

<b>ENVIRONMENT CAPITAL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>	<b>Agenda Item No. 7</b>
<b>14 JULY 2011</b>	<b>Public Report</b>

## **Report of the Executive Director of Operations**

**Contact Officer(s) – Teresa Wood, Sustainable Environment Manager**  
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### **ENVIRONMENT CAPITAL: INTRODUCTION, OVERVIEW AND WORK PROGRAMME**

#### **1. PURPOSE**

- 1.1 This report sets out the approach to be taken during the municipal year 2011/12 of the Environment Capital programme, presenting Members with a comprehensive overview of the issues, opportunities, priorities and challenges in connection with the Environment Capital theme, with the aim of establishing a scrutiny work programme for the year.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 To discuss the detail of the Environment Capital future work programme, and to agree a Environment Capital scrutiny work programme for the year.

#### **3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY**

- 3.1 Adopting this approach will ensure that subsequent Scrutiny meetings will directly contribute to the objectives and outcomes contained in the Sustainable Community Strategy.

This committee in particular most directly contributes to the 'Creating the UK's Environment Capital' priority in the Sustainable Community Strategy.

#### **4. BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 The Environment Capital work programme is currently being reviewed and redefined in light of recent progress and future priorities. This work will consolidate which projects have a direct and indirect impact on Peterborough's aspiration to be the UK's Environment Capital and will create an overall framework against which members will be able to identify and agree those aspects of the theme that they wish to scrutinise during the year.

#### **5. KEY ISSUES**

- 5.1 The Cabinet Member for Environment Capital, Councillor Samantha Dalton, has set her priorities for 2011/12 as follows:

##### Reducing our energy bills

Ensuring that the council's Carbon Reduction Commitment is met and all energy data is submitted by the deadline of 29 July. Currently this work is on target to meet this deadline.

In addition, work continues on the Carbon Management Action Plan and a number of projects to reduce the council's energy consumption have been introduced such as voltage optimisation, AMRs and improved buildings insulation. During 2011/12, a number of projects are programmed for implementation:

- Continue the roll out of Thin Client

- Enhancement of the Green champions scheme for staff
- Remaining rebuild of Ormiston Bushfield
- Various refurbishment/retrofit works in Key Theatre and Central library
- New boiler and heating distribution network at Museum
- Upgraded lighting in Regional Pool
- Install LED lights in underpasses
- Install new air conditioning at Bayard Place air conditioning
- Burner Management Units in Town Hall and Regional Pool
- Voltage Optimisation in Regional Pool, Town Hall and Bayard scheduled
- Real time energy monitors in Town Hall and Bayard place to enable staff to see instantaneous energy consumption
- Various school retrofit projects such as upgrading insulation when doing roof replacements
- Correcting heating controls following the bespoke Carbon Trust school surveys

All of the above projects will contribute to the council's target to reduce its carbon emissions by 35% by 2014 (based on 2008/09 levels).

#### Renewable energy

Installation of solar PV on two key council buildings, Town Hall and Regional Pool, commencing late July. Opportunities relating to other Council buildings and schools will continue to be actively investigated during 2011/12 with a view to further benefit from the Feed In Tariff and Renewable Heat Incentive schemes. In addition, investigation into other renewable energy technologies such as wind farms will be investigate.

#### Peterborough Model

In the near future the Peterborough Model will be officially launched to the various partners and stakeholders with a view to use the Peterborough as a decision making tool. Work is also underway to forge links between the model and the Neighbourhood Window project in order that both initiatives can benefit from the same, single database.

#### Increasing the use of sustainable travel

In its Medium Term Financial Plan the council committed £265k over three years to initiatives to increase the use of sustainable travel. This work will contribute to the implementation of a sustainable transport hub in the city centre and the trial of electric pool vehicles for employees.

In addition, work to promote and increase the use of sustainable travel includes:

- the continuation of Travelchoice and enhancement of the project through the Department for Transport's Local Sustainable Transport Fund;
- Bikeability training in schools;
- EU funding applications to:
  - work with businesses to encourage and promote sustainable travel and voluntary travel plans;
  - promote the use of sustainable travel to families for travel to Peterborough and in and around Peterborough focusing on the tourism locations.

5.2 In line with the above, this report provides:

- a diagram demonstrating all environmental projects which have a direct and indirect impact on Peterborough's aspiration to be the UK's Environment Capital (appendix A).
- an overview of the Single Delivery Plan and associated projects linking to Programme 4 of the SDP '*Helping people and organisations live more healthy and sustainable lives and reducing energy consumption*' (appendix B)
- An opportunity for members to consider what themes they would like to scrutinise throughout the year.

## **6. IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 Members will be provided with sufficient information and evidence to enable them to be

confident about their role on this scrutiny committee, and to identify a work programme for the year.

## **7. CONSULTATION**

- 7.1 The diagram at appendix A consolidates all environment projects across the council and some of its partners which have a direct impact on the aspiration to be the UK's Environment Capital. Presentation of this report and associated documents to this committee is the first step in the consultation and scrutiny process.

## **8. NEXT STEPS**

- 8.1 Following the committee meeting, the Environment Capital Scrutiny committee work programme will be finalised, lead officers identified and timescales set to ensure maximum effectiveness of the scrutiny process.

## **9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

- 9.1 The following documents have been used to prepare this report:

Sustainable Community Strategy  
Single Delivery Plan  
Home of Environment Capital Major Policy

## **10. APPENDICES**

- 10.1 Appendix A – Environment Capital Key Deliverables diagram  
Appendix B – Single Delivery Plan and associated Fishbone diagrams

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