

SUSTAINABLE GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	Agenda Item No. 5
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Report of the Cabinet Member for Growth, Strategic Planning, Economic Development and Business Engagement

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FACILITATING GROWTH IN PETERBOROUGH – PORTFOLIO PROGRESS REPORT FOR CABINET MEMBER FOR GROWTH, STRATEGIC PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 This report is being brought to committee to provide an outline on how the Growth Agenda for Peterborough is being taken forward at the present time.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee are asked to note the contents of this report.

3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

- 3.1 This report supports the sustainability community strategy by:

- Creating opportunities and tacking inequalities
- Creating strong and supportive communities
- Creating the UKs environmental capital
- Delivering substantial and truly sustainable communities

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 As a previous report to the Committee explained (“Facilitating Growth in Peterborough, 6 September 2011), the growth agenda is delivered by the work of three separate groups: the Council’s Growth and Regeneration and the Strategic Planning functions, and Opportunity Peterborough. These three areas focus on separate aspects of growth delivery, working together to secure the Peterborough’s physical and economic growth.

4.2 Growth and Regeneration

Growth and Regeneration are responsible for enabling and facilitating physical growth activity on specific sites in the city, with a focus on the regeneration of the city centre. Current activity is targeted towards the following sites:

- **Station Quarter**, which aims to be regenerated to form a new central office district for the city. Activity here has aimed to bring key land-owners and stakeholders together to create an appetite for comprehensive redevelopment.
- **North Westgate**, which aims to be regenerated into a revitalised mixed-use quarter of the city centre. Activity here has focused on determining what, in the current economic climate, is a commercially viable mix of activities for the site and how best the authority

- might work to encourage regeneration with existing land owners and partners.
- **Southbank Phase 1** involves the delivery of the Government backed 295 Code for Sustainable Homes Level 6 Carbon Challenge Scheme being administered by the Homes and Community Agency (HCA). PCC has a variety of roles including landowner, co- funders, planning authority and project owner for the overall comprehensive development of Southbank area of which this scheme forms one of the 3 phases listed here.
- **Southbank Phase 2** - London Road Frontages and Stadium project aims to redevelop 3 of the 4 stands of the existing Stadium into a vibrant multi functional community stadium as part of a comprehensive scheme to regenerate the balance of the land south of the Nuneaton to Felixstowe rail line not covered by the Phase 1 project. This includes seeking to deliver substantial redevelopment of the eastern side frontages to London Road, an important gateway to the city centre.
- **Southbank Phase 3** - Fletton Quays – a comprehensive regeneration of this key river frontage site east of the Town Bridge around a mixture of uses with the main activities potentially “higher end” residential uses and leisure

4.3 **Planning, Transport and Engineering Services**

Planning, Transport and Engineering Services are leading on a series of initiatives including:

4.3.1 • **Planning For Future Growth**

The Council’s Core Strategy is already in place and this has set:

- The quantity of new growth
- The distribution of that growth
- The general location of the urban extensions

The implementation of the Core Strategy is being implemented through the Site Allocations and Planning Policies documents. The former (which identifies specific parcels of land to housing and employment development) has, following extensive consultation, reached the stage where is being considered by an Independent Inspector who should report his findings before Christmas. The latter (which sets out the policies to be used to decide planning applications) will be the subject of a final round of consultation in January 2012 prior to being submitted to an Independent Inspector for consideration. The remaining ‘gap’ in planning policy coverage will be the City Centre Area and work is due to start on this in the New Year.

This means that Peterborough is in a strong position in respect of having an up to date development Plan as set down in the Government’s emerging National Planning Policy Framework.

4.3.2 • **Long Term Transport Strategy (2011-2026) and the Local Transport Plan (2011-2016)**

The City Council has recently adopted Peterborough's Long Term Transport Strategy (2011-2026) and the Local Transport Plan (2011-2016)

The Long Term Transport Strategy (2011-2026) and the Local Transport Plan (2011-2016) sets out the Council’s transport strategy to 2026 and detailed plans / proposals for the period to 2016. LTP3 has been prepared with Council’s growth and environment aspirations firmly in mind. A number of specific transport schemes have been identified for implementation over the next 5 years that will support the planned growth, which are identified in Annex 1.

A number of other schemes and projects required to support growth required in the longer term up to 2026 are identified in the Long Term Transport Strategy. As the pace

and pattern of developed outlined in the Core Strategy develops it is worth noting that some schemes may required earlier or later than suggested in these documents.

4.3.3 • **Education**

The City Council has an ambitious school building programme and new schools being built for Bushfields Academy, Stanground College and Nene Park Academy all set to open in the next year. Rising academic achievement and the growth of the University have the effect of enhancing the reputation of City as a place to live, learn and work.

4.3.4 • **New Development**

Many investors, developers and operators have continued to come forward with and implement schemes in the City and recently completed developments include the new Morrisons store in South Stanground (their greenest store in the country), Dobbies Garden Centre (Hampton) and a host of new food outlets in the prestigious Cathedral Square. Construction has just started at the Queensgate Centre for a new Primark store and major make over of the Queengate car parks in nearing completion. The 'go ahead' has recently been given for a new call centre building in Hampton and permission will shortly be given for:

- a major warehouse and distribution centre at Alwalton Hill
- a retail / office development in the Station Quarter adjacent

This demonstrates that there is still significant confidence in developing in the Peterborough area.

4.4 **Economic Development**

A separate report from Opportunity Peterborough on the Committees agenda will provide an update on economic development.

5. **KEY ISSUES**

5.1 The Committee need to consider and note progress and activity on projects detailed above.

6. **IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 This report is for information only and therefore does not have any direct implications. However the activities outlined in this report will have a Council wide impact.

7. **CONSULTATION**

7.1 To date there has been no internal or external consultation

8. **NEXT STEPS**

8.1 It is anticipated that committee members will receive updates on progress when applicable.

9. **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

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

9.1 None

10. **APPENDICES**

10.1 Major transport schemes map

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