

**MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY CABINET MEETING
HELD AT 4:30PM, ON
FRIDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 2022
COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, PETERBOROUGH**

Cabinet Members Present: Councillor Fitzgerald (Chair), Councillor Steve Allen (Vice-Chair), Councillor Ayres, Councillor Cereste Councillor Coles, Councillor Howard, Councillor Simons

Cabinet Advisor Present: Councillor Bisby, Councillor Hussain, Councillor Gul Nawaz

32. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies for absence received from Councillor Sainsbury, Councillor Jackie Allen, and Councillor Moyo.

33. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

34. SUSTAINABLE FUTURE CITY COUNCIL STRATEGY AND PRIORITIES 2022 TO 2025

The Cabinet received a report in relation to the Sustainable Future City Council Strategy and Priorities 2022 to 2025.

The purpose of this report was to set out the proposed direction of travel for the leadership, design and organisation of Peterborough City Council so that it could deliver the administration's long-term vision for the City and the four priority outcomes as set out in the Sustainable Future City Council Strategy 2022 to 2025 and the Council's response to our City's challenges as outlined in the accompanying City Priorities.

The Chief Executive and the Sustainable Future City Council Director introduced the report and advised that the Strategy had been data and intelligence lead. The Strategy set out four clear priorities which would drive the culture of the organisation and inform quarterly monitoring reports to Council. The Corporate Strategy set out a narrative for the state of the city, and the priorities made clear the Council's response on how it would deliver.

Cabinet Members debated the report and in summary responses to questions raised included:

- Members were advised that the Strategy was developed over four months, following a review of 100 themes of data and 2,000 different data sets.
- The seven-step process included a high level needs assessment, pandemic impact assessment, assessment of the impact of fiscal projections, reviewing the projected trends of the city, considering the current and planned government policies and reform, and taking into consideration

recommendations from the Independent Improvement and Assurance Panel, the LGA and from Members.

- It was noted that the priorities were fully funded and could be delivered within the Council's financial envelope. These focused on three key areas: reducing demands before crisis, generating income opportunities, and maximising economic growth by attracting businesses.
- It was advised that the improvement work of the Council was also about culture change and whether the Council had its skills and resources in the right place.
- The Cabinet would continue to review performance against the Strategy and agreed operating models on a quarterly basis.
- It was suggested that the wording be changed within the Strategy to refer to the 'City Council' rather than the 'City' to avoid any confusion about whether the Strategy applied to rural wards.
- It was noted that there were residents in the region who could contribute and engage with economic growth.
- Members further noted that there were a range of opportunities available to the Council and city going forward, particularly around growth, investment and start-up businesses.
- It was hoped that the Council could facilitate the upskilling of the Peterborough workforce and become a growth centre for development.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED** to endorse the City Council's "Sustainable Future City Council Strategy 2022-25" and its accompanying "City Priorities", both artifacts which were attached as an appendix to the report, and to recommend to Full Council for approval.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The decision and subsequent work following from this report would address the financial challenges of the City Council in the medium and long term and enable it to develop plans required to set a viable Medium Term Financial Strategy to become a Sustainable Future City Council.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

The alternative option was to continue to assign annual cash limits within a reduced financial envelope, without transforming the way the Council operated— this was believed to be an unsustainable position, financially and operationally.

Chairman
4.30pm to 4.52pm
30 September 2022