

PARISH LIAISON MEETING	Agenda Item No. 5
23rd September 2009	Public Report

Report of the Head of Neighbourhoods

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PCC NEIGHBOURHOOD COUNCILS

1. PURPOSE

This report is presented to the Parish Liaison meeting as an introduction to the new Peterborough City Council Neighbourhood Councils.

2. BACKGROUND

At the full Council meeting earlier this year, it was agreed that new Neighbourhood Councils would be formed as part of the democratic decision making process. Provision for these is made in the Local Government Act 2000, which provides powers to devolve appropriate decision making and resource allocation to neighbourhood level.

Peterborough City Council is committed to developing this approach as part of its commitment to empowering our communities and enhancing citizenship and local decision making.

3. NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT

The Council has been developing a neighbourhood management framework against which a new approach to engaging with and empowering communities will be progressed. This in turn will help to ensure that we are tackling the issues that really matter to our communities in the most efficient and effective ways. This framework was shared with Parish Councils at the last liaison meeting.

For the purposes of neighbourhood management, three management areas have been created – the north and west, central and east, and the south – covering the whole of the council’s operational area. Neighbourhood managers have been recruited to each of these areas who will become key points of contact for elected Members, Parish Councils, citizens and partners into public services, and who will be responsible for leading the delivery of change and improvement in their area. The three areas are coterminous with Police operational sectors.

Across the three neighbourhood management areas, seven Neighbourhood Councils will be formed (appendix 1 refers). The existing mechanisms for engaging with communities, including Neighbourhood Police Panels, will continue to be supported and developed, with outputs and issues being fed up to the new Neighbourhood Councils as appropriate for discussion and decision.

Each Neighbourhood Council will meet four times a year, with meetings to be held in its locality. In addition, there will be an annual Area Forum to be held towards the end of the municipal year. This will include all the Neighbourhood Councils for each area, a total of three Area Forum meetings in each municipal year. The Area Forum meetings will be an opportunity for the Neighbourhood Councils in each area to come together and discuss their work, and also to look at issues of mutual interest and importance going forward.

4. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The proposed terms of reference of the Neighbourhood Councils include provision for the following:

1	To identify and, as far as it is able to do so within it's budget, meet the needs of the Community in the local area, via consultation with and involvement of the community and other appropriate bodies
2	To develop Community Master Plans, and Action Plans to support their delivery, and monitor their implementation
3	To be the primary focus for public involvement and consultation within the area, working closely with other public, private and voluntary agencies, and advising the Executive as appropriate on issues which affect the area
4	To carry out any non-Executive functions delegated by the council, and any Executive functions delegated by the Leader, in accordance with the Scheme of Delegations set out in Part 3 sections 1 and 3 of the Constitution
5	To set the standards for, and seek agreement for changes from the Executive to services to meet local needs which are outside the immediate responsibility / budget of the Neighbourhood Council. This includes seeking agreement to revenue and capital expenditure to meet any changes. (If such changes would be contrary to the policy framework or contrary to or not wholly in accordance with the budget, then the matter would be referred to Council by the Executive)
6	To act as consultees in respect of Planning and Licensing applications relating to the area
7	To be consulted on all Executive and Council proposals that affect the area, particularly capital schemes affecting the area, including modifications to schools
8	To monitor local service delivery, considering the outcome of such monitoring and advising the Executive, and the relevant Scrutiny Committee or Commission as appropriate
9	To work closely with Scrutiny Committees and Commissions including suggesting items for scrutiny, and if required to become involved in reviews carried out by Scrutiny Committees and Commissions at the request of the Chairs.
10	To recommend grants to local voluntary organisations and community groups, subject to the approved grant procedures
11	To make arrangements for the provision of information about local services and other information to people in the area
12	To act as a Community Forum where the Neighbourhood Council and members of the community can discuss areas of concern to them, such issues to include matters which are the direct responsibility of the council and other issues which are the responsibility of other organisations

A key responsibility of the Neighbourhood Councils will be to create master plans for their area supported by action plans to deliver the outcomes in that master plan. The master plan will set the strategy and vision of the area covered and will be an initial piece of work to be undertaken by the Neighbourhood Councils. This work will be supported by the new Neighbourhood Management team.

Appendix 1: Neighbourhood Councils

Neighbourhood Council	Ward	Councillor
Central & East 1	Central	M Fazal
		Z Hussain
		N Khan
	North	C Swift
		K Sharp
Central & East 2	Park	P Kreling
		Y Lowndes
		J Peach
	Dogsthorpe	A Miners
		B Saltmarsh
		C Ash
		M Collins
	East	M Todd
		S Goldspink
South 1	Stanground Central	M Cereste
		B Rush
		I Walsh
	Stanground East	J Wilkinson
		F Benton
	Fletton	P Croft
		M Lee
South 2	Orton with Hampton	N North
		S Scott
		D Seaton
	Orton Longueville	J Goodwin
		G Murphy
		P Winslade
	Orton Waterville	S Allen
		G Elsey
		W Trueman

Neighbourhood Council	Ward	Councillor	
North & West 1	Northborough	P Hiller	
	Barnack	D Over	
	Glinton & Wittering	J Holdich	
		D Lamb	
	Newborough	D Harrington	
	Eye & Thorney	R Dobbs	
		D Sanders	
	North & West 2	Werrington North	John Fox
Judith Fox			
S Lane			
Werrington South		C Burton	
		D Fower	
		P Thacker	
		D Day	
Paston		S Day	
		L Gilbert	
		C Day	
Walton		J Sandford	
North & West 3		Bretton North	W Fitzgerald
			D Morley
	P Nash		
	Bretton South	M Fletcher	
	West	M Burton	
		M Dalton	
		S Dalton	
	Ravensthorpe	G Nawaz	
		H Newton	