

**PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL
SUMMONS TO A MEETING**

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

MONDAY 22 MAY 2023 at 7.15 pm

AGENDA

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Chief Executive

12 May 2023
Town Hall
Bridge Street
Peterborough

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**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD WEDNESDAY 22 MARCH 2023
COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, PETERBOROUGH**

THE MAYOR – COUNCILLOR DOWSON

Present:

Councillors Ansar Ali, Imtiaz Ali, Jackie Allen, Steve Allen, Ayres, Barkham, Bi, Bisby, Andrew Bond, Sandra Bond, Burbage, Casey, Cereste, Coles, Day, Dowson, Elsey, Mohammed Farooq, Saqib Farooq, Fenner, Fitzgerald, John Fox, Judy Fox, Harper, Haseeb, Hemraj, Hiller, Hogg, Howard, Hussain, Iqbal, Jamil, Alison Jones, Dennis Jones, Knight, Lane, Moyo, Gul Nawaz, Over, Perkins, Qayyum, Rangzeb, Ray, Robinson, Rush, Sabir, Sainsbury, Sandford, Shaheed, Sharp, Simons, Skibsted, Stevenson, Tyler, Warren, Wiggin, Yurgutene

104. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Seager.

105. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest received.

106. Minutes of the Council meeting held on 22 February 2023

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 22 February 2023 were approved as a true and accurate record.

COMMUNICATIONS

107. Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor advised that his 'Farewell Jolly' would be taking place on Saturday, 20 May 2023 at the Milton Ferry Golf Club. Tickets for this were now on sale and all were encouraged to attend.

108. Leader's Announcements

The Leader made a number of announcements on the following areas:

- Appointments had been made to the positions of Executive Director of Childrens Services and Young People and Executive Director of Adults Services.
- Project Gigabit would soon be providing residents and businesses in rural parts of Peterborough with fast, reliable broadband after a major contract was signed to upgrade the county's network.

- There had been an increase in attainment for primary school pupils in reading, writing and maths, and Peterborough had moved up in national league tables from 148th to 123rd.
- Peterborough's attainment score at Key Stage 2 was now close to the national average.
- Strong improvement had been seen in secondary outcomes, with Peterborough moving up 37 places to 35th out of 151 authorities.
- The Easter Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme was now available to primary and secondary children receiving income-related free school meals.
- Eligible families would be receiving supermarket vouchers for the Easter school holidays.
- Families were urged to check if they were eligible for free school meals.
- The latest phase of Household Support Fund had been agreed, with the Council being provided £3.65 million to help low-income families.
- The spring clean would commencing from 1 April, with the Council spending £120,000 on areas that weren't included in normal cleaning routes. Other requests would be considered via asktheleader@peterborough.gov.uk.
- Litter Action Week was to be launched at the Town Hall on Saturday from 10am.
- Thanks was sent out to ex-Councillor Shaz Nawaz for all his work, following his decision to stand down as Councillor.

The Mayor permitted Group Leaders to respond for longer than the normal one minute, in order to say a few words about ex-Councillor Shaz Nawaz. The following points were raised:

- Group Leaders congratulated the new director appointees.
- Members were delighted to hear news of school attainment and congratulated all involved, though comment was made that league tables did not benefit pupils.
- Members were further pleased to note the plans around city fibre and around the support to be provided to eligible families via free school meals and vouchers.
- The news of a spring clean was welcomed, though Group Leaders expressed a desire to see the city-maintained year-round.
- Members conveyed their thanks to ex-Councillor Shaz Nawaz for the support he had provided over the years.
- Members wished all who observed a Ramadan Mubarak.

QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

109. Questions from Members of the Public

One question was received from members of the public in respect of the following:

1. Low Traffic Neighbourhoods
2. Combined Authority meeting around bus transport
3. Lack of attendance by PCC at Combined Authority meeting to discuss bus services

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

110. Petitions

(a) Presented by Members of the Public

There were no petitions presented by Members of the public at the meeting.

(b) Presented by Members

There were no petitions presented by Members at the meeting.

111. 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

(d) To the Combined Authority Representatives

Questions (a)-(d) were raised and taken as read in respect of the following:

1. Station Quarter
2. Fly tipping
3. Serco contract
4. Regional Pool car park
5. Delay in temporary Regional Pool car park
6. Representatives on the Combined Authority Transport and Infrastructure Committee on 15 March 2023
7. London Road Peterborough Properties Ltd and Peterborough United Football Club car parking revenue
8. Hilton hotel loan extension
9. Net zero carbon target update
10. Serco contract

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

RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS

112. Executive and Committee Recommendations to Council

112(a). Constitution and Ethics Committee Recommendation - Timetable for Reviewing Peterborough City Council Constitution

Council received a report from the Constitution and Ethics Committee in relation to a review of the Council's constitution, specifically in relation to the Contract Rules.

Councillor Sandford moved the recommendation and advised that a review of the constitution would be taking place, following consideration by the Constitution and Ethics Committee. This involved several streams of working, including a review by the committee of the Council's model of governance, considering the potential for a hybrid structure. Members would have a chance to feed into the review in several workshops to be held in June. The recommendation in front of Members today was specifically around the Contract Rules, as changes were required following the procurement service moving back in-house. It was requested to provide authority to the Monitoring Officer to make the necessary changes.

Councillor Jamil seconded the recommendation.

A vote was taken on the recommendation and Council **RESOLVED** (unanimous with no Members indicating to vote against or abstain) to:

1. Delegate authority to the Director of Law and Governance & Monitoring Officer to make any necessary changes to the Contract Rules, following the implementation of revised procurement procedures.

112(b). Constitution and Ethics Committee Recommendation - Process for Appointing to Outside Bodies

Council received a report from the Constitution and Ethics Committee in relation to the process for appointing to outside bodies.

Councillor Coles moved the recommendation and advised that the Constitution and Ethics Committee considered two options in relation to the process for appointing to outside bodies, which were: the decision to be taken by Full Council, or the decision to be taken by the Leader. Ultimately, the committee decided to recommend that the decision remain as current with the Leader, with some minor changes to the constitution to reflect current practice.

Councillor Sainsbury seconded the recommendation and reserved his right to speak.

Councillor Hogg moved a procedural motion, under Council Standing Order 20.1 to refer the recommendation to the Constitution and Ethics Committee, and advised the recommendation should be returned to the committee in order to present Council with a recommendation that would allow a true vote. At the current time, whichever way Council voted, the decision on outside bodies would remain with the Leader.

Councillor Sandford seconded the procedural motion and advised that the matter before Members this evening had been a long-running issue. The discussion at the Constitution and Ethics Committee had led to a vote on the recommendation, with 4 voting in favour and 3 voting against. An amendment had been submitted to Council in an effort to change the recommendation to instead have Full Council as the decision maker for outside body appointments, however, it was advised that this could not be done. It was felt that the procedural motion was necessary in order to allow Full Council the freedom of choice in determining the decision-maker for this process.

Council debated the procedural motion and the summary of the points raised by Members included:

- Comment was made that the Constitution and Ethics Committee should be allowed the option to reconsider the proposal.
- Suggestion was made that referring the matter back to committee would be a pointless endeavour, as the same recommendation would like be made to Council.

As mover of the procedural motion, Councillor Hogg summed up, advising that it felt like 'bad governance' to have the Council unable to make a decision. The Monitoring Officer, however, advised that there was a recommendation from the committee before the Council to be voted on.

A vote was taken on the procedural motion by Councillor Hogg (24 voted in favour, 30 voted against, and 2 abstained from voting). The procedural motion was **DEFEATED**.

A vote was taken on the recommendation and Council **RESOLVED** (33 voted in favour, 21 voted against, and 2 abstained from voting) to:

1. Approve the process for appointments to Outside Bodies as set out in Appendix 2 (Revised 'Section 5 – Appointments to External Organisations' – Leader of the Council as decision-maker) to the report.

112(c). Constitution and Ethics Committee Recommendation - Update to Civic Protocol

Council received a report from the Constitution and Ethics Committee in relation to the Civic Protocol.

Councillor Sandford moved the recommendation and advised that the Constitution and Ethics Committee had debated the matter on four separate occasions, with a number of contrasting views being provided. Although the recommendation did not reflect Councillor Sandford's own view, it was felt that in light of other important issues the Council currently faced, the matter of Mayoral attire should not be the Council's priority. It was also advised that, as Mayor Elect, Councillor Sandford would be abstaining from the vote should one be required.

Councillor Jamil seconded the recommendation and advised that sufficient debate had been held at the Constitution and Ethics Committee meeting for the recommendation to be able to be agreed.

Council debated the recommendation and the summary of the points raised by Members included:

- Comment was made those who held the position of Mayor should take advice from officers on matters.
- Further comment was made that individual opinion on whether hats or other ceremonial garb should be worn was not relevant to the recommendation, and that the Mayor represented the whole of Peterborough as First Citizen and not in their own right.
- It was suggested that if a Member felt uncomfortable with an aspect of the Mayoral role, then they should not take on the role.
- It was noted that the revised protocol before Members had been drafted in order to provide clear guidance to the Mayor on the expected Mayoral attire.

As mover of the recommendation, Councillor Sandford summed up, advising that, should he be elected as Mayor in May 2023, he would be taking advice from officers on all aspects of the role and was disappointed that discussion had continued at this meeting.

A vote was taken on the recommendation and Council **RESOLVED** (unanimous with no Members indicating to vote against or abstain) to:

1. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office (outlined in Appendix 2 of the report);
2. The revised Civic Protocol (outlined in Appendix 1 to the report).

The Mayor made comment that he hoped individuals with republican views would not be denied the honour of taking on the role of Peterborough's First Citizen in the future.

112(d). Cabinet Recommendation – Flood Risk Management Plan

Council received a report from Cabinet in relation to the Flood Risk Management Plan.

Councillor Cereste moved the recommendation.

A vote was taken on the recommendation and Council **RESOLVED** (unanimous with no Members indicating to vote against or abstain) to:

1. Approve the updated Peterborough Flood Risk Management Strategy (FMS).

113. Questions on the Executive Decisions Made Since the Last Meeting

Cllr Fitzgerald introduced the report which outlined the record of Executive decisions made since the last meeting.

Members asked questions on the following Executive Decisions.

Amendment to Hotel Loan Facility

In response to a question from Councillor Iqbal, Councillor Coles advised that it was anticipated the Council would see the loan paid back in full around July 2023.

In response to a question from Councillor Hogg, Councillor Coles advised that the Hotel Loan was not similar to Empower and it was anticipated that the building would be completed by July 2023.

In response to a question from Councillor Imtiaz Ali, Councillor Coles advised that while it was not the intention of providing the loan to make a profit, the Council was making a return on it's own loan from the Public Works Loan Board plus a little more.

Award of Insurance Contract

In response to a question from Councillor Hogg, Councillor Coles advised that matters in relation to planning for contract renewal were being addressed, particularly now the procurement service had returned in-house.

114. Questions on the Combined Authority Decisions Made Since the Last Meeting

The Mayor introduced the report which outlined the record of Combined Authority decisions made since the last meeting.

Members asked questions on the following Combined Authority decisions.

Combined Authority Board – 8 February 2023 - Announcements, Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

In response to a question from Councillor Hogg, Councillor Jamil advised that that he had offered his apologies to the meeting as the representative from the Fire Authority. Councillor Edna Murphy, of South Cambridgeshire District Council, attended as substitute.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

115. Notices of Motion

115(1) Motion from Councillor Dennis Jones

Councillor Dennis Jones moved his motion and advised that recent statistics showed seven out of ten Councillors faced abused. The Councillor was himself aware of members of his own Group who had received abusive message, which was considered normal for female Councillors. It was felt that Councillors took on their positions in order to make change for the better and did not deserve to be subject to such behaviour. It was suggested that the Council review this motion in six months' time to ensure that all involved were taking appropriate action.

Councillor Harper seconded the motion and advised that, while Councillor could and should expect political challenge as part of their role, this should not include abused and such behaviour should not be tolerated.

Council debated motion and the summary of the points raised by Members included:

- Members expressed wholehearted agreement with the motion.
- Comment was made that one particular party had shown a desire to move away from the democratic process regarding dealing with abuse.
- Further comment was made that political commentary and criticism should not be mistaken for bullying, with the former being an important aspect of democracy.

As mover of the motion, Councillor Dennis Jones summed up, advising that the atmosphere in the Chamber had improved in the past couple of years and it was important to continue to emphasis debate rather than hate.

A vote was taken on the motion moved by Councillor Dennis Jones (unanimous with no Members indicating to vote against or abstain). The motion was **CARRIED** as follows:

"The intimidation and abuse of councillors, in person or otherwise, undermines democracy; preventing elected members from representing the communities they serve, deterring individuals from standing for election, and undermining public life in democratic processes.

This council notes that increasing levels of toxicity in public and political discourse is having a detrimental impact of local democracy and that prevention, support and responses to abuse and intimidation of local politicians must improve to ensure councillors feel safe and able to continue representing their residents.

This council therefore commits to challenge the normalisation of abuse against councillors and officers and uphold exemplary standards of public and political debate in all it does. The council further agrees to sign up to the LGA's Debate Not Hate campaign. The campaign aims to raise public awareness of the role of councillors in local communities, encourage healthy debate and improve the response to and support those in public life facing abuse and intimidation.

In addition, this council resolves to:

- **Write to the local Member of Parliament to ask them to support the campaign.**
- **Write to the Government to ask them to work with the LGA to develop and implement a plan to address abuse and intimidation of politicians.**
- **Regularly review the support available to councillors in relation to abuse and intimidation and councillor safety.**

- **Work with the local police to ensure there is a clear and joined-up mechanism for reporting threats and other concerns about the safety of councillors and their families and discuss the need to take a preventative approach that accounts for the specific risks that councillors face, as they do with other high-risk individuals, like MPs.**
- **Take a zero-tolerance approach to abuse of councillors and officers.”**

115(2) Motion from Councillor Sandra Bond

Councillor Sandra Bond confirmed that she no longer wished to move the motion.

116. REPORTS TO COUNCIL

116(a) Annual Pay Policy Statement

Councillor Coles moved the recommendation.

A vote was taken on the recommendation and Council **RESOLVED** (unanimous with no Members indicating to vote against or abstain) to approve the Pay Policy Statement for 2023. The Policy is attached at Appendix 1 to the report.

116(b) Revised Political Proportionality and Allocation of Committee Seats

Councillor Dennis Jones moved the recommendation.

A vote was taken on the recommendation and Council **RESOLVED** (unanimous with no Members indicating to vote against or abstain) to:

1. Agree the allocation of seats on committees subject to political balance arrangements (Appendix 1 to the report).

116(c) Appointment of Statutory Scrutiny Officer

Councillor Coles moved the recommendation.

A vote was taken on the recommendation and Council **RESOLVED** (unanimous with no Members indicating to vote against or abstain) to appoint Philippa Turvey, Democratic and Constitutional Services Manager as the authority’s Statutory Scrutiny Officer.

The Mayor
6.00pm – 8.05pm
22 March 2023

**FULL COUNCIL 22 MARCH 2023
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

Questions were received under the following categories:

<u>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</u>	
<u>Questions from members of the public</u>	
1.	<p>Question from Christopher Taylor</p> <p>Councillor Fitzgerald, Leader of the Council</p> <p>Local councils across the UK are being provided with significant funding from central government to implement Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs), 15 Minute Cities, and other restrictions on the freedom of movement of the local population, and as a consequence of this stands to rake in significant amounts of money from new fines on motorists. Local councils appears to ignore the public and push ahead with these undemocratic schemes regardless of the will of the people to meet net zero targets.</p> <p>People should be able to travel and live their lives as they see fit, without central or local government interference. What plans does Peterborough City Council have with regard LTNs and other restrictions on the freedom of movement of the citizens of this city, and when will these plans be submitted to, at the very least, public scrutiny via an open and robust consultation process?</p> <p>The Cabinet Member responded:</p> <p>Thank you for the question, you're not the only one to ask this question, not here in Peterborough. I'm going to give you a couple of answers if I may, I'll respond to your specific points.</p> <p>We have no plans, that's the first point, so there's nothing to submit or scrutinise.</p> <p>What I will say is I entirely agree with your view, and so do Members on this side of the Chamber. I can't speak for Members on the other side because they may have a totally different view, you'll have to write to the separately or ask them. But what I can say is that as long as I am Leader of the Council, we shall not be doing this, so I am giving you that assurance, and for anybody else watching.</p> <p>What I will say to you though, conversely, things are mixed up. The LTNs, 15 minute cities, 20 minute cities and we've taken an active interest in it. So all the things you are afraid of, that I'm assuming you refer to, we will not be doing. However, we do take seriously the improvements in walking and cycling and having a cleaner, greener city, so we take all those things very seriously as well and I know colleagues on the other side of the Chamber do. We are committed to improve all those things, but not at the expense you are talking about.</p> <p>Supplementary question:</p> <p>Are Peterborough apart of the 100 cities initiatives, which is also net zero driven.</p>

The Cabinet Member responded:

What I will say to you is that I keep getting these messages saying you are on a list, and I keep thinking, what list, what list are we on, where's this list? And it's only thanks to you and others that previously we signed up to UK 100 cities, but I'm happy to share with you, their view about the question you are asking, which is there is no provision or anything that can make us, neither are they saying we should be a 15 minute city or a 20 minute city. If you look on their FAQ section by the way, it does actually say that, so what we're committed to is about improving neighbourhood walking and cycling, but again, I am going to reiterate to you, we are not going to enforce things on people, without, certainly asking and we have no desire to do so. So check the FAQs, which were sent to me by the way by our Climate team about that. It makes quite clear that there is no requirement to do those things that you are talking about. Its news to me, but at least I know what list we're on.

2. **Question from Sue Magill**

Councillor Fitzgerald, Leader of the Council

I would like to ask why there was no representative from the Peterborough at the Combined Authority transport meeting on the 15th March. This made the voting process difficult. Why did no one attend this meeting or have a representative to take their place in case of emergency?

The Cabinet Member responded:

Thank you, Mrs Magill, you are not the only person to ask this question. There is a perfectly reasonable and rational explanation, but I'll start with some positive news for you before I respond to the direct question. There was no harm done, there was no vote lost or ground lost, in fact I attended the board meeting today which is where the decision are made. There were only recommendations for the transport and infrastructure Committee, which go to the board for approval. So, all the things that were not 'quote', approved, were approved today.

It's a very sensible question and I have asked permission from the Cabinet Member, Cllr Cereste responsible to share the information. It is very simple and unfortunately, his wife's father remains close to death and is very ill. So on that day, Cllr Cereste had already given apologies to the Combined Authority, but due to a series of mishaps, neither the CA or the people here could do anything about it in time to organise a substitute, so it was just one of those things about human error so we'll apologies for that. I can do that on behalf of the Council, particularly for those residents that went to that meeting. I know Cllr Dowson, particularly shares the views of some of the people in the rural communities and I guess it's about busses. If you watch back the Combined Authority meeting from today, you will see I made your case very strongly about the lack of buses in Ailsworth, Castor, Wandsford and those areas and I put that back to the Combined Authority as a challenge to try and help invest in those areas. So, there was no harm done your points were made properly, but on that particular day, it was just an unfortunate set of circumstances and understandably Cllr Cereste's put his family first, but he did do the right thing. Apologies were sent but unfortunately, it just didn't happen because of an internal issue about how that was managed.

The team here have looked at that and hopefully we have kind of fixed it. I hope that helps.

Supplementary question:

I attended this meeting in order to inform all of a lack of regular daily reliable bus services in our villages of Castor, Alisworth elderly, vulnerable and teenagers and non car drivers feel isolated and forgotten. In Wittering, teenagers walk along the A1 to Stamford. RAF personnel families feel isolated and I take on board what you've just said, but how can we be reassured in view of no one possibly turning up again. Not in such tragic circumstances naturally as Mr Cereste, Cllr Cereste but could there be a stand in just automatically takes over?

The Cabinet Member responded:

There is, but unfortunately the process failed. As in I won't go into detail, but I just don't want to embarrass the team here. Some one went on holiday, someone couldn't see the diary, the Combined Authority didn't do the right thing either. It was one of those perfect storms where the whole thing went wrong, the team have taken on board and reflected on it and have put in other measures to try and ensure it doesn't happen again, but people are human and make mistakes. So never say never, but we do our very best to ensure it doesn't happen. We thought there was a process in place, but on this occasion it failed, but as I said because I know I've got two other questions about the same thing, I will just be referring everybody to what I have just said and I'm acutely aware, because I have been out to the Rural's with Councillor Over who is passionate about the villages as are other Councillors, Cllr Hiller so we have a broad representation, so we are aware of the challenges, particularly around public transport and we will do what we can to fix it and we'll work with the Combined Authority who are working on a bus strategy which was just approved today. Okay?

3. **Question from Julia Cunnington**

Councillor Fitzgerald, Leader of the Council

Good evening, the question really has been put by Sue and you've answered but we felt that we ought to ask it together and separately, so the question has already been answered, so thank you for that.

The Cabinet Member responded:

I'm happy to answer any supplementary if there is a different question Mr Mayor but there may not be.

Supplementary question:

It's more of an offer as well, you say you visited our villages. It's an open invitation, please come and talk to me, I'm the chair of wittering parish council, I'll be happy to show you round our village and show you what the problems are and you can absolutely understand the sort of issues our residents are facing.

The Cabinet Member responded:

I'm happy to anytime, just contact the office and send me an invitation. Councillor Over though will testify or be testament to, that I met with a number of Parish Councils probably in the last six to eight weeks I think it was, I know it was dark and cold and so I'm always happy to speak to anybody wherever they are in the city, so just ask me

and we'll come and I'll bring any officers we need to. Its Lewis Banks if it's about public transport and the like, he's a very good officer. If there are any other problems, if its road safety, those kinds of issues, just because I know there are speeding issues as well, we are aware, as I say, we can only do what we can do with what we have.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

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 Cllr John Fox

Councillor Steve Allen, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Communication, Culture and Communities

It is great news that the council have secured funding for the station quarter, which will be good news for many residents.

We must however ensure that the elderly and disabled residents are catered for and that before any decisions are made, the administration liaises with disability groups as a matter of course.

Council should be seriously looking for a Changing Places toilet to be built in or near the station itself, which is long overdue and in much demand.

At long last the Council can now take a serious look at the footbridge from the Station quarter to Queensgate striving to make it more user friendly for pedestrians, mobility scooter users, blind or partially sighted residents, the elderly and those with limited mobility.

Will the leader and cabinet member reassure this chamber that this will be actioned on and taken in serious consideration?

The Cabinet Member responded:

We are absolutely delighted that the Levelling Up bid was successful, and we have secured such a significant investment into our city which will be truly transformative.

We agree with the points raised about making sure the station is accessible to all and as such I can confirm that the Peterborough Station Quarter project will be designed will all users in mind. Part of the next phase is to carry out an access audit

	<p>on the design proposals to ensure compliance with Equality Act 2010, “Access for All” with the aim of ensuring the necessary facilities are put in place. I can absolutely confirm that Disability Peterborough and other stakeholders will be engaged to discuss the proposals with the support of Network Rail’s Built Environment Accessibility Panel (BEAP).</p> <p>Regarding the footbridge between Queensgate and the Station (car park) I can confirm that there are proposals being developed for accessibility improvements between the Station and the city centre. These are not fully developed at this stage but might, for example, include accessibility improvements towards Cowgate, Westgate or indeed both. I can assure you that I will instruct offices to consider all options and engage with all relevant stakeholders to ensure that accessibility is improved for all.</p> <p>Supplementary question:</p> <p>I’m really pleased to hear that I mean, it’s reassuring very much so, but will you also liaise with Councillors who are passionate about this, and you know who they are in this Chamber, who are really, really passionate about disability issues within the station quarter and the lack of facilities for people with limited mobility. So would you reassure us as well that you talk to all Councillors as well, so we know what’s going on because it’s an important issue and this is the time to get it right and the only way you’ll get it right is to listen to the experts and the experts are the people with the disabilities. They will tell you what is needed, listen and then act please.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member responded:</p> <p>You’ve known me long enough to know that I am a big believer in communications, communication is everything and be assured that we will communicate with all of those with an input on this subject matter. I can confirm also that our disability Champion, Brian Tyler Councillor Tyler will be fully engaged in the conversation with regard to this. Yes in deed, the whole of the Councillor cohort will be engaged, talking to us about how we make sure this works properly for all.</p>
2.	<p>Question from Councillor Ansar Ali (1)</p> <p>Councillor Nigel Simons, Cabinet Member for Waste, Street Scene and the Environment</p> <p>It is extremely embarrassing to hear from residents in my ward, our city being called dirty Peterborough. The sight of ever-growing litter and fly tipping across our city is extremely heart-wrenching, this is particularly bad in my North Ward. I would urge urgent action to address this decline. Can I be advised as to what strategy and action the Council is taking to address this blight in our city?</p> <p>The Cabinet Member responded:</p> <p>The blight of fly-tipping and littering is not acceptable in our communities and our officers are working tirelessly to respond to this challenge.</p> <p>We know that nationally and citywide this is a problem, but we acknowledge that in some areas of Peterborough it is more prevalent than others and our approach is to focus on hotspot locations to address this.</p>

Our strategy is centred on 3 themes:

Behaviour Change, which includes:

- Media campaigns to highlight issues and promote correct disposal options
- Establishing litter picking groups to clear up neighbourhoods and help with bringing attention to this issue within hotspot areas and instil a sense of community pride, thanking the Community Wombles especially.
- We are recruiting 5 new education officers whose role will be to increase recycling awareness and work directly with communities to educate around the anti-social acts of fly-tipping and littering

Our second theme is services and infrastructure:

- We have 4 dedicated specialist investigators experienced in gathering evidence and bringing offenders to justice.
- We have a strong operator in Aragon services who is resourced to allow us to set a target to remove fly-tipping within 48hrs. Nationally, this is a good response time with some partners quoting well over a week.
- We are working hand in glove with Aragon to gather evidence and define Hot Spot locations.
- We have a dedicated 'Hit Squad' to target known fly-tipping areas on a constant basis.
- Enforcement
- We are increasing use of covert surveillance equipment to identify offenders.
- We are deploying overt cameras not only to enforce but to deter offending. At locations where the cameras have been installed officers noted a significant drop in the number of incidents, even after removal.
- Since the 1st of April 2022 179 Fixed Penalty Notices have been issued for Fly Tipping and Duty of Care and 35 cases have been sent to Legal for prosecution.

Supplementary question:

Thank you Councillor Simons for your comprehensive response. In terms of what is being done, I know that Aragon, when fly tipping is reported they clear that quite quickly. I'm concerned that more enforcement is not carried out and more people are not being caught and fined. That's something I'd like to see more of so we can send a strong message that we have zero tolerance on those who blight our city with fly tipping and litter etc. When people are coming into our city, our parkways look very very dirty, that's not very welcoming and quite often there is confusion who is responsible for keeping those parkways and pathways clean, so I think we need to make sure, whoever is responsible, we do the best we can. At the moment, it seems to many that I represent that not enough is being done to hold those responsible keeping the city clean, to account and those who are making the mess of our city to actually hold them to account and catching the culprits. I think what I'm really asking Mr Mayor is that we to do more in my North Ward and I know there is a book (illegible)... I know at times I will use my North Ward and I'm hoping that someone will win that box of chocolates, I'm... what I'm hoping to do is that there will be more covert cameras installed in North Ward because things are getting from bad to worse, thank you.

Cabinet Member responded:

I'll try and pick the bones out of that. Obviously we've got six covert cameras and we are looking to get more but obviously we will be deploying them in areas of the greatest

	<p>need. If that is in North Ward, then obviously, it will be in North Ward but we don't want to say where we are putting the cameras for obvious reasons. I visited several times in your ward recently Ansar, and I did notice that the mosque was immaculate. It would be fantastic if we could get more engagement from the mosque so we can go out further than the mosque area and do some cleaning up and obviously I know you've gone to the school recently to try and educate the children, so I appreciate that. Obviously, as you are aware, we are naming and shaming as well. I think if we all work together, I'm sure we will make a real difference.</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>Question from Councillor Dennis Jones</p> <p>Councillor Andy Coles, Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Governance</p> <p>I have read, with some alacrity, that PCC does not have a break clause in the Serco contract until 2031 at an estimated cost of £105m.</p> <p>My question is two-fold. Why was this signed with no break clause in the first place? And five years on from signing and one year on from the city being close to bankruptcy, what was the prevailing culture within the cabinet at that time where a now retired councillor was able to sign the city up for such a contract? Hindsight is a wonderful thing but no break clause without the benefit of a crystal ball does appear to be rather careless.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member responded:</p> <p>The contract extension in 2018 was signed by the then S151 Officer and the then Monitoring Officer, and approved via CMDN by the then portfolio holder, so we know from that process that the Monitoring Officer was content with the legality and the S151 Officer was content with decisions financial probity. The former holder then signed off the decision, so we can assume safely that he received assurances to that case. None of those individuals holding the purse remain in the Council so we can't say with 100% certainty the reasoning that led to the CMDN, but the best recollection of the Cabinet Members at the time, was that there were financial reasons that might have affected the Councils bottom line that required the extension and strategical and tactical contractual management reasons for why the contract was extended in this way.</p> <p>I can't comment regarding the removal of any break clause, but I am given to understand that there is likely to have been an opportunity to vary that part of contract in a 2018 extension either, but we are going onto the realms of speculation here. But when I'm portfolio for this area for procurement there is a vanishingly small chance that I would accept a contract for this Council where break clauses were not included.</p> <p>Supplementary question:</p> <p>I think you've kind of pre-empted what I was going to say, is what lessons have been learned since then. Assuming this was such a good deal, would you have no hesitation of repeating the exercise, hopefully not, as this was the only show in town, or perhaps more options might have been assessed with Cabinet colleagues, with no crystal ball in sight 13 years tied into any contract for any service appears to have be rather a long time.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member responded:</p>

	<p>I was struck by your question with the one word you used, alacrity, which means eagerness and briskness. I am delighted to say you are eager and brisk despite your current situation and I did offer you my cushion to sit on, but I know you don't need it. However, the issue for me I think is opposition Members need to make sure that they exercise the duties that they have in terms of asking questions about CMDNs when they come up and also challenging things in Council. So, if that had happened in 2018, and we had similar alacrity with officers then, sorry with Members then we would know much more detail. I'm sorry, I've had to fish around to come up with an answer. I don't want to mislead anyone and give an answer that might be incorrect, but what I can say in conclusion is that the Government arrangements have now changed and all such decisions of in excess of half a million pounds would be reported to and subject to a full Cabinet approval process. So, there is no chance of, as you say, a large contract just being decided on one CMDN.</p>
4.	<p>Question from Councillor Hogg (1)</p> <p>Councillor Steve Allen, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Communication, Culture and Communities</p> <p>At the Full Council meeting of 25 January Councillors were given assurances that "no one would be inconvenienced in the short term" by the closure of the Regional Pool Car Park and that disabled parking spaces lost by the closure would be replaced for the use of customers of the Regional Pool. On 13 February the car park was closed to prepare for the forthcoming development of the phase 3 University building. At the time of writing this question no extra disabled parking spaces have been provided for Regional Pool customers. Why has this been allowed to happen despite firm assurances that extra provision would be put in place before the closure of the car park?</p> <p>The Cabinet Member responded:</p> <p>Whilst initially planning permission was secured for temporary replacement parking, at the time the permission was granted, it was deemed unnecessary to provide additional parking as there was ample existing parking provisions in nearby car parks.</p> <p>However, that position has changed over recent weeks, with both Bishop's Road and Car Haven car parks often full to capacity. This appears to be a result of post-Covid recovery, which is a good thing, and a strong city centre offer; and maybe also the presence of the University at that location.</p> <p>As an interim arrangement, additional parking places have been created on the site of the regional pool and all 4 accessible bays around the pool itself have been maintained. I am pleased to confirm that a contractor has now been appointed to install the temporary car park, which was originally intended on the site where planning permission was granted, and their mobilisation period has commenced.</p> <p>Within this construction plan for the temporary car park, there is a specification for 5 accessible bays, and to convert the 2 loading bays to provide circa 12 places this is including now taking into play some of the staff places. Whilst we anticipate that this will meet demand, officers will continue to work with Peterborough Limited who operate the facility to identify if any further accessible provision can be provided.</p>

	<p>Our hot new is that I heard today that additional places will now be added to that to provide more parking facilities, accessible parking places, but I can share more about the programme over the coming days.</p> <p>Supplementary questions:</p> <p>The question I have hear is not so much about parking spaces but disabled parking spaces and the fact is that we made some changes to what had been the coach car park but we did add a single disabled place. And we were given assurances by both the Leader and the Cabinet Member that there would be nobody inconvenienced before the closure of the car park. This simply did not happen and still hasn't happened. You say you are very strong on communication, what have you done to communicate with users of the pool to highlight to them the situation and the steps you are looking to put this right?</p> <p>The Cabinet Member responded:</p> <p>Communication is a two-way thing in as much, I need the information the relevant council officers to allow me to share the information. The pool I believe is scheduled to reopen on Friday, and indeed, extra parking places are now in the process of being provided and we are taking about accessible parking places. So, it is being addressed. I do think that there's been some sort of a lag which is unfortunate, but we're getting there, and getting there with gusto now and the additional accessible bays will be provided. I can't give you the exact numbers, but I hear today that additional ones were going to be on site.</p> <p>Hogg, it will be four, because I had a briefing from the officers.</p> <p>Allen, well I've got here a total of 12, so is that to your satisfaction?</p> <p>Hogg, so it's about the communication.</p> <p>Allen, sorry Mr Mayor, can I just tie a ribbon on this, there will be no less than there were previously, but I am waiting on the exact numbers, there may be more.</p>
5.	<p>Question from Councillor Skibsted</p> <p>Councillor Steve Allen, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Communication, Culture and Communities and Councillor Marco Cereste, Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Planning, Housing and Transport</p> <p>I asked a question about car parking at the regional pool to Councillor Cereste at Full Council in January. The council leader claimed in the PT on 28 January that, although the car park would close for users on 11 February, that "no one would be inconvenienced at all" by this closure. On 2 February I was informed by a senior officer that PCC was waiting for contractors to confirm the exact timelines for completing the works of building a temporary car park, which were not expansive and that we could expect this facility to be open "within the next few weeks".</p> <p>I see no sign of this work and we are now at the end of March and the original regional pool car park was closed on 11 February.</p>

	<p>Why was this promised and what is the cause of the delay in building and opening this much- needed. temporary car park?</p> <p>The Cabinet Member responded:</p> <p>I think I have comprehensively answered your question with the previous answer, but if you've got a supplementary, whack it at me and I'll see how we do.</p> <p>Supplementary question:</p> <p>What was the cause of the delay, because as I said in my question, I was told on the 2nd February that it would be opening in a matter of weeks, so I am not totally clear about the delay in opening the temporary car park and as Councillor Hogg said we were told that nobody would be inconvenienced, well they have been inconvenienced, so why has it taken so long and it hasn't started yet as far as I can see. I know you're saying its on progress, but what's caused the delay?</p> <p>The Cabinet Member responded:</p> <p>Obviously, contractual obligation is always relevant on these kind of things, most unfortunate because of an operational issue, but the pool I believe is rescheduled to be open this Friday or maybe Monday. I am waiting for the final update on that, but I don't think people have been inconvenienced other than by the fact that the pool has been closed, so there will be spaces and the pool is about to open with additional spaces to be provided. So, there was no inconvenience on the basis that whilst it's been closed, you couldn't park there anyway.</p> <p>Skibstead, sorry that wasn't the answer to my question. I asked why there was a delay. Allen, I said contractual mobilisation at the start of my statement.</p>
6.	<p>Question from Councillor Sandford (1)</p> <p>Councillor Sandford</p> <p>In view of the responses that have been received for previous questions, I'm happy to withdraw this question. I'm really sorry to hear about Councillor Cereste's personal circumstances.</p> <p>All I would just add in withdrawing the question though is the point about the rural bus services came up. The reason the villages don't have a bus service is that four years ago they had one and the administration refused to provide any subsidy to enable it to continue.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member responded:</p> <p>I agree with Councillor Sandford that the administration didn't provide any support, because frankly we've got not money to do so, its as simple as that. All bus subsidies were under review at the time and unfortunately, you have to make choices, but we have to find a solution as I said to you through the Combined Authority. What I forgot to mention by the way, and I was chastised for it by my colleague on the left, so I mentioned some of the rural wards, but Eye, Thorney and Newborough being the biggest one and Councillor Elsey's ward of Wittering also which I mentioned in dispatches, these are all important areas to the Council and we have to redouble our</p>

	<p>efforts and it's good that if you're making noises through elected representatives and to the Council about finding solutions. So, it is very much on the radar and I respect Councillor Sandford's passion and enthusiasm for buses. If you want to know anything about them, he could talk to you about them for three hours about them, then move onto trees, because this is very important, and the fact is that I come back to the point though that we can't fund everything as a Council.</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Question from Councillor Seager</p> <p>Councillor Coles, Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Governance</p> <p>When the council sold back the freehold of the football ground to London Road Peterborough Properties Ltd it retained a large area of the gravel car park at the front of the sight fronting London Road. It seems that PUFC are using this space and charging for vehicles to park there on match days. Is Peterborough City Council leasing this land to PUFC or in a commercial arrangement to split the proceeds of the parking revenue?</p> <p>The Cabinet Member responded:</p> <p>The Council are currently investigating ways to regularise the ongoing use of the site and to secure an income based on any proposed use. Options include creating a new, temporary, pay and display car park and leasing the site in its entirety to third party organisations. The Council are in discussions with several parties including Peterborough Town Football Club. Any regularisation of the site will be for the short term as it remains a key future strategic development site. The Council expect to be in a position to regularise the use of this site in the coming weeks.</p> <p>A point of fact is that I don't think it is accurate that money is being taken from members of the public from the club. I'm not entirely sure that that is an accurate comment.</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Question from Councillor Ansar Ali (2)</p> <p>Councillor Andy Coles, Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Governance</p> <p>Over recent days a number of residents of my North Ward have expressed concerns at the further delay and deferral of £15 million of loan repayment by Hilton Hotel Group to the Council. They feel the Council will not get its money back or make any profit from this loan as originally stated. Can I please have an explanation of the situation?</p> <p>The Cabinet Member responded:</p> <p>The Council has ensured the hotel loan facility is fully secured by a first charge over the hotel. In addition, the loan drawdown each month is approved by the Council's quantity surveyor, which ensures the monthly drawdown is only a percentage of the construction costs incurred during that month.</p> <p>So what this means is that in effect, should the development should fail, the Council would own the building as it stood, so in terms of losing money, no that's not the case.</p> <p>The Council has not provided the loan to make a profit, it was provided to ensure the regeneration of this area and to ensure a prestigious hotel was secured for</p>

	<p>Peterborough. The Council is charging interest on the outstanding loan balance at a commercial rate of interest which is higher than the Council's borrowing costs from the Public Works Loan Board. There is a net income to the Council, which is fed into the Medium-Term Financial Programme and interest will continue to be charged until the loan is refinanced and repaid to the Council.</p> <p>So what this means is that throughout, the Council received interest payments on the load from Propiteer and when the building is completed and they refinance, they'll get the loan fully repaid</p> <p>The refinance process for Propiteer will be much more straightforward and less risky once the construction has completed and the hotel operational. This has been confirmed by the Council's quantity surveyor who has also raised no concerns about Propiteer's ability to refinance once the hotel is operational.</p> <p>Supplementary question:</p> <p>I feel reassured. One of the things that concerns me is that when we borrowed the money to loan to this hotel group, we borrowed at a lower rate of interest, because the interest rates were low and we get a reduction as a public sector organisation, but interest rates on loan repayments have gone up in recent years quite considerably in recent years, and I just want to see whether we will get that uplift in a repayment.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member responded:</p> <p>Indeed, on the extension there has been an uplift. In terms of whether we would do the same deal again, it's going to be extremely difficult to do that and I wouldn't approve it unless it was legally appropriate to do so.</p>
9.	<p>Question from Councillor Sandford (2)</p> <p>Councillor Cereste, Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Planning, Housing and Transport</p> <p>In July 2019 the Council set targets of getting both the Council itself and the whole city to net zero carbon by 2030. Could the relevant cabinet member give a report on what progress has been made towards reaching these targets?</p> <p>The Cabinet Member responded:</p> <p>As you know, the council is committed to achieving its net-zero carbon target across the organisation's operations by 2030. Since this target was announced in 2019, real and meaningful progress has been made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have appointed a dedicated Principal Climate Change Officer, whose work includes the annual publication of the Council's Climate Change Action Plan. The latest draft was recently reviewed by the relevant Scrutiny Committee and indicatively shows that our emissions have reduced, quite considerably. Excluding. If you remove emissions from the goods and services purchased, by 24% relative to the 2018/2019 baseline. • We have recently undertaken a programme of Climate Debates, the aim of which was to share information on greenhouse gas emissions across the city and discuss potential decarbonisation options. The findings will be used to develop a city-wide climate change action plan and associated targets which

	<p>will also be consulted on before a final version is brought before Council for adoption.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council was recently awarded a grant of £15million by the Government to deliver the PIRI project which will deliver low carbon heat and power. • We have received funding to roll out a citywide programme of Carbon Literacy training, which incidentally is available to all councillors also, and I would encourage you to sign up and complete the training. • We have received over £2.5m in funding this year to improve walking and cycling across the city and we plan to recruit an officer to lead the deployment of electric vehicle charging infrastructure. • We also plan to kick off work to produce a climate change adaptation plan later on in the year. <p>No one has ever said that achieving net-zero would be easy, it's something that we all need to work together on as a city and for us to be able to achieve it. That's why it's so important that our targets are reviewed on a regular basis, and we are tracking our progress towards them as we speak.</p> <p>Supplementary question:</p> <p>Councillor Cereste focuses quite heavily on the Council's own carbon management plan and I quite recognise that we have achieved quite a lot, but he conveniently skips over the fact that it only accounts for a tiny proportion of Peterborough's carbon emissions. Now the resolution passed in 2019, so we want to be the whole of Peterborough to net zero by 2030, but four years on from that we have no plan in place in order to achieve it and if you look at our local area energy plan it says that the target, it should not be 2030, it should be 2040. So, can he tell us what the target is for the whole of Peterborough and when there is going to be a plan in place, because if we don't even know what the target is, how are we going to know if we've achieved it.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member responded:</p> <p>Well as you've asked the question before and I've answered before, is the target for the Council is 2030, we assume or we anticipate that with a fair wind a target for the city will be 2040, but it is both unreasonable and not sensible to expect that the people of Peterborough to do as they are told. So whatever happens in the future it is with the cooperation of the people of Peterborough and with the cooperation the businesses in Peterborough and we can hope or aspire to being able to deliver something by 2040.</p>
10.	<p>Question from Councillor Hogg (2)</p> <p>Councillor Coles, Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Governance</p> <p>There have been many questions asked by residents regarding the Serco contract that was signed in 2018, which removed certain key performance indicators and also any break clauses. How was this allowed to pass through the council's decision-making process?</p> <p>The Cabinet Member may have responded:</p> <p>The contract extension in 2018 was signed by the then S151 Officer and the then Monitoring Officer, and approved via CMDN by the portfolio holder. The officers and member involved are no longer here so we can't say with 100% certainty the reason</p>

<p>but it is assumed that there were financial, strategic and / or tactical contract management reasons at the time for extending in this way. Governance arrangements have now changed, and all such decision in excess of £05.m would be reported to and subject to Cabinet approval.</p>

<p>I also believe the KPIs were significantly reduced prior to the 2018 contract extension, so not directly linked.</p>

	<u>Questions on notice to:</u> d. The Combined Authority Representatives
	None.

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ANNUAL COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 5
22 MAY 2023	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Matthew Gladstone, Chief Executive and Returning Officer	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	N/A	
Contact Officer(s):	Pippa Turvey, Democratic and Constitutional Services Director	Tel. 452460

REPORT OF THE RETURNING OFFICER

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM: <i>Chief Executive and Returning Officer</i>	Deadline date: <i>N/A</i>
It is recommended that Council notes the results of the Local Elections held on Thursday 4 May 2023 (Appendix 1).	

1. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 1.1 The results of the Local Elections for Peterborough City Council held on Thursday 4 May 2023 can be seen at **Appendix 1** to this report.

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DECLARATION OF RESULT OF POLL

Peterborough

Election of a City Councillor for

Bretton
on Thursday 4 May 2023

I, Matthew Gladstone, being the Returning Officer at the Bretton ward election, do hereby give notice that the number of votes recorded for each Candidate at the said election is as follows:

Name of Candidate	Description (if any)	Number of Votes*
BURBAGE, Chrispin	The Conservative Party Candidate	785
O'CONNOR, John Joseph		79
STRANGWARD, Richard James	Labour Party	863 (Elected)
WARNE, Barry	The Green Party	81
WILSON, Rohan Cameron Stuart	Liberal Democrat	133

* If elected the word 'Elected' appears against the number of votes.

The number of ballot papers rejected was as follows:	Number of ballot papers
A want of an official mark	0
B voting for more Candidates than voter was entitled to	1
C writing or mark by which voter could be identified	0
D being unmarked or wholly void for uncertainty	10
E rejected in part	0
Total	11

Vacant Seats: 1

Electorate: 6704

Ballot Papers Issued: 1952

Turnout: 29.1%

And I do hereby declare that Richard James Strangward

is duly elected as Councillor for Bretton.

Dated Friday 12 May 2023

Matthew Gladstone
Returning Officer

DECLARATION OF RESULT OF POLL

Peterborough

Election of a City Councillor for

Central
on Thursday 4 May 2023

I, Matthew Gladstone, being the Returning Officer at the Central ward election, do hereby give notice that the number of votes recorded for each Candidate at the said election is as follows:

Name of Candidate	Description (if any)	Number of Votes*
CAWLEY, Stephen George	Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition	73
JAMIL, Mohammed	Labour & Co-operative Party	1579 (Elected)
KNIGHT, Raymond John	The Green Party	203
UMAR, Khan	The Conservative Party Candidate	509
WHITTAKER, Paul Michael	Liberal Democrat	179

* If elected the word 'Elected' appears against the number of votes.

The number of ballot papers rejected was as follows:	Number of ballot papers
A want of an official mark	0
B voting for more Candidates than voter was entitled to	4
C writing or mark by which voter could be identified	0
D being unmarked or wholly void for uncertainty	9
E rejected in part	0
Total	13

Vacant Seats: 1

Electorate: 8565

Ballot Papers Issued: 2556

Turnout: 29.84%

And I do hereby declare that Mohammed Jamil

is duly elected as Councillor for Central.

Dated Friday 12 May 2023

Matthew Gladstone
Returning Officer

DECLARATION OF RESULT OF POLL

Peterborough

Election of a City Councillor for

Dogsthorpe
on Thursday 4 May 2023

I, Matthew Gladstone, being the Returning Officer at the Dogsthorpe ward election, do hereby give notice that the number of votes recorded for each Candidate at the said election is as follows:

Name of Candidate	Description (if any)	Number of Votes*
BRACE, Kelsey Jack	The Green Party	99
COLE, Katy Jane	Labour & Co-operative Party	902 (Elected)
IKRAM, Muhammad	The Conservative Party Candidate	654
LINO RINGLER, Sandra Maria	Liberal Democrat	152
PETCH, Robert Bede	Independent	97

* If elected the word 'Elected' appears against the number of votes.

The number of ballot papers rejected was as follows:	Number of ballot papers
A want of an official mark	0
B voting for more Candidates than voter was entitled to	5
C writing or mark by which voter could be identified	0
D being unmarked or wholly void for uncertainty	2
E rejected in part	0
Total	7

Vacant Seats: 1

Electorate: 6775

Ballot Papers Issued: 1911

Turnout: 28.21%

And I do hereby declare that Katy Jane Cole

is duly elected as Councillor for Dogsthorpe.

Dated Friday 12 May 2023

Matthew Gladstone
Returning Officer

DECLARATION OF RESULT OF POLL

Peterborough

Election of a City Councillor for

East

on Thursday 4 May 2023

I, Matthew Gladstone, being the Returning Officer at the East ward election, do hereby give notice that the number of votes recorded for each Candidate at the said election is as follows:

Name of Candidate	Description (if any)	Number of Votes*
ASAD QAYYUM, Shabina	Labour & Co-operative Party	1618 (Elected)
CHAPMAN, Luke	The Green Party	120
JOHNSON, Joanne Lesley	Independent	62
PATEL, Ekta	The Conservative Party Candidate	665

* If elected the word 'Elected' appears against the number of votes.

The number of ballot papers rejected was as follows:		Number of ballot papers
A	want of an official mark	0
B	voting for more Candidates than voter was entitled to	2
C	writing or mark by which voter could be identified	0
D	being unmarked or wholly void for uncertainty	7
E	rejected in part	0
Total		9

Vacant Seats: 1

Electorate: 7294

Ballot Papers Issued: 2474

Turnout: 33.9%

And I do hereby declare that Shabina Asad Qayyum

is duly elected as Councillor for East.

Dated Friday 12 May 2023

Matthew Gladstone
Returning Officer

DECLARATION OF RESULT OF POLL

Peterborough

Election of a City Councillor for

Eye, Thorney & Newborough
on Thursday 4 May 2023

I, Matthew Gladstone, being the Returning Officer at the Eye, Thorney & Newborough ward election, do hereby give notice that the number of votes recorded for each Candidate at the said election is as follows:

Name of Candidate	Description (if any)	Number of Votes*
ALEXANDER, Michael	The Green Party	244
ALLEN, Stephen Paul	The Conservative Party Candidate	1122 (Elected)
GERAGHTY, Annie Rose Frances Mary	Liberal Democrat	115
SHEARMAN, John	Labour Party	587

* If elected the word 'Elected' appears against the number of votes.

The number of ballot papers rejected was as follows:		Number of ballot papers
A	want of an official mark	0
B	voting for more Candidates than voter was entitled to	1
C	writing or mark by which voter could be identified	0
D	being unmarked or wholly void for uncertainty	5
E	rejected in part	0
Total		6

Vacant Seats: 1

Electorate: 7386

Ballot Papers Issued: 2074

Turnout: 28.1%

And I do hereby declare that Stephen Paul Allen

is duly elected as Councillor for Eye, Thorney & Newborough.

Dated Friday 12 May 2023

Matthew Gladstone
Returning Officer

DECLARATION OF RESULT OF POLL

Peterborough

Election of a City Councillor for

Fletton & Stanground
on Thursday 4 May 2023

I, Matthew Gladstone, being the Returning Officer at the Fletton & Stanground ward election, do hereby give notice that the number of votes recorded for each Candidate at the said election is as follows:

Name of Candidate	Description (if any)	Number of Votes*
BROCCOLI, Davide	The Conservative Party Candidate	434
ELLIS, Angus	Labour Party	348
O'HARA, Danette Lisa	The Green Party	145
SEAGER, Jade	Liberal Democrat	874 (Elected)

* If elected the word 'Elected' appears against the number of votes.

The number of ballot papers rejected was as follows:		Number of ballot papers
A	want of an official mark	0
B	voting for more Candidates than voter was entitled to	3
C	writing or mark by which voter could be identified	0
D	being unmarked or wholly void for uncertainty	11
E	rejected in part	0
Total		14

Vacant Seats: 1

Electorate: 7276

Ballot Papers Issued: 1815

Turnout: 24.9%

And I do hereby declare that Jade Seager

is duly elected as Councillor for Fletton & Stanground.

Dated Friday 12 May 2023

Matthew Gladstone
Returning Officer

DECLARATION OF RESULT OF POLL

Peterborough

Election of a City Councillor for

Fletton & Woodston
on Thursday 4 May 2023

I, Matthew Gladstone, being the Returning Officer at the Fletton & Woodston ward election, do hereby give notice that the number of votes recorded for each Candidate at the said election is as follows:

Name of Candidate	Description (if any)	Number of Votes*
ALI, Imtiaz	The Green Party	406
THULBOURN, Nicholas John	Labour & Co-operative Party	732 (Elected)
WALTON, Neil Christopher	Liberal Democrat	98
WILLEY, Andrew Stephen	The Conservative Party Candidate	720

* If elected the word 'Elected' appears against the number of votes.

The number of ballot papers rejected was as follows:		Number of ballot papers
A	want of an official mark	0
B	voting for more Candidates than voter was entitled to	2
C	writing or mark by which voter could be identified	0
D	being unmarked or wholly void for uncertainty	5
E	rejected in part	0
Total		7

Vacant Seats: 1

Electorate: 7485

Ballot Papers Issued: 1963

Turnout: 26.2%

And I do hereby declare that Nicholas John Thulbourn

is duly elected as Councillor for Fletton & Woodston.

Dated Friday 12 May 2023

Matthew Gladstone
Returning Officer

DECLARATION OF RESULT OF POLL

Peterborough

Election of a City Councillor for

Ginton & Castor
on Thursday 4 May 2023

I, Matthew Gladstone, being the Returning Officer at the Ginton & Castor ward election, do hereby give notice that the number of votes recorded for each Candidate at the said election is as follows:

Name of Candidate	Description (if any)	Number of Votes*
BYSSHE, Claire Biggam	Liberal Democrat	270
FARR, Sue	Labour Party	278
GUTHRIE, John Gregor Lawson	The Green Party	183
HILLER, Peter John	The Conservative Party Candidate	1088 (Elected)

* If elected the word 'Elected' appears against the number of votes.

The number of ballot papers rejected was as follows:		Number of ballot papers
A	want of an official mark	0
B	voting for more Candidates than voter was entitled to	0
C	writing or mark by which voter could be identified	0
D	being unmarked or wholly void for uncertainty	16
E	rejected in part	0
Total		16

Vacant Seats: 1

Electorate: 5108

Ballot Papers Issued: 1835

Turnout: 35.92%

And I do hereby declare that Peter John Hiller

is duly elected as Councillor for Ginton & Castor.

Dated Friday 12 May 2023

Matthew Gladstone
Returning Officer

DECLARATION OF RESULT OF POLL

Peterborough

Election of a City Councillor for

Gunthorpe
on Thursday 4 May 2023

I, Matthew Gladstone, being the Returning Officer at the Gunthorpe ward election, do hereby give notice that the number of votes recorded for each Candidate at the said election is as follows:

Name of Candidate	Description (if any)	Number of Votes*
BOND, Sandra Christine	Liberal Democrat	1166 (Elected)
CHALLIS, Madison	Labour Party	269
PEACH, John Philip	The Conservative Party Candidate	853
ROGERS, Thomas Andrew	Christian Peoples Alliance	54

* If elected the word 'Elected' appears against the number of votes.

The number of ballot papers rejected was as follows:		Number of ballot papers
A	want of an official mark	0
B	voting for more Candidates than voter was entitled to	2
C	writing or mark by which voter could be identified	0
D	being unmarked or wholly void for uncertainty	3
E	rejected in part	0
Total		5

Vacant Seats: 1

Electorate: 6613

Ballot Papers Issued: 2347

Turnout: 35.49%

And I do hereby declare that Sandra Christine Bond

is duly elected as Councillor for Gunthorpe.

Dated Friday 12 May 2023

Matthew Gladstone
Returning Officer

DECLARATION OF RESULT OF POLL

Peterborough

Election of a City Councillor for

Hampton Vale
on Thursday 4 May 2023

I, Matthew Gladstone, being the Returning Officer at the Hampton Vale ward election, do hereby give notice that the number of votes recorded for each Candidate at the said election is as follows:

Name of Candidate	Description (if any)	Number of Votes*
EVANS, Rhys Joseph Maddock	The Conservative Party Candidate	402
MANNAN, Abdul	Labour Party	213
WIGGIN, Christopher James	Liberal Democrats	549 (Elected)

* If elected the word 'Elected' appears against the number of votes.

The number of ballot papers rejected was as follows:	Number of ballot papers
A want of an official mark	0
B voting for more Candidates than voter was entitled to	0
C writing or mark by which voter could be identified	0
D being unmarked or wholly void for uncertainty	7
E rejected in part	0
Total	7

Vacant Seats: 1

Electorate: 5093

Ballot Papers Issued: 1171

Turnout: 22.99%

And I do hereby declare that

is duly elected as Councillor for Hampton Vale.

Dated Friday 12 May 2023

Matthew Gladstone
Returning Officer

DECLARATION OF RESULT OF POLL

Peterborough

Election of a City Councillor for

Hargate & Hempsted
on Thursday 4 May 2023

I, Matthew Gladstone, being the Returning Officer at the Hargate & Hempsted ward election, do hereby give notice that the number of votes recorded for each Candidate at the said election is as follows:

Name of Candidate	Description (if any)	Number of Votes*
HOWARD, John Ian	The Conservative Party Candidate	637 (Elected)
KUJIYAT, Timothy	Labour Party	511
SPEED, Rachel Ann	Liberal Democrats	113
WHITAKER, Michael Robert	The Green Party	75

* If elected the word 'Elected' appears against the number of votes.

The number of ballot papers rejected was as follows:		Number of ballot papers
A	want of an official mark	0
B	voting for more Candidates than voter was entitled to	0
C	writing or mark by which voter could be identified	0
D	being unmarked or wholly void for uncertainty	4
E	rejected in part	0
Total		4

Vacant Seats: 1

Electorate: 6362

Ballot Papers Issued: 1340

Turnout: 21%

And I do hereby declare that John Ian Howard

is duly elected as Councillor for Hargate & Hempsted.

Dated Friday 12 May 2023

Matthew Gladstone
Returning Officer

DECLARATION OF RESULT OF POLL

Peterborough

Election of a City Councillor for

North

on Thursday 4 May 2023

I, Matthew Gladstone, being the Returning Officer at the North ward election, do hereby give notice that the number of votes recorded for each Candidate at the said election is as follows:

Name of Candidate	Description (if any)	Number of Votes*
AKIM, Akim	The Conservative Party Candidate	393
ALI, Ansar	Independent	863
FOREMAN, Tracey Jane	The Green Party	178
MAHMOOD, Asim	Labour & Co-operative Party	1078 (Elected)

* If elected the word 'Elected' appears against the number of votes.

The number of ballot papers rejected was as follows:	Number of ballot papers
A want of an official mark	0
B voting for more Candidates than voter was entitled to	9
C writing or mark by which voter could be identified	0
D being unmarked or wholly void for uncertainty	7
E rejected in part	0
Total	16

Vacant Seats: 1

Electorate: 7122

Ballot Papers Issued: 2528

Turnout: 35.5%

And I do hereby declare that Asim Mahmood

is duly elected as Councillor for North.

Dated Friday 12 May 2023

Matthew Gladstone
Returning Officer

DECLARATION OF RESULT OF POLL

Peterborough

Election of a City Councillor for

Orton Longueville
on Thursday 4 May 2023

I, Matthew Gladstone, being the Returning Officer at the Orton Longueville ward election, do hereby give notice that the number of votes recorded for each Candidate at the said election is as follows:

Name of Candidate	Description (if any)	Number of Votes*
FAROOQ, Aqib Mohammed	The Conservative Party Candidate	561
SKIBSTED, Heather Caroline Joy	The Green Party	868 (Elected)
SMITH, Wendy Mary	Labour & Co-operative Party	545

* If elected the word 'Elected' appears against the number of votes.

The number of ballot papers rejected was as follows:		Number of ballot papers
A	want of an official mark	0
B	voting for more Candidates than voter was entitled to	2
C	writing or mark by which voter could be identified	0
D	being unmarked or wholly void for uncertainty	3
E	rejected in part	0
Total		5

Vacant Seats: 1

Electorate: 7461

Ballot Papers Issued: 1979

Turnout: 26.5%

And I do hereby declare that Heather Caroline Joy Skibsted

is duly elected as Councillor for Orton Longueville.

Dated Friday 12 May 2023

Matthew Gladstone
Returning Officer

DECLARATION OF RESULT OF POLL

Peterborough

Election of a City Councillor for

Orton Waterville
on Thursday 4 May 2023

I, Matthew Gladstone, being the Returning Officer at the Orton Waterville ward election, do hereby give notice that the number of votes recorded for each Candidate at the said election is as follows:

Name of Candidate	Description (if any)	Number of Votes*
AKINYELE, Oluwaseun	Labour Party	205
BLISZCZAK, Matthew Jon	The Conservative Party Candidate	496
CARROLL, Vincent Richard	Liberal Democrat	73
DAY-DEMPSEY, Nicola	The Green Party	1786 (Elected)

* If elected the word 'Elected' appears against the number of votes.

The number of ballot papers rejected was as follows:		Number of ballot papers
A	want of an official mark	0
B	voting for more Candidates than voter was entitled to	6
C	writing or mark by which voter could be identified	0
D	being unmarked or wholly void for uncertainty	12
E	rejected in part	0
Total		18

Vacant Seats: 1

Electorate: 7163

Ballot Papers Issued: 2578

Turnout: 35.99%

And I do hereby declare that Nicola Day-Dempsey

is duly elected as Councillor for Orton Waterville.

Dated Friday 12 May 2023

Matthew Gladstone
Returning Officer

DECLARATION OF RESULT OF POLL

Peterborough

Election of a City Councillor for

Park

on Thursday 4 May 2023

I, Matthew Gladstone, being the Returning Officer at the Park ward election, do hereby give notice that the number of votes recorded for each Candidate at the said election is as follows:

Name of Candidate	Description (if any)	Number of Votes*
ASIF, Muhammad	Conservative Party Candidate	1148 (Elected)
HARDMAN, Ian	Liberal Democrat	197
HUSSAIN, Junayd Al Jamal	Labour & Co-operative Party	1024
KHAN, Arfan	Conservative Party Candidate	1660 (Elected)
MORRIS, Susan Melancy	Reform UK	80
RADIC, Fiona Jane	The Green Party	529
WILSON, Stephanie Julia	The Green Party	341
YASIN, Sabra	Labour Party	1003

* If elected the word 'Elected' appears against the number of votes.

The number of ballot papers rejected was as follows:	Number of ballot papers
A want of an official mark	
B voting for more Candidates than voter was entitled to	
C writing or mark by which voter could be identified	
D being unmarked or wholly void for uncertainty	
E rejected in part	
Total	

Vacant Seats: 2

Electorate: 7035

Ballot Papers Issued:

Turnout:

And I do hereby declare that

&

are duly elected as Councillors for Park.

Dated Friday 12 May 2023

Matthew Gladstone
Returning Officer

DECLARATION OF RESULT OF POLL

Peterborough

Election of a City Councillor for

Paston & Walton
on Thursday 4 May 2023

I, Matthew Gladstone, being the Returning Officer at the Paston & Walton ward election, do hereby give notice that the number of votes recorded for each Candidate at the said election is as follows:

Name of Candidate	Description (if any)	Number of Votes*
BARKHAM, Simon Frederick	Liberal Democrat	836 (Elected)
MAYHEW, Simon	The Green Party	78
POWELL, David	Labour Party	352
RAFIQ, Alexander	The Conservative Party Candidate	597

* If elected the word 'Elected' appears against the number of votes.

The number of ballot papers rejected was as follows:		Number of ballot papers
A	want of an official mark	0
B	voting for more Candidates than voter was entitled to	0
C	writing or mark by which voter could be identified	0
D	being unmarked or wholly void for uncertainty	4
E	rejected in part	0
Total		4

Vacant Seats: 1

Electorate: 7205

Ballot Papers Issued: 1867

Turnout: 25.91%

And I do hereby declare that Simon Frederick Barkham

is duly elected as Councillor for Paston & Walton.

Dated Friday 12 May 2023

Matthew Gladstone
Returning Officer

DECLARATION OF RESULT OF POLL

Peterborough

Election of a City Councillor for

Ravensthorpe
on Thursday 4 May 2023

I, Matthew Gladstone, being the Returning Officer at the Ravensthorpe ward election, do hereby give notice that the number of votes recorded for each Candidate at the said election is as follows:

Name of Candidate	Description (if any)	Number of Votes*
AHMED, Sabeel	The Conservative Party Candidate	1239 (Elected)
CHAM, Richard John Thomas	Liberal Democrat	91
MCNALLY, Jason	Labour & Co-operative Party	872
MURPHY, Edward	The Green Party	363

* If elected the word 'Elected' appears against the number of votes.

The number of ballot papers rejected was as follows:		Number of ballot papers
A	want of an official mark	0
B	voting for more Candidates than voter was entitled to	2
C	writing or mark by which voter could be identified	0
D	being unmarked or wholly void for uncertainty	9
E	rejected in part	0
Total		11

Vacant Seats: 1

Electorate: 7480

Ballot Papers Issued: 2576

Turnout: 34.43%

And I do hereby declare that Sabeel Ahmed

is duly elected as Councillor for Ravensthorpe.

Dated Friday 12 May 2023

Matthew Gladstone
Returning Officer

DECLARATION OF RESULT OF POLL

Peterborough

Election of a City Councillor for

Stanground South
on Thursday 4 May 2023

I, Matthew Gladstone, being the Returning Officer at the Stanground South ward election, do hereby give notice that the number of votes recorded for each Candidate at the said election is as follows:

Name of Candidate	Description (if any)	Number of Votes*
GARNER, Simon John	Liberal Democrat	101
LEWIS, Harry	Labour Party	553
MIDDLETON, Stuart	The Green Party	165
RUSH, Brian	The Conservative Party Candidate	798 (Elected)

* If elected the word 'Elected' appears against the number of votes.

The number of ballot papers rejected was as follows:		Number of ballot papers
A	want of an official mark	0
B	voting for more Candidates than voter was entitled to	4
C	writing or mark by which voter could be identified	0
D	being unmarked or wholly void for uncertainty	8
E	rejected in part	0
Total		12

Vacant Seats: 1

Electorate: 7553

Ballot Papers Issued: 1629

Turnout: 21.57%

And I do hereby declare that Brian Rush

is duly elected as Councillor for Stanground South.

Dated Friday 12 May 2023

Matthew Gladstone
Returning Officer

DECLARATION OF RESULT OF POLL

Peterborough

Election of a City Councillor for

Werrington
on Thursday 4 May 2023

I, Matthew Gladstone, being the Returning Officer at the Werrington ward election, do hereby give notice that the number of votes recorded for each Candidate at the said election is as follows:

Name of Candidate	Description (if any)	Number of Votes*
FOX, Judith Ann	Peterborough First - Werrington Independent	1672 (Elected)
JONES, Rosalind	Labour Party	332
KAIL, Simon James	Liberal Democrats	78
SHELTON, Hayley	The Conservative Party Candidate	280
WADE, Georgia Elizabeth	The Green Party	158

* If elected the word 'Elected' appears against the number of votes.

The number of ballot papers rejected was as follows:	Number of ballot papers
A want of an official mark	0
B voting for more Candidates than voter was entitled to	3
C writing or mark by which voter could be identified	0
D being unmarked or wholly void for uncertainty	2
E rejected in part	0
Total	5

Vacant Seats: 1

Electorate: 7710

Ballot Papers Issued: 2525

Turnout: 32.7%

And I do hereby declare that Judith Ann Fox

is duly elected as Councillor for Werrington.

Dated Friday 12 May 2023

Matthew Gladstone
Returning Officer

DECLARATION OF RESULT OF POLL

Peterborough

Election of a City Councillor for

West

on Thursday 4 May 2023

I, Matthew Gladstone, being the Returning Officer at the West ward election, do hereby give notice that the number of votes recorded for each Candidate at the said election is as follows:

Name of Candidate	Description (if any)	Number of Votes*
ANDISON, Lorraine	Labour Party	414
FITZGERALD, Wayne	The Conservative Party Candidate	842 (Elected)
FRANCIS, Collette Dawn	The Green Party	260
GERAGHTY, Olivia Isabel Jane	Liberal Democrat	114

* If elected the word 'Elected' appears against the number of votes.

The number of ballot papers rejected was as follows:		Number of ballot papers
A	want of an official mark	0
B	voting for more Candidates than voter was entitled to	2
C	writing or mark by which voter could be identified	0
D	being unmarked or wholly void for uncertainty	6
E	rejected in part	0
Total		8

Vacant Seats: 1

Electorate: 4141

Ballot Papers Issued: 1638

Turnout: 39.56%

And I do hereby declare that Wayne Fitzgerald

is duly elected as Councillor for West.

Dated Friday 12 May 2023

Matthew Gladstone
Returning Officer

ANNUAL COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 6
22 MAY 2023	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Rochelle Tapping, Director of Law and Governance	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	N/A	
Contact Officer(s):	Pippa Turvey, Democratic and Constitutional Services Director	Tel. 452460

POLITICAL GROUPS AND GROUP OFFICERS 2023/24

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM: <i>Director of Law and Governance</i>	Deadline date: <i>N/A</i>
It is recommended that Council note the membership of political groups (Appendix 1 to be tabled) and their officers (Appendix 2 to be tabled) for 2023/24.	

1. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to notify Council of the political group Membership for the municipal year 2023/24 and the group officers positions allocated within.

2. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 The details of the composition of political groups can be seen at **Appendix 1** (to be tabled) to this report.
- 2.2 The details of group officers can be seen at **Appendix 2** (to be tabled) to this report.

3. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

- 3.1 None.

4. APPENDICES

- 4.1 Appendix 1 - Composition of Political Groups (to be tabled).
- 4.2 Appendix 2 - Group Officers (to be tabled).

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ANNUAL COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 7
22 MAY 2023	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Rochelle Tapping, Director of Law and Governance	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	N/A	
Contact Officer(s):	Pippa Turvey, Democratic and Constitutional Services Director	Tel. 452460

APPOINTMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE AND THE LEADER'S SCHEME OF DELEGATION

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM: <i>Director of Law and Governance</i>	Deadline date: <i>N/A</i>
<p>It is recommended that Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notes the decision of Full Council on 26 May 2021 'to elect Councillor Wayne Fitzgerald as Leader of the Council for a period of four years'. 2. Notes the appointment of the Cabinet and the Leader's Scheme of Delegation to Cabinet Members and officers (Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 to be tabled). 3. Notes the Appointments to the Shareholder Cabinet Sub-Committee (Appendix 3 to be tabled) 4. Notes that the Constitution will be updated to include the Leader's Scheme of Delegation to Cabinet Members and officers (Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 to be tabled). 	

1. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 All Executive functions are delegated to the Leader of the Council who may then delegate further to Cabinet committees of the Cabinet, Cabinet Members, and officers.

2. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 At its meeting in October 2010, Council adopted the Leader and Cabinet executive model. This took effect from May 2011. Therefore, from May 2011 and every fourth year thereafter, at its Annual Meeting, the Council elects the Leader of the Council. The current Leader, Councillor Fitzgerald, was elected at the 2021/22 Annual Council meeting for a period of four years, ending at the close of the 2024/25 municipal year.

3. DELEGATION TO CABINET MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

- 3.1 The Leader must appoint a Deputy Leader and up to eight other Members to form the Executive. Peterborough City Council uses the term Cabinet to describe its Executive.
- 3.2 The Leader must appoint the membership of the Shareholder Cabinet Committee and the Chair of this Cabinet Committee, as set out in **Appendix 3** (to be tabled).

- 3.3 The Leader is only required to confirm the appointment of the Cabinet and delegations of his executive functions to Cabinet, and Cabinet committees, including any Cabinet members and officers, to the Council meeting (**Appendix 1** and **Appendix 2** to be tabled).

4. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no direct financial consequences arising from this report.

Legal Implications

- 4.2 There are no legal implications arising from this report. These are statutory requirements.

Equalities Implications

- 4.3 There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

5. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

- 5.1 Peterborough City Council's Constitution

6. APPENDICES

- 6.1 **Appendix 1** – Peterborough City Council Constitution, Part 3, Delegations Section 3 - Executive Functions (to be tabled)
- 6.2 **Appendix 2** – Peterborough City Council Constitution, Part 3, Delegations Section 3 – Officer Delegations (to be tabled)
- 6.3 **Appendix 3** – Shareholder Cabinet Committee Membership (to be tabled)

ANNUAL COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 8
22 MAY 2023	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Rochelle Tapping, Director of Law and Governance	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	N/A	
Contact Officer(s):	Pippa Turvey, Democratic and Constitutional Services Director	Tel. 452460

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE 2023/24

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM: <i>Director of Law and Governance</i>	Deadline date: <i>N/A</i>
<p>It is recommended that Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Appoints the following Committees for the 2023/24 municipal year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Ordinary Committees subject to political balance seat allocations:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee Growth, Resources, and Communities Scrutiny Committee Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee Children and Education Scrutiny Committee Employment Committee Licensing Committee (Regulatory) Planning and Environmental Protection Committee Appeals and Planning Review Committee Audit Committee Corporate Parenting Committee Constitution and Ethics Committee <u>Other bodies to which Section 15 LGHA does not apply</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee details Joint Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Health and Wellbeing Board/Integrated Care Partnership Licensing Committee (Licensing Act 2003) Agree the committee terms of reference set out in the Regulatory Committee Functions and the Overview and Scrutiny Functions (Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 to be tabled). 	

1. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 The Constitution provides under Part 4 Section 1.2.1 that the Annual Council meetings considered the establishment and terms of reference of committees.
- 1.2 Full Council must consider the committee structure before seats can be allocated to committees in accordance with the political balance rules.

2. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 The proposed structure is as follows:

Committee
<p><u>Ordinary Committees subject to political balance seat allocations:</u> Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee Growth, Resources, and Communities Scrutiny Committee Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee Children and Education Scrutiny Committee Employment Committee Licensing Committee (Regulatory) Planning and Environmental Protection Committee Appeals and Planning Review Committee Audit Committee Corporate Parenting Committee Constitution and Ethics Committee</p> <p><u>Other bodies to which Section 15 LGHA does not apply</u> Committee details Joint Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Health and Wellbeing Board/Integrated Care Partnership Licensing Committee (Licensing Act 2003)</p>

2.2 The current structure is in accordance with Part 4, Section 1 of the Constitution that states the Council must appoint at least one overview and scrutiny committee and other committees as it considers appropriate to deal with the matters that are neither reserved to Full Council nor are executive (Leader and Cabinet) functions.

3. IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are no financial, legal, or equalities implications arising from these decisions.

4. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

4.1 Peterborough City Council's Constitution

5. APPENDICES

5.1 **Appendix 1** – Peterborough City Council Constitution Part 3, Section 2 – Delegations – Regulatory Committee Functions (to be tabled)

5.2 **Appendix 2** – Peterborough City Constitution Part 3, Section 4 – Overview and Scrutiny Functions (to be tabled)

ANNUAL COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 9
22 MAY 2023	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Rochelle Tapping, Director of Law and Governance	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	N/A	
Contact Officer(s):	Pippa Turvey, Democratic and Constitutional Services Director	Tel. 452460

POLITICAL BALANCE AND ALLOCATION OF COMMITTEE SEATS

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM: <i>Director of Law and Governance</i>	Deadline date: <i>N/A</i>
<p>It is recommended that Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notes that there are 109 seats on committees 2. Agrees the allocation of seats on those committees subject to political balance arrangements (Appendix 1 to be tabled). 3. Agrees the allocation of seats on those committees not subject to political balance arrangements (Appendix 2 to be tabled). 	

1. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to consider the impact on the political balance of the Council, following the results of the local elections in May 2023.

2. ALLOCATION OF SEATS TO POLITICAL GROUPS

- 2.1 Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 imposes a duty on the City Council at its Annual meeting to review the allocation of seats on its committees between political groups. The section does not apply to the statutory Licensing Committee or Health and Wellbeing Board and so the political balance rules are not applied to these (**Appendix 2** to be tabled).
- 2.2 Political Groups are allocated seats proportionate to their size, subject to the majority group being first given a majority of seats on the committees.

3. NUMBER OF SEATS ON COMMITTEES

3.1 In order to allocate seats, the Council must first decide the total number of seats on each committee. For the purpose of calculating the entitlement of each political group to seats on committees, it is proposed that the following be included:

Committee	Seats
Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee	11
Growth, Resources, and Communities Scrutiny Committee	11
Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee	11
Children and Education Scrutiny Committee	11
Employment Committee	7
Licensing Committee (Regulatory)	11
Planning and Environmental Protection Committee	11
Appeals and Planning Review Committee	11
Corporate Parenting Committee	11
Audit Committee	7
Constitution and Ethics Committee	7
TOTAL	109

4. POLITICAL PROPORTIONALITY

4.1 Once it has decided the number and size of committees, Council needs to decide how many seats each group is to have on its committees. In accordance with the legislation, the following principles should apply to the allocation of seats as far as reasonably practicable:

- 1) That not all the seats on the body to which appointments are being made are allocated to the same political group;
- 2) That the majority of the seats on each committee are allocated to a particular political group if the number of persons belonging to that group is a majority of the authority's membership;
- 3) Subject to (1) and (2) above, when allocating seats to a political group, the total number of their seats across all the ordinary committees of the Council, must reflect their proportion of the authority's membership; and
- 4) Subject to (1) to (3) above, that the number of seats on each committee is as far as possible in proportion to the group's membership of the authority.

4.2 The political balance of the Council can be calculated by using the following formula.

$$\frac{\text{No of Group Members} \times 100}{59}$$

4.3 Following the above changes to Groups numbers, the political balance of the Council is as follows:

Group	Conservative	Labour	Lib Dems	Peterborough First	Green	Total
Councillors (in Groups)	30	14	8	4	3	59.00
Proportionality %	50.85	23.73	13.56	6.78	5.08	100.00

4.4 The calculation to determine the strict entitlement of political groups to seats on committees is:

$$\frac{\% \text{ from table 1}}{100} \times \frac{\text{Total No of seats available (109) – see above}}{100}$$

5. APPLYING THE RULES

5.1 The majority of seats on each committee has to be allocated to the political group that forms the majority of the authority's membership to comply with the second principle (paragraph 4.1(b)). Under the current structure there are committees of 7 members and 11 members. To ensure compliance with s15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the majority group has to be allocated:

- 1) 4 of the 7 seats for committees of 7
- 2) 6 of the 11 seats for committees of 11

5.2 Once the seats have been allocated to the majority group, the remainder will need to be shared out proportionately across the committees to ensure that the third principle (paragraph 4.1(c) above) is applied. The fourth principle is then applied to ensure that the seats then allocated are not unfairly weighted. A Group's seat on a committee will be allocated automatically in terms of whole numbers.

5.3 The allocations of seats between the political groups for each committee are set out in **Appendix 1** (to be tabled) based on a total of 109 seats. This allocation as outlined is the current political make-up of all the committee's concerned.

6. APPOINTMENTS EXEMPTED FROM POLITICAL BALANCE

6.1 Some Committees are automatically exempt from the internal political balance rules. These Committees are as follows:

- The Licensing Committee (Licensing Act 2003); and
- The Health and Wellbeing Board.

6.2 These Committees have statutory exemption from the political balance calculations. As agreed at the Annual Council meeting the membership of the Licensing Committee (Licensing Act 2003) reflects the same membership as the Licensing Committee (Regulatory). The Health and Wellbeing Board has a prescribed membership.

7. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

7.1 There are no direct financial consequences arising from this report.

Legal Implications

7.2 All the relevant legal implications are addressed within the report.

Equalities Implications

7.3 There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

8. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

8.1 Peterborough City Council's Constitution

9. APPENDICES

9.1 **Appendix 1** – Allocations of seats on committees subject to political balance (to be tabled)

9.2 **Appendix 2** – Allocation of seats on committees not subject to political balance (to be tabled)

ANNUAL COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 10
22 MAY 2023	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Rochelle Tapping, Director of Law and Governance	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	N/A	
Contact Officer(s):	Pippa Turvey, Democratic and Constitutional Services Director	Tel. 452460

APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND OTHER AUTHORITIES

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM: <i>Director of Law and Governance</i>	Deadline date: <i>N/A</i>
<p>It is recommended that Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agrees that appointments to those committees where the allocation of seats has been determined under Agenda item 9 (Appendix 1 to be tabled). 2. Appoints the Chair and Vice-Chair of each of the Council's committees (Appendix 1 to be tabled). 3. Confirms the non-elected members of committees, as described at paragraph 2.3 of the report. 4. Makes the following appointments or nominations for the 2023/2024 municipal year: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Appoint the Leader of the Council to act as the Council's appointee to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority and one substitute member (Appendix 4 to be tabled). (b) Nominate two members to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and two substitute members from the same political parties as those nominated (Appendix 4 to be tabled). (c) Nominate one member Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Audit and Governance Committee and one substitute member from the same political party (Appendix 4 to be tabled). (d) Appoint three members to the Police and Crime Panel and three substitute members from the same political parties as those appointed (Appendix 4 to be tabled). (e) Appoint four members to the Fire Authority and four substitute members from the same political parties as those appointed (Appendix 4 to be tabled). 5. Appoints to the position of Armed Forces Champion, as set out in Appendix 4 (to be tabled) 6. Authorises the Monitoring Officer as Proper Officer, in respect of any other appointments to be made, to carry out the wishes of the Leaders of Political Groups in allocating Members 	

to committees or other authorities, and to appoint those Members with effect from the date at which the Proper Officer is advised of the names of such Members.

1. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 In accordance with the Constitution, Full Council must appoint the members, the Chair, and the Vice-Chair of non-executive committees. Full Council must also make the relevant appointments to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, Police and Crime Panel, and Fire Authority for the municipal year 2023/24.

2. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

2.1 Committee Appointments

- 2.1.1 The Council must note which councillors should be appointed to each of its committees at its annual meeting.
- 2.1.2 Appointments should be made in accordance with the seats allocated to political groups as described in item 9 of this meeting's agenda.
- 2.1.3 The list of available appointments has been circulated to the political groups and the wishes of each group is to be confirmed at the annual meeting.

2.2 Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs

- 2.2.1 The Council must decide which Councillors to appoint as the Chair and Vice-Chair of its committees at its annual meeting.

2.3 Non-Elected Committee Membership

- 2.3.1 The Council is required under the Parent Governor Representative (England) Regulations 2001 to appoint parent governor representatives to any scrutiny committee which considers education issues. Schedule 1 (paragraph 7) of the Local Government Act 2000 similarly requires that the Church of England and Roman Catholic churches may each nominate a co-opted member with voting rights. (The voting rights of the faith and parent governor representatives only apply when the Scrutiny Committee is considering educational matters; for other issues the co-opted members may participate in the debate but not vote).
- 2.3.2 Within the structure, education matters are discussed at the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee. All of the education co-opted members need to be formal members of this Committee, with voting rights for education matters.
- 2.3.3 The education co-opted members for the year will be:
- Peter Cantley, Statutory Education Co-opted Member Representing the Church of England (nominated substitute VACANT)
 - Dr Andy Stone, Statutory Education Co-opted Member Representing the Roman Catholic Church (nominated substitute VACANT)
 - VACANT, Parent Governor Representative
- 2.3.4 Under their Terms of Reference, as agreed by Council, Scrutiny Committee may co-opt up to four additional non-voting members. There must be at least one non-voting position reserved for a Parish Councillor from a rural area with one substitute member. The Parish Council Liaison Committee will provide nominations for these.

- 2.3.5 The Council is required under the Localism Act 2011 to appoint at least one independent person of the Council. The role of the Independent Person is to oversee the process for dealing with allegations that a member has breached the Member's Code of Conduct.
- 2.3.6 The Independent Person for the year will be Gillian Holmes.
- 2.3.7 The Health and Wellbeing Board has appointed to it certain post holders under the Board's terms of reference.
- 2.3.8 The Audit Committee has the ability to appoint Independent Persons. At a meeting on 26 January 2022 Council appointed the following to sit as independent Members of the Audit Committee for a period of 4 years, to end in May 2026:
 - Chris Brooks (Chair)
 - Mike Langhorn
 - Dr Stuart Green
- 2.3.9 Any other independent persons appointee may be subject to statutory regulation or are delegated under the Council's Constitution to the individual committee.

2.4 Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority

Board

- 2.4.1 In accordance with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017, each Constituent Council must appoint one of its elected members and a substitute member to the Combined Authority. Each Council made these appointments at its respective Council meeting in May 2017 for the 2017/18 municipal year and is requested to do so for each subsequent municipal year. The Council is now asked to appoint members and substitute members for the municipal year 2023/24.

Non-Executive Committees

- 2.4.2 The Combined Authorities (Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Access to Information and Audit Committees) Order 2016 requires the Combined Authority to establish an Overview and Scrutiny Committee and an Audit Committee. The Order sets out the rules for membership. The membership of the Overview and Scrutiny and the Audit Committees as a whole should reflect so far as reasonably practicable the balance of political parties of the constituent councils when taken together. The balance is based on membership of political parties, not political groups, on constituent councils across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

On 4 May 2023, there were local elections for the East Cambridgeshire District Council, Fenland District Council, Cambridge City Council and Peterborough City Council. The Combined Authority has reviewed the political balance on constituent councils and has requested constituent councils to make the following appointments to these committees.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- 2.4.3 The Combined Authority agreed that to ensure an equitable representation across each constituent authority, two members from each council should be appointed to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee representing a total membership of fourteen members.

The implications of applying political proportionality to a fourteen member Overview and Scrutiny Committee are detailed in **Appendix 1**.

The Council is required to nominate two members to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the municipal year 2023/24 based on the political balance set out in **Appendix 2**.

Audit and Governance Committee

- 2.4.4 The Combined Authority agreed to establish an Audit and Governance Committee consisting of seven constituent members: one member from each constituent council.

The implications of applying political proportionality to a seven member Audit and Governance Committee are detailed in **Appendix 3**. The Council is required to nominate one member to sit on the Audit and Governance Committee for the municipal year 2023/24 based on the political balance set out in **Appendix 3**.

Substitute Members

- 2.4.5 The Combined Authority has agreed that substitute members should be appointed for each position on the Audit and Governance Committee and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Any substitute members should come from the same party as the Member they are substituting for to maintain political balance.
- 2.4.6 For the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, if constituent councils have appointed members from the same political parties, those Councils might only wish to appoint one substitute rather than two. The quorum set down in legislation is two thirds of the total membership. Therefore, it is preferable to appoint two members in case both members are absent from a meeting and need to substitute.

Consequential Changes

- 2.4.7 If there are consequential changes to the overall political balance, the Combined Authority may need to review the membership and the allocation of seats to political parties on the above committees. The Monitoring Officer will advise constituent councils if any subsequent changes have been necessary, and whether any changes need to be made to their nominations.
- 2.4.8 If there is no provision in constituent council's standing orders, the Council may wish to consider giving delegated powers for the Chief Executive to approve any consequential changes to these appointments in consultation with the relevant Party Group leaders.

2.5 Cambridge Police and Crime Panel

- 2.5.1 The Council is required to appoint 3 members – as determined by the political make-up across the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Authority Areas when taken together – established by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011. There are 13 seats on the Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel.

2.6 Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority

- 2.6.1 There are 17 seats on the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority, 4 of which are allocated to Peterborough City Council representatives and 13 of which are allocated to Cambridgeshire County Council representatives. The seats are allocated on a proportionate basis.

2.7 Armed Forces Champion

- 2.7.1 The Council has previously appointed Councillor John Fox as the Armed Forces Champion, in line with the Armed Forces Covenant, signed in 2013. Councillor John Fox has resigned from this position. The proposed representative to this position for the upcoming municipal year is set out in **Appendix 4** (to be tabled).

3. CONSULTATION

- 3.1 Consultation has been undertaken with all Group Leaders to ensure that the appointments and nominations proposed reflect their Groups wishes.

4. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

- 4.1 In accordance with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017, no remuneration is to be payable by the Combined Authority to its members.

Legal Implications

- 4.2 The legal implications are set out in the report. The Combined Authorities (Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Access to Information and Audit Committees) Order 2016 requires a combined authority to ensure that the members of the committee taken as a whole reflect so far as reasonably practicable the balance of political parties for the time being prevailing among members of the constituent councils when taken together.

Equalities Implications

- 4.3 There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

5. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

- 5.1 [Policing and Crime Act 2017](#)

- 5.2 Peterborough City Council Constitution

6. APPENDICES

- 6.1 **Appendix 1** – Committee Membership, Chairs and Vice-Chairs (to be tabled)
- 6.2 **Appendix 2** – Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee political balance calculations
- 6.3 **Appendix 3** – Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Audit and Governance Committee political balance calculations
- 6.4 **Appendix 4** – Appointments and Nominations to Other Authorities (to be tabled)

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APPENDIX 2

Overview and Scrutiny Committee of 14
POLITICAL BALANCE ACROSS THE COUNTY as at 5 May 2023

	Total	Vacancy	Conservative	Labour	Liberal Democrats	Independent	Green	St. Neots Independent		Total (exc. Ind)	Entitlement
CAMBRIDGESHIRE	2		25	8	22	3		1		56	1 Con; 1 Lib Dem
CAMBRIDGE CITY	2			27	10	1	4			41	2 Lab
EAST CAMBS.	2		15		13					28	1 Con; 1 Lib Dem
FENLAND	2		35		2	6				37	2 Con
HUNTINGDONSHIRE	2		21	4	11	15	1			37	1 Con; 1 Lib Dem
PETERBOROUGH	2		30	14	8	5	3			55	1 Con; 1 Lab
SOUTH CAMBS.	2		9		35	1				44	2 Lib Dem
TOTAL	14	0	135	53	101	31	8	1		298	
POLITICAL BALANCE %			45.30	17.79	33.89		2.68	0.34			
Seat allocation			6	3	5	0	0	0		14	
Committee seat allocation	14		6.342	2.4906	4.7446	0	0.3752	0.0476			

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APPENDIX 3

**Audit and Governance Committee of Seven
POLITICAL BALANCE ACROSS THE COUNTY as at 5 May 2023**

	Total	Vacancy	Conservative	Labour	Liberal Democrats	Independent	Green	St. Neots Independent		Total (exc. Ind)	Entitlement
CAMBRIDGESHIRE	1		25	8	22	3		1		56	1 Liberal Democrat
CAMBRIDGE CITY	1			27	10	1	4			41	1 Labour
EAST CAMBS.	1		15		13					28	1 Conservative
FENLAND	1		35		2	6				37	1 Conservative
HUNTINGDONSHIRE	1		21	4	11	15	1			37	1 Conservative
PETERBOROUGH	1		30	14	8	5	3			55	1 Labour
SOUTH CAMBS.	1		9		35	1				44	1 Liberal Democrat
TOTAL	7	0	135	53	101	31	8	1		298	
POLITICAL BALANCE %			45.30	17.79	33.89		2.68	0.34			
Seat allocation			3	2	2	0	0	0	0	7	
Committee seat allocation	7		3.171	1.2453	2.3723	0	0.1876	0.0238	0		

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ANNUAL COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 12
22 MAY 2023	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Rochelle Tapping, Director of Law and Governance	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	N/A	
Contact Officer(s):	Pippa Turvey, Democratic and Constitutional Services Director	Tel. 452460

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2023/24

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM: <i>Director of Law and Governance</i>	Deadline date: <i>N/A</i>
It is recommended that Council approve the Calendar of Meetings (Appendix 1) for 2023/2024.	

1. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 The Council at its annual meeting will agree the date and time of ordinary meetings of Council (and its committees) for the forthcoming municipal year.
- 1.2 Members are asked to agree the calendar of the Council and its committees for the 2023/2024 municipal year.

2. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 As required by Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972, a notice is published on the notice board at the Town Hall informing the public of the meetings of the Council and its committees. If changes are made to the public notice by the Proper Officer, the notice will be updated and information fully publicised on the Council's website.

3. CONSULTATION

- 3.1 Relevant internal officers have been consulted when drafting the calendar of meetings. The calendar was submitted to Council in draft form at its meeting in January 2023 in order to obtain the views of Members.

4. IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no financial, legal, or equalities implications arising from this report.

5. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

- 5.1 None.

6. APPENDICES

- 6.1 **Appendix 1** – Calendar of Meetings 2023/2024

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ANNUAL COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 12
22 MAY 2023	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Cecilie Booth, Executive Director of Corporate Services	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Councillor Andy Coles, Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Governance	
Contact Officer(s):	Felicity Paddick, Head of Estates Simon Lewis, Service Director Commercial, Property & Asset Management	Tel. 07801910971 01733452522

ACQUISITION OF SAND MARTIN HOUSE

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM: <i>Executive Director of Corporate Services</i>	Deadline date: <i>22 May 2023</i>
<p>It is recommended that Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approves an increase of the Capital Programme to cover the cost of acquiring the freehold interest of Sand Martin House which is currently leased. 2. Approves the resulting budget virement between Corporate Property (rental cost) and Capital Financing (borrowing cost). 3. That authority is delegated to the Executive Director of Corporate Services and Director of Law and Governance, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Governance to take all necessary steps including agreeing final terms and entering into all necessary agreements to facilitate the decision in Recommendation 1. 	

1. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to approve a £50m increase in the 2023/24 Capital Programme to fund the acquisition of the freehold interest of Sand Martin House as detailed in this report and exempt Annex. The additional capital requirement will increase the Council's Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) and be funded from borrowing. It is important to note that the cost of capital (borrowing + Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)) is significantly lower than the cost of the current rent over the remaining life of the lease so the option to purchase provides a considerable saving to the Council, as shown in the exempt Annex.
- 1.2 There are exempt appendices attached to this report (Appendix 2 and 3) that are considered to be NOT FOR PUBLICATION by reason of paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of Part 1 of the Local Government Act 1972 because they contain information relating to the financial and business affairs of the Council. The public interest test has been applied to the information contained within these exempt appendices and it is considered that the need to retain the information as exempt outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

2. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 The Council currently hold a lease for Sand Martin House with 20 years remaining on the unexpired term of the lease.

Notification by the landlord of their intention to sell the property on the open market has given the Council an opportunity to acquire the freehold of the property. This would remove the Council's

leasehold liabilities becoming the direct freeholder. Ownership of the property will provide both financial and operational benefits for the Council.

The proposed purchase includes the office and retail units at Sand Martin House, surface level car park and multi-storey car park (as detailed in the attached site plan). The Council have agreed a purchase price and is due to complete the acquisition on 31 May 2023. This is subject to approval for the increase to the Council's Capital programme. Heads of Terms are detailed in the attached exempt Annex.

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

3.1 The recommendation links to the following of the Council's Corporate Priorities:

1. The Economy & Inclusive Growth

- The building already benefits from a 'Very Good' BREEAM rating and EPC B. The acquisition enables the Council to have greater control of the sustainability of the building going forward.
- Once freeholders, the Council has the opportunity to offer any vacant and surplus accommodation to a wider market that can support the local economy.

Further information on the Council's Priorities can be found here - [Link to Corporate Strategy and Priorities Webpage](#)

4. CONSULTATION

4.1 Consultation has taken place with Officers, Chief Executive, Cabinet Policy Forum and Group Leaders during April 2023. The proposal to purchase the freehold interest of Sand Martin House was approved at Cabinet on 18 April 2023.

5. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

5.1 The purchase of the property will require the Council to borrow to fund the acquisition. Full Council approval is required to increase the Council's Capital Programme and the Capital Financing Requirement, creating capacity for the required borrowing.

The financial modelling in the exempt Annex shows the clear and significant benefit of purchasing the freehold interest against occupying the property under the current lease.

The costs of funding the borrowing for the acquisition have been modelled against the projected future rental costs for the remaining life of the lease. The rental costs are in excess of the costs of borrowing for the next 20 years and will provide a saving for the Council which will be incorporated within the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy in due course.

The financial detail and assumptions of the business case are included in the exempt Annex and have been reviewed by the Council's treasury advisors Arlingclose.

The Council has also taken advice from its tax advisors on the SDLT and VAT implications of the purchase of the property.

Legal Implications

5.2 Amendments to the approved 2023/24 Capital Programme require full Council approval

Equalities Implications

5.3 No specific implications arising from this report although where necessary Equality Impact assessments will be carried out to support decision making.

6. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

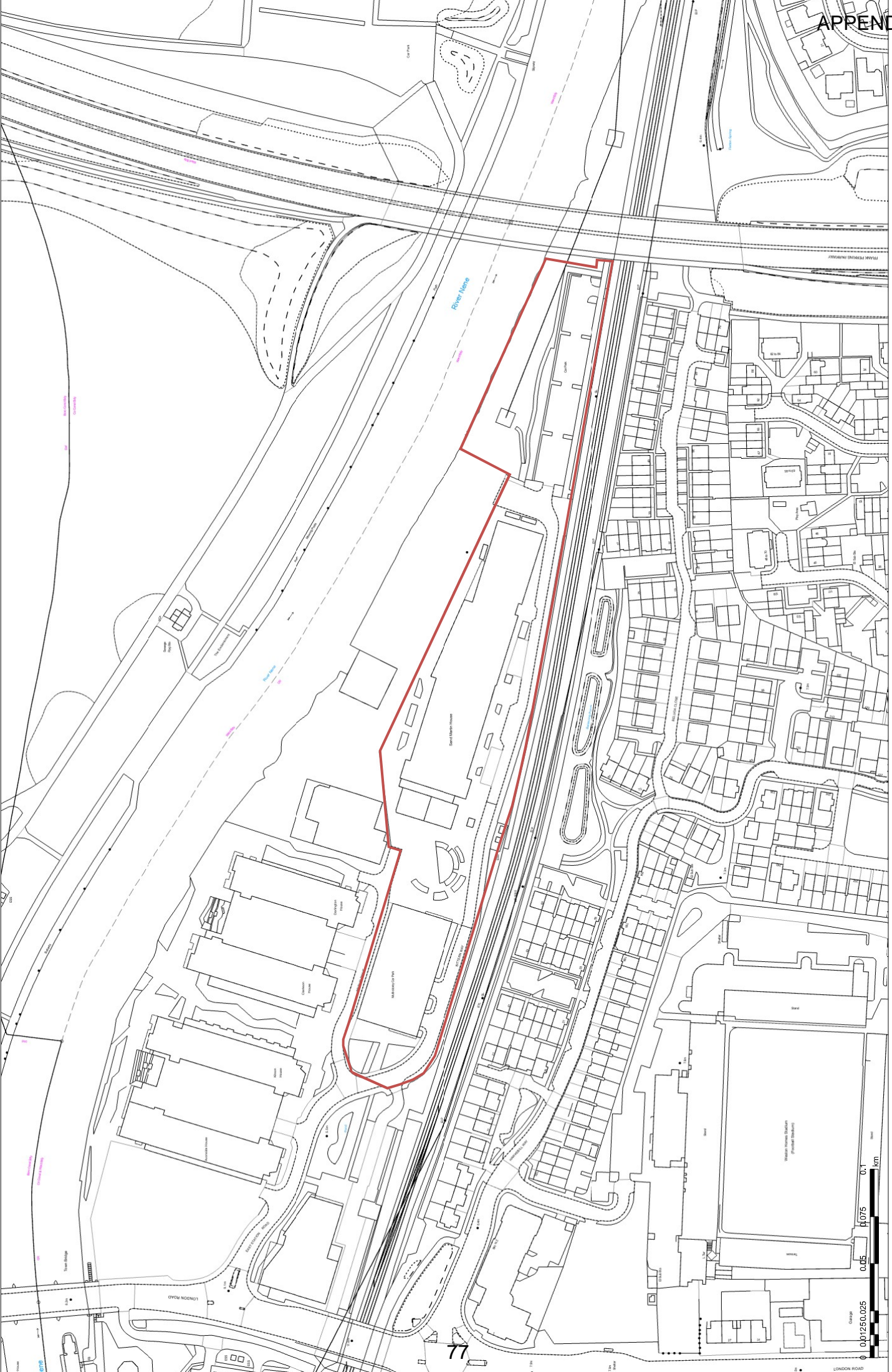
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6.1 Cabinet Report 18 April 2023 – [Acquisition of Sand Martin House](#)
[Acquisition of Sand Martin House - APR23/CAB/110](#)

7. APPENDICES

7.1 Appendix 1 – Site Plan
Appendix 2 - Exempt Appendix
Appendix 3 - Exempt Appendix - Valuation

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Sand Martin House Purchase

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