

Summary of responses to the Environment Action Plans Public Consultation

Introduction

Consultation on the draft Environment Action Plans took place between 23rd January and 12th February 2017. Thank you to all of those who took the time to write to us with comments. 12 individual responses were received.

The role of this report is to provide a summary of what was said. This report does not summarise every point made, but rather it tries to capture the most important or frequently mentioned issues. However, rest assured that all comments received have been read and have been considered before the proposals for changes have been presented for final approval by Full Council.

We have kept the comments as anonymous as possible because what is said is more important than who said it. However, if anyone feels we have substantially misinterpreted views, then please let us know.

Next steps

On 20th March 2017, Cabinet will consider the final draft of the plans and if they are satisfied they will recommend that Full Council adopt them on 12th April 2017. The challenge after adoption (and future reviews) will be to address how we collectively, as a city, fill the gap between 2020 and the 2050 vision.

Comments relating to the Environment Action Plan: City-Wide document, targets to 2020

The consultation began by asking respondents if they were aware of other targets that exist in organisations across the city that could be included in the ‘Environment Action Plan: City-Wide’ document, or if there are any other targets they would like to see incorporated in the plan.

Targets to 2020	Summary of comments received and the council’s response
<p>Zero Carbon Energy</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduce per capita CO2 emissions to 4.5 tonnes. 2. Peterborough Environment City Trust (PECT) will provide energy advice support to 2,000 households. 3. 100% of schools in the area will be offered specialist support to embed sustainability via PECT. 4. Seek to take advantage of grant funding to increase energy efficiency and the uptake of renewable energy. 5. Queensgate will reduce its energy use by a further 5%. 	<p>General comment on how achievable the targets are and whether there is available funding.</p> <p>Council response: Where applicable, all targets contained within the plans are currently planned to be achieved within existing resources and anticipated grant funding.</p> <p>No change to the targets.</p>
<p>Sustainable Water</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. New homes to be of the highest water efficiency standard. 2. Nenescape will deliver a programme of activity to protect and promote the nature and heritage of the Nene Valley. 3. Deliver physical and behaviour change activities within the Werrington Brook 	<p>No comments</p> <p>Council response: N/A</p>

<p>catchment to improve water quality.</p> <p>4. Anglian Water aim to reduce household water consumption to 125 litres per person per day and increase the number of Peterborough households on metered water supply to 86%.</p>	
<p>Land Use and Wildlife</p> <p>1. Increase the number of local sites in positive management to 82% and maintain going forwards.</p> <p>2. Plant 24,000 trees in specific parts of the city to increase canopy cover as part of the Forest for Peterborough project.</p> <p>3. Seek funding to develop a natural capital budget for the city.</p> <p>4. Subject to funding designate two new local nature reserves.</p> <p>5. Champion net biodiversity gain in new developments.</p>	<p>Comment on the use of tree planting for practical uses.</p> <p>Council response: The target is to plant trees in specific parts of the city to increase canopy cover.</p> <p>No change to the targets.</p>
<p>Sustainable Materials</p> <p>1. Support Peterborough’s ambition to become a circular city through active collaboration, partnership and shared insight.</p> <p>2. In Cambridgeshire and Peterborough 31% of total aggregates sales will be comprised of secondary and recycled aggregates.</p> <p>3. 80% of Skanska’s procurement will be from the Greater Cambridgeshire Greater Peterborough LEP area.</p>	<p>No comments</p> <p>Council response: N/A</p>
<p>Local and Sustainable Food</p> <p>1. Achieve and maintain Fairtrade city status.</p> <p>2. Seek funding to introduce a scheme to identify and promote restaurants and food outlets that offer local and sustainable food.</p> <p>3. Actively promote the conservation and wise use of productive land.</p>	<p>Comments focussed on concern for the use of public money for target number 2 and whether the food outlets could do this themselves.</p> <p>Council response: The target is to seek funding - it could be that funding is sought from retailers themselves.</p> <p>No change to the targets.</p>
<p>Zero Waste</p> <p>1. Build a new Household Recycling Centre.</p> <p>2. Seek funding to develop an action plan to reduce landfill of non-municipal waste (i.e. non-domestic).</p> <p>3. Seek to achieve zero waste to landfill.</p> <p>4. Queensgate will increase its recycling/reuse rate to 95%.</p>	<p>No comments</p> <p>Council response: N/A</p>
<p>Sustainable Transport</p> <p>1. Increase the number active business travel plans to 97 and school travel plans</p>	<p>The comments received focussed on concerns about the lack of buses and/or taxi licencing and diesel cars referred to in the plans.</p>

<p>to 43.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Increase the number of people who walk and who cycle at least three times per week by 1% annually. 3. Increase the percentage of people satisfied with cycle routes and facilities in the city from 58% to 62%. 4. Seek to improve sustainable transport connections across the Greater Peterborough area. 	<p>Another comment suggested a target to allow concessionary fare Bus Pass holders to use their bus pass from 0900 hours.</p> <p>One comment suggested including segregated cycle lanes as a target as part of new housing developments.</p> <p>Council response: Target 4 seeks to cover all forms of transport and opportunities to make improvements, as appropriate, through the life of the plan. We continue to work with bus and taxi operators with regards to emissions and seek appropriate funding opportunities to support this.</p> <p>At present Peterborough City Council comply with the statutory minimum for Concessionary Fare Bus Pass holders. This allows pass holders to travel on any ‘off-peak’ services which effectively means that the only services that they are prevented from using are those that operate before 9.30am on weekdays. If the Council were to allow Concessionary Fare Bus Pass holders to travel on services before this time it is estimated there would be considerable, unbudgeted costs, for both the officer time required to develop the scheme, initial set-up and then ongoing carriage of eligible passengers.</p> <p>All new developments are required to undertake an assessment to ensure that appropriate provision has been made for safe, convenient and sustainable access to, from and within the site by all user groups in line with the city’s Local Plan and Local Transport Plan (4).</p> <p>No change to the targets.</p>
<p>Culture and Heritage</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The council will seek to celebrate heritage in all public realm and highway design schemes across the city. 2. Environmental charity PECT will give support to 10 community groups and engage 30,000 people a year on environmental issues. 3. Through the Culture Strategy raise the profile of culture, increase participation and visitor numbers. 	<p>No comments</p> <p>Council response: N/A</p>

<p>Equity and Local Economy</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Seek opportunities to commercialise Share Peterborough in order to sustain and grow the B2B platform. 2. PECT will engage with 1,000 organisations to make eco improvements and encourage 200 volunteers to get involved with their work. 3. Development proposals of 15 or more dwellings should provide a minimum of 30% affordable housing. 4. Peterborough will have an awarding university. 	<p>Comments suggested more needs to engage the business community/Chamber of Commerce.</p> <p>Council response: We have contacted the Chamber of Commerce and will continue to work with them, as appropriate, through the life of the plan.</p> <p>No change to the targets.</p>
<p>Health and Wellbeing</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase the proportion of physically active adults in Peterborough to match the performance for the rest of England. 2. Nene Park Trust will increase the percentage of visitors expressing benefits to their health and wellbeing through visiting the park from a baseline of 90% in 2016. 3. Reduce the proportion of children and adults with an unhealthy weight. 	<p>Comments received included a suggestion to include a target around homelessness.</p> <p>There was also a comment on the price of swimming and suggestion to maintain/designate more areas as parks.</p> <p>Council response: To include a new target – On a trend basis, seek to reduce the number of people who are declared homeless.</p> <p>Vivacity manage swimming facilities in Peterborough on behalf of the Council and offer competitive rates with discounts available.</p> <p>The new Local Plan puts in place measures to create new open spaces as well as maintain and improve existing provision.</p>

Comments relating to the Environment Action Plan: Peterborough City Council document, targets to 2020

Targets to 2020	Summary of comments received and the council's response
<p>Zero Carbon Energy</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish a CO2 baseline relevant to Fletton Quays and set a target for reduction relative to the city's growth aspirations. 2. Maintain our 'Green' rating with Investors in the Environment. 3. Fletton Quays office to meet BREEAM 'very good' standard. 4. Take advantage of funding streams and the Honeywell Framework to increase energy efficiency/ renewable energy. 	<p>A general comment on whether the targets are driving ambition and achievement.</p> <p>Other comment is to have less LED street lights, replacing three lights with one LED light.</p> <p>Council response: The targets are, in the vast majority of cases, those that exist already due to the need to be achieved within existing resources. However, there are some additional targets in the plan which focus on research or seeking funding which we aim to deliver by working with partners including local and</p>

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<p>5. Seek to procure 100% renewable energy.</p> <p>6. Upgrade 17,000 street lights to energy efficient LEDs</p>	<p>national universities, helping to drive ambition where possible. The plans aim to provide clear strategic direction whilst creating a set of targets with which progress will be measured, helping to promote achievement by internal and external stakeholders.</p> <p>Overall, the investment (in LEDS lights) will save the council £8.6million over 20 years in saved energy costs. The upgraded lights are expected to achieve a reduction in the amount of energy used of up to 70 per cent. It is also thought that it will help to create safer, stronger communities by helping to reduce crime levels and the fear of crime. The parkway works will involve removal of some lights where appropriate and focus on lighting interchanges and slip roads. We are not looking to turn street lights off in residential areas.</p> <p>No change to the targets.</p>
<p>Sustainable Water</p> <p>1. Establish a baseline for the council's water consumption relevant to Fletton Quays and set a target for reduction.</p> <p>2. Seek to include SuDS in all appropriate public realm and highways design schemes across the city.</p> <p>3. Skanska will establish a baseline for water consumption and set a target to reduce potable water.</p> <p>4. Design the new offices at Fletton Quays to minimise water consumption e.g. low flow taps.</p>	<p>No comments</p> <p>Council response: N/A</p>
<p>Land Use and Wildlife</p> <p>1. Increase the number of sites in positive management to 82% and maintain going forwards.</p> <p>2. Develop a biodiversity area at the Fletton Quays site.</p> <p>3. Skanska are seeking to increase overall biodiversity levels across all of their highway schemes.</p> <p>4. Subject to funding designate two new local nature reserves.</p> <p>5. Support Nene Park Trust to develop their city centre offer.</p>	<p>Comments focussed on the need for less intensive grass cutting of verges and the need for more areas designated as parks.</p> <p>Council response: Many areas of the city are now cut less frequently as agreed by councillors as part of the 2015/16 budget. Where there are open spaces we try to ensure there is sufficient space for recreation and these areas receive eight cuts a year. Many other areas now receive three cuts a year. Last summer (2016) residents raised concerns about the length of grass in certain locations and as a result the council decided to review whether the number of cuts it currently provides is sufficient.</p> <p>No change to the targets.</p>
<p>Sustainable Materials</p>	<p>A comment suggested the council aims to use</p>

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support the city to develop circular economy approaches and ascertain the feasibility of becoming the UK's first circular city. 2. 80% of Skanska's procurement will be from the Greater Cambridgeshire Greater Peterborough LEP area. 3. Develop a sustainable procurement policy and seek to increase opportunities for local SME's in our supply chain. 4. Seek to minimise the environmental impact of new ICT 	<p>recycled paving slabs.</p> <p>Council response: This is something that we are currently exploring. For example, Skanska are in the process of looking at recycled materials such as asphalt which incorporates a % of recycled plastic. In a broad sense this is also covered by target 1 (becoming a circular city).</p> <p>No change to the targets.</p>
<p>Local and Sustainable Food</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Seek funding to introduce a scheme to identify and promote restaurants & food outlets offering local and sustainable food. 2. 100% of the food purchased by Skanska will be Fairtrade and/or locally sourced. 3. Skanska will introduce food growing areas for staff. 4. Promote local and sustainable food to employees through the annual 'Boost your Wellbeing' campaign. 	<p>No comments</p> <p>Council response: N/A</p>
<p>Zero Waste</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Skanska will divert 95% of waste from landfill and will work with their supply chain to minimise waste. 2. Baseline the council's waste relevant to Fletton Quays and develop a target for reduction. 3. Run an annual zero waste week for staff. 4. Continue to offer used battery collection at key council offices. 	<p>Comments related to home composting facilities for new homes and to encourage home composting over the brown bin. Also not to supply larger black bins where there is less than a certain number of adults.</p> <p>Making it clearer that the 10% increase in recycling was for certain areas (included in the achievements section of the plan).</p> <p>Council response: The Council does encourage home composting on the brown bin section of the Council website as an option for recycling garden waste. This will also be included in the resident's action plan. Families of five or more people are able to apply for a larger black bin.</p> <p>The wording of this achievement already makes it clear that it only applies to some areas.</p> <p>No change to the targets.</p>
<p>Sustainable Transport</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue to seek funding to support citywide sustainable transport initiatives. 2. Undertake an annual staff travel survey. 3. Decrease the number of employees 	<p>The comments received focussed on better school transport, later bus services in rural areas and segregated cycle lanes.</p> <p>Council response:</p>

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<p>traveling to work in single occupancy cars by 5% from a baseline of 64%.</p> <p>4. Skanska will reduce the number of work-related single occupancy car journeys by 70% over the life of their contract.</p>	<p>The Environment Action Plan: City Wide document includes a target to increase the number of school travel plans to 43. As part of Local Transport Plan 4 the Council's objective is to also 'engage with all Peterborough schools supporting individual travel needs to increase sustainable and active travel on the school journey'. The Council recently invested an additional £100,000 in subsidised bus services. A Cross Party Working Group was established and recommended that improved services should be concentrated in the Fengate area to support access to employment as well as the evening economy in this area.</p> <p>The Environment Action Plan: City Wide document also has a target to 'seek to improve sustainable transport connections across the Greater Peterborough area'.</p> <p>No change to the targets.</p>
<p>Culture and Heritage</p> <p>1. Seek to celebrate heritage in all public realm and highway design schemes across the city.</p> <p>2. Refurbish two listed rail buildings and develop the mill as a new hub for culture and the arts at Fletton Quays.</p> <p>3. Continue to work with local stakeholders to be able to offer discounts to local events, venues and companies for Peterborough City Council staff.</p> <p>4. We will promote environmental initiatives as appropriate.</p>	<p>No comments</p> <p>Council response: N/A</p>
<p>Equity and Local Economy</p> <p>1. Seek to promote the uptake of apprenticeships.</p> <p>2. Support work placements and work experience opportunities, as appropriate, across the organisation.</p> <p>3. Continue to pay the Peterborough Living Wage.</p> <p>4. Maintain the Disability Confident accreditation.</p> <p>5. Seek to actively participate in Share Peterborough.</p> <p>6. Produce an Environment Action Plan for residents.</p>	<p>Comment to include to 30% affordable housing target in the PCC plan as well as the city plan.</p> <p>Council response: Because this target is already captured in the city plan there is no need to repeat here.</p> <p>No change to the targets.</p>
<p>Health and Wellbeing</p> <p>1. Lead implementation of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016/19 and relevant metrics.</p>	<p>No comments</p> <p>Council response: N/A</p>

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Continue 'Healthy Peterborough' campaign. 3. Continue to deliver the annual 'Boost your Wellbeing' campaign to staff. 4. Consider supporting staff who wish to volunteer for a Peterborough community project one day each year. 5. Develop and roll out a programme of agile working. 	
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Comments on a Residents Environment Action Plan

Respondents were then asked a question on a potential 'Residents Environment Action Plan'. One of the targets within the 'Environment Action Plan: Peterborough City Council' document is to develop an Environment Action Plan for residents. The question asked respondents whether there were any targets they would like to suggest people in Peterborough could aim to undertake in order to become more sustainable.

Theme	Summary of comments received and the council's response
Zero Carbon	No comments
Sustainable Water	No comments
Land Use and Wildlife	<p>Comment that this is a sensible area for the council to set a target for residents as it is one where it interacts with residents so can most easily influence behaviours.</p> <p>Council response: This comment will be taken into account when developing a Resident's Environment Action Plan.</p>
Sustainable Materials	No comments
Local and Sustainable Food	No comments
Zero Waste	<p>Suggestion to include home composting</p> <p>Making it clearer that the 10% increase in recycling was for certain areas (included in the achievements section of the plan).</p> <p>Comment that this is a sensible area for the council to set a target for residents as it is one where it interacts with residents so can most easily influence behaviours.</p> <p>Council response: To include in a Residents Environment Action Plan.</p> <p>The wording of this achievement already makes it clear that it only applies to some areas.</p> <p>This comment will be taken into account when developing a Resident's Environment Action Plan.</p>
Sustainable Transport	Comment that this is a sensible area for the council to set a target for residents as it is one where it

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	<p>interacts with residents so can most easily influence behaviours.</p> <p>Council response: This comment will be taken into account when developing a Resident's Environment Action Plan.</p>
Culture and Heritage	<p>Comment that this is a sensible area for the council to set a target for residents as it is one where it interacts with residents so can most easily influence behaviours.</p> <p>Council response: This comment will be taken into account when developing a Resident's Environment Action Plan.</p>
Equity and Local Economy	No comments
Health and Happiness	<p>Comment that this is a sensible area for the council to set a target for residents as it is one where it interacts with residents so can most easily influence behaviours.</p> <p>Council response: This comment will be taken into account when developing a Resident's Environment Action Plan.</p>

Response to attending an informal local group to discuss green issues

Respondents were then asked if they would be interested in attending a local forum to discuss green issues. 50% of those who completed the survey expressed an interest in this, suggesting that there is some appetite for such a group.

Additional amendments

The following targets/achievements have also been amended to the draft plans in order to ensure the most up to date information is included at the time of recommending the plan for approval.

Current target/achievement	Proposed amendment/comments
Seek to procure 100% renewable energy.	This was discussed recently as part of the budget setting process and it was agreed not to proceed any further.
Peterborough currently produces around 90,000 tonnes of waste per year, around 45% of which is currently recycled.	Peterborough currently produces around 90,000 tonnes of waste per year, around 45% of which is currently recycled. Our goal is to achieve in excess of 65% recycling by 2020.

Finally, a glossary style document will be developed to sit alongside the Environment Action Plans online in order to provide a definition of key terms and/or scheme names within the plan.

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