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PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL SUMMONS TO A MEETING

You are hereby summonsed to attend a meeting of the Peterborough City Council, which will be held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Peterborough on

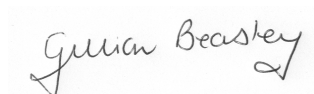
WEDNESDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2011 at 7.00 pm

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Chief Executive

15 February 2011
Town Hall
Bridge Street
Peterborough



There is an induction hearing loop system available in all meeting rooms. Some of the systems are infra-red operated, if you wish to use this system then please contact Alex Daynes on 01733 452447.

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PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD 8 DECEMBER 2010

The Mayor – Councillor Keith Sharp

Present:

Councillors: Allen, Arculus, Burton, Cereste, Collins, S Dalton, D Day, S Day, Elsey, Fitzgerald, Fower, Goodwin, Harrington, Hiller, Holdich, Hussain, Jamil, Khan, Kreling, Lamb, Lane, Lee, Lowndes, Morley, Nash, Nawaz, Newton, North, Over, Peach, Rush, Saltmarsh, Sanders, Sandford, Scott, Seaton, Serluca, Shaheed, Simons, Stokes, Swift, Thacker, Walsh, Wilkinson and Winslade.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ash, Benton, M Dalton, Fletcher, JA Fox, JR Fox, Goldspink, Miners, Murphy and Todd.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations of interest were received:

Councillor Cereste declared a pecuniary interest in respect of agenda item 7 (i)(a): Peterborough Site Allocations Development Plan Document, as he owned land affected by the proposals.

Councillor Holdich declared a pecuniary interest in respect of agenda item 7 (i)(a): Peterborough Site Allocations Development Plan Document, as he owned land affected by the proposals.

Councillor S Dalton declared a pecuniary interest in respect of agenda item 7 (i)(a): Peterborough Site Allocations Development Plan Document, as her family owned land affected by the proposals.

Councillor Sanders declared an interest in respect of agenda item 7 (i)(a): Peterborough Site Allocations Development Plan Document, as he was pre-determined in this matter.

3. MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD 13 OCTOBER 2010

The minutes of the Council meeting held 13 October 2010 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

4. COMMUNICATIONS TIME

4 (i) Mayor's Announcements

Members noted the report outlining Mayoral engagements for the period 27 September to 28 November 2010.

4 (ii) Leader's Announcements

The Leader thanked all the communities and everyone involved in the arrangements and management so far for the protest march in the city that would take place on 11 December.

Officers were determined to keep the city centre and shops open throughout the day, culminating in a candlelight vigil at 4.30pm in the Cathedral.

Councillor Swift agreed with the sentiments of the Leader and passed on his own thanks for the work done so far.

Councillor Khan responded that what the English Defence League (EDL) stood for should be condemned and supported the Leader's comments by stating that there was one Peterborough, with united communities.

Councillor Fower made no response so that the EDL would receive no further publicity.

4 (iii) Chief Executive's Announcements

There were no announcements from the Chief Executive.

5. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT TIME

5 (i) Questions with Notice by Members of the Public

Details of the above questions and associated responses are set out at **Appendix A**.

5 (ii) Questions with Notice by Members relating to Ward Matters and to Committee Chairmen.

Details of the above questions and associated responses are set out at **Appendix A**.

5 (iii) Questions with Notice by Members to representatives of the Police and Fire Authorities

Details of the above questions and associated responses are set out at **Appendix A**.

5 (iv) Petitions

Councillor Sanders presented a petition on behalf of residents Eye opposing any more growth outside the village envelope from the Site Allocations document.

Councillor Lane presented a petition, in the absence of Councillor John Fox, on behalf of residents of Wycliffe Grove concerning obstruction caused by parking in the street.

Councillor Serluca presented a petition from residents supporting the name change from Fletton Ward to Fletton and Woodston Ward.

Councillor Scott presented a petition from residents of Hampsted concerning speeding traffic through the development.

Councillor Nash presented a petition from residents opposed to the use of the Church on the Rock by the St Theresa's day centre.

Councillor Lee presented a petition from residents supporting the name change from Fletton Ward to Fletton and Woodston Ward.

6. EXECUTIVE BUSINESS TIME

6 (i) Questions with Notice to the Leader and Members of the Executive

A question was asked in respect of proposed new charges for use of allotments.

A summary of the question and answer raised within agenda item 6(i) is attached at **Appendix B**.

6 (ii) Questions without Notice on the Record of Executive Decisions

Members received and noted a report summarising:

- Decisions from the Cabinet Meeting held 8 November 2010;
- Use of the Council's special urgency provision and waive of call-in provisions – not used since the last meeting;
- Cabinet Member Decisions taken during the period 4 October 2010 to 15 November 2010.

Questions were asked about the following:

Future of Westcombe Engineering

Councillor Fower asked why the previous decision had been overturned and how many staff were affected. Councillor Cereste responded that this was an opportunity to keep a business open that benefited a needy part of the community. The number of employees was not always fixed so it would difficult to provide exact numbers. A report could be presented to Council next year to review and update Members on the situation at Westcombe.

Provision of Grant to TJK UK, a subsidiary of TK Maxx Limited in respect of 64 Bridge Street

Councillor Fower asked where the £175,000 had come from within the budget. Councillor Cereste responded that resources were put aside for instances such as this.

Councillor Khan asked when the new shop would be open. Councillor Elsey responded that the shop was scheduled to begin trading in the Springtime, maybe as early as March 2011.

7. COUNCIL BUSINESS TIME

7 (i) Executive Recommendations

Councillors Cereste, Holdich, S Dalton and Sanders left the meeting.

(a) Peterborough Site Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD) – proposed submission version

Cabinet, at its meeting of 8 November 2010, received the Site Allocations Development Plan Document (proposed submission version) for consideration and was requested to refer it to Full Council to approve for the purposes of public consultation before submission to the Secretary of State.

Councillor Lee introduced and moved the recommendation and this was seconded by Councillor Hiller.

During debate, concerns were raised about the proposed developments outside the village envelope in Eye, the location of the proposed new Cemetery being away from the city centre, the absence of allocated Gypsy and Travellers sites and the range of densities of some planned developments in the urban area.

Councillor Lee responded that development in Eye had been significantly reduced already but housing was needed for local people; public transport would be provided to the new

Cemetery site; a Gypsy and Traveller Transit Site was considered in the document; and density of developments would vary depending on the local area that the development was in and other policies relating to density levels.

Following a vote (34 in favour, 3 against and 5 abstentions) it was RESOLVED to:

Approve the Site Allocations DPD (Proposed Submission Version) for the purposes of public consultation and submission to the Secretary of State.

Councillors Cereste, Holdich and S Dalton returned to the meeting.

7(ii) Committee Recommendations

(a) Report from Licensing Act 2003 Committee – 3 yearly Review of Policy

Council received a report requesting it adopted the Statement of Licensing Policy for 2011–2014. Councillor Hiller moved the recommendation. This was seconded by Councillor Elsey.

It was RESOLVED to:

Adopt the Statement of Licensing Policy for 2011 – 2014.

(b) Report form the Licensing Committee – Licensing of Sexual Entertainment Venues

Council received a report concerning changes to the law relating to sexual entertainment venues and asking Council to accept the recommendations of the Licensing Committee for the adoption of the provisions in Peterborough.

Councillor Hiller moved the recommendations. This was seconded by Councillor Allen.

It was RESOLVED to:

1. Adopt the amendments to the provisions of Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 by Section 27 of the Policing and Crime Act 2009;
2. Request officers prepare a draft policy for consultation regarding the regulation of such establishments and report back to the Licensing Committee prior to adoption of the licensing provisions;
3. Approve the delegation of functions under Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 to the Licensing Committee or the Executive Director of Operations as outlined in Appendix A of the report; and
4. Agree that the date for the new provisions to take effect should be at least 2 months from the date of the formal resolution of the adoption – proposed date 8 February 2011.

(c) Report from the Strong and Supportive Scrutiny Committee – Designated Public Places Orders

Council received a report requesting it adopt the Designated Public Place Order as set out in the report. Councillor Walsh introduced and moved the recommendation subject to references to Church Drive, Orton Longueville in the report being amended to Church Drive, Orton Waterville. This was seconded by Councillor Hiller.

Following a brief debate, it was RESOLVED to:

Adopt the Designated Public Place Orders as set out in this report subject to references to Church Drive, Orton Longueville in the report being amended to Church Drive, Orton Waterville.

7(iii) Notices of Motion

1. Councillor Lee moved the following motion:

That this Council:

Recognises that whilst it is important that all City Councillors', Parish Councillors' and co-opted members' Register of Interests submissions are made available on the Council's public website, individual Members should, in the interests of security, have the option to exclude details of their home address and place of work when the information is entered onto the website, by request to the Solicitor of the Council.

This was seconded by Councillor Thacker.

Following a brief debate this motion was CARRIED unanimously.

2. Councillor Sandford moved the following motion:

That this Council:

- (i) Welcomes the decision of the Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Committee to set up a review into the operation of Neighbourhood Councils in Peterborough;
- (ii) Notes that a key principle in the Localism Bill about to be published by the Government is to be a radical decentralisation of power not just to councils, but further to neighbourhoods and communities;
- (iii) Regrets that the initial promises of significant decision making powers for Peterborough's Neighbourhood Councils have not been fulfilled and that in the next financial year it is proposed to give them no delegated budgets other than access to some section 106 funding;
- (iv) Believes that in times of financial restraint, it is even more vital than ever that local decisions and choices regarding spending priorities in the various areas and neighbourhoods within Peterborough are made by the councillors who represent those areas and that this necessitates a significant increase in the proportion of the total Council budget which is delegated to Neighbourhood Councils;
- (v) Requests the Cabinet to amend its draft budget proposals to give significantly increased delegation of budgets and decision making to Neighbourhood Councils.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Fower.

A debate took place in which Councillors emphasised that a Scrutiny review group was ongoing relating to the future of Neighbourhood Councils and that this review should be concluded before voting on motions and changes.

Following debate, Councillor Sandford agreed to withdraw the motion but requested Council support the outcomes and recommendations of the Scrutiny review group.

7 (iv) Reports and Recommendations

(a) Report from Solicitor of the Council – Statutory Scrutiny Officer

Council received a report advising that the Principal Democratic Services Officer had now left the employment of the Council and the post deleted as part of the budget savings, so another officer must be appointed as the Statutory Scrutiny Officer.

Councillor Cereste moved the recommendation in the report. This was seconded by Councillor Lee.

A brief debate was held in which concern was raised that the officer advising Cabinet should not also advise on its scrutiny. The Solicitor to the Council clarified that the Head of Legal did not provide advice to Cabinet as this was done by the Solicitor to the Council.

Following a vote (39 in favour, 5 against, 0 abstentions), it was RESOLVED to:

Appoint the Head of Legal as the Council's Statutory Scrutiny Officer and authorise the Solicitor to the Council to update the Constitution accordingly.

Meeting closed 8.55 p.m.

MAYOR

COUNCIL MEETING – 8 DECEMBER 2010

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

AGENDA ITEM 5 - COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT TIME**5 (i) Questions with notice by members of the public****1. Mr S Stallebrass asked the Leader:**

What justification does Peterborough City Council have for making prayer such an integral part of Council meetings? Especially given its membership to the National Association of Local Councils, which has asserted that continuing prayers as part of the council meetings is a breach of the European Convention on Human Rights.

Prayers at council meetings are no more relevant than prayers would be at a board meeting of any corporation. Furthermore, they are no longer representative of the Peterborough community as a whole. Indeed, Peterborough City Council should confine itself to providing public services and not forcing religious services on its councillors. It should be a fully secular organisation, and as such seek to promote the separation of politics from religion. Council prayers represent a fusion of politics and religion, which is wholly unnecessary and wrong.

Would the Council therefore review its practice of having prayers at the beginning of its council meetings?

The Leader responded:

In Peterborough it is custom and practice for the Mayor to appoint a Chaplain but it is for each Mayor to decide whether or not they wish to appoint one. The Chaplain can be from any faith and over the last few years they have included members of the Church of England and Roman Catholic Church and the current Chaplain is from the Salvation Army. The appointment is honorary, is at the Mayor's discretion and has no official status. The Chaplain acts as spiritual adviser to the Mayor, says prayers before each Council meeting and attends major civic functions and dinners where he or she will be expected to say grace. The Chaplain also makes arrangements for the Mayor's Civic Service which is held each year in the Mayor's own ward.

I have not received any complaints from Members who feel that prayers before the Council meeting are being imposed on them and if anyone feels uncomfortable with the prayers they are free not to be present in the Chamber.

For clarification we are not members of NALC as that is the association for parish and town councils and therefore we are not aware of what their stance is in relation to prayers. We are, however, aware of the current judicial review proceedings in respect of the saying of prayers at Council, brought by the National Secular Society against Bideford Town Council. If national advice to Councils changes as a result of that legal challenge, the Council will be asked to consider this matter again.

Mr Stallebrass asked the following supplementary question:

Should the judicial review against Bideford rule that Article 9 of the EU Human Rights legislation has been breached will the Council review reverse its own position?

The Leader responded:

	<p>Unless it is deemed to be in breach of the law and illegal and told that it must be stopped, this Council will continue with the practice of saying prayers.</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p>Mr E Murphy asked the Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University:</p> <p>It is now confirmed that the Coalition will scrap the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) introduced by Labour in 2004 to help the poorest students. In January David Cameron said that the Conservatives “don’t have any plans to get rid of EMA payments”, and in March Michael Gove responded to Labour claims that EMA would be scrapped by saying “I have never said this. We won’t.”</p> <p>Of the many students per year who receive EMA, 2,720 live in Peterborough. Does the Cabinet Member agree with me that the scrapping of EMA is bad for students here in Peterborough where we need to continue to encourage learning and skills as we perform below the national and regional levels, have very few people with higher qualifications and need to do better. Does he know the total amount of EMA that is paid to residents in Peterborough each year that will be lost to the Peterborough economy; is there any transitional protection for students currently receiving support and from what date will EMA payments be axed in Peterborough?</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University responded:</p> <p>It was early in 1997 when I heard red Ken Livingstone say he hoped that Labour would not get a big majority as they would do as they usually do and mess up the economy. Was it not Labour who walked out on this Council leaving it partially bankrupt a few years ago? We now have red Ed in Westminster not having a clue what to do about the state his party has left our country in and red Ed in Peterborough still asking negative questions.</p> <p>E.M.A. is a weekly payment of between £10 and £30 depending on household income. It is paid directly to young people who stay in learning after reaching the statutory school leaving age. Young people may get E.M.A. support for up to three years, ending in the academic year in which they turn 19.</p> <p>E.M.A. will cease at the end of this academic year and there are no transitional arrangements for continuing students, but the Government says there will be a hardship fund. No details as yet.</p> <p>44% of 16 year olds i.e. 1110 young people, then it drops off to 39% i.e. 970 young people at 17 years old, then only 17% i.e. 420 young people at 18 availed themselves of the scheme and I am sorry I do not have the amount of money paid out, because the young person has to claim centrally and it is not easy to guess, as they only get paid if they turn up and some do not.</p> <p>What I can tell you is that this Council is totally committed to the education of its citizens, for it has provided in its budget millions for school improvements and more school places, as well as money for a Skills Centre at John Mansfield and the Stem Centre at the football ground, a total of £150m over five years, plus Government grants, a commitment never before seen in the city and we are well on the way to creating a multi-university for the city.</p> <p>Mr Murphy asked the following supplementary question:</p> <p>Can you not manage to do the arithmetic to find out the amount of EMA awarded in the city? Are you aware that applications for EMA will cease this month in Peterborough?</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University responded:</p>

	<p>If you want to find out how much is spent in Peterborough, you can submit a Freedom of Information request to find this out. It is allocated by central government upon receipt of applications from young people; not by this council. Throwing money at education doesn't always work.</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>Mr E Murphy asked the Leader:</p> <p>The disqualified right wing BNP candidate at the general election was able to use the Royal Mail free of charge to distribute racist propaganda in Peterborough. What checks were in place and what steps were taken by the authorities and the City Council's Returning Officer to stop this happening when I notified Peterborough City Council that freepost leaflets were going out for a disqualified BNP candidate? At the Full Council the Leader was asked by Councillor Khan about the proposed EDL march in Peterborough and the effects this would have on our community. Since then the Council have been requested by a number of people and organisations not to give council facilities for the use of the EDL and to stop this right wing rally taking place in our town centre. It is estimated the cost to the Police Service and local business will amount to millions of pounds. The Leicester Police bill was £2.1 million and the Council spent £700,000. The cost to retail may also be considerable due to a massive drop in sales on a Christmas shopping Saturday.</p> <p>Why are the conservative authorities in Peterborough giving facilities to right wing groups such as allowing the BNP to make inappropriate and unauthorised use of the Royal Mail freeposts and assisting the EDL with the closure of the Town Bridge and provision of council facilities? Are Conservative authorities, the Conservative Party dominated Council and Police Authority and the Conservative MP in danger of being seen as partisan and would it be better that they acted without fear or favour?</p> <p>The Leader responded:</p> <p>Firstly I would like to separate out these two totally unrelated issues.</p> <p>With regard to the BNP candidate the elections office has no record of any formal complaint being made about this. In any event, as the BNP candidate was not validly nominated he would not be entitled to free postage. This could amount to electoral malpractice, which as a candidate in the last election, you will be aware is a matter for the Police and not the Acting Returning Officer. Therefore if you are able to substantiate such a claim, the matter should be referred to the Police and no doubt you will do so as a result of my answer to your question.</p> <p>Secondly the EDL march has required strong civic leadership that has led this city to make some very difficult, but very appropriate, decisions over the past few weeks which we believe have been in the best interests of the city for all our residents both now and in the future.</p> <p>Only the Home Secretary has the power to ban protest marches, not the Police, nor the council. It is only in very limited circumstances that the police may ask a local council to seek a ban but neither the Police nor the council believe this would give anyone the outcome they wanted. It certainly wouldn't stop the EDL from coming to hold a static protest in the city.</p> <p>Leicester successfully secured a ban – but the EDL turned up there to protest and neither the police, nor the council had any power to stop them. We have learned from the experiences of Leicester and other cities across the country. The Police have been speaking to the EDL which has allowed the Police to understand the EDL's plans and that has enabled the police to properly manage the march to minimise the impact on our city. The Council has had no direct contact with EDL as all negotiations for this have been handled exclusively by the Police.</p>

I strongly believe the best way to show the unity and community spirit in this city is not to react although every instinct dictates that one should, but instead to come out and support the celebration and unity events we are holding in the city in the run-up to and after Saturday 11 December 2010.

I was proud to be a part of an event on Sunday which saw faith leaders in the city join together like has never been seen before. I joined them in signing an interfaith statement to celebrate the diversity of the city and the contribution different communities make to the wellbeing and quality of life. Next Sunday, children and residents of all ages are being invited to come together in a candlelit vigil to celebrate the city's diversity and the successful integration of different communities into Peterborough.

If we really want to show the EDL that it doesn't have support in this city then we need to make sure any protests are peaceful and pass without incident. I can think of no greater way to show the strength of community other than to show them that we will work together as a community and we will have the spirit not to be pushed into behaving badly ourselves.

Mr Murphy asked the following supplementary question:

Does the Leader agree with me that it would be better if mischievous right-wingers like the EDL and Stewart Jackson had no presence in Peterborough whatever?

The Leader responded:

All I would like to say to you is that Lord Haw Haw told everybody by radio during the War that everything was wonderful and the Nazis were great. The outcome for Lord Haw Haw was that he got hanged.

4. **Mr D McKean asked the Deputy Leader:**

Is it correct that in April this year, 1,274 Eye and Eye Green residents (40% of Eye village electors) commented on the Site Allocations and that in September this year, 323 Eye and Eye Green residents (that's 95% of the comments received about the Peterborough Core Strategy after the abolition of the Regional Spatial Strategy) were all objecting to any further growth outside Eye's current village envelopes, and that only 3 were in favour?

The Deputy Leader responded:

The statement is almost correct, and certainly the gist of the statement is correct, but I would like to be absolutely clear on this matter.

We received 1,296 representations from Eye and Eye Green residents in April this year which commented upon Policy SA6 of the Site Allocations Document, with Policy SA6 being the one which allocated new development sites to Eye. Of those 1,296 representations, 1,274 objected to the policy with the remaining 22 either in favour (3), sought changes (7) or expressed more general comments (12).

It is correct that 323 further representations were received in September this year from Eye and Eye Green residents. These representations generally supported the Council's proposed changes to its Gypsy and Traveller policy, plus such representors also took the opportunity to object in more general terms to growth of Eye and Eye Green.

The Council is very grateful to all those who took the time to write to us, and all of the representations received have been considered carefully. Accordingly, officers have now recommended to Council this evening that the quantity of new housing allocations in Eye be reduced from 305 dwellings to 85 dwellings, plus the Gypsy and Traveller allocation in Eye has now been completely removed from the document.

Finally, to avoid confusion, may I also point out that, following a legal ruling, the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) has not now been abolished, though the government still indicates that it intends to abolish it. Until it is abolished, the RSS remains part of the development plan for Peterborough and, following a second legal ruling, the Council can not place any weight on the government's 'intention' to abolish the RSS.

Mr McKean asked the following supplementary question:

Planning officers have been given direction from government to take into account the cancellation of the RSS in development strategies. Why consult with the residents and the committee about the new, revised Site Allocations before you tonight, and the numbers, when your officers are telling you you're unable to change the numbers in Eye village as stated earlier in the presentation outside this meeting, because of the way you've written the Core Strategy. This does bring into question the soundness of your Core Strategy if when you've consulted with residents, they say they want the numbers taken out of the Site Allocations and your officers say you can't take them out due to the Core Strategy wording. I would then say it draws into question the soundness of the Site Allocations if the Core Strategy is unsound. The residents just want 20 more houses, no more. Why consult with residents if when the response comes the document cannot be changed?

The Deputy Leader responded:

We have changed it, as detailed in my first answer.

5. **Mr D McKean asked the Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Planning:**

Can the Cabinet Member assure the residents of Eye and Eye Green that he will look into the feasibility of using the sale of the Croft 39 roomed residential site in Eye (and those capital receipts), to rectify the 24% shortage of open space (*ref. PCC report 2005: E065 Core Strategy Evidence*), plus the further open space shortage created by the recent 380 new dwellings, two-thirds of which do not have open space?

The Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Planning responded:

The current policy is that receipts generated from the sale of assets go to fund the objectives of the Council and are not ring fenced.

Should the sale of the Croft or any other asset in Eye result in a subsequent planning application for redevelopment, then as part of considering that application the Council would assess what level of open space the development should provide on-site or contribute to off-site provision. This will be calculated based on Local Plan policy and would, in part, take into account whether there is a shortage of open space within Eye at the time of the application.

However any further requirement for additional open space within Eye and Eye Green would need to be considered alongside all other demands for resources and as part of the process of establishing the budget for the Council. This would not be linked to the disposal of The Croft or any asset within the area.

What I can say is that should this proposal come forward then it will be considered alongside all of the other competing priorities and evaluated on its own merits.

Mr D McKean asked the following supplementary question:

Why does Eye have to have more growth to get S106 contributions to fix the current published 24% shortage of open space in its village? The Croft site alone wouldn't fill it,

	<p>that 24% shortage.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Planning responded:</p> <p>Should the sale of the Croft or any other asset in Eye result in a subsequent planning application for redevelopment, then as part of considering that application, the council would certainly assess what level of open space the development should provide on site or indeed contribute to off-site provision.</p>
5 (ii)	<u>Questions with notice by Members relating to ward matters to Cabinet Members and to Committee Chairmen</u>
1.	<p>Councillor Sanders asked that his question below be taken as read for the Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Planning:</p> <p>Has the inspector examining the Core Strategy provided her report, and if so, is there anything that affects the approach to Eye Village and Eye Green?</p> <p>The Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Planning responded:</p> <p>Following her examination of the Peterborough Core Strategy, the Inspector has NOT yet provided her report. We anticipate it being received before Christmas and reporting it to Council on 23 February 2011. Once it is received, officers have been instructed to publish it on the website in full as soon as is practical to do so.</p>
5 (iii)	<u>Questions with notice by Members to Council representatives of the Police and Fire Authorities</u>
1.	<p>Councillor Saltmarsh, on behalf of Councillor Miners, asked the Council's representative on the Police Authority:</p> <p>Noting the vast reduction in finance to Police Authorities and the fact that certain Chief Constables are proposing to cut Police numbers, what impact will this have on local community policing in Peterborough and the position/numbers of Police Community Support Officers on the ground locally?</p> <p>Councillor Fitzgerald responded:</p> <p>Cambridgeshire Police Authority is working hard to ensure the plans the force has in place, will continue to deliver an effective and efficient policing service to the communities of Cambridgeshire including Peterborough within the budget available in 2011/12 and beyond.</p> <p>To achieve that will require a different way of thinking about the service:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • working closely with other forces in the region to achieve economies of scale and efficiencies across a range of services; • developing new ways to further strengthen the links with local partners; and • working even more closely with communities to ensure local needs are met. <p>There are no plans to reduce the PCSO numbers. PCSOs are mainly funded via a specific Home Office grant and the expectation is that this funding will continue.</p>
2.	<p>Councillor Saltmarsh, on behalf of Councillor Miners, asked the Council's representative on the Fire Authority:</p> <p>Noting some neighbouring local authorities are proposing to close fire stations, make redundancies and possibly share resources, what exactly is happening in the Peterborough Unitary area?</p>

The two main core functions of the Fire Service are to:

- Save Lives; and
- Protect Property.

Are our two main Peterborough Fire Stations (Dogsthorpe & Stanground) safe from closure and redundancy of front line fire fighters? If proposals do exist to 'streamline front line fire services' how does this all fit in with the Regional Control Centres which are still being promoted by bureaucrats and centralising politicians?

Councillor Goodwin responded:

At this point in time the Service is still unclear about exactly how big the cuts to government grant will be, however, we are planning for a minimum of £3.6M (from a current budget of circa £30M). The Service has initiated a programme to identify where to make cuts in a way that will minimise the impact on front line services. Due to the size of the cuts there can be no guarantee that front line services will be unaffected, and therefore, all options for making significant savings will be considered over the coming months. In terms of timescales, the Service Senior Management Team is aiming to present a full list of potential areas for making cuts to the Fire Authority at its meeting in late January 2011. Following which the Service will launch a series of feasibility studies to examine the agreed areas in further detail.

At present the Service is still making preparations to move to a Regional Control Centre, however, should the Government decide not to pursue the RCC Project further then the Service is well placed to continue to provide appropriate Command and Control functions. The Service will look at its Command and Control function as part of the cuts identification process in order to determine whether there are ways to provide the service in a cheaper but equally effective way. Examples of such ways include the voluntary merger of the Service Command and Control function with other fire services.

AGENDA ITEM 6 - EXECUTIVE BUSINESS TIME

6 (i) Questions with Notice to the Leader and Members of the Executive

1. **Councillor Lane, on behalf of Councillor JR Fox, asked the Deputy Leader:**

Would the Deputy Leader agree that OAPs and disabled people should be encouraged to take on allotments, and will he consider ensuring that there is no increase in the fee for OAP and disabled allotment holders, now that their concession cards have been withdrawn? Further, can he reassure the public that the Council will remain in charge of allotment allocation and costing after the transfer of City Services?

The Deputy Leader responded:

The Council has held the fee for allotments at £52 per plot per year and set a single fee for partial allotments at £39 in order to provide clarity and consistency. In setting these rates we have noted the comments of the National Association of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners and their view that £52 is a reasonable amount. Indeed their view on their website two years ago was that the then £25 national average was derisory.

The charge that the Council levies includes the water supplied to allotment holders which equates to approximately £10 per plot per year and the maintenance of the infrastructure, pathways, fences and services. These all fall outside the framework of legislation which merely requires Local Authorities to provide open pieces of land. It is our allotment holders' wish, however, to have secure locations and therefore there has already been investment in fencing and maintenance of plots.

Following the transfer of City Services in the Lot 3 process the allotments will be maintained and managed by the new supplier. However, the Council will continue to set the policy and indeed the rents. Allocation of plots is already undertaken by the local representative on each site and is only dealt with by the management team as a matter of last resort.

COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 4 (i)
23 FEBRUARY 2011	PUBLIC REPORT

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT: FOR INFORMATION

This report is a brief summary of the Mayor's activities on the Council's behalf during the last meetings cycle, together with relevant matters for information. (Events marked with * denote events attended by the Deputy Mayor on the Mayor's behalf).

2. ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION – From 29 November 2010 to 12 February 2011

2.1 Civic Events

- Attended Citizenship Ceremony on 7 December
- Attended Civic Carol Service at St Peter & St Paul's Church on 9 December
- Attended Citizenship Ceremony on 21 December
- Attended Citizenship Ceremony on 4 January
- Attended Citizenship Ceremony on 18 January
- Attended Holocaust Memorial Day Service in Cathedral Square on 27 January
- Attended Katharine of Aragon reception and presentation in Reception Room, Town Hall on 28 January
- Headed procession for Katharine of Aragon to Commemoration Service at Peterborough Cathedral on 28 January
- Attended Citizenship Ceremony on 1 February*

2.2 Visitors to the Mayor's Parlour

- Hosted Charity Committee Meeting on 1 December
- Hosted War Memorial Planning Meeting on 2 December
- Hosted visit by Mary Phillips on 14 December
- Meeting with Carlos Dominguez to hand over 'Sleep Rough' sponsorship money on 14 December
- Hosted meeting to discuss Hindu Temple in Mayor's parlour on 15 December
- Hosted meeting to discuss Perkins Great Eastern Run on 17 December
- Meeting with Richard Philp and Junior McDougald in Parlour to discuss Sports Connections Foundation on 21 December
- Mark Johnson visited with his mother and aunty on 21 December
- Mr Pitsikas from Sea Cadets visited on 22 December
- Mr and Mrs Farrell visited on 23 December
- Gibbs family visited on 5 December
- Hosted War Memorial Planning Meeting on 10 January
- Hosted Charity Committee meeting on 11 January
- Hosted Holocaust Memorial Planning meeting on 12 January
- Introductory meeting with Andrew Mackintosh, New Head of Communications on 13 January
- Hosted visit by students from Stanground College on 14 January

- Hosted visit by exchange students from Shanghai who visited Jack Hunt School on 17 January
- Hosted meeting with Paul Clark on 17 January
- Hosted visit from the Beeches School on 18 January
- Hosted War Memorial Fund Raising meeting on 18 January
- Hosted meeting with Karen Butler re Katharine of Aragon event on 18 January
- Hosted Vinnitsa Group meeting on 19 January
- Hosted meeting for Holocaust Memorial Day run-through on 27 January
- Hosted meeting from Catholic ladies group on 27 January
- Hosted meeting with Justin Beaumont to discuss charity event on 31 January
- Hosted War Memorial Group meeting on 31 January
- Hosted meeting to discuss fundraising for Mayor's charities on 4 February
- Hosted Charity Committee Meeting on 4 February
- Children from John Clare School visited on 9 February
- Hosted War Memorial Fund Raising Committee meeting on 9 February
- Children from Gladstone Primary School visited on 10 February
- Local Sea Cadets visited on 11 February

2.3 Charity Events

- Attended photo shoot to promote charity event fund raiser for the Mayor's Charities being held in February 2011 on 18 December

2.4 Council and Other Events

- Attended Crimestoppers Youth Event at the Voyager School on 29 November
- Attended Kidney Research UK – Pre-reception at Bull Hotel on 29 November
- Attended Kidney Research UK – Advent Service at Peterborough Cathedral on 29 November
- Attended Nativity Performance at Dogsthorpe Infant School on 30 November
- Attended CAB Annual General Meeting on 30 November
- Attended 'New Archaeological Discoveries' lecture at St John's Church on 1 December
- Attended Ice Hockey at Ice Rink on 1 December
- Attended Cavell Centre on 2 December
- Attended Festive Community Afternoon at Premier Inn on 2 December*
- Attended Peterborough and District Family Mediation Service AGM at City College on 2 December
- Attended Ormiston Children and Families Trust Winter Open Event on 3 December
- Attended Marshfields Christmas Fete at Marshfields School on 3 December
- Attended Headway Event at Dogsthorpe Community Centre on 4 December
- Attended Peterborough and District Deaf Children's Society Christmas Party at Middleton Primary School
- Attended Family Fun Day at Peterborough Adventure Centre on 4 December*
- Attended Candelight Classics at Peterborough Cathedral on 4 December
- Attended Flag Fen Christmas Fair on 5 December
- Attended Old Dogsthorpe Resident's Association at Marshfields School on 5 December
- Attended Town Hall to receive Interfaith Statement on 5 December
- Attended Excellence Award at Bayard Place on 6 December
- Attended selection of new Poet Laureate at John Clare Theatre on 6 December
- Attended Civic Service of Nine Lessons and Carols at St Mary's Parish Church, Huntingdon on 6 December*
- Attended packing a hamper for Age Concern at Marshfields School on 7 December
- Attended 158 (Royal Anglian) Transport Regiment Christmas Carol Service on 7 December

- Attended GeoPeterborough lecture at St John's Church on 8 December*
- Attended Recycled Christmas Tree Competition at POSH Football Ground on 9 December
- Attended Vinnitsa Meeting at Peterborough City Hospital on 9 December
- Attended Carol Concert at Wood Green Animal Shelters on 9 December*
- Attended Future Jobs Fund Jobs Fair at Town Hall on 10 December
- Attended 'Love came down at Christmas' at 67 Long Causeway on 11 December
- Attended Launch of Friends of Peterborough City Market and Christmas Light Switch On at Peterborough Market on 11 December
- Attended Peterborough 2010 Pan-African End of Year Get Together at Gladstone Centre Hall on 11 December
- Attended Peterborough Male Voice Choir 'Christmas Cracker' Concert at St John's Church on 11 December
- Attended Christmas Celebration Service at Kingsgate on 12 December
- Attended Salvation Army Carol Concert on 12 December
- Attended Freemasons Annual Carol Service at Peterborough Cathedral on 12 December
- Attended sponsored leg wax at Fourfields Community School, Yaxley on 13 December
- Attended Christmas window judging in Millfield on 13 December
- Attended Jack & The Beanstalk Pantomime on 13 December
- Hosted mince pie receptions for staff in reception room on 14 and 15 December
- Attended Col Jon Symon's leaving party at Park Inn Hotel on 14 December
- Attended the Peterborough School Annual Carol Service at St John's Church on 14 December
- Attended 'Arts & Social Change' at St John's Church on 15 December
- Attended opening of Bestdeal4baby on 15 December*
- Attended Commissioning of the new chapel at Peterborough City Hospital on 15 December
- Attended 'A Workhouse Christmas' at Peterborough Museum on 15 December*
- Attended Christmas wreath laying at the War Memorial on 16 December
- Attended Fulbridge School Party at PSL Club on 16 December
- Attended 'open house' drop in event at The Stukeley Club, RAF Alconbury on 16 December
- Attended Bluebell Over 60's Club Christmas Party on 16 December
- Attended presentation evening at Jack Hunt School on 16 December*
- Attended carol service at Dogsthorpe Junior School on 17 December*
- Attended Youth Access Point to draw raffle and present certificates at Central Library on 17 December
- Attended Mayor's Charity Concert at the Free Church, St Ives on 17 December*
- Attended Festive Freeze Winter Festival at the Voyager School on 18 December
- Attended Muppets Christmas Carol at Voyager School on 18 December*
- Attended Bangladesh Victory Day Celebrations at Gladstone Park Community Centre on 19 December
- Attended 'A Workhouse Christmas' at Peterborough Museum on 19 December
- Attended the community pantomime in Paston on 20 December*
- Attended Princes Trust Team Programme Final Presentation on 21 December
- Attended Christmas lunch at Lindens Sheltered Housing on 22 December
- Attended Inter Faith Event 4 Young People on 22 December*
- Attended Festival of Carols at Peterborough Cathedral on 24 December
- Attended Carols with the Salvation Army Band at Peterborough Cathedral on 24 December
- Attended Salvation Army Volunteer Christmas Lunch on 25 December
- Attended children's ward (Amazon Ward, Womens & Children's Unit, City Hospital) on 25 December

- Opened a new further education facility at Charford House, Padholme Road East on 4 January
- Attended formal opening of the new gym at the Regional Pool on 5 January
- Attended Shining Stars Pre-School Nursery on 6 January
- Attended inauguration of the Kerala Cultural Association on 8 January
- Attended funeral of Carlo D'Alessio on 11 January
- Visited Barnack School on 13 January
- Attended Corby Mayor's Charity Show on 15 January
- Attended Community post-Christmas lunch at Eye Community Centre on 16 January
- Attended World Religion Day at Town Hall on 19 January
- Attended Sports Awards at The Cressett on 21 January
- Attended Natwest Community Fund cheque presentation at PUFC on 22 January
- Attended Circus Starr at the ICA Fleet Complex on 23 January
- Attended Holocaust Memorial Day Service at St Mary's Parish Church, Huntingdon on 23 January*
- Visited temple at Unit 6, Road Road on 24 January
- Attended Citizenship ceremony at Shire Hall, Cambridge on 25 January
- Visited Cathedral to meet with Nick Drewett to run through procedure for Katharine of Aragon on 27 January
- Visited Young Lives at 57-59 Broadway on 27 January
- Opened the week of offering free health checks on the health bus outside Town Hall on 28 January
- Attended official opening of the Roy Duncan Sixth Form Centre at Jack Hunt School on 28 January*
- Attended Katharine of Aragon Cathedral Service on 28 January
- Attended Race Night Fundraiser at PSL Club on 28 January
- Attended Pizza Party at Papa John's on 29 January
- Attended darts match at the Star on 29 March
- Attended 'The Sixteen' concert at Peterborough Cathedral on 29 January*
- Attended Nissan showroom to test drive Nissan leaf, new electric car on 31 January
- Attended gala opening of the Love Local Shop in Central Avenue on 31 January
- Visited Wittering Primary School
- Attended High Sheriff's Awards Ceremony at Hinchingsbrooke Performing Arts Centre on 2 February
- Visited Hampton Hargate School on 3 February
- Attended Skyline Dancers performance in reception room on 3 February
- Attended Senior Citizen Interfaith Group at Jack Hunt School on 4 February
- Attended the Mayor's Charity Dinner Dance on 4 February*
- Attended The Insurance Institute of Peterborough Annual Dinner on 4 February
- Attended the Peterborough and District Deaf Children's Society – 40th Celebrations on 5 February
- Attended the PCC sponsored POSH match on 5 February
- Attended Lion and Unicorn Dance performance for Chinese New Year in front of Town Hall on 7 February
- Visited Welborne School on 8 February
- Attended Mayor's charity afternoon dance in reception room on 8 February
- Attended Chinese New Year Party at Bento Chinese Restaurant on 8 February
- Visited Matley School on 9 February
- Attended Ground Breaking Ceremony at development site for PJ Care's new neurological care campus on Bretton Way
- Opened the Cedars Independent School and Day Nursery on 10 February
- Attended D of E presentation at Heltwate School on 10 February
- Visited Oakdale Primary School on 11 February
- Visited Col Alison Falcon at TA Centre on 11 February

- Visited Millfield Community Centre to speak about role of Mayor to the Co-op retired group on 11 February
- Attended Charity Dinner and Ball at BRSA Club on 11 February*
- Attended Ceremonial Opening of the Mart at Kings Lynn on 12 February
- Attended 'Expressive, Heartfelt, Somewhat Free Performance at John Clare Theatre on 12 February
- Grand opening performance of 'Flawless' at The Broadway Theatre on 12 February*

3. BACK GROUND DOCUMENTS (IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT 1985)

None.

4. DIRECTOR RESPONSIBLE

Chief Executive.

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COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 6(ii)
23 FEBRUARY 2011	PUBLIC REPORT

**EXECUTIVE REPORT – FOR INFORMATION
RECORD OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS**

1. DECISIONS FROM CABINET MEETING HELD 13 DECEMBER 2010 AND CONTINUED TO 20 DECEMBER 2010

TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETATION POLICY

Cabinet considered a report recommending the approval of the draft Translation & Interpretation Policy following a referral from the Solicitor to the Council and the Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion, Safety, and Women’s Enterprise.

CABINET RESOLVED TO:

Approve the draft Translation & Interpretation Policy.

PETERBOROUGH PLANNING POLICIES DPD – ‘PREFERRED OPTIONS’ VERSION

Cabinet considered a report recommending the approval of the Peterborough Planning Policies DPD (‘Consultation Draft’) for the purposes of public consultation in early 2011.

CABINET RESOLVED TO:

Approve the Peterborough Planning Policies DPD (‘Consultation Draft’) for the purposes of public consultation in early 2011.

CABINET FURTHER RESOLVED TO:

1. Request an amendment to Criteria (h) of Policy PP5, on page 55 of the agenda papers (page 15 of the planning document), to be amended so as to read:

“(h) of a similar size and scale to the original dwelling, or a larger than original dwelling may be permitted where this is appropriate to both the size of the plot and its setting in the landscape;”

2. Request an amendment in appendix A “Parking Standards” on page 85 of the agenda papers (page 45 of the planning document), to add the following at the start of the standards:

“The disabled parking standards in the tables below range from 2%-6% of all spaces, depending on the type of development proposed. The City Council is investigating whether these standards should be raised to 8% or 10%, and would welcome views on this suggestion. Disabled parking provision in large mixed development schemes should be distributed so that disabled people can access all of the site and not just the entrance to a single building.”

3. Request an amendment in appendix A "Parking Standards", part C3 on page 94 of the agenda papers (page 54 of the planning document), to add additional words in the 'Informative notes' column which stipulates that where a garage is proposed to count as one of the required parking spaces, the garage must be of a sufficient size and design to be able to accommodate an average sized car (with the exact wording and a specific size criteria to be agreed in consultation with Highways colleagues prior to the document being published for consultation).
4. Request an amendment in appendix C "Building of Local Importance" on page 107-116 of the agenda papers (page 67-74 of the planning document), to split the properties currently listed under 'Fletton' into two categories accordingly, namely 'Fletton' and 'Woodston'.

VILLAGE DESIGN SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT (DRAFT VERSION FOR CONSULTATION)

Cabinet considered a report recommending the approval of the Design and Development in Selected Rural Villages SPD ('consultation draft') for the purposes of public consultation in early 2011.

CABINET RESOLVED TO:

Approve the Design and Development in Selected Rural Villages SPD ('consultation draft') for the purposes of public consultation in early 2011.

PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP

Cabinet considered a report recommending it notes the current position in regard to the Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Local Enterprise Partnership, and to delegate authority to the Chief Executive to continue negotiations with partners and to finalise the governance structure of the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP).

CABINET RESOLVED TO:

Note the current position in regard to the Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Local Enterprise Partnership, and to delegate authority to the Chief Executive to continue negotiations with partners and to finalise the governance structure of the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP).

COUNCIL TAX BASE 2011/12

Cabinet received a report recommending the endorsement of the calculation of the Council Tax Base for 2011/12 at a level of 55,971 Band D equivalent properties and to note the estimated position of the Collection Fund and authorise the Executive Director - Strategic Resources to calculate the final figure on 15th January 2011 and notify the Cambridgeshire Police Authority and the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Fire & Rescue Authority.

CABINET RESOLVED TO:

1. Endorse the calculation of the Council Tax Base for 2011/12 at a level of 55,971 Band D equivalent properties; and
2. Note the estimated position of the Collection Fund and authorise the Executive Director - Strategic Resources to calculate the final figure on 15th January 2011 and notify the

ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER

Cabinet considered a report recommending approval of the Annual Audit Letter 2009/2010 subject to any comments Cabinet may wish to make.

CABINET RESOLVED TO:

Approve the Annual Audit Letter 2009/2010.

OUTCOME OF PETITIONS

Cabinet considered the following outcomes in respect of petitions presented to full Council and **RESOLVED** to note the action taken as follows:

Petition for Tintern Rise, Eye; to replace the available grass area to provide essential access and sufficient parking for residents family members, care-staff and emergency vehicles:

This petition was presented to full Council on 13 October 2010 by Councillor Sanders.

The Council's Network Management Group Manager responded on 26 October after visiting the location and speaking with the lead petitioner and ward councillor advising the following: The area of grass in question which is adopted highway is a relatively small half moon shaped area with a telegraph pole in the centre and services running through (utility cover evidence) and as such would only be capable of accommodating in the region of 8 cars maximum. As an estimate to lower/ transfer this would cost in the region of £25K and require planning guidance to change use from public open space to parking. We do not currently have the funds to accommodate this request. The relatively small area is not ideal to work with, however when I visited in mid afternoon there was no parking problem on street. I explained the situation to Mrs Pepper regards highway funding and she realises particularly with the current economic situation that there are even fewer funds available for projects like this.

CONTINUED ON 20 DECEMBER 2010:

THE FUTURE OF PETERBOROUGH COMMUNITY SERVICES (THE PROVIDER ARM OF THE PRIMARY CARE TRUST)

Cabinet considered a report recommending agreement with arrangements to transfer adult social care services from Peterborough Community Services to Cambridgeshire Community Services from 1 April 2011 following updated information being received in addition to the report submitted for the Cabinet meeting on 13 December.

Cabinet RESOLVED to:

Agree:

1. That adult social care services are part of a transfer of services from Peterborough Community Services to Cambridgeshire Community Services from 1 April 2011 as recommended by NHS Peterborough and that this is subject to: a) Peterborough City Council having a place on the Board of the new organisation as set out in this update.

b) The contract containing a clause which allows the City Council to review the inclusion of adult social care after the first six months. c) NHS Peterborough ensuring that the contract allows for a break clause when the partnership agreement between the City Council and the PCT ends (as it will under proposals to abolish Primary Care Trusts, set out in the NHS White Paper)

2. That further exploration takes place regarding learning disability services with a view to these services transferring to the City Council with a fuller options appraisal for the longer term then to take place.

Note:

That children's community health services will be transferred from Peterborough Community Services to the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Foundation Trust from 1 April 2011 with a continued direction of travel of integration with the City Council's children's services.

BUDGET AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY

Cabinet considered a report recommending agreement of the basis for the next stage of the budget consultation following updated budget proposals for 2011-12 through to 2015-16 following provisional local government finance settlement.

CABINET RESOLVED TO:

1. Agree the following as the basis for the next stage of the budget consultation:
 - a) That the MTFP is set in the context of the sustainable community strategy;
 - b) The Budget monitoring report as the first draft of a probable outturn position for 2010/11, noting the actions planned to deliver a balanced budget;
 - c) The draft revenue budget for 2011/12 and indicative figures for 2012/13 to 2015/16 (including the updated capacity bids and savings proposals);
 - d) The draft capital programme for 2011/12 to 2015/16, associated capital strategy, treasury strategy and asset management plan;
 - e) The draft medium term financial plan for 2011/12 to 2015/16;
 - f) The proposed council tax freeze for 2011/12 and indicative increases of 2.5% for 2012/13 to 2015/16;
 - g) To spend at the level of the Dedicated Schools Grant for 2011/12 to 2015/16; and
 - h) The proposals for reserves and balances.
2. Respond to Government regarding the consultation of the provisional local government finance settlement

2. DECISIONS FROM CABINET MEETING HELD 7 FEBRUARY 2011

NEIGHBOURHOOD COUNCIL REVIEW – INITIAL REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Cabinet received a report on the outcome of a review of Neighbourhood Councils which had been undertaken by the Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Task and Finish Group. Cabinet was asked to consider the conclusions and agree the recommendations of Part One of the review.

Following amendments to some of the proposed recommendations, Cabinet **RESOLVED** to:

1. Agree that the principle of delegating as much revenue and capital funding as possible is a driving principle behind Neighbourhood Councils, in line with the spirit of the new Localism Bill, and that this principle is agreed by Councillors and shared with officers.
2. Commit to reviewing the Constitutional delegations to Neighbourhood Councils in support of maximising funding delegated to them.
3. Agree that the current level of £25,000 funding is guaranteed from 2011/12 for the medium term financial plan as a minimum sum available to each Neighbourhood Council to be offset by any POIS monies that become available to each Neighbourhood Council.
4. Agree that the process for determining and allocating POIS monies be carefully assessed and agreed to ensure that all parts of Peterborough benefit from growth and new development.
5. Agree that mainstream revenue budgets are disaggregated, wherever possible, feasible and legal, and delegated to Neighbourhood Councils. In agreeing to this a pilot programme to be implemented focusing on a specific part of Council activity before a more expansive roll-out programme.
6. Agree that Neighbourhood Plans are produced for each of the Neighbourhood Council areas in line with the thinking articulated in the Localism Bill in order to help determine how all funding and other resources delegated to Neighbourhood Councils should be spent.
7. Agree that the Community Leadership Fund is maintained at £10,000 per ward, but that 25% of that budget is allocated, if all ward members agree, to meet the needs identified through the Neighbourhood Council Neighbourhood Planning process.
8. Agree that the frequency of Neighbourhood Council meetings be maintained at four per year in each area and that any future change to this pattern should see an *increase* rather than *decrease* in the frequency of meetings.
9. Agree that a thorough review be conducted of all other community-based meetings with a view to combining meetings wherever possible.
10. Agree that the ongoing but separate review of the Rural North Neighbourhood Council be included in the overall review of Neighbourhood Councils to ensure shared learning and avoidance of confusion and misinformation.
11. Agree that Neighbourhood Management Delivery meetings, led by the relevant Neighbourhood Manager, be created in all Neighbourhood Council areas as a means of engaging and progressing actions between Neighbourhood Council meetings.
12. Agree that minimal staffing costs be maintained by ensuring only essential Council officers are present at each Neighbourhood Council meeting.
13. Agree that ALL Councillors are encouraged, through a flexible and modern programme of continuous training and development, to actively participate in all aspects of Neighbourhood Council business, this training and development programme to incorporate the broader aspects of Neighbourhood Management, Localism and Big Society.
14. Agree that the agreed recommendations form part of an overall implementation plan for Neighbourhood Councils alongside the agreed recommendations that emerge from part two of the Review to be overseen by the cross-party working group formed from the

task and finish group; and that the Constitution be updated accordingly to reflect any agreed recommended changes.

Cabinet further **RESOLVED** to:

1. Agree that a rural Councillor be a member of the review panel for the separate review of the Rural North Neighbourhood Council indicated in recommendation 10 above.
2. Disagree that Special Responsibility Allowance for Neighbourhood Council Chairs is no longer awarded; reflecting the greater role to be played by ALL Councillors in relation to Neighbourhood Councils and that each of the seven Neighbourhood Councils should elect its own Chair who should be a Councillor from one of the wards represented at that Neighbourhood Council.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING CAPITAL FUNDING POLICY*

Please note that this decision is within Cabinet delegations and is consistent with the 2004 LSVT decision – as when read in conjunction with the budget report it shows that sufficient funds are allocated over the next 4 years to meet the £4m target under the policy.

Cabinet received a report explaining and recommending approval of a draft Affordable Housing Capital Funding Policy document. Cabinet further received recommendations from the Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee of 2 February 2011 relating to the document.

Cabinet **RESOLVED** to:

Adopt the Affordable Housing Capital Funding Policy, publish the policy document on the website and ensure appropriate bodies are made aware of the document subject to Council approval if appropriate.

Cabinet further **RESOLVED** to:

1. Agree to include further clarification as to who a 'registered provider' was in paragraph 2.1 of the policy document as recommended by Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee on 2 February 2011; and
2. Agree that should a Director seek to overrule and reject the recommendation of the panel to approve a bid, a Cabinet Member Decision Notice would be required to approve that rejection as recommended by Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee on 2 February 2011.

OUTCOME OF PETITIONS

Cabinet considered the following outcomes in respect of petitions presented to full Council and **RESOLVED** to note the action taken as follows:

Petition objecting to a homeless hostel being moved into Church on the Rock at North Bretton:

This petition was presented to full Council on 8 December 2010 by Councillor Nash.

The Neighbourhood Manager for North and West responded on 14 January 2011 stating that due to the expiring lease on the Manor House Street day centre venue, a search began for new premises approximately 18 months ago. Following comprehensive evaluations of

potential new sites over this time, the Alpha Centre was identified by the Peterborough Streets team as the most suitable venue.

The response goes on to include the following issues that were considered when making the decision: Access to the Centre; Planning Consent (change of use not required); Alcohol and Drugs (forbidden at the day centre); Cross Keys Homes (has not indicated any opposition); and Heltwate school (possible impact on the pupils).

Petition in support of the name change of Fletton Ward to Fletton and Woodston Ward

This petition was presented to full Council on 8 December 2010 by Councillor Lee.

The council's Community Governance Manager responded on 7 January 2011 stating that details of the petition will be passed to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) along with all other representations when it considers the proposal to change the name of Fletton ward to Fletton and Woodston ward.

If the LGBCE gives its consent to the name change, the decision on whether or not to change the ward name is due to be considered at a specially convened meeting of full Council at 6.30pm on Wednesday 23 February. Details of the petition will also be presented at this meeting along with all other representations.

Petition in support of the name change of Fletton Ward to Fletton and Woodston Ward

This petition was presented to full Council on 8 December 2010 by Councillor Serluca.

The council's Community Governance Manager responded on 7 January 2011 stating that details of the petition will be passed to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) along with all other representations when it considers the proposal to change the name of Fletton ward to Fletton and Woodston ward.

If the LGBCE gives its consent to the name change, the decision on whether or not to change the ward name is due to be considered at a specially convened meeting of full Council at 6.30pm on Wednesday 23 February. Details of the petition will also be presented at this meeting along with all other representations.

Petition for traffic calming measures around the Hempsted development

This petition was presented to full Council on 8 December 2010 by Councillor Scott.

The council's Senior Engineer (Development) responded on 13 January 2011 and advised that the roads were still within the ownership of O&H Hampton, a speed survey would take place after April 2011 when it was anticipated that the roads would be placed on a maintenance period and any speed management measures would be implemented following this survey if necessary. The speed management measures would need to be in place before the road was officially adopted by the Council which was not expected to be until April 2012 at the earliest.

Petition to get a parked car moved off the road at Wycliffe Grove

This petition was presented to full Council on 8 December 2010 by Councillor Lane on behalf of Councillor John Fox.

The council's Strategic Regulatory Services Manager responded on 17 December 2010 advising that a Civil Enforcement Officer had visited the site but at that time the car in

question was not there. A meeting has been arranged with Councillor Fox and relevant officers from the Police and Highways team to determine what action, if any, can be taken to address the concerns raised by residents.

Petition against any further growth as proposed in the Site Allocations for Eye Village (Eye and Eye Green)

This petition was presented to full Council on 8 December 2010 by Councillor Sanders.

The council's Planning Policy Manager responded on 6 January 2011 stating that at the meeting of full Council, the Site Allocations DPD was approved for consultation and submission to the secretary of state and included the sites outside the village envelope.

Cllr Sanders was further advised of the next steps in the approval process for the Site Allocations document so that he would know when and how he could continue his engagement with this process.

3. CALL-IN BY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE OR COMMISSION

Since the last report to Council, the call-in mechanism has not been invoked.

4. SPECIAL URGENCY AND WAIVE OF CALL-IN PROVISIONS

Scrutiny Procedure Rule 14 and Executive Procedure Rule 7 require any instances where the Council's special urgency provisions have been invoked, and/or the call-in mechanism was not applied, to be reported to the next available meeting of the Council, together with reasons for urgency.

Since the last report to Council special urgency provisions have not been invoked.

5. CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS

CABINET MEMBER AND DATE OF DECISION	REFERENCE	DECISION TAKEN
Councillor Seaton 26 November 2010	NOV10/CMDN/118	Provision of Security Services (including key holding, alarm response and mobile security patrols) - The Cabinet Member authorised the award of a place on the council's framework contract for security services to GSL Dardan Ltd and to Profile Security Services Ltd for a period of 4 years from November 2010 to November 2014, in relation to lot one of the framework contract only – security services to include static guarding; mobile patrols; locking and unlocking sites; key holding and responding to alarms.
Councillor Hiller 30 November 2010	NOV10/CMDN/119	Floating Support Contract: Cross Keys Homes Extension of Contract The Cabinet Member authorised the extension of the

		existing Cross Keys Homes Floating Support contract until 31 March 2011 for the sum referred to in the Exempt Annex
Councillor Holdich 30 November 2010	DEC10/CMDN/120	Appointment of Authority Governor - Bishop Creighton Primary School The Cabinet Member appointed Cllr Marion Todd who had been nominated by the governing body.
Councillor Holdich 30 November 2010	DEC10/CMDN/121	Appointment of Authority Governor - Woodston Primary School The Cabinet Member appointed Mrs Rona Metters who had been nominated by the Local Authority.
Councillor Holdich 30 November 2010	DEC10/CMDN/122	Appointment of Authority Governor - Newark Hill Primary School The Cabinet Member appointed Mrs Karen King who was changing from parent to authority governor and who had been nominated by the governing body.
Councillor Holdich 30 November 2010	DEC10/CMDN/123	Appointment of Authority Governor - Wittering Primary School The Cabinet Member appointed Mr David John Standish-Leigh who had been nominated by the governing body.
Councillor Holdich 30 November 2010	DEC10/CMDN/124	Appointment of Authority Governor - Werrington Primary School - The Cabinet Member appointed Mr Duncan Garfield who had been nominated by the governing body.
Councillor Holdich 30 November 2010	DEC10/CMDN/125	Appointment of Authority Governor - Gunthorpe Primary School The Cabinet Member appointed Miss Holly Mahon who had been nominated by the Local Authority.
Councillor Holdich 30 November 2010	DEC10/CMDN/126	Appointment of Authority Governor - Heltwate Primary School The Cabinet Member appointed Mr Terence Gray who had been nominated by the governing body.
Councillor Holdich 22 December 2010	DEC10/CMDN/138	Appointment of Authority Governor - Newark Hill Primary School - The Cabinet Member appointed Mr Kevin Field who had been nominated by the local authority.
Councillor Holdich	DEC10/CMDN/139	Appointment of Authority Governor - Hampton College -

22 December 2010		The Cabinet Member appointed Mr Alastair Kingsley, who was changing from parent to authority governor and had been nominated by Cllr Nigel North.
Councillor Holdich 22 December 2010	DEC10/CMDN/140	Appointment of Authority Governor - Winyates Primary School The Cabinet Member appointed Mr Omar Vawda who was changing from community to authority governor and who had been nominated by the governing body.
Councillor Holdich 22 December 2010	DEC10/CMDN/141	Appointment of Authority Governor - New Stanground South Primary School The Cabinet Member appointed Mr Clifford Moore who had been nominated by the local authority.
Councillor Seaton 13 January 2011	JAN11/CMDN/002	Discretionary Rate Relief from Business Rates for Charities, Similar Organisations Not Established or Conducted for Profit and Rural Businesses The Cabinet Member approved the award of Discretionary Rate Relief to 31 March 2011, for Vivacity Culture and Leisure Trust in respect of the properties detailed in Appendix A of the report.
Councillor Seaton 13 January 2011	JAN11/CMDN/003	Discretionary Rate Relief from Business Rates for Charities, Similar Organisations Not Established or Conducted for Profit and Rural Businesses The Cabinet Member: 1) Approved the award of Discretionary Rate Relief for charities and similar organisations and approved the award of Discretionary Rural Rate Relief for the organisations shown in at Appendix A of the report to 31 March 2011. 2) Rejected the applications for awards of Discretionary Rate Relief for charities and similar organisation as shown in Appendix B of the report.
Councillor Scott and Councillor Lamb 17 January 2011	JAN11/CMDN/004	Extension of contract for Emergency Duty Team Service with Cambridgeshire County Council The Cabinet Members authorised the award of a contract extension for the provision of Emergency Duty Team service for Children's and Adult Social Care to Cambridgeshire County Council for the option of up to 3 years duration to be awarded on a year on year basis from 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2014. The total value of the contract, inclusive of this £480,000 contract extension, was £1,235,337.
Councillor Lee 18 January 2011	JAN11/CMDN/005	Lot 3: Operational Services: Outcome of Final Tender Evaluation and Identification of Preferred Bidder

		The Cabinet Member authorised the appointment of the preferred bidder and final conditions and scope of the partnership contract for delivery of Operational Services.
Councillor Holdich 24 January 2011	JAN11/CMDN/006	Award of Contract - Paston Ridings Primary School The Cabinet Member authorised the award of the contract for the extension to Paston Ridings Primary School to provide seven new classrooms with associated facilities, a pre-school/out of school club room, a new staffroom, a bio-mass boiler and general refurbishment to P.G.R. Construction Limited for the sum of £2,484,976.63.
Councillor Seaton 26 January 2011	JAN11/CMDN/007	Delivery of the Council's Capital Receipt Programme through the sale of surplus land fronting Paston Ridings, adjacent to the Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) the former Honeyhill School That the Cabinet Member for Resources, in consultation with the Leader of the Council delegated authority to the Executive Director of Strategic Resources to negotiate and conclude a sale of land fronting Paston Ridings adjacent to the former Honeyhill School (and prior to conclusion to consult the Corporate Property Officer and the Cabinet Member for Resources who will liaise with new Leader) to be identified as the preferred option (by way of two land use option reviews) based on best consideration principles in respect of meeting the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan.
Councillor Holdich 27 January 2011	JAN11/CMDN/009	Appointment of Authority Governor - Werrington Primary School The Cabinet Member appointed Mr Andrew Hornsby who had been nominated by the governing body.
Councillor Holdich 27 January 2011	JAN11/CMDN/010	Appointment of Authority Governor - Nenegate School The Cabinet Member appointed Mr George Welch who had been nominated by the local authority.
Councillor Seaton 4 February 2011	FEB11/CMDN/11	Discretionary Rate Relief from Business Rates on the Grounds of Hardship The Cabinet Member considered an application from a company named in the exempt annex for hardship relief and accepted the recommendation that the application be refused for the reasons outlined in the background information and the exempt annex.
Councillor Seaton 10 February	FEB11/CMDN/017	Revised guidelines for awarding Discretionary Rate Relief in respect of Charities and Non Profit making organisations and Rural Rate Relief

2011		The Cabinet Member approved the revised guidelines for award of Discretionary Rate Relief relating to charities and non profit making organisations and rural rate relief.
Councillor Seaton 10 February 2011	FEB11/CMDN/018	Write off approval for debts over £10,000 in relation to Non Domestic Rates The Cabinet Member authorised the write off of the debt shown as outstanding in respect of 31 non domestic rate accounts included in the schedule shown at Appendix A of the decision. Appendix A detailed the name of the ratepayer and the address of the property against which the debt had accrued, details the total outstanding debt and the reason for the write off request.
Councillor Seaton 11 February 2011	FEB11/CMDN/019	Delivery of the Council's Capital Receipt Programme through the Sale of 26-29 Maxwell Road Woodston PE2 7JE The Cabinet Member for Resources, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, authorised the conclusion of the terms for the sale by auction of the investment estate at 26-29 Maxwell Road.
Councillor Cereste 14 February 2011	FEB11/CMDN/020	Grant Support to Anglia Ruskin University The Cabinet Member approved a grant of £500k to support Anglia Ruskin University's (ARU) purchase and refurbishment of the Guild House and authorised the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Executive Director of Strategic Resources, Solicitor to the Council, Leader of the Council, the Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University and the Cabinet Member for Resources to negotiate and agree the specific grant conditions.
Councillor Seaton 14 February 2011	FEB11/CMDN/021	Delivery of the Council's Capital Receipts Programme through the sale of a small industrial estate (part of the Council's investment portfolio), known as Eye Green Industrial Estate The Cabinet Member for Resources, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, authorised the conclusion of the terms for the sale by auction of the investment estate known as Eye Green Industrial Estate.

COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 7(i)
23 FEBRUARY 2011	PUBLIC REPORT

EXECUTIVE REPORT – RECOMMENDATIONS

a) PETERBOROUGH CORE STRATEGY

Cabinet, at its meeting of 7 February 2011, received the Peterborough Local Development Framework: Peterborough Core Strategy (Version for Adoption) for consideration and was requested to refer it to Full Council to approve.

The report followed Council's decision on 2 December 2009 to approve the Peterborough Core Strategy (Proposed Submission Version) for the purposes of public consultation and submission to the Secretary of State. Such consultation has taken place and the plan was submitted to the Secretary of State. Subsequently, an independent Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State has sent her report to the Chief Executive setting out her conclusions on the Core Strategy.

Cabinet only had two options available to it; either adopt the strategy or not adopt the strategy. The former was recommended, as it was a statutory duty to prepare a core strategy, and, in adopting it, Peterborough would have a clear and robust policy document setting out its vision, objectives and key planning policies.

Cabinet has endorsed the document, prior to its submission to full Council. A copy of the report to Cabinet is attached at **Appendix A**. A full copy of the Core Strategy with Inspector's Report has been sent to all Members (Books 2 and 3 of 4).

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Council adopts the Peterborough Core Strategy as part of its major policy framework, incorporating changes as recommended by the Inspector.

b) BUDGET 2011/12 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN (MTFP) TO 2015/16

Cabinet, at its meeting of 7 February 2011, received the budget proposals for 2011/12 through to 2015/16 in line with the provisional local government finance settlement and considered any amendments following public consultation feedback and government spending plans.

The final budget document has been put forward to Council following the announcement of the final local government finance settlement and any changes arising from the settlement are incorporated within.

Cabinet endorsed the following recommendations for Council:

1. Have regard to the consultation comments and statutory advice detailed in the report when determining the following budget recommendations:
2. Agree that the following be approved and recommended to Council on 23 February 2011:
 - a) That the MTFP is set in the context of the sustainable community strategy;

- b) The Budget monitoring report as the latest probable outturn position for 2010/11, noting the actions taken to deliver a balanced budget;
- c) The revenue budget for 2011/12 and indicative figures for 2012/13 to 2015/16;
- d) The capital programme for 2011/12 to 2015/16, associated capital strategy, treasury strategy and asset management plan;
- e) The medium term financial plan for 2011/12 to 2015/16;
- f) The proposed council tax freeze for 2011/12 and indicative increases of 2.5% for 2012/13 to 2015/16;
- g) To spend at the level of the Dedicated Schools Grant for 2011/12 to 2015/16;
- h) The proposals for reserves and balances;
- i) The Annual Accountability Agreement with the Primary Care Trust for 2011/12.

Cabinet endorsed further recommendations to:

1. Agree the addendum, outlining the final grant settlement and other amendments be included with the final report to Council on 23 February 2011.
2. Remove savings for Post 16 transport charges on page 67 of the report (£12k in 2011/12, £20k 2012-2016).

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Council adopts the Budget for 2011/12 and Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) to 2015/16.

CABINET	AGENDA ITEM No. 5
7 FEBRUARY 2011	PUBLIC REPORT

Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Cllr Marco Cereste, Portfolio Holder for Growth, Strategic Planning and Economic Development	
Contact Officer(s):	Richard Kay – Policy and Strategy Manager, Chief Executives Peter Heath-Brown – Planning Policy Manager, Chief Executives Andrew Edwards – Head of Peterborough Delivery Partnership	Tel. 863795 863796 384530

**PETERBOROUGH LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK: PETERBOROUGH CORE STRATEGY
(VERSION FOR ADOPTION)**

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM : Head of Peterborough Delivery Partnership	Deadline date : 23 February 2011
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Cabinet notes the conclusions of the independent Inspector who was appointed to examine the council's submitted Core Strategy. 2. That Cabinet recommends to Council the adoption of the Peterborough Core Strategy, incorporating changes as recommended by the Inspector. 	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report is submitted to Cabinet following Council's decision on 2 December 2009 to approve the Peterborough Core Strategy (Proposed Submission Version) for the purposes of public consultation and submission to the Secretary of State. Such consultation has taken place and the plan was submitted to the Secretary of State. Subsequently, an independent Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State has sent her report to the Chief Executive setting out her conclusions on the Core Strategy.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to set out the recommendations made by the independent Inspector and, subsequently, seek Cabinet's approval to recommend the Core Strategy to Council for adoption.
- 2.2 This report is for Cabinet to consider under its Terms of Reference No. 3.2.1, to take collective responsibility for the delivery of all strategic Executive functions within the Council's Major Policy and Budget Framework and lead the Council's overall improvement programmes to deliver excellent services.

3. TIMESCALE

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	YES	If Yes, date for relevant Cabinet Meeting	7 February 2011
Date for relevant Council meeting	23 February 2011	Date for submission to Government Dept	N/A

4. PETERBOROUGH CORE STRATEGY – THE INSPECTOR’S REPORT AND THE CORE STRATEGY RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

Introduction

- 4.1 The preparation of the Peterborough Core Strategy has reached its final stage. Following considerable public consultation, over many years, we have now reached the stage where Council has to decide whether to adopt the Core Strategy as part of its major policy framework.
- 4.2 Cabinet will recall that on 12 October 2009, the ‘submission’ version was considered by Cabinet before subsequently considered and approved by Council on 2 December 2009. That approval set in motion two key events:
- (i) the issuing of the Core Strategy for its final public consultation stage (January-March 2010); and
 - (ii) the ‘examination’ of the Core Strategy by an Independent Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State (summer-autumn 2010), and the subsequent issuing of an ‘Inspector’s Report’ (January 2011) setting out her recommendations for changes to the Core Strategy.

Content of Core Strategy

- 4.3 Before coming to the Inspector’s findings and recommendations, Cabinet may wish to remind themselves as to the purpose, content and status of the Core Strategy. If adopted, it will become part of the statutory development plan, and, as such, will be part of the Council’s major policy framework. It will be one of the documents that will gradually replace the existing Peterborough Local Plan (2006), complemented by a suite of other documents (such as the Site Allocations Document) that together comprise the LDF.
- 4.4 The Core Strategy sets out the vision, objectives and overall strategy for the development of Peterborough up to 2026, together with a limited number of policies that are core to achieving or delivering that strategy. It reflects the Sustainable Community Strategy for Peterborough, with consistency of vision and priorities, demonstrating how the spatial elements of that Strategy will be delivered.
- 4.5 Although the Core Strategy is accompanied by a key diagram which shows pictorially some of the key elements of the development strategy, it does not have a proposals map drawn on an Ordnance Survey base. This is because the details of site boundaries (for example, the allocation of specific parcels of land for particular forms of development, or the specific boundaries of areas in which a planning policy might apply) are matters for other documents in the LDF (such as the Site Allocations Document), which are in themselves well advanced but must await the adoption of the Core Strategy.
- 4.6 The Core Strategy sets out the blueprint for the future of Peterborough. It aims to deliver 25,500 new homes and 24,600 new jobs, but also sets crucial policy on matters such as affordable housing, environmentally friendly building and broad locations for new major development (for homes, jobs, retail and other matters).

The Inspector’s Role and the ‘Inspector’s Report’

- 4.7 Government regulations stipulate that an Inspector must be appointed by the Secretary of State to undertake an ‘Examination’ of a proposed Core Strategy, and consider all comments and objections that have been made. The Inspector holds a ‘Hearing’ session as part of the Examination process. The Inspector then subsequently issues an ‘Inspector’s Report’, which must state either:
- (i) That the Core Strategy is ‘unsound’, and that it is impossible for changes to be made to it to make it ‘sound’; under this scenario the Council is not permitted to adopt the Core Strategy;

- (ii) That the Core Strategy is 'sound', provided (in most instances) that certain changes as recommended by the Inspector are made to the Core Strategy before it is adopted.

4.8 We are very pleased to report that the Inspector, Dr Shelagh Bussey, who was appointed to examine the Peterborough Core Strategy, has found our strategy 'sound' and, in effect, has given permission to the city council to adopt the Core Strategy provided her recommended changes are incorporated into the final adopted version of the Core Strategy. Her full report is attached at Appendix A.

4.9 Pleasingly, and not common from a national perspective, her report only makes a few relatively minor changes to the strategy, all but one of which were agreed with planning officers at the time of the Examination.

4.10 The only additional change recommended by the Inspector requires the council to maintain up-to-date information on the needs of the Gypsy and Traveller community for use when planning any new Gypsy and Traveller pitches. However, the inspector does not allocate any new sites for Gypsy and Travellers nor does she set any specific target number of pitches that should be provided. Officers consider that this additional recommendation by the Inspector is sensible, and officers do not see any reason to not accept it.

4.11 It is, however, worth highlighting other comments made by the Inspector in her report, which demonstrate that not only does the Inspector consider the plan to be 'sound' but also that it is a well prepared, appropriate and sensible strategy for the city, supported by considerable evidence. To illustrate, the Inspector found that:

- The core strategy "is an ambitious plan...to deliver a bigger and better Peterborough" (para 7)
- The vision set out in the plan "is locally distinctive and provides a clear sense of how the city will develop" (para 11)
- The evidence which supported the preparation of the plan is "robust, extensive, but proportionate" (para 7)
- Eye / Eye Green is "appropriately categorised" as a Key Service Centre (para 22)
- The policies for the location of major development (such as an urban extension at Great Haddon and a regional freight interchange at Stanground) "are justified by the evidence, are the most appropriate to achieve the vision and objectives of the core strategy, and... they are effective, deliverable and consistent with national policy" (para 44)
- With respect to the housing growth targets, the "provision for around 25,500 net new dwellings by 2026 provides an appropriate and soundly based target for the current core strategy" (para 48)
- With respect to the employment growth targets (24,600 new jobs), the "intended scale of employment growth and employment land provision is justified" (para 67)
- With respect to infrastructure, "it is evident that the core strategy is underpinned by a clear understanding of the strategic infrastructure requirements that are necessary to deliver its vision and... there is a reasonable prospect for their timely provision" (para 78)
- Peterborough is "well placed" to lead on action to tackle environmental issues and adapt to climate change (paras 88-89)
- With respect to the policy requirement for 30 per cent of all new homes, on sites of 15 or more houses, to be affordable housing, "I have no reason to doubt that the submitted target and threshold are justified and the most appropriate" (para 103)
- The core strategy "appropriately emphasises the priority to enhance the role of the city centre as a regional centre" (para 125).

4.12 However, turning back to her recommended changes, it is important to note that, in accordance with regulations, the recommendations in the Inspector's Report are 'binding' on the council. This means that the council can not 'pick and choose' which of her

recommendations to accept or reject; it must accept them all (if the council wishes to adopt the Core Strategy) or, indirectly, reject them all (and, thus, not adopt the Core Strategy).

Adoption of the Peterborough Core Strategy

- 4.13 Cabinet must decide whether to recommend to Council the adoption of the Peterborough Core Strategy. Attached at Appendix B is the version which Cabinet is asked to recommend, and the version which will be considered by Council on 23 February. This version incorporates all of the recommendations made by the Inspector.
- 4.14 To be absolutely clear on this matter, Cabinet (and then Council) can only support or reject the version as at Appendix B. Further changes are no longer permitted.
- 4.15 If Council agree the Core Strategy as per Appendix B, then the document is 'adopted'.
- 4.16 If Council does not agree the Core Strategy as per Appendix B, then, in accordance with the regulations, the Council is not obliged to adopt it. However, as a result of a rather unusual quirk in the plan making system, the Council is equally not permitted to 'withdraw' the earlier draft Core Strategy (submission version – Jan 2010). Effectively, under this scenario, the draft Core Strategy and the Inspector's report go into somewhat of an abyss, neither adopted nor deleted. In reality, the council would in all likelihood commence the preparation of a new Core Strategy which, following the same cycle of extensive consultation and Examination, would eventually supersede this unadopted Core Strategy. The ability, in the meantime, of the council and developers to use the unadopted Core Strategy, and the Inspector's Report, as evidence to support or object to a proposal is a debateable point, and an issue we would have to investigate should the need arise.

5. CONSULTATION

- 5.1 Extensive consultation, over many years, with the public and a wide variety of other stakeholders has taken place. Emerging drafts have also been considered by various Neighbourhood Council, Scrutiny, Cabinet and Council meetings. The Inspector agreed that we had undertaken appropriate consultation.
- 5.2 There is no opportunity for further consultation or comment on the strategy.

6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES

- 6.1 It is anticipated that Cabinet will recommend to Council that the Core Strategy, as amended as a result of the Inspector's recommendations, be adopted.

7. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 As outlined in the report, Council only has two options available to it; either adopt the strategy or not adopt the strategy. The former is recommended, as it is a statutory duty to prepare a core strategy, and, in adopting it, Peterborough will have a clear and robust policy document setting out its vision, objectives and key planning policies.

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 8.1 The option of not adopting the plan is not recommended, because in doing so the council:
- would have no clear vision or strategy as to how Peterborough will grow;
 - will have no clear policies to progressively push forward on matters such as the environment, affordable homes and job creation; and
 - will be at considerable risk of having to consider ad hoc major planning proposals from developers with no real basis or policy in place for considering such proposals (which in turn could lead to poorly planned growth, reduced investment in Peterborough, lower job growth, increased housing waiting list and insufficient

provision of infrastructure due to uncoordinated, developer-led, development schemes).

- 8.2 In addition, should the Core Strategy be not adopted, this would mean that all other LDF documents currently under preparation (Site Allocations Document, City Centre Area Action Plan, Planning Policies DPD, etc) would need to be put on hold for perhaps 3-4 years until a revised Core Strategy was prepared, a situation which would exacerbate the issues identified in paragraph 8.1.

9. IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The Core Strategy will have implications for all sectors of society and all wards and parishes of the local authority area. The process of sustainability appraisal, based on social, economic and environmental criteria, ensures that all potential implications are taken into account in a systematic way.
- 9.2 Legal Implications: On adoption, the Council must consider all planning applications against the policies in the Core Strategy. In addition, all subsequent documents prepared as part of the LDF (such as the Site Allocations Document) must be in accordance with the Core Strategy.
- 9.3 Financial Implications: There are no immediate financial implications flowing from the adoption of the Core Strategy. The detailed financial implications of the growth described will be assessed as individual schemes develop, and these will be incorporated into the Council's Capital and Revenue financial planning processes.

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

None

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COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 7 (ii)
23 FEBRUARY 2011	PUBLIC REPORT

NOTICES OF MOTION

The following notice of motion has been received in accordance with Standing Order 15.2:

1. Motion from Councillor Swift:

That this City Council regrets the measures it has to take to impose increased charges on the majority of its services and reduce grants to outside organisations. Whilst recognising that nationally there are serious financial difficulties and that it is the duty of all sections of society to bear an equal share, for Peterborough City Council to try and recoup, within such a short period of time, the loss of substantial Government grants of over £12million pounds to facilitate an amended structure is as a Council, too much to bear.

With affirmation of the above, I move that this council:

1. Informs Her Majesty's coalition Government that we are outsourcing services to the private sector/Trusts and the question we are asking ourselves is what, if anything, will be left for future Councillors to administer?
2. Calls upon Her Majesty's coalition Government to stage over a longer period of time the funding cuts required nationally to balance the books.
3. Asks Her Majesty's coalition Government to define to Local Authorities, like Peterborough, what the future role of Local Government will be compared to its inception.

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COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 7(iii)(a)
23 FEBRUARY 2011	PUBLIC REPORT

Contact Officer:	Helen Edwards, Solicitor to the Council	Tel. 452539
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**REVIEW OF PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL'S MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME –
REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES PANEL**

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S	
FROM : Independent Members Allowances Panel	Deadline date : N/A
<p>Council is recommended to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the recommendations of the Independent Members' Allowances Panel as set out in paragraph 3.1 below; 2. Determine the action it wishes to take. 	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

- 1.1 The Council is required by law to have an Independent Members' Allowances Panel. The Panel met on 30 September 2010 in order to review the current scheme and consider specific issues relating to the level of the basic allowance, car parking permits for Members, special responsibility allowance payments for the Leader, Cabinet Advisors, Chairs of Scrutiny Committees/Commissions and Chairs of Neighbourhood Councils.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 To consider the recommendations of the Independent Members' Allowances Panel following its review of the Council's current Members' Allowances scheme.
- 2.2 All Members of the Council were invited to make written representations to the Panel and offered the opportunity to address the Panel in person. The Panel considered all of the representations that had been received. Details of the Panel's deliberations are attached at **Appendix A**.
- 2.3 The Council must 'have regard' to the Panel's recommendations but may then determine what action it wishes to take. The only element where the Council does not have any discretion is with regard to recommendations concerning membership of the Local Government Pension Scheme.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS ARISING FROM THE REVIEW

- 3.1 The Panel's main recommendations are set out below:
- 3.1.1 Basic Allowance

- That the basic allowance for all Members (£7,962.08) should remain unchanged. This figure includes a telephone allowance of £568.68 and a travel allowance of £227.45, both of which should remain unchanged;
- That the scheme of allowances should continue to be updated for inflation by the use of the Local Government Association's daily rate issued each February;
- That a review of the basic allowance should take place in 2011/12 at the same time that the Council considers charging staff for car parking.

3.1.2 Special Responsibility Allowance (SRAs)

The Panel noted the increase in the number of SRAs and were mindful of the Government's guidance that SRAs should only be paid to Members where significant additional responsibilities could be demonstrated. The Panel favoured adopting a realistic basic allowance so that only a minority of Members received an SRA.

	Panel's Proposal:
Leader's Allowance	No increase recommended at this time.
Cabinet	That the position of Cabinet Advisor to the Deputy Leader be kept under review.
Chairmen of Scrutiny Committees/Commissions	That the full basic allowance continues to be paid but that the Council carefully evaluate the benefits of the enlarged scrutiny function to ensure that the new arrangements are sustainable and effective.
Chairmen of Neighbourhood Councils	That the Council undertakes careful evaluation into the effectiveness of Neighbourhood Councils including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The breadth of community engagement and representation; • The proportion of authentic community present at meetings and how they shape the decision making process; • How the Councils have effectively informed the work of the Council and beyond; • The workload of the Chair and others who attend.
Chairman of Licensing Committee	That the SRA (paid at 50% of basic allowance) be discontinued due to the minimal workload of this Committee.
Independent Chairman of Standards Committee and Independent Members of Standards Committee	No change recommended at this time.

3.1.3 Political Group Management

	Current provision:	Panel's Proposal:
Group Leaders	Distributed on a <i>pro-rata</i> basis dependent on number of members in each group – basic allowance divided by number of members of	Group Leader's allowance to be paid only to the Leader of the Administration and the major opposition group. Payment to be made on

	the opposition group.	the current <i>pro-rata</i> basis.
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3.14 Car Parking Charges for Members

The Panel has recommended that car parking provision for elected Members should be addressed as part of a parallel scheme to introduce parking charges for staff in 2011.

3.15 Other Issues

The Panel considered all issues presented to them by Members and Officers. They noted that the current scheme predated the issue of Blackberry's, mobile telephone contracts etc. and that the scheme needs updating so that it records the entitlement of certain categories of Members to be in receipt of these for business purposes.

4. CONSULTATION

4.1 All Members were invited to make written representation to the Panel and offered the opportunity to address the Panel in person. The Panel has considered all submissions in detail.

5. IMPLICATIONS

5.1 **Legal** - The legal implications are referred to within the report.

5.2 **Finance** – The Panel's recommendations, if fully implemented, would represent a reduction in SRAs from 28 to 24, resulting in a saving of £6955.19.

6. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

None.

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PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL

30th September 2010

INDEPENDENT MEMBERS ALLOWANCES PANEL

Introduction

1. The Independent Panel comprised:

Don Latham (Chair) - Private local government consultant

Mrs Jean Hunt - Representing the voluntary sector

Rev Kerry Tankard - Representing the faith community

2. The Panel was supported throughout the review by David Blackburn, Principal Democratic Services Officer; Carol Tilley, Corporate Governance Manager; and Nick Hutchins, Head of Business Support. Teresa Wood, Group Manager Transport and Sustainable Environment also gave information to the Panel. We would like to give our thanks to them and to Members who provided written evidence and to Councillors Cereste, Lane, Fox, Swift, Goldspink, Sandford and Janet Goodwin who attended the meeting of the Panel.

3. We were requested by the Council to consider specific issues relating to the level of the Basic Allowance; Car Parking permits for Members; Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA's) payments for the Leader, Cabinet Advisors, Chairs of Scrutiny Committees /Commissions and Chairs of Neighbourhood Councils. The Panel also considered the payment of allowances to the Chair of Licensing, leaders of small minority groups and the possible changes that could affect the working of the Standards Committee. An opportunity was given for all members to contribute towards the review as part of an open and transparent process and there were other issues identified that we have addressed in our report.

4. The Panel were mindful of the fact that following our last review there had been a significant increase in the number and value of SRAs. The Panel recommends as follows:

- That a further review of the Basic Allowance take place at the same time the Council considers charging staff for car parking and in the meantime there should be no change in the current basic allowance of £7,962.08. (Para 5 and Para 6)

- That the travel allowance of £227.45 within the basic allowance remain unchanged. (Para 7)
- That the telephone allowance of £568.68 within the basic allowance remain unchanged. (Para 8)
- That the scheme of allowances continue to be updated for inflation by the use of the Local Government Association's daily rate issued each February. (Para 23)
- That certain special responsibility allowances (SRAs) be subject to ongoing review and that no increase be made in the Leader's allowance at this time. (Para 10 to Para 13)
- That in future a Group Leaders Allowance only be paid to the Leader of the majority group and the main opposition group leader. (Para 14)
- That the payment of an SRA to the Chair of Licensing be discontinued. (Para 15)
- That there be no change in the allowance paid to the Chairman and Members of the Standards Committee until the implications of the Localism Bill become clear. (Para 16)
- That the scheme be updated to record the entitlement of certain categories of Members to be in receipt of BlackBerrys etc. (Para 17)
- That members continue to be restricted to one SRA. (Para 8)
- That charging of members for car parking be addressed as part of a more major review of the Basic Allowance in 2011/12. (Para 18 to Para 19)

Basic Allowance

5. Waiving the annual increase for inflation must be approved by Council as the current scheme ties the allowances into the LGA daily rate. Application of the LGA daily rate for 2010/11 would increase allowances by 2.3%.

6. The Panel we were given a clear political steer that there should be no inflationary increase this year. Nevertheless we do consider that a further review of the Basic Allowance should take place at the same time the Council considers charging staff for car parking and in the meantime we recommend there should be no change in the current basic allowance of £7,962.08.

7. We recommend that the travel allowance of £227.45 (to cover travel within the City boundary) should continue unchanged and the telephone allowance of £568.68 should also continue unchanged (both within the basic allowance).

8. Allowances are subject to income tax. However, as the basic allowance is intended to recognise the time devoted by councillors to their work, some incidental costs (e.g. use of their homes and private telephone) may be deducted from the allowance received in calculating how much of the allowance is taxable. This is subject to agreement with the Inland Revenue. Expenses can be offset against tax liability if it can be shown they have been wholly, exclusively, and necessarily, incurred in the performance of duties.

Proposals for changes in Special Responsibility Allowances

9. The Panel were mindful of Government Guidance that states that SRA's should only be paid to members when ***'significant additional responsibilities'*** can be demonstrated. If this is not proven it could be subject to legal challenge. The spirit of the Regulations is that only a minority of members should receive an SRA and we recommend that members should continue to be restricted to one SRA. To quote Government guidance:-

'If the majority of members of a council receive a special responsibility allowance the local electorate may rightly question whether this was justified. Local authorities will wish to consider very carefully the additional roles, both in terms of responsibility and real time commitment before deciding which will warrant the payment of special responsibility allowance.'

The Panel favour adopting a 'realistic' Basic Allowance so that only a minority of members receive a SRA. This we believe is in tune with the spirit of the Regulations.

Leaders Allowance

10. We received a request to review the Leaders Allowance which is currently set at three times the Basic allowance. A benchmarking exercise reveals that this has fallen back compared with other authorities which is explained in part by the fact that there is a multiplier applied to the Basic Allowance to determine the Leaders Allowance and this is not as high as some other local authorities. The Council could increase the multiplier to say 3.5 but in view of the financial constraints being faced by the Council and the need to undertake a further review of the Basic Allowance in 2011/12 we do not recommend an increase at this time.

Cabinet

11. The Panel were informed that Cabinet membership had been increased from nine to ten, but that the three new Cabinet Advisor posts (50% Basic) proposed last year have been reduced to one who is working with the Deputy Leader and is being paid a SRA equivalent to a full Basic Allowance. Although these changes represent a reduction of one SRA the financial effects are cost neutral. Having reviewed the job description of the post the Panel believe that the position of Cabinet Advisor to the Deputy Leader should be kept under review by the Council.

Scrutiny

12. The Panel are aware that an effective scrutiny process is a key to the successful governance of the Council and has noted that the enlarged process of six Commission/Committee Chairmen (SRA equivalent to a basic allowance) has been put in place. We continue to believe that the Council will need to carefully evaluate the benefits of the changes that have been made to ensure that the new arrangements are seen to be sustainable and effective.

Neighbourhood Councils

13. The Panel were made aware of the Administration's desire to connect with the public, to be more open and accessible and that a key component of this change is the introduction of three new Neighbourhood Councils - with decision making powers. The intention being that they can act more quickly and sensitively to local needs. The success of these Councils very much depends on the Chairmen who are being paid an SRA equal to a full basic allowance. Some of the questions we asked:-

- Do all the Neighbourhood Councils work effectively?

- What has been the breadth of community engagement in these Councils?
- Who is represented in them?
- What proportion of the authentic community is present at them and shaping the process of decision making?
- How have the Councils effectively informed the work of the City Council and beyond?
- What workload do those who chair, and those who attend, actually encounter?

We believe that the Council needs to carefully evaluate the benefits of these changes.

Political Group Management

14. The Panel noted that minority Group Leaders are receiving a level of payment based on the basic allowance divided by 17 and distributed pro-rata to the number of members in each group. The Panel were informed that some Councils have set a minimum group number of 3 – 5 members or determined only to pay an allowance to the Leader of the main opposition group - the minimum requirement of the Regulations. The Panel recommends, given the present constituency of the Council, that only the Leader of the Administration and Leader of the major opposition group should receive a Group Leaders allowance. This would further streamline the existing scheme and reduce by three the number of SRA's being paid by the Council.

Licensing Committee.

15. The Panel were made aware of the minimal workload of this Committee and we recommend that the SRA of 50% of a Basic Allowance being paid to the Chair should be discontinued with a saving of £3,583.

Standards Committee.

16. The Panel do not recommend changes to the allowance paid to the independent Chairman and Members of the Standards Committee at this time pending the possible abolition/modification of the Standards regime.

Other issues identified by members.

17. We considered in detail all the issues presented to us in writing by members and officers and have taken these into consideration in making our recommendations. We noted that the current scheme pre-dated the issue of BlackBerrys, mobile phone contracts etc. and that the scheme needs updating so that it records the entitlement of certain categories of Members to be in receipt of these for business purposes. It is a matter for the Council to make appropriate minor changes to the scheme without the need to call a meeting of the Panel.

Car parking charges for members

18. The charging of members for car parking has been raised at previous meetings of the Panel. We received information from Teresa Wood (Group Manager – Transport and Sustainable Environment) and reviewed evidence from a bench marking exercise noting the trend towards introducing staff parking charges but no consistent trend for Members. Currently there are 1964 staff parking permits, which includes Members' car parking passes. We were made aware of the progress being made in negotiations and that a parallel Members' scheme would run alongside a staff scheme.

19. We believe the issue of car parking charges should be addressed as part of a review of the Basic Allowance in 2011/12. The Council may be in a position to consider including within the Basic Allowance (say £8,600) £550 for telephone expenses, £250 for travel within the City, and £400 for a members car parking pass. This would result in a net basic allowance of £7,400. But we recognise that this may not be possible due to the level of savings the Council will be facing.

20. Members who used other forms of transport would obviously benefit from this change and it would to some extent deal with the unfairness of the present arrangements. More importantly it would be in tune with the Council travel plan and local travel plan policy of encouraging use of cycling and public transport and reducing car dependence. This is an objective of Peterborough's status as a sustainable travel town. Adoption of this new approach would also ensure that the Council has not adopted practices that are contrary to Council policy.

21. This proposal obviously requires more detailed work (e.g. the value of the pass) by staff of the Council and would result in some additional costs. Use of the Pass for personal/private purposes would be a potential taxable benefit that will need to be addressed in making these arrangements. But it would achieve a more realistic basic allowance funded, at least in part, by members choosing to pay for their car

parking. It would further promote the environmental credentials and objectives of the Council.

Finance

22. The Panel is proposing a reduction in SRAs from 28 to 24 (42% of members) with a reduction in cost of £TBC. We are mindful of the financial pressures being faced by the Council and of the £51,000 additional cost following last year's review of SRA's.

Updating

23. We recommend that the scheme of allowances continue to be updated annually in line with the LGA daily rate as notified by the Local Government Association each February.

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