item	Section of the Budget	Questions / Comment	Response from relevant Cabinet Member / Corporate Director
		<p>further debt. Assurance was sought that it would only be available online.</p>	<p>would be a question for Council in the future if the scheme proved to be successful.</p> <p>The proposal was for a third party to run the scheme.</p>
		<p>Clarification was sought with regard to Disability Parking and if a person using a disability badge was given a parking fine would the fee be enforced.</p>	<p>The Corporate Director for Resources advised that he did not have the information at the meeting but would find out.</p>
		<p>Clarification was sought as to why there had been £600K put aside from capital to fund the provision of Chromebooks for staff. Members queried why there were no other budgets in place for equipment replacement.</p> <p>It was noted that there would be a reduction in desks in the agile working environment and a reduction in printers. Clarification was therefore sought as to whether there would be a saving by moving to agile working as no further laptops, printers would be required and less desks would be required. Was the £600K a net figure.</p> <p>How much of the cost was due to going over to google.</p> <p>How many of the people getting the Chromebooks will be getting them for the first time and how many Chromebooks are replacing other pieces of equipment.</p> <p>Some Members had felt that it had not been a good decision for Cabinet to promote online gambling through their decision for a local lottery scheme. This may encourage people to get further into debt. Councillor Murphy put forward a recommendation for Cabinet to review their decision.</p> <p>In light of earlier comments made regarding resident parking permits Councillor Murphy also recommended that Cabinet consider using the income from the revenue received from Parking Permits to improve traffic management conditions and road conditions for cyclists and</p>	<p>Members were referred to page 35, Agile working. Chromebooks were an enabler for the council to move to agile working. There was no money in the budget to buy Chromebooks and Chromebooks were integral to agile working. Without Chromebooks the plan for agile working would be severely impacted.</p> <p>The cost of the Chromebooks was approximately £400K further detail of how the £600K was made up could be provided.</p> <p>It was not about moving to google it was about moving the organisation to an agile working environment.</p> <p>None of the Chromebooks were replacing other Chromebooks as they had not been used within the organisation before.</p>

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		<p>pedestrians in the most deprived areas of the city where the parking schemes were in place.</p> <p>Councillor Murphy also proposed that Cabinet check whether there were any other budgets that could be used to fund the issue of new Chromebooks and to consider if there had been any savings made by moving over to agile working to reduce the £600K investment from capital.</p> <p>Councillor Murphy seconded by Councillor Shearman proposed the following recommendation be put forward to Cabinet:</p> <p>That Cabinet:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review their decision to provide the facility for online gambling through the provision of a local lottery scheme. 2. Consider using the income from the revenue received from Parking Permits to improve traffic management conditions and road conditions for cyclists and pedestrians in the most deprived areas of the city where the parking schemes are in place. 3. Check whether there are any other budgets that can be used to fund the issue of new Chromebooks and to consider if there have been any savings made by moving over to agile working to reduce the £600K investment from capital. <p>The recommendation was put to the vote and approved. (10 in favour and 9 against)</p>	
<p>Growth and Regeneration</p> <p>Appendix 4 (Pages 36 – 39)</p>		<p>Page 38, Investment Capital. Junction 18 Rhubarb bridge (A47/A15). This was a major scheme and a number of people living in the locality have expressed some concern that there had been no public consultation. Members requested that proper public consultation should be arranged.</p> <p>Concern was also raised regarding the removal of the footbridge and cycle way</p>	<p>The bridge required extensive work and would need to be replaced, however public consultation would be arranged, the time scale for this was still to be arranged.</p> <p>Any comments raised should be fed into the public consultation.</p>

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		<p>and future ease of accessibility across the road.</p> <p>Page 37, Capital Receipts update. It was noted that the Council had and would be selling some of the council assets. Members were not being informed and consulted when assets within their wards were being disposed of. Could the Council look at retaining some areas for future housing.</p> <p>Investment property receipts. Clarification was sought with regard to information being received that the Paston and Gunthorpe Community Centre had been handed over to a community organisation. This was a council asset and why had ward Councillors not been informed.</p>	<p>The Council's policy requires that all ward Councillors be consulted on any asset disposal within their ward. If Councillors were not being consulted they should inform the Corporate Director for Resources immediately so that it can be investigated.</p> <p>Before any asset was sold the Council determine whether it could be better used by the Council and consideration was always given to whether it could be used within a local housing company.</p> <p>All community centres had discussions before Christmas in relation to how the Community Asset Transfer would be taken forward in each particular instance. A 25 year lease was being offered at £1 per annum and the community organisations would take on the responsibility for repairing and insuring the building. The negotiations would start now that the Council knew where each community organisation would like to take their community centre. There had been discussions regarding freehold disposal with some organisations where they had expressed an interest but none have taken place yet.</p>
		<p>Page 38. Public realm – Broadway, Midgate and Northminster. Members noted that not much detail had been included and were concerned that improvements might include cutting down trees and providing street furniture. Why was this being treated as a priority when there were shortfalls in areas of the budget such as Adult Social Care.</p>	<p>The public realm areas of the city were critical to the improving economy of the city. It was important to continue to improve the public realm of the city.</p> <p>Public realm money was not revenue money and could not be used on services.</p>
		<p>Page 36. Opportunity Peterborough. Was Opportunity Peterborough on target for growing the 20,000 jobs in the city and 25,500 houses over the next 9 years by attracting inward investment and marketing the city to businesses.</p> <p>Could Opportunity Peterborough's costs against inward investment be provided.</p>	<p>Opportunity Peterborough provided a huge amount of assistance to the Council and in particular the growth targets. They were currently on track with the targets.</p>

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			The information was not available at the meeting. Members were informed that it might be useful for Opportunity Peterborough to provide a presentation to all Councillors on the work that they do.
Governance Appendix 5 (page 40)		Organisational Change and Adult Social Care Systems. A request was made that service areas build into their budgets the replacement of ICT systems.	Members were informed that the current Adult Social Care ICT system was quite old and no longer fit for purpose and would therefore need replacing. In Childrens social care Liquid Logic required a number of upgrades to make it fit for purpose. The social care team would be issued with Chromebooks to assist them with agile working. This revenue expenditure was therefore about making staff more effective and efficient.
Staff Implications Appendix 6 (Pages 41-42)		<p>Page 41. Living wage increase and employee terms and conditions. Reference was made to the proposal to increase the mileage rate from 25p to 30p after it was reduced from 45p in 2016/17. Why had this now been increased again a year later.</p> <p>Page 41. Discussions with unions were ongoing to make further changes to staff terms and conditions totalling an annual saving of £760,000 from 2017/18. Clarification was sought that staff had been consulted with regard to the proposal to remove a number of allowances for staff above a certain pay grade such as weekend enhancements and professional subscriptions.</p> <p>Clarification was sought on how much of the £760K savings had been secured and when would the savings be achieved. Concern was also raised that if the unions did not reach an agreement and the</p>	<p>Members were informed that the Unions had worked with the Council to make £100K worth of savings. Union members had not been happy with the reduction in mileage rate and therefore negotiated an increase as part of the overall negotiations.</p> <p>The increase in rate was not in conflict with the Councils Green Travel plans, an increase in rate did not mean that people would travel more than before.</p> <p>The unions were the staff representatives and when proposed changes were put forward to staff terms and conditions there would always be a discussion with the unions. The unions represent the views of the staff and if an agreement is made with them it is deemed to be an agreement with all staff. The discussions with unions formed part of the formal consultation process and the unions balloted their members on any proposals. Additionally all staff were regularly updated with any proposed changes and there was also an area on Insite called Ask Gillian where staff could ask any questions.</p> <p>The proposals were about regularising some of the allowances and not all of them would change. Further information on this could be provided to Councillor Davidson as requested.</p>

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		savings could not be achieved what would happen.	Agreement had not yet been secured and the unions were currently balloting their members but it was hopeful that agreement would be secured for the amount of £760K. If the agreement was not reached then a different approach would have to be taken as to how the savings would be achieved. As the agreement had not yet been reached none of the savings had yet been achieved.
<p>Treasury Strategy, & Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Schedule D (Pages 67 - 94) Asset Investment, Strategy, Acquisition Strategy, Capital Programme & Disposals 2017/18-2026/27 Schedule E (Pages 95 – 137) Asset Management Plan Schedule F (Pages 138 – 167)</p>		<p>Page 147. Asset Management Plan, Portfolio Intelligence. “A lack of ‘portfolio intelligence’ means that strategic opportunities within the portfolio may be currently overlooked. Clarification was sought as to what was being done to address this shortfall and particularly in the fiscal year 2018/19 when there will be a significant funding gap.</p> <p>Could some capital receipts be used for running costs.</p>	<p>Work was being carried out to improve the portfolio intelligence to allow more informed decisions.</p> <p>NPS had the information about the Council’s portfolio and were currently looking to employ more asset managers to bring a professional oversight to make sure the Council were making the best of the assets they had.</p> <p>Under the policy and subject to a financial revenue limit, capital receipts could be used for revenue. Capital receipts as an income could be used for mitigating having to borrow. Capital expenditure had very strict rules as to what it could be used for.</p>

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