



**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD WEDNESDAY 15 JULY 2015  
COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, PETERBOROUGH**

**THE MAYOR – COUNCILLOR JOHN PEACH**

**Present:**

Councillors Aitken, Ash, Bisby, Brown, Casey, Coles, Davidson, Elsey, Ferris, Fitzgerald, Forbes, F Fox, JR Fox, JA Fox, Harper, Harrington, Hiller, Holdich, Jamil, Iqbal, Johnson, Khan, Knowles, Lamb, Lane, Maqbool, Martin, Miners, Murphy, Nadeem, North, Okonkowski, Over, Peach, Rush, Saltmarsh, Sanders, Sandford, Scott, Seaton, Serluca, Sharp, Shearman, Stokes, Swift, Thacker, Thulbourn, Whitby and Yonga.

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Fower, Herdman, Nawaz, Shabbir, Shaheed and Sylvester.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3. Minutes of the Meetings held on 20 May 2015:**

**(a) Annual Council Mayor Making Meeting**

The minutes of the Annual Council Mayor Making Meeting held on 20 May 2015 were approved as a true and accurate record.

**(a) Annual Council Meeting**

The minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on 20 May 2015 were approved as a true and accurate record.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**4. Mayor's Announcements**

Members noted the report outlining the Mayor's engagements for the period commencing 20 May 2015 to 5 July 2105.

The Mayor advised Council that Councillor John Fox would be taking part in a charity bicycle ride for 'Shop Mobility' and that sponsorship would be welcome. It was further declared that Vivacity were currently undertaking a 'selfie' project, to promote the Peterborough Arts Festival.

## **5. Leader's Announcements**

Councillor Holdich stated that the Portuguese Festival would be taking place on the 18 and 19 July 2015, and the Italian Festival from 12 to 14 September 2015. Councillors and members of the public were urged to attend.

## **6. Chief Executive's Announcements**

There were no announcements from the Chief Executive.

## **QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS**

### **7. Questions with Notice by Members of the Public**

There were 8 questions submitted by members of the public, these were in relation to:

1. Enforcing breaches of planning regulation;
2. Police Community Support Officers in Paston;
3. Tents set up in Paston, near parks;
4. Toilets in Itter Park;
5. Prosecuting those who break planning laws;
6. Community Centre review;
7. Community Centre business rate relief; and
8. Independent living allowance.

The questions and responses are attached at **APPENDIX A** to these minutes.

### **8. Petitions**

#### **(a) Presented by members of the public**

Mr Thomas presented a petition signed by 93 residents which sought to reduce the speed limit in Eyrescroft, Bretton from 30mph to 20mph.

#### **(b) Presented by Members**

Councillor Yonga presented a petition signed by 119 residents seeking to retain Itter Park, which was a green flag winner and a treasured asset for the community as a sport and open space use.

### **9. Questions on Notice**

- (a) To the Mayor**
- (b) To the Leader or member of the Cabinet**
- (c) To the Chair of any Committee of Sub-Committee**

Questions (b) to the Leader or Member of the Cabinet were raised and taken as read in respect of the following:

1. Paintings and other pieces of art stored at the Museum;
2. Stickers on refuse bins;
3. The number of children classed as homeless in the city;
4. Service provision in the manor drive area;
5. Emergency stopping places (question withdrawn);
6. 20mph speed limits in Peterborough;
7. Savings cuts to lollipop lady in Amberley Slope;
8. Queensgate car park names;

9. The UBER app and sign up in the city;
10. The Council's strategy concerning homeless children;
11. Battlefield Live enforcement decision;
12. Itter Park facilities; and
13. Inspire Peterborough.

Owing to the time limit being reached for this item, questions on the following were to be responded to in writing:

14. Brown bin tax;
15. Facilities at Manor Grove housing estate;
16. External training providers (question withdrawn);
17. Bin emptying query, lady in Werrington;
18. Set up of a joint authority; and
19. Independent Living Allowance, numbers in Ravensthorpe.

A summary of all questions and answers raised within agenda item 9 are attached at **APPENDIX A** to these minutes.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS**

### **10. Questions on the Executive Decisions made since the last meeting**

Councillor Holdich introduced the report which detailed executive decisions taken since the last meeting including:

1. Decisions from the Cabinet Meeting held on 15 June 2015;
2. Use of the Council's call-in mechanism, which had not been invoked since the previous meeting;
3. Special Urgency and Waiver of Call-in provision, which had not been invoked since the previous meeting; and
4. Cabinet Member Decisions taken during the period 7 April 2015 to 29 June 2015.

#### **Questions were asked about the following:**

##### Budget Monitoring Report Final Outturn 2014/15

Councillor Murphy queried how the emergency budget of central Government would affect the forecasted budget gap.

The Director of Governance advised that questions should be in relation to the decisions in the document, and not the prospective budget. As such, the question was dismissed.

##### Award of Contract for Provision of a Household Recycling Centre

Councillor Shearman questioned why the collection of commercial green waste had been halted.

Councillor Elsey advised that the Council had a duty of care to its employees. Operators had been threatened by a number of individuals. Though unfortunate, for worker's protection, it was decided to cease the service.

## **COUNCIL BUSINESS TIME**

## **11. Motions on Notice**

### **1. Motion from Councillor John Fox**

*Although the numbers of stray horse incidents are nowhere near the large numbers seen elsewhere in the country, there have been 97 incidents in the last five years in the Peterborough area alone.*

*There have been some incidents that have occurred that could easily have proven fatal and my concern is that without positive action it will not be long before we see a major fatality on our roads, which involves stray horses.*

*The introduction of a Green Yard Scheme would go towards addressing the issue. Such schemes have already been piloted by Police Forces across the country and the Council could work in cooperation with Cambridgeshire Constabulary to implement a similar scheme.*

*Any stray horses would be rounded up and taken to a place of safety until the owner is traced and if the owner cannot be found, the Green Yard Scheme would be called to collect and stable the horse until the owner is found.*

*Enquiries would be made to contact the owner who would be required to reimburse the Constabulary for the Green Yard callout, transportation and livery fees. Payments, in cash only, could be made at the police station before the Green Yard will return the horse to the owner.*

*The Green Yard would keep the horse for up to 14 days and if during that time no owner could be established, the horse would become the property of Green Yard. In every case, police officers would look to prosecute the owner under Section 155 Highways Act for allowing animals to stray onto the highway.*

*I ask that this Council make a request to Cambridgeshire Constabulary to look into the feasibility of introducing a Green Yard Scheme to combat these concerns.*

In moving his motion, Councillor John Fox advised that the issue of stray horses had come to his attention following several recent incidents of cars hitting horses, including one where the driver was trapped for 3 hours. Police all over the country were adopting similar schemes.

Councillor Judy Fox seconded the motion and reserved her right to speak.

Members debated the motion and in summary raised points including:

- Whether the police could support such a scheme, given the recent cuts to their resources.
- The idea made sense in light of incidents within Peterborough and the surrounding areas.
- Though the scheme would work for responsible owners, it was not certain that irresponsible owners would make any required payments.
- This was not just a rural issue, as incidents with horses had occurred on the Paston Parkway.
- Horse owners should be made aware of the proposals.

Councillor John Fox summed up as mover of the motion and advised that the programme would be self-funding. The police would take stray horses to the stable for 14 days, where they would be collected by their owners or sold. The scheme would be

under the control of the police and a location for the Green Yard could be found in liaison with local people.

A vote was taken (45 for, 0 against, 2 abstentions) and the motion was **CARRIED**.

## 2. Motion from Councillor Ferris

*In recognition of the poor Public Health Profile for Peterborough, published in June by Public Health England, and the continuing health inequalities across our city; it is timely to consider the need to work in a more coherent cross-cutting manner, which puts meeting public health targets at the heart of all that this Council does.*

*This motion proposes that the Health & Wellbeing Board should refocus efforts on a limited number of targets, each of which should become part of its annual work programme and that of all Scrutiny Committees, as well as being incorporated into the work programmes of all Council Departments.*

*These targets will be reported on and communicated at regular intervals, with a more joined-up approach being taken in order to improve health outcomes. This Council's success will be measured by a step change in the health of our residents.*

In moving his motion, Councillor Ferris advised that more emphasis needed to be made on collaborative working. A new approach, with public health at the heart of the Council should be adopted and should be embedded in all of the Council's decisions. It was believed that, with a targeted Scrutiny focus, a lasting impact could be made.

Councillor Jamil seconded the motion and reserved his right to speak.

An amendment to the motion was moved by Councillor Lamb. Councillor Lamb advised that, in essence, the Council was already undertaking the proposals. There were health challenges within the city and the Council was committed to tackling these. To reflect this, public health was now included as a strategic priority and the Director of Public Health was part of the Senior Management Team.

Councillor Fitzgerald seconded the amendments to the motion and reserved his right to speak.

A vote was taken (unanimous) and the amendment was **CARRIED**.

Members debated the substantive motion and in summary raised points including:

- The substantive motion was now very conformist, outlining mainly what the Council was already doing.
- It was suggested that not all Councillors could participate in the Health and Wellbeing Board, which had no opposition representatives.
- The Health and Wellbeing Board had a small number of Councillor representatives, however was an open meeting. The Director of Public Health would welcome comments from Councillors at any time.
- More targeted work could be undertaken within the Scrutiny Commissions and Committees to address public health impacts on varying areas of the Council's work.

Councillor Jamil exercised his right to speak and advised the Council that Local Authorities now had greater control over public health. A more joined up approach could be taken to tackling city wide issues and health could be focused on across the Scrutiny Committees.

Councillor Ferris summed up as mover of the motion and advised that he was pleased

the spirit of his original motion had been maintained. It was believed that the Council was currently missing opportunities to address public health and to continue with the current approach was not an appropriate option.

A vote was taken on the substantive motion (44 for, 0 against, 3 abstentions) and the substantive motion was **CARRIED** with the amendment as follows:

In recognition of the poor Public Health Profile for Peterborough, published in June by Public Health England, and the continuing health inequalities across our city; it is timely to consider the need to work in a more coherent cross-cutting manner, which puts **real input of members from all parties to ensure that we all put** meeting public health targets and **improving health outcomes** at the heart of all that this Council does **regardless of the party we each represent.**

This motion proposes that **all members of the council via the current governance structures should strive to contribute more in a positive and meaningful manner to the work of the Health & Wellbeing Board** ~~should refocus efforts on a limited number of targets, each of which should become part of its annual work programme and that of all Scrutiny Committees, as well as being incorporated into the work programmes of all Council Departments.~~ **Further that all members should be committed to maintain the already agreed work streams for tackling health inequalities in Public Health and in other areas of the local health economy as detailed by the Health & Wellbeing Board in its published strategies and in the minutes of its regular meetings** (see minutes of 18 June meeting).

~~These targets will be reported on and communicated at regular intervals, with a more joined-up approach being taken in order to improve health outcomes. This Council's success will be measure by a step change in the health of our residents~~ **(For Members information these focused targets currently include, Cardio Vascular Disease, and improving Children's health).**

**All members should also be reminded that they can attend the public meetings of the Health & Wellbeing Board and by prior arrangement can express their views in person on emerging policy and help to prioritise its work programme including Public Health.**

**Finally, that this Council asks that regular Public Health benchmarking and monitoring will continue to be reported on and communicated at regular interval to all members of this Council.**

## 12. Reports to Council

### (a) Alternative Governance Arrangements

Council received a report from the Alternative Governance Working Group that sought acknowledgment of the Group's preferred model of Governance. The model was a 'hybrid' system where the executive (Cabinet and Leader) would be retained but the scrutiny function would alter its focus to become and advisory body to the executive in addition to providing its post scrutiny functions. Councillor Sharp moved the recommendations in the report and this was seconded by Councillor Hiller, who reserved his right to speak.

Members debated the motion and in summary raised points including:

- It was suggested that all decision under a hybrid model would go through the Cabinet, with no individual Cabinet Member decisions.

- Any implementation of a hybrid system would not take place until election time in 2016.
- A Committee system would allow for more inclusion in decision making.
- Committee systems resulted in lengthy decision making procedures, which take a considerable amount of time with a high number of meetings.
- It was discussed whether, under a Committee system, meetings would be held in the daytime or in the evening.

Councillor Hiller exercised his right to speak and advised that, under a Cabinet model, the decision making process was expedient.

Councillor Sharp summed up as mover of the motion and advised that this was the beginning of the process and that more detailed plans were required. The Wandsworth model would not suit Peterborough as a whole and a group would be formed to establish what aspects would be best for the Council.

A vote was taken (48 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions) and it was **RESOLVED** that:

- (1) The Council resolved to adopt an alternative form of governance to take effect from the Annual Council meeting 2016;
- (2) The Council noted that the preferred model of alternative governance is a hybrid model of executive decision making with a greater involvement of pre-scrutiny review (a Peterborough model);
- (3) The Council agreed the formation and terms of reference of a working group to design and implement the new proposals; and
- (4) The Council agreed that the design and implementation working group should report their detailed constitutional proposals to Council by December 2015.

**(b) Appointment of the Vice Chair to Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital Scrutiny Committee**

Council received a report that which sought the appointment of Vice Chair to the Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital Scrutiny Committee. Councillor Sandford moved the recommendations in the report and this was seconded by Councillor Jamil.

A vote was taken (23 for, 0 against, 24 abstentions) and it was **RESOLVED** that Council:

1. Noted the appointments made to the positions of Chair and Vice Chair to each of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions; and
2. Appointed Councillor Nazim Khan as Vice Chair of the Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital Scrutiny Committee.

**(c) Recording Protocol**

Council received a report that sought to ensure the Constitution contained all the relevant supporting protocols and schemes. Councillor Seaton moved the recommendations in the report and this was seconded by Councillor Fitzgerald.

A vote was taken (unanimous) and it was **RESOLVED** that Council adopted the 'Recording Protocol' for inclusion within the Constitution.

**(d) Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Amendment Regulations 2015**

Due to a conflict of interest, the Chief Executive, Chief Finance Officer and the Monitoring Officer left the meeting, and in her role as an independent legal advisor, the item was being supported by Ms Eleanor Hoggart.

Council received a report following the implementation of the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2015 and consequent management restructure report to Council in January 2015. Councillor Holdich moved the recommendations in the report and this was seconded by Councillor Hiller.

A vote was taken (47 for, 0 against, 1 abstentions) and it was **RESOLVED** that Council:

1. Noted the changes to the statutory process for the dismissal of the Head of the Paid Service, the Chief Finance Officer and the Monitoring Officer following the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2015;
2. Agreed the proposed amendments to the terms of reference for Full Council at Appendix 1 to the report;
3. Agreed the amended Officer Employment Procedure Rules at Appendix 2 to the report; and
4. Agreed to amend the Constitution to include the revised Officer Employment Procedure Rules and Terms of Reference for Full Council.

The Mayor  
7.00pm – 9.00pm

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Questions were received under the following categories:

<b><u>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</u></b>	
1.	<p><b>Question from Sally Dines</b></p> <p>To Councillor North, Cabinet Member for Communities and Environment Capital</p> <p>Please could the Leader of the Council explain, to Community Centres, why the council is inflicting un-necessary bureaucracy by requiring them to apply for business rate relief every three (3) years when situations have not changed and continue to be run by local volunteers for the benefit of Peterborough residents. Can the Council support these groups by automating this process as every three (3) years a bill is received and panic sets in. Alternatively, as these are council buildings, these should be completely excluded from business rates.</p> <p><b>Councillor North responded:</b></p> <p>The Council has guidelines covering Discretionary Rate Relief and the criteria that must be met by any organisation that applies. Whilst organisations may receive 80% automatic relief, up to 20% discretionary relief may be provided by the Council. The guidelines are therefore in place to ensure a consistent approach to decision making, to ensure that funding goes to the organisations in the community which the Council wants to support and that tax payers receive value for money.</p> <p>Council buildings are not excluded from paying Business Rates as specified in the relevant legislation. Instead the organisation liable for the charge can claim relief where relevant criteria is met and supporting evidence provided.</p> <p>The approach the Council has adopted has always been to review awards every two years and organisations re-apply at this point via a prescribed form. This is not to inflict unnecessary bureaucracy or to cause panic, but to ensure that all awards are regularly reviewed and are based on the correct and up to date circumstances.</p> <p>I would highlight that not all organisations receive the full relief. For example, large un-allocated reserves may mean that a lower figure is awarded and this can, of course, change over time.</p> <p>Finally I would add that we have recently put a number of our services on line, for example housing benefit, and are reviewing the discretionary rate relief process with the intention of also making this available on line but I think it is right that we address the most heavily used processes first.</p> <p><b>Sally Dines asked the following supplementary question:</b></p> <p>In the question I asked if this could be automated, could you look to send out a notice two months before so that the relevant paperwork can be sent into the Council to calculate, than forward an invoice?</p>

	<p><b>Councillor North responded:</b></p> <p>It's not within my remit, but I will have that investigated to see if that's possible.</p>
2.	<p><b>Question from Angie Nicholson</b></p> <p>To Councillor North, Cabinet Member for Communities and Environment Capital</p> <p>Why do we never see any PCSOs in Paston?</p> <p><b>Councillor North may have responded:</b></p> <p>The provision of PCSO's is a Police matter and so I'm unable to answer this specific question, however I will be happy to forward this on to the appropriate person within the Police for a response to you directly. However, what I would say is that the Council works in very close partnership with Police officers, PCSOs and civilian staff to ensure communities are kept safe from harm. For example, uniformed officers are based in Council offices working alongside Council enforcement staff which helps to make sure a joined up approach to tackling neighbourhood problems is achieved. Together, they tackle a wide range of community issues including anti-social behaviour, crime reduction, environmental crime such as littering and graffiti, and alcohol-fuelled crime and disorder. Added to this we have fire officers and staff from the voluntary sector also working alongside council and police staff, expanding the range of services which together we can enforce against to protect our communities.</p>
3.	<p><b>Question from Julie Turner</b></p> <p>To Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development</p> <p>In what circumstances is it acceptable for the Council not to prosecute a member of the public who breaks planning laws and runs an illegal business?</p> <p><b>Councillor Hiller responded:</b></p> <p>I imagine the Council would be unlikely to consider prosecution if the planning enforcement process were to be underway and an imposed deadline for compliance not yet expired.</p> <p><b>Julie Turner asked the following supplementary question:</b></p> <p>So why would they not do that when it has expired then and someone continues to operate and they refuse to stop them?</p> <p><b>Councillor Hiller responded:</b></p> <p>Unfortunately Ms Turner, I am not aware of what it is you are talking about and I therefore cannot answer that question.</p>

4.	<p><b>Question from Andrew Turner</b></p> <p>To Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development</p> <p>Is the Council more concerned with saving money than enforcing breaches of planning regulations set by the Planning Inspectorate?</p> <p><b>Councillor Hiller responded:</b></p> <p>When this authority is taking a decision whether to take enforcement action the cost is rarely, if ever a consideration.</p> <p><b>Andrew Turner asked the Following supplementary question:</b></p> <p>Does the Council makes its decisions regarding legal issues based on financial considerations only?</p> <p><b>Councillor Hiller did not have any further response.</b></p>
5.	<p><b>Question from Angie Nicholson</b></p> <p>To Councillor North, Cabinet Member for Communities and Environment Capital</p> <p>Why are the Council allowing tents in various areas of Paston, near play areas?</p> <p><b>Councillor North may have responded:</b></p> <p>The Council's Rough Sleeper Outreach Officer carries out regular visits to rough sleeping hotspots throughout the city to identify and then manage rough sleeping of any kind, including in tents. Officers also rely on members of the public reporting tents.</p> <p>Unfortunately, officers were not aware of any tents near play areas in Paston.</p> <p>However, they will be checking these areas over the coming days on a frequent basis and asking colleagues at Cambridgeshire Constabulary to carry out further checks of the area.</p> <p>For the avoidance of doubt, tents in any unauthorised areas of our city are not tolerated by the Council.</p>
6.	<p><b>Question from MJ Ladha</b></p> <p>To Councillor Fitzgerald, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Integrated Adult Social Care and Health</p> <p>Could the Cabinet Member please confirm if the Council is now responsible for the Independent Living Allowance (ILA) as announced by the Conservative Government last month, and could it be confirmed how many people are covered by the ILA.</p> <p>Despite the serious cuts faced by local government because of the Government's austerity programme, assurance is sought that the full allowance will be paid to the</p>

disabled people concerned and that the money from central Government will be ring-fenced and if this is not the case, how much money will be held back by the Council and what will it be used for instead?

**Councillor Fitzgerald responded:**

The Independent Living Fund (ILF) has supported disabled people for 27 years. Adult Social Care recognised that the closure of the ILF would create a level of anxiety for people in receipt of Independent Living Funding to meet their care and support needs. The department identified one worker to undertake the reassessments for these people to ensure a fair, consistent approach was applied.

In Peterborough there were nine people in receipt of the funding from the ILF and all have had the shortfall met by Adult Social Care. All nine have been reassessed in terms of their financial contribution towards the cost of the care and support they receive and all are financially better off as their assessed financial contribution is less than when they received funding through the ILF.

The £102,000 Grant from the Department of Communities and Local Government has been ring fenced by the Council to ensure that those previously in receipt of this funding continue to receive the level of support to meet their assessed needs as detailed above.

**MJ Ladha did not have a supplementary question.**

**7. Question from Karen Bromley**

To Councillor North, Cabinet Member for Communities and Environment Capital

Please could the Leader of the Council inform us on the progress of the Community Centre review for which Cabinet approved the outline plans last September. We are very keen to understand where this project is up to as we, the Community Centres, have little or no contact with the Council. We fear that decisions have been made to close Community Centres without consulting with us in the proper way.

**Councillor North responded:**

First let me put your mind at rest, no decisions at all have been made and I would be happy to meet with you at any time to run through them further.

Community centres in Peterborough provide a valuable service to neighbourhoods and act as a catalyst for social contact and local work. It is the case that a review of our centres is needed, this hasn't been done for many years, and a number of centres are in need of support or investment, or may need to be remodelled to meet the changing needs of our population.

To date, a range of factual information has been gathered about each of the centres, and this is being collated. Beyond this, I can confirm that the Council will work using co-production principles with the many community associations that run our centres voluntarily as well as with Community Action Peterborough to carry out the review and design a community centre service that is sustainable and strong for the future. It is vital that the people running and using our centres are directly involved in shaping their future, because that is the important bit.

**Karen Bromley asked the following supplementary question:**

Thank you for explaining that no decision has been made as yet, we feel that this is however not dealing with the source of our frustrations with the Council. Two years ago we volunteered to work with the Council to ensure that we were able to develop a strategy together for improving the state of community association buildings. We need the Council to take us seriously to support us sensitively and to deliver on the request we have made repeatedly to work together across all relevant departments. Will you make a guaranteed commitment in front of your fellow Councillors as the Cabinet Member to lead this project with us on the future of our community centres?

**Councillor North responded:**

Yes.

**8. Question from Dave Key (to be asked by Morgan Fitzsimon)**

To Councillor Elsey, Cabinet Member for Digital, Waste and Street Scene

We were very disappointed to find the toilets in Itter Park closed when we visited the park with our children. As parents with young children we use the play park most weekends with our girls and enjoy the pleasant surroundings it offers. Our youngest daughter suffers from food allergies that sometimes means she needs to use a toilet urgently. We live in Paston so Itter Park has been a real asset to us. However we now have to think twice about where to go when it comes to parks because the toilets for most parents are essential when planning time out with kids.

I recently saw a man in the bushes with his trousers down about to defecate as I cycled through the Town park and would hate to see this kind of behaviour replicated in Itter Park simply because the toilets are closed. Is there anything the Council can do to keep the toilets open even during term time?

**Councillor Elsey may have responded:**

Central and Itter Park have had a reduction in maintenance as part of the 15 / 16 budget this has included Itter Park now being managed by a satellite team.

In the current economic climate we have been able to save £5,000 by closing the toilets, however we have made provision for the toilets to be open during the school summer holidays, where we recognise more families will want to use the park.

We have worked closely with the friends of Itter Park who also have a key to the facilities and have the option to open them for their events.

With regards to Central Park, there is no reason why this man would need to relieve himself in the bushes as the toilets would have been open due to the paddling pool facility on site.

## COUNCIL BUSINESS

**11. Questions on notice to:**

- a) The Mayor
- b) To the Leader or Member of the Cabinet
- c) To the chair of any Committee or Sub-committee

**1. Question from Councillor Shearman**

To Councillor Serluca, Cabinet Member for City Centre Management, Culture and Tourism

The Cabinet member with responsibility for Culture in the City will be aware that stored in the archives at the Museum is a considerable body of art work, with a significant number of paintings attributed to international figures in the art world. Does the Cabinet member agree with me that the general public should have the opportunity to see and enjoy these paintings, and will she undertake to meet with Vivacity and discuss with them a programme for displaying these works on a regular basis.

**Councillor Serluca responded:**

The Museum holds a number of valuable painting within the collections, these paintings have specialist conservation requirements which prevent them from being on permanent display. The paintings are rotated to enable them to be shown to the public without compromising the conservation requirements, this does mean that only a limited number of paintings can be on display at any one time. The public are able to view any of the collection paintings on request within the store by appointment with the Museum.

I will take Councillor Sherman's comments to the Vivacity Board on which I sit, with the next meeting due to take place on the 20 July, and request that a programme be published of when collection paintings will be on display. To add a little bit more information, Andy Warhol, the international artist from the Tate Artist Room, will be exhibiting at the museum in October and also I would just like to mention to all Members that if you have any questions relating to anything from Vivacity you can email the Board as well as asking me at Full Council.

**Councillor Shearman asked the following supplementary question:**

I am aware that many other museums throughout the country do put on display their valuable pieces of work, very often just one every three months or so. Would you ask Vivacity, even if that is the very minimum, they would do to do that. I do think it important that many hard working parents who cannot get London to see the galleries do have an opportunity to see these important pieces of artwork that we have in our museum.

**Councillor Serluca responded:**

Yes I will bring that up at the Board meeting on Monday and get back to everyone.

2.	<p><b>Question from Councillor Ash</b></p> <p>To Councillor Elsey, Cabinet Member for Digital, Waste and Street Scene</p> <p>I am aware that not all stickers went out before the date that bins should have been collected and as a result some residents did not put bins out or they were left at the kerbside but not emptied. Can the Cabinet Member tell us why stickers did not go out in good time and if it is intended to reimburse residents for non-collection and can he give assurances that bin labels will now go out well before the date the first bin collection is due.</p> <p><b>Councillor Elsey responded:</b></p> <p>Amey managed the communications and sticker mailing, unfortunately they had an issue with the mailing house they used who failed to communicate to them proactively that there had been a delay in sending out the first batch of stickers.</p> <p>Residents were however advised to still put their bins out for collection even if their sticker had not arrived. Any bins that were not collected and were found to be a genuine missed bin e.g. the resident had signed up at least 72 hours before their first collection were returned to and collected.</p> <p>Stickers are now being sent out as planned within 10 working days of subscription.</p> <p><b>Councillor Ash asked the following supplementary question:</b></p> <p>I think the problem was that it was quite difficult to have the bin collected and some were left out for several days and I believe several phone calls had to be made before they were collected. I think we need to ensure for next time around that it's run a bit smoother and people don't have to have all that hassle.</p> <p><b>Councillor Elsey did not have any further response.</b></p>
3.	<p><b>Question from Councillor Forbes</b></p> <p>To Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development</p> <p>How many families with children are classed as homeless in Peterborough and what percentage are having to use bed and breakfast accommodation?</p> <p><b>Councillor Hiller responded:</b></p> <p>Peterborough's Housing Services work hard to prevent homelessness and have a strong track record in this regard.</p> <p>Our general use of bed and breakfast accommodation has consistently been below national and regional averages thanks to the extensive amount of preventative and early help work that our professionals carry out.</p> <p>At present we are accommodating 53 homeless households with children in temporary accommodation of which 14 (26%) are currently accommodated in Bed and Breakfast accommodation.</p> <p>It is this Council's policy and practice that households with children are prioritised for a move from Bed and Breakfast accommodation, and that they do not exceed a</p>

maximum 6 week stay.

**Councillor Forbes asked the following supplementary question:**

I would like to know, if families have to vacate their bed and breakfast accommodation during the day and if so do Council provide any alternative accommodation and what is the cost of that and the provision of B&B to the Council?

**Councillor Hiller responded:**

That answer will require numbers and I will get them to you. homelessness is a malaise prevailing in these times and I don't think it will ever be completely eradicated, even the most optimistic view can second guess every eventuality that members of the public do occasionally find themselves in.

4. **Question from Councillor Yonga**

To Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development

There have been many issues in the Manor Drive area regarding the moving of goal posts when it comes to play/recreational areas and the building of houses. Previously the residents in the Manor Drive area have been promised parks in specified areas only to witness the same areas turn into housing developments. Residents are frustrated as part of the attraction of living in the area was the promise of the parks.

Council Officers, especially those in the Development and Construction department are then having to communicate and answer questions regarding these decisions. I do not believe they should have to field such questions as they are not the decision makers and cannot provide the conclusive answers that the residents are after.

Why are the hard working officers not receiving more support from the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet to deliver a more efficient and reliable service? Why do the Leader of the Council and Cabinet not speak directly to the residents about this ongoing issue?

**Councillor Hiller responded:**

Since the original master plan for the development, there has been only one change to the development which resulted in a decrease in the amount of green space. The area of land in question was not proposed to have play equipment on it. A Government inspector who looked at the change, whilst finding fault with some aspects of the development, did not conclude that the decrease in the amount of green space was unacceptable. The inspector saw that the needs generated by the proposed extra houses could be addressed by the developer making a financial contribution towards the provision of play.

Officers have, over the years, been in contact with residents, ward members and with me as the Portfolio Holder regarding many aspects of the development as it progressed and have been able to fully respond to all of the questions put to them, and they know that they have my full support whilst doing this and preparatory work beforehand. Following a recent meeting with residents, we are currently working on options for providing new play facilities. This work is challenging given the number of parties involved and the limited number of locations where an equipped play area

	<p>could be located and I know that a follow up meeting with residents to report progress is due to be held next month.</p> <p>I don't however recognise one or two of the assertions he makes in his question, his belief that the Council's multi-award winning Planning Team lacks reliability and efficiency and doesn't have my support or indeed that of our Leader, is frankly ridiculous. Members will be aware we are now selling our expertise and efficient planning methodology to many other local authorities and indeed only last week we achieved the Royal Town Planning Institute's UK Local Authority Planning Team of the Year accolade, a national award of the highest implications. I respectfully suggest Councillor Yonga spends more time discovering just how close our working relationship is and the support we give to our officers. It's transformed this Council's planning service over the last five years and I would respectfully suggest that he does that.</p> <p><b>Councillor Yonga did not have a supplementary question.</b></p>
5.	<p><b>Question from Councillor JR Fox – QUESTION WITHDRAWN</b></p> <p>To Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development</p> <p>Due to the apparent failings of the Emergency Stopping Places to eradicate unauthorised encampments, is it now time for the Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing &amp; Economic Development to re-form a cross party working group to look into a more positive way forward or at least re-visit what we have already established?</p> <p><b>THIS QUESTION WAS WITHDRAWN PRIOR TO THE MEETING</b></p>
6.	<p><b>Question from Councillor Sandford</b></p> <p>To Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development</p> <p>Several years ago following a motion at Full Council, a scrutiny working group was set up to look at the possibility of introducing 20 mph speed limits in Peterborough so as to reduce the number and severity of road accidents, particularly those involving children. Could the relevant Cabinet Member tell us how / why a number of cities across the UK have successfully implemented 20mph speed limits but there appears to have been little or no progress on this in Peterborough?</p> <p><b>Councillor Hiller responded:</b></p> <p>A cross-party task and finish group reported its findings into 20mph signed only limits to Cabinet in July 2014. Although there is anecdotal information about the effect of 20mph limits, Cabinet agreed that more substantial evidence was required before considering their introduction in Peterborough.</p> <p>Since the task and finish group presented its findings, a number of authorities have committed to implementing or have implemented signed only limits, with varying successes of the original motivation. However there is still limited overall conclusive evidence on the impact in terms of mode of travel, reduction in speed and casualties and overall costs involved. Peterborough City Council is also waiting for the</p>

outcomes of a formal review which has been commissioned by the Department of Transport into 20mph signed only limits. This review will report at interim periods over the next two years before publishing its final report in 2017.

As more detailed evaluation reports become available on signed only limits and the impacts they have had, officers will provide briefing notes to the relevant Scrutiny Committee.

**Councillor Sandford asked the following supplementary question:**

I think it does concern me it seems to be taking such a long time, my understanding from the research I have seen is there is evidence that introducing 20mph speed limits does have a significant impact on reducing the number of accidents involving children. Even if there is a strong probability that that is the case, could the Cabinet Member give us a commitment as to when this research is going to be concluded, because if implementing these 20mph limits is going to make our children safer, it should be something we should be taking forward as soon as we can.

**Councillor Hiller responded:**

As I said in my original answer, the review will report at interim periods over the next two years before publishing its final report in 2017. I think this Council would be loath to implement anything of this gravity until such time as we had had evidential proof that it actually works. But just as a matter of interest, it would be worth me mentioning that the 20mph scheme in York is under review by the new Liberal Democrat coalition Council according to the Road Safety GB Academy website. Council Officers have apparently been asked to look into the legal costs and implications of removing the 20mph limit and the signs around the city, which are believed to have cost around £600k.

The Council's spokesperson for Transport reportedly said 'there are areas where 20mph speed limits are clearly needed such as outside schools, however the 20mph policy was unpopular with local residents, with many strongly objecting to the limits and associated street clutter, especially where they are in areas where there are no speeding problems in the first place. The City Council's Executive Member for Transport said 'some of the signs are in ridiculous places on small streets where you couldn't get up to that speed anyway, it was political dogma that put them there, I would take them all down, but it all depends on the cost. Nobody is taking any notice of them anyway and the police are not enforcing them'.

So for one unitary authority it does not appear to have been a particular success and I think this type of feedback is very useful as I'm sure Councillor Sandford will agree and perhaps he will have dialogue with his fellow Liberal Democrats in York as to why they have decided it's not working there and why they want to remove it.

**7. Question from Councillor Davidson**

To Councillor Seaton, Cabinet Member for Resources

Can the Cabinet Member please confirm if part of the saving cuts to services included losing a lollipop Man/Woman at the Pelican Crossing at Werrington Primary School (Amberley Slope).

	<p><b>Councillor Seaton responded:</b></p> <p>The answer is no.</p> <p><b>Councillor Davidson asked the following supplementary question:</b></p> <p>In the last month, there has been five near misses where children who were escorted by adults, but had run on and left their parents behind, were nearly involved with passing cars. Can you please confirm why this position is vacant currently and will this position be filled in the future?</p> <p><b>Councillor Seaton responded:</b></p> <p>The first point I would make is in Councillor Davidson's question she talks about crossing control in Amberley Slope, the crossing control there is actually on Church Street so Councillor Davidson may be looking at the wrong road when she talks about incidents and patroller left the Council in December 2014. Since that time, the Road Safety Team have run recruitment exercises but no suitable candidate has been found. However I am pleased to say that in the past two weeks we have managed to source someone suitable and they will be on site when the school returns in September.</p>
8.	<p><b>Question from Councillor Jamil</b></p> <p>To Councillor Holdich, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University</p> <p>Can the Leader please write to the owners of Queensgate to voice the disapproval of the Council about their decision to rename their car parks from their original names: Clare, Royce, Cavell and Perkins to Green, Blue, Red and Yellow? This takes away from the heritage of the City which we are proud of.</p> <p><b>Councillor Holdich responded:</b></p> <p>Queensgate have confirmed that the original car park names will be retained and displayed. The car parks are now also colour coded to better assist visitors to the shopping centre.</p> <p><b>Councillor Jamil did not have a supplementary question.</b></p>
9.	<p><b>Question from Councillor Fower</b></p> <p>To Councillor Seaton, Cabinet Member for Resources</p> <p>UBER, is an American international transportation network company headquartered in San Francisco, California and develops, markets and operates the UBER mobile app, allowing consumers with smartphones to submit a trip request which is then routed to sharing economy drivers. I wonder therefore if the relevant Cabinet Member could please tell me what the City Council position is on this matter, whether they are supportive or unsupportive? If it is the latter what measures they will take to prevent any local resident signing up to the scheme?</p>

	<p><b>Councillor Seaton responded:</b></p> <p>The Council does not have a position on “Uber” at this stage as we have not received an application from the company for an Operator’s licence in respect of taxis. We will continue to regulate taxi and private hire vehicles, drivers and operators in accordance with national legislation and our own licensing framework and any new applications will only be granted where these provisions are met. We will be mindful of any future national changes to the legality of licensable activities and respond accordingly.</p> <p><b>Councillor Fower was not in attendance to ask a supplementary question.</b></p>
10.	<p><b>Question from Councillor Murphy</b></p> <p>To Councillor Scott, Cabinet Member for Children’s Services</p> <p>In June I wrote to the Cabinet Member for Children’s Services asking about the council strategy concerning homeless children from abroad and asked that she let me know what resources are required from our social services budget to accommodate such children and young people and what is the indicative cost for this and next year. Please could the Cabinet Member for Children’s Services provide me with a response to my query?</p> <p><b>Councillor Scott responded:</b></p> <p>I received an email with the query from Councillor Murphy on 25 June with the enquiry referred to within the question, I did write to Councillor Murphy on 3 July 2015 and copied it to Councillor Knowles, who had also emailed me, assuring him that he would have a reply to his email on or before 10 July 2015. The response was sent to Councillor Murphy and all Group Leaders on 10 July 2015. The response was in the form of a briefing paper and we took the response to this question very seriously. I’m happy to answer the question now briefly, the question which is slightly different to the one which he sent me before.</p> <p>There are typically only one or two young people aged 16 and 17 who have moved to the UK with their families and have then presented themselves as homeless to the Council. Currently there is one young person who is looked after as a result of becoming homeless in this way. The current annual placement cost is a little over £17,000 per annum. The annual cost is not normally expected to be more than £50,000 in any one year. The actual cost will depend on how many young people we are having to help.</p> <p>In addition, there are currently 17 children and young people who are unaccompanied asylum seekers, and who are now in the care of Peterborough City Council. Placement costs for this group are met by a grant from Central Government. So that doesn’t appear to be a significant cost, but nonetheless, when they reach the age of 18, we become responsible for them until they are aged at least 21, and therefore there is a cost involved.</p> <p>If Councillors would like me to I can send the briefing paper to all of them and you may be interested to know that the briefing does say we are considering raising these matters with Central Government and were in the process of collecting all this data together. I think this area for discussion may also be an issue for a future All Party Policy meeting.</p>

**Councillor Murphy asked the following supplementary question:**

I know it's a very difficult issue and I want to ask that things are done immediately to deal with some of the consequences. We don't seem to have a strategy for dealing with these boys and girls. Are you aware that it wasn't so many years ago that the Kristallnacht in Germany, in the nine months following that, 10,000 boys and girls were evacuated to Britain as refugees, we had eight or nine turn up from Syria in Peterborough last week. Those children that were evacuated during that period of time are the only remaining survivors in their families from that holocaust and I would hope that it's about time that this Council and this country to deal with the consequences of the terrorist acts and the genocide that's going on in other parts of the world and I will take your Officers up on their offer of help.

Are you aware of the 10,000 children in that nine month period that were saved from extermination, what are we going to do to protect children with the other agencies such as International Rescue, the European Union and non-Government agencies?

**Councillor Scott responded:**

I think it is unpleasant to suggest that Members of this Council would not be aware of the historic facts and the impact that they had at that time and continue to have, throughout Europe.

I do just want to say to the Council in response to what Councillor Murphy said, that yes, we do have a policy but the number of unaccompanied asylum seeking children and young people coming to our attention and requiring our support has increased significantly over the last six to twelve months, and as at the end of June, 17 children and young people fall into this category. Most of whom are aged between 16 and 17 years old, but a few of them, very sadly are as young as 14 and they arrive usually in lorries, usually illegally bought into this country.

I've suggested to my Officers that they should meet with you, but as I've said, I'm happy for the whole Council to discuss this and any plans that we bring forward we can bring to that meeting. We do take it very seriously, I take it very seriously.

11. **Question from Councillor Sanders**

Councillor Harper, Chairman of the Planning and Environment Protection Committee

Will the Chairman of the Planning Committee please explain why, in the interest of the taxpayers we serve, and as an example to others who think they may flout planning law at will, the Committee is choosing not to enforce the planning appeal decision made by the planning inspectorate for Battlefield Live in Thorney? The Inspectorate said that Battlefield Live cannot have planning permission to continue their activities, yet the Council is not taking any action to make sure they cease their continued business activity before 23rd July 2015.

**Councillor Harper responded:**

Under the terms of the enforcement notice the operation was due to stop on 1 June 2015. However, the use has continued. Consideration has been given to taking injunctive action in order to bring the activity to an end but both internal and external legal advice has been that the Courts are unlikely to grant such an injunction. Consequently a case is currently being put together with the objective of taking

	<p>prosecution action. Should the operation stop before the prosecution gets to court then we would be likely to bring an end to proceedings as there would be little benefit in continuing with court action.</p> <p><b>Councillor Sanders asked the following supplementary question:</b></p> <p>Is it true that if a business carries on trading after they have lost their appeal that it becomes a criminal activity? And if it is true, what message does that send to this business in my ward and what message does that send to other businesses across the city who wish to flout the law and carry on trading even though their appeal has been lost, what message does that send to other people?</p> <p><b>Councillor Harper responded:</b></p> <p>I would reiterate that the case is currently being put together with the objective of taking prosecution action.</p>
12.	<p><b>Question from Councillor Yonga</b></p> <p>To Councillor Elsey, Cabinet Member for Digital, Waste and Street Scene</p> <p>Itter Park is a vital open space for residents of the Paston, Werrington, Gunthorpe and Walton areas. Recently there have been concerns raised regarding the park, it is starting to look run down in places, the inappropriate opening times of the toilets and the removal of the care taker. Is the Leader aware of the issues at Itter Park and does he think the management agreement is being broken? Does the Leader think that standards of the Park should be raised back to what they were when it received a Green Flag award?</p> <p><b>Councillor Elsey responded:</b></p> <p>It was agreed as part of the 2015/2016 budget to reduce the maintenance in cemeteries and parks by 25%, this included grass cutting, flower bed maintenance, litter collection and sweeping.</p> <p>Itter Park is now managed by a satellite gardening team which tend to all the planted beds as required, also they empty the bins three times a week and litter pick the Park twice a week.</p> <p>Officers have been working closely with the Friends of Itter Park to try and combat any issues as a result of these changes for example they have arranged for PCSO's to use the old attendants huts to help reduce any anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>The toilets have been shut, but will be opened again for the school summer holidays and a key has also been supplied to the friends of Itter Park to be able to open them for their events.</p> <p>The management agreement between PCC and Amey has not been broken as the reduction in maintenance was agreed through Full Council as part of the 2015/2016 budget process.</p> <p><b>Councillor Yonga did not have a supplementary question.</b></p>

13. **Question from Councillor Shearman**

To Councillor Fitzgerald, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Integrated Adult Social Care and Health

INSPIRE Peterborough has been at the forefront nationally in building on the legacy of the 2012 Paralympic Games. The range of activities and events provided for disabled people in Peterborough continues to grow and we have every reason to be proud of ourselves as a City. Does the Cabinet Member agree with me that much of this success can be attributed to the commitment and expertise of the personnel at Disability Peterborough?

**Councillor Fitzgerald responded:**

Inspire Peterborough is a project managed within Disability Peterborough and, as such, the personnel at Disability Peterborough have made a critical contribution to its success, particularly in terms of their leadership, dedication and skill in raising the profile of sports and wellbeing initiatives for disabled people, their families and carers.

It is also important to recognise the essential support provided by a wide range of organisations, community groups and sports associations involved with Inspire. Together they are making a real difference to the lives of disabled people and their families living in Peterborough and nationally.

**Councillor Shearman asked the following supplementary question:**

I agree with your sentiments about Disability Peterborough, I find it difficult to marry those particular sentiments of yours with the news that I have heard and you will hopefully be able to say that this is wrong, that the contract that Disability Peterborough have at the current time is going to be transferred some time relatively soon to the Citizens Advice Bureau. I don't believe the CAB have the same sort of expertise and it really will be, if that is the case, a slap in the face for your former colleague, Irene Walsh, who did so much work to get Inspire Peterborough off the ground after the last Olympic Games.

**Councillor Fitzgerald responded:**

I will let Councillor Holdich reply in terms of the update, it's in two parts. When I mentioned many organisations have supported Disability Peterborough and that includes ourselves. We have just awarded the grant funding for £161,765 relating to the provision of the Disability Forum, so we are fully committed and supportive to this organisation but Councillor Holdich can add a further update I believe.

**Councillor Holdich added:**

Councillor Shearman I actually share your reservations about this, not just for Inspire, but for Age UK and Kingsgate and DIAL itself. So I have stopped the process and I have offered a date where I have agreed to chair a meeting of the groups along with our Officers to see whether we can make that document not so obvious that it will go to CAB, we can't have that as it simply doesn't work. We need to find a different way of doing it and I've offered my services to chair a meeting to do that.

<p>14.</p>	<p><b>Question from Councillor Fower</b></p> <p>To Councillor Elsey, Cabinet Member for Digital, Waste and Street Scene</p> <p>Previously I have spoken with local residents regarding the Brown Bin Tax and after looking into the situation discovered that some 73% of city households had not signed up to the brown bin scheme, thus an extra 1,575 tonnes of garden waste had found its way into black bins in just five months. Could the relevant cabinet member please tell me how many households have now signed up to the scheme, by percentage and number?</p> <p><b>Councillor Elsey may have responded:</b></p> <p>We have so far this year 18,514 residents currently signed up to the 15 /16 scheme with a total of 1912 additional bins which equates to 20,426 brown bin lifts per fortnight.</p> <p>This represents a take up of 32.42% if we assumed all eligible households participated in the previous free scheme. To note of the residents that signed up last year we collected over 60% of the original tonnage, and saw an increase in garden waste going to the Household Recycling Centre.</p> <p>The 1,575 tonnes is the amount of garden waste that is no longer being collected through the Household Recycling Centre or the Brown Bins. It is an assumption that all this waste has gone into the black bin however 568 discounted home composter were also sold, which would indicate some of the 1,575 tonnes would have gone into the home composting waste stream.</p>
<p>15.</p>	<p><b>Question from Councillor Davidson</b></p> <p>To Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development</p> <p>Can the Cabinet Member please confirm why there are no facilities, such as shops, at Manor Grove the new housing estate Local residents feel let down that promised facilities have not been developed alongside development of the estate.</p> <p><b>Councillor Hiller may have responded:</b></p> <p>Outline planning permission was given for the development and the adjacent Paston Reserve land in 2005 and 2006 respectively and has been built out in the main in accordance with the master plan associated with the planning approvals. The approved master plan together with the planning permission and associated legal agreement set out what community facilities were to be in place including shops, school, open space and play areas, and where they were to be located.</p> <p>Due to a lack of commercial demand for the shop site, the Council has allowed this land to be developed for housing. It would have been unreasonable for the Council to prevent alternative development at this stage given the lack of commercial interest in the site.</p>

	<p>With regard to the school, the development has not yet reached the stage where the developer is required, under the terms of the legal agreement, to provide the land for this use. Notwithstanding this, we are in negotiation to have the land made available earlier.</p>
16.	<p><b>Question from Councillor Ash – QUESTION WITHDRAWN</b></p> <p>To Councillor Seaton, Cabinet Member for Resources</p> <p>I noted that material from a recent training session showed the logo and address of an external company. Can the Cabinet Member tell me if buying in training material is cost effective particularly for those areas where we have in house expertise?</p> <p><b>THIS QUESTION WAS WITHDRAWN PRIOR TO THE MEETING</b></p>
17.	<p><b>Question from Councillor JR Fox</b></p> <p>To Councillor Elsey, Cabinet Member for Digital, Waste and Street Scene</p> <p>I have an elderly lady in Werrington who is constantly not having her bins emptied on a regular basis, despite reassurances that this would not happen again.</p> <p>I have personally studied the complaints and although AMEY have been very helpful, they have not resolved what should be a simple problem.</p> <p>Can the Cabinet Member please give his personal reassurance that he will look into the ladies complaint and endeavour to resolve any future failings on behalf of AMEY?</p> <p><b>Councillor Elsey may have responded:</b></p> <p>Amey regrets that they have failed to offer this resident an appropriate service. The matter has been compounded by their failure to rectify the issue and ensure that her bins are emptied on scheduled.</p> <p>In order to remedy the problem I have requested that her future collections are supervised by the Principal Operations Manager or Waste Services Manager. They will ensure there are no further problems.</p> <p>Amey have offered their unreserved apologies to the resident.</p>
18.	<p><b>Question from Councillor Sandford</b></p> <p>To Councillor Holdich, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University</p> <p>Could the Leader of the Council outline what discussions he has had with neighbouring councils regarding the possibility of setting up a joint authority in order to receive delegated powers and budgets from central government?</p> <p><b>Councillor Holdich may have responded:</b></p> <p>In response to Government's devolution agenda, I have held preliminary discussions with Council Leaders in Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire over the last few weeks. It is important that we fully explore what potential benefits collaborative working could bring, and what devolved powers and budgets we could secure. I have made no</p>

	<p>commitments and any proposal must be in the interests of Peterborough. Group Leaders have been briefed and I have asked that an all Member Briefing be organised for early September.</p>
19.	<p><b>Question from Councillor Murphy</b></p> <p>To Councillor Fitzgerald, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Integrated Adult Social Care and Health</p> <p>Following reports that the Independent Living Allowance has been terminated, can you let me know how many people in Ravensthorpe Ward were in receipt of these payments and how many of these people, if any, are now being assisted with alternative assistance directly from the Council?</p> <p><b>Councillor Fitzgerald may have responded:</b></p> <p>In Peterborough there were nine people in receipt of funding from the ILF and all have had the shortfall met by Adult Social Care including one person in the Ravensthorpe Ward.</p> <p>The £102,000 Grant from the Department of Communities and Local Government has been ring fenced by the Council to ensure that those previously in receipt of this funding continue to receive the level of support to meet their assessed needs as detailed above.</p>