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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

WEDNESDAY 24 JANUARY 2024 at 6.00 pm

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There are no items to consider.

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There are no items to consider.

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Chief Executive

16 January
2024
Town Hall
Bridge Street
Peterborough



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**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 6 DECEMBER 2023
COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, PETERBOROUGH**

THE MAYOR – COUNCILLOR SANDFORD

Present:

Councillors Ahmed, Jackie Allen, Steve Allen, Asif, Ayres, Barkham, Bi, Bisby, Andrew Bond, Sandra Bond, Casey, Cereste, Cole, Coles, Day, Dowson, Elsey, M Farooq, S Farooq, Fenner, Fitzgerald, Judy Fox, John Fox, Harper, Haseeb, Hemraj, Hiller, Hogg, Howard, Hussain, Iqbal, Jamil, A Jones, D Jones, Khan, Mahmood, Nawaz, Perkins, Qayyum, Ray, Sabir, Sainsbury, Sandford, Seager, Shaheed, Sharp, Simons, Skibsted, Stevenson, Strangward, Thulbourn, Trust, Tyler, Warren and Wiggin

61. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Knight, Lane, Over, Rangzeb and Rush.

62. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Dowson declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to Agenda Item No. 12(5) (Motions on Notice), by virtue of the fact he had been a victim of nuclear testing.

63. a) Minutes of the Exempt Meeting held on 31 August 2023

The exempt minutes of the Extraordinary Council meeting held on 31 August 2023 were approved as a true and accurate record.

b) Minutes of the Public Meeting held on 1 November 2023

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 1 November 2023 were approved as a true and accurate record, subject to the following amendments:

- i) That Councillor Elsey be removed from those Members in attendance at the 1 November 2023 meeting, since, Councillor Ray claimed, he was not present.
- ii) That, at Minute No.60(5) (Motion from Councillor Ray), where it referred to the motion being determined by means of a recorded vote, that said vote be published in the minutes since it had not already been done.
- iii) That, at Minute No.60(1) (Motion by Councillor Harper), where it stated that Councillor Hogg had referred to “Empower” at paragraph 11 thereto, that this be amended to read “NPower”.
- iv) That the spelling of Councillor Shaheed’s surname be corrected at Page 27 to the agenda pack.

COMMUNICATIONS

64. Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor introduced his Announcement report, which outlined the recent civic events attended by the Mayoral Party. He then made the following additional announcements:

1. The Mayor highlighted the remembrance events, which this year were, he said, successful and well attended by the public. He said he had never seen Cathedral Square so crowded as it had been for the Christmas lights switch on, on 24 November. He said it was great when so many people came together to celebrate such important occasions. As part of his stated commitment to engage with and support local businesses, the Mayor said he had attended the Opportunity Peterborough (OP) Bondholder's Dinner in the Cathedral as well as an OP bondholder breakfast at Northminster House, where he put to it an offer to visit local businesses or invite them into the Mayor's Parlour.
2. The Mayor said that many successful mayoral fundraising events had already taken place and halfway through the mayoral year, the total raised for his charities was approximately £12,000, which, he said, also included a generous donation from Trust funds administered by Buckles Solicitors. There was, he said, a pause in events over the Christmas holiday but more events would commence in the New Year, culminating in a Mayor's Ball at the Holiday Inn Hotel on Saturday 18 May. He hoped that Councillors could set aside party differences and conflicts and support the events and the four worthwhile charitable causes.
3. The Mayor announced he had been working with Peterborough's Youth MP, Eva Woods, to produce a series of video clips to explain to young people the four key roles that the Mayor performed in the City. He said the first of these would be released on various social media platforms in the next few weeks.
4. During this Full Council meeting, the Mayor said that, whilst he was happy for there to be robust and challenging debate, he hoped that all Members would show respect to each other and for the values of the City Council. He requested that, when speaking, Members spoke through him, as Chair, and not directly to each other, to avoid any unnecessary confrontation.
5. The Mayor announced that at the end of this meeting, Christmas drinks and mince pies would be available in the Mayor's Parlour and that these had kindly been arranged by Deputy Mayor, Councillor Judy Fox. He hoped that all Councillors, officers and members of the public in attendance would accept his invitation to join him and the Deputy Mayor in the Parlour for refreshments and said that contributions would be invited to cover the costs, with any surplus going to his charities.

65. Leader's Announcements

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

- Getting to grips with the opportunities that existed for the City and the Council.
- Fostering a closer working relationship between the Council and the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, which at its meeting held last week had awarded Peterborough £200k to progress plans for a new electric bus depot.

- Plans to invest millions of pounds in Peterborough next year, which included £5m from the Strategic Growth Fund to help develop critical infrastructure for ARU Peterborough; £3m to upgrade the A1139 Fletton Parkway and £6.5m to commission an outline business case for the A60 Norwood Project, which would unlock almost 3,000 homes for development.
- More money for Peterborough for active travel schemes, road safety and bus stop infrastructure and projects to ensure that the City could deliver on its net zero goals.
- Also at that meeting, he had voted to support the Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP), which set out clearly how transport options that would meet everyone's needs in the coming years would be provided and would support Peterborough's ambitious growth agenda.
- Commentary by some activists in recent months about the updated LTCP opening the door for Ultra Low Emission Zones (ULEZ) or other schemes, which penalised motorists. He said that the Plan clearly stated that schemes such as this could only be introduced if approved and endorsed by this Council and was confident that he had sufficient backing to ensure that no such scheme would be introduced in Peterborough.
- There would be a groundbreaking event being held on Friday 8 December 2023 in the Green Technology Centre at Peterborough College (another project to have received funding from the Combined Authority) and it would be great to see the first stakes in the ground. The Centre would deliver an innovative curriculum to get students ready for careers such as sustainable construction and electric vehicle manufacturing.
- Establishment of an independent children's board to oversee and drive improvements to services provided by the Council and its partners. He was pleased to say that the Board had held its first productive meetings with stakeholders, which he had attended.
- Regular quarterly meeting with the Chief Executive, DCS and the Cabinet Member, which was dedicated to improving the services the Council offered to children and families and would continue to focus its time and effort in this area.
- He congratulated officers from the Council's Highways Team, which operated the School Streets' Scheme and had recently won a prestigious award for this initiative and best sustainable transport scheme.
- Peterborough had been nominated in the 2023 Energy Efficiency Awards for its work in helping residents save money on their utility bills. The awards were to be held in April 2024.
- At the end of November 2023, he had attended the Telegraph Business Awards – a fantastic event, which showcased the best businesses that were based in Peterborough – and it had been good to hear the success stories of those who had been nominated.
- Bondholder Breakfast, hosted by OP, that had included an off the record talk by the Bank of England and it had been great to hear how many businesses had attended the network to share their ideas and talents. The next Bondholder Breakfast was to be held on Friday 15 December and details were on the Council's website.

- He thanked everyone involved in the recent Christmas lights switch on in Peterborough and said it had been good to see so many people at the ice rink too. He highlighted that the festive markets would be open until Christmas.

Other Group Leaders responded to the Leader's announcements and raised the following points:

- A lot of what the Leader had mentioned had already been done under the previous administration.
- The Group Leaders' Meeting, which was confidential – information allegedly leaked re the swimming pool was not helpful. Like to thank all the other people who worked so hard.
- Good to see the Corporate Parenting Group committed to looking after the City's vulnerable children.
- Always a pleasure to see the City looking good for Christmas.
- Excellent work to secure closer working relationship with the combined authority, as well as great news on the City and on highways.
- Energy Efficiency Board – an excellent win.
- A hope that the Council could start to build a stronger relationship with the combined authority that provided really good opportunities for Peterborough.
- No road charging, which was good.
- Children's Services – opportunity to do root and branch overhaul and particularly around care leavers. Rebecca Pressland had done an excellent job setting up that scheme.
- Delighted with the £200k awarded to green bus station – congratulate administration for securing the funding (net zero carbon by 2030)
- School Streets Scheme – vital project and congratulations.

QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

66. Questions from Members of the Public

One question was received from a member of the public in respect of cultural, sporting and other outdoor activities.

The question and response are attached in **APPENDIX A** to these minutes and are available on the Council's website.

67. 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.

68. Questions on Notice

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

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

1. Household Support Fund vouchers
2. Reopening of Regional Swimming Pool
3. Cost of funding capital projects and service capital debt
4. Management of the City Council's ongoing review of community venues
5. Increased school applications and home to school transport
6. Progress on the regulation of HMOs
7. Public health funding
8. Status of the Hampton community centres within the localities review.
9. Demolition of the hydrotherapy pool
10. Abandoned supermarket trolleys and their impact on the local environment.

There were no questions, on notice, to the Combined Authority Representatives.

The questions and responses are attached in **APPENDIX A** to these minutes and are available on the Council's website.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS

69. Executive and Committee Recommendations to Council

69 (a) Audit Committee Recommendation - Treasury Management Mid-Year Report

Council received a report from the Audit Committee in relation to the Treasury Management Mid-Year update.

Councillor Haseeb moved the recommendations within the report, which had been considered by the Audit Committee on 27 November 2023. He said that treasury management was an important function within the Council, that was often overlooked, to ensure that the Council had enough money to meet its obligations.

He said the report set out how the Council had performed against prudential indicators, that had been set by CIPFA, and that the Council was performing well against all indicators.

Councillor D Jones seconded the recommendation and said he had nothing further to add to that already presented by Councillor Haseeb, but reserved his right to speak should the need arise.

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

1. Review and consider the Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS) Mid-year position and performance against the Prudential Indicators.
2. Note the current forecast for the interest receivable and payable for the financial year 2023/23 as of 30 September 2023.

69 (b) Licensing Committee Recommendation - Cumulative Impact Policy

Council received a report from the Licensing Committee in relation to the Cumulative Impact Policy (CIP).

Councillor Ray moved the recommendation and said that, under the Licensing Act 2003, local authorities could adopt CIPs if there was evidence that it was likely that the granting of further premises licences and or club premises certificates in that area would be inconsistent with the Council's duty to promote the licensing objectives.

He said that the Council had first adopted a CIP for the Millfield New England area in 2013 and, since then, the policy had been subject to statutory consultation, revision and readoption. He went on to say that the CIP had recently been the subject of a statutory consultation between 7 September and 18 October 2023 and that all responses received, including those from Cambridgeshire Constabulary, Peterborough Safer Communities and Director of Public Health were in full support of retaining it.

Councillor Ray said that at the meeting of the Licensing Committee, held on 20 November 2023, it had received a report in relation to the CIP consultation and considered the information it received, including licensing statistics, evidence of alcohol-related incidents and crime and social behaviour and public health impact.

Councillor Ray said that details of partnership working initiatives aimed to improve the area for residents had also come forward. He said that the Licensing Committee therefore recommended that Council retain the CIP in its current format in relation to applications affected, those which requested off-sales, its boundary and to update and republish the CIP with the current evidence obtained during the consultation.

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

A vote was taken on the recommendation and Council **RESOLVED** (unanimous with no Members indicating to vote against or abstain) to retain the CIP in its current format in relation to applications for "off sales" and boundary, update and republish the CIA with the current evidence obtained during the consultation.

69 (c) Cabinet Recommendation - Sales, Fees and Charges

Council received a report from Cabinet in relation to Sales, Fees and Charges.

Councillor Howard moved the recommendation and said that this had come off the back of the financial challenge the Council still faced. The Council, he said, had made a lot of progress over the last 18 months but in future years would still have budget gaps.

Councillor Howard said that inflation remaining high was one of the key drivers for this, which affected the cost of providing services and it also caused the Council to re-examine the amount it charged for its own services. He said that Council officers had

worked collaboratively with an external Local Government specialist to review all the Council's sales, fees and charges and that they had conducted a comprehensive review, which had been informed by benchmarking charges in comparison to other local authorities. He said that the individual proposals included changes to charges in parking services, waste services and crematorium and bereavement services. Councillor Howard said that these proposals had been considered by the Growth, Resources and Community Scrutiny Committee where there had been healthy debate but no suggested changes. He said that it had also been considered by the previous Administration, where an amendment had been agreed to reduce the increase proposed to second green waste bins with the increase in parking charges forecast to recover much of the reduced income, which had resulted from this amendment.

Councillor Howard said that he recognised that this was a difficult decision for the Council to make, however a vital one to ensure the Council covered the costs of its services and was able to set a balanced budget.

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

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

- The proposal had been to increase the cost of providing a second green waste bin from £25 to £50, (which at that time, Cabinet had considered this to be excessive) then Cabinet agreed £25 to £30 from January 2024. Subsequently, in the schedule before Council, it stated that all green waste bins would be increasing from £50 to £55. There did not appear to have been a decision taken as to what the position would be, come April for that secondary bin and it was queried as to whether the secondary bin should remain at £30, should rise by 10% in line with others or whether this would increase to £55?

In response, Councillor Coles advised that, at that Cabinet meeting, it was agreed to mark up to £50, the second waste bin, which was the largest increase but felt that it was unfair, which was then subsequently reduced to a £5 increase and that the increase in parking charges would cover this shortfall. He said that when it came to the additional charges, these related to the initial garden waste bin and that variations in charges were not covered at that meeting.

- A question was raised concerning bulky waste collection charges rising from £23 to £30 and whether this increase might cause an increase in fly-tipping and expensive collection of it.

As seconder of the recommendation, Councillor Elsey said that no administration wanted to see households being charged the same cost for both bins but, having just taken this over, said he would confirm what it was to be suggested and implemented and to address the apparent contradiction within the report.

Councillor Elsey said, with regard to the query around bulky waste, his experience suggested that people who were prepared to pay for bulky waste collection would continue to do so.

He said that those who had utilised this in the past would see this increase in price as a reasonable reflection and, in response to the additional point raised, there would be no material impact in respect of fly-tipping.

As mover of the recommendation Councillor Howard summed up and stated that he would sense check and double-check the report offline.

A vote was taken on the recommendation and Council **RESOLVED** (35 for, 20 against and 0 abstentions) to agree the increases in Fees and Charges as outlined in the report, except for the cost of the second Garden Waste bin, which was proposed to increase to £30 (from £25) rather than £50.

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

Councillor Farooq introduced the report, which outlined the record of Executive decisions made since the last meeting.

Members asked questions on the following Executive Decisions.

The Cycling and Walking Task and Finish Group

In response to a question from Councillor Ray asking what the Cabinet intended to do with the (12) recommendations arising from the meeting of the Task and Finish Group, Councillor Eley said that there was an exceptional amount of good work within the report, which was brought to Cabinet by the Task and Finish Group. He said that there was an agreement with the Task and Finish Group that almost all of its recommendations would be taken forward however, there had been issues around the naming of certain streets, which if the decision had been to approve the Plan then it would have set in stone matters such as the north and south cycle route being down Bridge Street and whilst he fully supported a connection between the north and south of the city, he did not feel there was sufficient information to make a decision as to whether Bridge Street was necessarily the right street for a dedicated cycle path, which was requested.

He said that, with the agreement of the Task and Finish Group, the Council was taking a holistic look at and he had asked members of the Task and Finish Group to continue their work and to work with the Council to look at solutions that best fitted what the Task and Finish Groups aims and objectives were and that the Council consider the hierarchy of transportation within the city, the first of which being pedestrians, followed by cyclists and that the Council needed to address it in this order.

In response to a question from Councillor Fitzgerald as to whether Councillor Eley was serious about closing one lane at Crescent Bridge to take those recommendations and endorsements forward, Councillor Eley responded by saying that when Councillor Fitzgerald's Administration had put in a cycle lane over Crescent Bridge, the city was in lockdown. He said that what he had advised the Task and Finish Group was that the Council needed to have data, which would provide accurate traffic movements over Crescent Bridge now that the city was no longer in lockdown and that the Council needed to look at the impact of cyclists going over Crescent Bridge would have, as well as looking again at alternatives to ensure the best solutions for those who walked, cycled or drove in and around the city.

Localities Assets Review Update

In response to a question from Councillor Hogg in relation to a delegation to officers to authorise disposal of assets up to the value of £500k and having received subsequent correspondence to suggest a change of mind in that regard, Councillor Howard confirmed that the initial decision had changed since first made and that every such decision would now be presented to Cabinet in February and to Scrutiny prior to this in January for further discussion.

In response to a question from Councillor Cereste asking that the community did not suffer because of this review and in the hope that it was conducted soon, and the

decisions shared as soon as these were available, Councillor Howard confirmed that the Council was talking with users and that he was visiting as many sites as he could, as were the Council's Communities and Properties Teams, and he believed that where the word "review" was used it could also lead to really good outcomes too and he hoped that some really good outcomes would come of the review when decisions came forward in January.

In response to a question from Councillor Fitzgerald as to whether the Cabinet Member agreed he had the power to stop this and whatever happened in the future was down to them and not anybody else, Councillor Howard said that Councillor Fitzgerald's Administration had had many months looking at this list, compared to the current Administration, which had had only four weeks to look at the same list, which was why it was taking time, was engaging with users and had the Communities and Properties Teams looking at every asset that was on the review list.

Councillor Fitzgerald raised as a point of accuracy that what Councillor Howard had said was simply not true. Councillor Fitzgerald said that it had gone through the Council's scrutiny processes, the Financial Sustainability Working Group and Group Leaders and said it was simply untrue that Councillor Howard had not seen this previously.

In response, Councillor Howard said the matter had been exempt to him until he became a member of the Cabinet.

Charging Residents and Developers for Replacement Bins

In response to a question from Councillor Cereste, as to whether it was cost-effective for the Council to charge for replacement bins, given that many were being stolen, and whether he would be willing to look at this again, Councillor Elsey said that the decision had been that of Councillor Simons and an assurance was given that this would be looked at again and this would be reported back to Council.

In response to a question from Councillor Fitzgerald, Councillor Elsy said he had not acted in a derisory fashion and that he had simply stated that it had not been a decision that he had taken so to suggest that he was trying to apportion blame was ridiculous. Councillor Hogg raised a point of personal explanation. He said that Councillor Fitzgerald had referenced him with regard to the FSWG. He said that this decision was taken in September 2022, and it was called in to FSWG because it was felt that this was unfair to some people on lower incomes. He said a variance was agreed at FSWG that certain residents on lower incomes would get bins replaced at half-price and this had been agreed in November 2022. Councillor Hogg said that the decision had not been made until October 2023 and that it had taken the previous administration almost a year to implement a simple change to a decision, which had already been made.

Appointment of Directors of Peterborough Culture, Heritage, Learning and Leisure (Subsidiary of Peterborough Limited)

In response to a question from Councillor Coles concerning officers' experience in terms of culture, heritage, learning, and leisure and was the Council asking its officers to undertake roles when they may not have the required expertise to do so, Councillor Farooq advised that the directors in this instance were statutory appointments for the Council to make from within the establishment. He said that where the Council had outside companies, it required expertise on these and hoped that they could add value to those particular organisations.

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

Members asked questions on the following Combined Authority decisions.

- Combined Authority Board, 30 November 2023

In response to a question from Councillor Fitzgerald where he (Councillor Fitzgerald) stated that Councillor Mohammed Farooq said in the paper that he had been happy to sign-up to their budget but did he realise he was putting a pressure on Peterborough and Cambridgeshire tax payers of 200%+ in a Mayoral precept, which would rocket from £12 per year, to £36 per year and did he think that was good for the people of Peterborough to support that, Councillor Farooq said that the precept proposed by the Mayor from the Combined Authority was from £13 to £36 and he had brought it to the Board meeting where Councillor Farooq had asked for the exact return on the £24 rise (e.g. exact routes on transport, what buses would be available). Councillor Farooq said that he had had a subsequent meeting on 5 December around buses and the benefits the people of Peterborough would get from this transport policy.

Councillor Farooq said that the Mayor of the Combined Authority's budget would be increasing from £3m to £11m and this would lay out a substantial infrastructure for public transport in Peterborough and Cambridgeshire. He said that Strategy Meetings would take place on 10 December and a further meeting of the Board on 31 January 2024.

Councillor Ray raised a question in relation to Item 7 (Breach of Code of Conduct) where the papers stated that the Mayor had been found to have breached the Code of Conduct, the first complaint alleged there was a toxic culture within the Mayor's Office. The Independent Panel then upheld the complaint and confirmed the Mayor had breached the Code of Conduct. In light of this, why did Councillor Farooq simply agree to an apology as a consequence, not refuse to associate with the Mayor or demand that he resign?

In response, Councillor Farooq said that he felt it was not relevant for him to answer the question but what he did say was that the decision around the toxic culture referred to had been reviewed by a separate committee within the Combined Authority and Peterborough had had no authority in the matter one way or the other.

Councillor Fitzgerald raised a question as to whether Councillor Farooq had had a hand in personally securing all or any of the funding he had alluded to or would he agree that the funding had already been in place from the previous Administration and could he share with Council, details of any funding that had been secured by the Peterborough First Group?

In response, Councillor Farooq said that everyone was aware of the relationship previously had with the Combined Authority and how everything had stopped or was at a standstill. He said that he had attended a meeting with the Chief Executive on 8 November and the three distinct Capital Budget items were Transport (c.£41m); Levelling-up (£10m) and Unskilled and Education. He said that officers had had a subsequent meeting the following week and managed to secure these investments by the deadline of 20 November, which then went onto the MTFS. He said that these items had never been in the pipeline, previously nor were they listed in the future but, he said, had all been enabled during that short period of time.

Councillor Ray raised a question in relation to Item 11 (Scheme of Delegation) and referred to where the Board had delegated authority to its Chief Financial Officer to award contracts up to £1m – double what they could previously do - without the need of Board approval. He asked whether this was in the interests of transparency that the Peterborough First Group could cherish?

In response, Councillor Farooq advised that this had been a Combined Authority decision but that he could also advise that the Combined Authority had two subsequent boards, one, the Business Board, which these policies were considered by and secondly, the Investment Board, which was in the process of being formed and would speed up the investment and capital expenditure throughout the County.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

72. Notices of Motion

72(1) Motion from Councillor Sandra Bond

Councillor Sandra Bond moved her motion as listed in the report at Agenda Item 12 to the agenda. Councillor Bond said she was really pleased that the Motion was before full Council this evening and was sure that Members of the Corporate Parenting Committee would agree with her that Peterborough's care leavers were talented and had the potential to have a successful and full life. Therefore, she said, any support the Council could give, as corporate parents, to care leavers could only be beneficial to them.

Councillor Cole seconded the motion and spoke. She said that she and her Labour Party colleagues supported the motion and was pleased to see that it called for the establishment of a Working Group to look at a variety of measures to put in place for care leavers but would also like to see the Working Group think about issues regarding kinship carers, foster carers and every other parental responsibility involved.

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

- Introducing support to care leavers long before they reached 18 years of age.
- Support to establishment of a working group to review the care leaver offer.
- Pleased to see £1,500 financial support already in place to assist care leavers to set up a home.
- A hope that the working group would look at what the future might look like for care leavers.
- Council Tax exemptions to be considered further by the working group.*

- Councillor Coles stated the issue of Council Tax exemption had been reviewed in the past and the challenge back to this particular working group was that the Council already had a bespoke approach to this and any care leaver who required that level of discount, did receive it. He said that whilst some Peterborough care leavers may move elsewhere, there was the issue of care leavers coming to Peterborough from outside of the city and how the Council identified them and whether or not they should qualify for the discount also.

The motion was declared **CARRIED** as follows:

Council notes that:

Peterborough City Council is a proud Corporate Parent and takes its responsibilities to support and protect vulnerable children and care leavers seriously. This requires cross-party political support.

Once children in care reach the age of 18, they are redesignated as care leavers until the age of 25. While being supported by Children and Young Peoples Services, care

leavers are faced with a new set of potentially overwhelming responsibilities, often without the family support and wider network that most other young people can rely on. Although many care leavers work, study, or have access to benefits, as the cost of living has increased, so have their struggles to transition to adult life.

The Children and Social Work Act 2017 requires each local authority to consult on and publish a local offer for its care leavers. The local offer should provide information about all the services and support that is available to care leavers from the local authority, including information about both their statutory entitlements as well as any discretionary support that a local authority chooses to provide.

A recent review of our local (Peterborough) offer has highlighted that there is scope to improve and update our current offering. This may then include offerings such as:

- Negotiated preferential rates on utility costs.
- Discounted or free travel cards
- Help with fulfilling aspirations to attend further and higher education.
- Council tax exemption

These examples amongst others are outlined in the government publication - Keep on Caring 2016, the guidance issued by government in 2018 about implementing the local offer, and in both the first and second annual reports prepared for government by the national implementation advisor for care leavers.

Ofsted have also renewed its interest in outcomes for care leavers and this now focuses heavily in the ILACS inspection framework.

Council resolves to Formally agree to work on a cross party basis regarding improving outcomes for children, whilst discharging the Council's corporate parenting responsibilities.

Establish a cross party working group with elected members, officers, and care leavers to develop a revised and fully costed set of proposals in the form of a revised care leaver local offer that reflects our aspiration to be the best corporate parent we can be.

Council stood adjourned until 8.10pm.

72(2) Motion from Councillor Mahmood

Councillor Mahmood moved his motion as listed in the report at Agenda Item 12 to the agenda.

Councillor Mahmood said that avoidance of business rates cost Councils up and down the country £250m annually. He said a term referred to as "box-shifting" was used by commercial landlords whereby they placed empty boxes over a six weeks' period, which triggered the rates relief.

Councillor Mahmood said he was asking the Council to call on the Government and to lobby MPs to legislate against this as done by both the Welsh and Scottish Governments.

Councillor Hiller seconded the motion and urged Members to support Councillor Mahmood's motion since the LGA had estimated that Councils in England could save around £250m annually if this legal loophole, which enabled landlords to avoid business rates was closed. He reiterated that this practice was referred to as "box-shifting" by placing boxes in vacant commercial properties for repeated six-weeks periods, being a practice of contrived occupation of empty buildings in order to trigger a new term of

business rates exemption for three or six months. He said that at the end of the rates-free period, boxes were put back in the space for another six weeks and the cycle continued. This, he said, was a tax-evasion practice that directly impacted upon local authorities.

Councillor Hiller said that this stamping down, as proposed by Councillor Mahmood, was stamping down on unethical business rates avoidances a necessary and relatively straightforward step for Councils, like Peterborough, in urgent need of financial control and critical services.

Councillor Hiller said that by the Council's support for Councillor Mahmood's motion, it would be taking a stand against business rates avoidance and working towards a more sustainable and ethical system, which benefitted the local community, charities and businesses.

Procedural Motion, without Notice, from Councillor Ray

Councillor Ray, seconded by Councillor Coles moved a procedural motion without notice to refer Councillor Mahmood's motion to the Growth, Resources and Communities Scrutiny Committee to allow it to flesh out the proposal, provide a local view and some more information on this scheme of rates avoidance impacted Peterborough and some of the numbers particularly for this area and there was also an ongoing Government review into this and by sending this to committee, means the Council could take the results of the consultation into consideration when these were ready, to ensure that the Council had all of the facts to enable a proposal to go forward to Government.

Councillor Ray said that generally, his Group was supportive of the motion but wanted to make sure that all of the information was to hand and everything else that could be available to the committee ready, at the time the Council wished to make this move and then ask MPs to make representations on the Council's behalf.

Councillor Coles seconded the procedural motion, without notice and reserved his right to speak.

Councillors debated the procedural motion.

Councillor Sharp said whilst he supported the aims of the original motion, he also echoed what Councillor Ray had said and referring to the Government's consultation, he felt it already covered the point raised in the original motion, specifically in relation to clauses 2.22 and 2.13, and his concern with the original motion was that Council would tie itself up whilst the Government was already consulting and preparing, proposing and delivering upon exactly what the Council was asking for.

Councillor Cereste asked if box-shifting was happening in Peterborough and, if so, what was it costing the Council and would it be sensible to have a task force to look at mitigating what was going on in Peterborough and that this would be a sensible thing to do for the city.

Councillor Hogg said that the original motion was well-written and did not need tidying-up by a committee and would be looking for Members to vote against the procedural motion.

Councillor Wiggin said that, as Chair to the Scrutiny Committee, he had great concerns that this would not be debatable for some time due to the Work Programme of the Committee. He said that if Council was minded deferring it to the Committee, then additional resources would be required.

Councillor Jamil, as a Member on that Committee, said that the Committee had a lot of business currently and this was unlikely to be considered for at least another year unless more officers could be brought in, more meetings held or introduce new ways of doing things, this would not be considered for some time.

Councillor Fitzgerald said the original motion lacked detail in terms of how it related to Peterborough but sounded good, in principle, but asked why was the Scrutiny Committee's agenda too busy?

Councillor Jones said that one of the things the Labour Group was keen to do, was to make sure that any motion which came from his Group would be checked back upon in six to nine months' time. He said his Group would not let it rest and would be asking for updates and not bringing motions to be agreed and then sit on the shelf. He said the Council's policy was very much to be held to account for these motions and Members in turn would hold officers to account to bring the necessary level of detail and scrutiny to it. He said the procedural motion put was not required.

Councillor J Allen said that she too had received lobbying emails from various bodies that talked about business rates avoidance, specifically the box-shifting referred to. She said much more detail was required since there were many other ways of avoiding business rates and the motion should have expended how the Council wished to tackle the issue. She quoted "...as with all forms of tax avoidance, there are widely different views on what is acceptable and ethical..." Therefore, she said, it was preferable to look at what Parliament intended rather than whether the Council should agree here at Peterborough. She said that the Council needed to do more work on this.

Councillor Iqbal said an amendment could have been brought forward, and engagement with officers could have gathered that information and said he was not in favour of the procedural motion put.

As seconder of the motion, Councillor Coles referred to what the consultation said and made reference to it as being "...to consult on specific measures to reform empty property relief, to address known avoidance schemes, to gather evidence on wider avoidance and evasion practices within business rates system and take views on whether billing authorities have sufficient powers and information to combat them and also to gather evidence on rogue rating agent behaviour and seek views on how the Government could address any problems..." Councillor Coles said that this was what the consultation aimed to do, and it was going to report eventually. Therefore, he said, an amendment could not be put when Members did not have the information about what the Government intended to do and the idea was to move this procedural motion until Members actually had the information from Central Government about what they propose, which sounded like a more broader approach than that, which the Council motion resolved, which was to lobby to do what the Welsh and Scottish Governments did, to advocate on regular and robust checks on the occupancy status and to lobby the MPs to legislate, which was what in fact what the consultation was going to do in due course. He said that the Council might find that it had very strong powers to provide what he wanted to see, which was that the NNDR rates for Peterborough were appropriate in order that the Council could fund services as this money came into the Council. He said he was asking Members to support the procedural motion since this was just too early. He acknowledged that the motion was very good as it stood but it didn't quite fit what the consultation proposed but in a few months' time, the Council would have a much stronger motion, which he would be very happy to accept. He appreciated there was business in scrutiny, which had to be considered but that this was a priority for the Council's benefit in the future and as soon as the information from Central Government was available, the Council would be in a much stronger footing.

Councillor Ray as mover of PM said it was an opportunity to try and strengthen the original motion. He said it was something that was affecting the Council but to help get a better understanding of the issue, and how big it might be for Peterborough and to strengthen the lobbying of Members of Parliament to achieve the right outcome for Peterborough.

On a vote being taken (21 For, 33 Against and 1 Abstention), the Procedural Motion was **NOT CARRIED**.

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

- The Motion was well-founded, but no-one appeared to want to know why or how box-shifting was occurring in Peterborough and at what cost.
- The Motion was too specific and procedural motion was put to ensure it fitted with Government guidelines.
- What would the Motion achieve over the next six-months while the information from Government was pending.
- A lack of staffing resources within Democratic Services and Scrutiny.

As mover of the motion Councillor Mahmood summed up and asked that the motion be supported and had nothing to add to the debate.

On a vote being taken (For 37, Against 1 and 17 Abstentions) on the motion, the motion was **CARRIED** as follows:

This Council notes:

- That business rates avoidance costs councils around £250 million annually (Local Government Association Survey, 2019).
- Repeated short-term periods of occupation was the method of avoidance most commonly identified. "Box shifting," a practice where landlords place boxes in vacant commercial properties for a six-week period to trigger a rates-free period, often repeated, results in local councils losing their empty rates income.
- That some landlords use basic objects such as a broadband box or an empty fish tank to initiate rates avoidance, which exacerbates the loss of income for councils.

This Council believes:

- That business rate avoidance undermines the integrity of our rates system and deprives the local community of funds that could be invested in local services and infrastructure.
- That current legislation may inadvertently allow these practices, and that reform is needed to ensure that rates accurately reflect property usage and occupancy.

This Council resolves:

- To lobby for the extension of the occupation period for rates exemption from six weeks to six months, following the example of the Welsh and Scottish governments, which have already introduced legislation to tackle this issue.

- To advocate for robust and regular checks on the occupancy status of commercial properties to ensure compliance with any reformed rates system.
- To Lobby Peterborough MP's to ask the Government to legislate against rates avoidance.

72(3) Motion from Councillor Iqbal

Councillor Iqbal moved his motion as listed in the report at Agenda Item 12 to the agenda.

Councillor Iqbal said that this motion concerned the future of the city, listening to residents and standing up for what was right for Peterborough. He said that people were proud of its heritage and as a new town. He said that too much of the expansion infrastructure there were showing signs of a lack of investment and upkeep.

Councillor Iqbal said that the new town was founded on the values of a decent home, a good job and a great place to live. The parkways and road networks were vital, he said, to travel across Peterborough and were a key part of the design of our new town.

Councillor Iqbal said that road users had intimated that roads had become run down due to a lack of investment, which was needed as a growing city. He said the Motion was also about doing better politics and doing the best for the people of Peterborough rather than political gain.

Councillor Iqbal said the Motion aimed to build on the cross-party consensus expressed at the meeting of the Council in July, that road users charging would not work in the city. He said the Council did not need road user charging and it was not supported by the Council. He said the Council should protect funding for its road network, with improvements, to help drivers, other transport users, cyclists and pedestrians.

Councillor Iqbal said that the Motion also sought to get Peterborough the funding it required for highway maintenance and to improve the state of roads. He said that, across England, the number of potholes being fixed had fallen from 2.7m in 2015 to 1.4m in 2023 and that local highway maintenance budgets had been cut, along with local authority budgets, which had led to crumbling roads and potholes in some parts of the city.

Councillor Iqbal said that, in this region, local highways maintenance funding had fallen by 24% - a quarter in real terms – enough to fill-in 8.7m potholes. He said the Motion provided an opportunity to unite the Council in a matter all Members agreed upon and he commended it to Council.

Councillor Qayyum seconded the motion and asked all Members to support it. She said that the subject of any form of road user charging had been a topic of contention and political debate in the city for some time. She said the Council needed to put the minds of hard-working residents at ease that the Labour Group in Peterborough did not support the implementation of Ultra Low Emission Zones (ULEZ) or other road user charging in Peterborough.

Councillor Qayyum paid thanks to the Combined Authority Metro Mayor, Dr Nick Johnson, who had declared improvement in local transport bus routes in order to mitigate and serve the need of road user charging. She said that over the years, pothole funding had been cut by a quarter by the current government. The recent pledge made

by the Government in this area, she said, statistically, did very little to compensate for the years of costs to the taxpayer to put into repairing roads after cuts took place, which left the Council with a pittance of funding to undertake permanent and long-lasting damage repair.

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

- To correct the mover of the Motion about the matter being politicised originally and that this was not true since it had been previously brought before Council in order that all Members could “get on the same page.”
- Legal advice was sought as to whether the Motion was competent given that it was very similar to a Motion, which had already been to Council over the past six months.

In response to the point immediately above, the Council's Interim Director of Legal and Governance and Monitoring Officer, said that when looking at the Motion, which was considered in July, whilst it did cover the specific points in relation to types of road charging, the Motion, which was being considered today went far wider than that and also went beyond road charging and talked about highway budgets. She said that, on balance, she did not think it would be categorised as being substantially the same as the Motion, which had been discussed in July.

- A point of accuracy was put forward to refute that this matter was first considered at the July meeting of the Council and that many Members had been defending false claims on road charging from Conservative Group leaflets for several elections now.
- The Conservative Motion in July had been fixated upon congestion charging, which a whole campaign based on conflating the issues which Cambridge faced and had nothing to do with Peterborough and there were no such issues. On the contrary, Peterborough wanted and needed to bring people, businesses and investment into the city as well as bidding for its fair share of local highways, maintenance budgets, including, for lobbying for funding for roads.
- Would like to know whether it was no longer Liberal Democrat or Green Party policy not to introduce to introduce ULEZ charging.
- Talk about 15/20-minute cities and congestion/ULEZ charging. The Conservative Group was against all forms of congestion charging or punitive measures on motorists etc.
- Where did road tax stand in relation to the Motion opposing any road user charging schemes in Peterborough?

In response to the point immediately above, the Council's Interim Director of Legal and Governance and Monitoring Officer said that road tax was not a consideration in terms of the motion, which referred to any additional charges.

- Creating panic and scaremongering amongst residents, when there did not need to be. The Green Party agreed there should be investment in public transport, cycling and pedestrian routes and investment in active travel. Also, Peterborough City Council had the power of veto on highways-related decisions and that Peterborough City Council could decide whether to introduce a charging scheme.

- Most major car manufacturers are claiming they would quit the hybrid, electric car market since sustainable travel was no longer viable or sustainable at present and was passing the costs onto the consumer.
- In respect of the resolution around the Motion, aware there are challenges around roads maintenance and the amount of money it would cost. Asked that the mover of the Motion be clear that he was asking for money from Central Government or the Combined Authority, and not asking for local budgets to be impacted.
- A point of accuracy was put, which stated that the Conservative Party had brought in congestion and ULEZ charges in London and not by the Labour Party.
- A point of accuracy was put that the TCP did not tie the Council's hands with regard to ULEZ or congestion charges in Peterborough and the Plan stated that Peterborough was in charge of its own destiny; it had a veto and any policy or bill passed would be through this Council Chamber.

As mover of the motion Councillor Iqbal summed up and responded to specific points raised by Members during the debate.

The motion was **CARRIED** as follows:

Council notes:

- That the parkways and road systems in Peterborough are vital to enable flexible travel across the city.
- The new town principle was to provide good public services, allowing residents to easily access local amenities or travel to other parts of the city. There was cross party consensus at the Full Council meeting in July 2023, when discussing ultra-low emissions and congestion zones, that charging road users would not work in the city.
- Peterborough City Council have the power of veto on highways related decisions. Therefore, the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Mayor does not have power to impose congestion charging or ultra-low emissions schemes on Peterborough.
- It is for Peterborough City Council, as the transport authority, to decide whether to introduce a charging scheme.
- Total local highways funding in the East of England fell by a quarter in real terms between 2020/21 and 2023/24.

Council believes:

- We should ensure adequate funding is provided for our road network to be maintained to a safe standard with improvements to help drivers, public transport users, cyclists, and pedestrians.
- Government cuts to local highways maintenance budgets have adversely affected the condition of roads.

Council resolves to:

- Oppose any road user charging schemes in Peterborough.

- Campaign for the restoration of local highways maintenance budgets to improve their condition in Peterborough, including the Leader of the Council lobbying the government for fairer funding for road maintenance.

72(4) Motion from Councillor Hemraj

Councillor Hemraj moved her motion as listed in the report at Agenda Item 12 to the agenda.

Councillor Hemraj said that this Motion was about recommending allergy policies in schools. She said every child had the right to be and feel safe in a school environment with parents also feeling reassured their child's school was a safe place for them.

She said that allergic disease was the most common chronic condition among children, which affected 7.0 to 8.0% of children worldwide or about two children in an average-sized classroom of 25 children. 18% of food allergy reactions and 25% of first-time anaphylactic reactions occurred at school. She said it was also one of the most serious.

Councillor Hemraj said that some schools had already done this. This motion, she said, was asking schools that had not already done so, to adopt the Schools' Allergy Code, which was clear guidance for schools to follow to better protect and safeguard children with allergies. Councillor Hemraj said that schools could get more information on how they could do this by going to the Benedict Blythe Foundation website, where the guidance could be found.

Councillor Hemraj thanked Helen Blythe, who lost her little boy, Benedict, following his collapse in school, which had resulted in his death from anaphylaxis, for all her hard work in bringing this to the attention of policymakers in local government and Government level to ensure that all school had policies in place to protect children with allergies. She said that, in memory of Helen's beautiful little boy, she asked that Members support the Motion.

Councillor J Allen seconded the motion and spoke on it. She hoped that, in Benedict's memory, all schools in Peterborough and beyond, would take advice to put into practice an allergy policy. She said that every member of the school community should understand allergy and their responsibilities for reducing risks from pupils to parents and staff.

Councillor Allen said it was the responsibility of everyone. Alicia Kearns, MP for Rutland and Melton had said in Parliament that voluntary advice should be replaced with mandatory regulations and Councils should require every school to implement and maintain an allergy policy. She said that, in addition, the Council should require every one of its schools to work with pupils, parents or guardians to create individual risk assessments for pupils with allergies.

Councillor Allen asked if any Member, or Council employee, who sat as a trustee or parent-governor on a multi-academy trust to table an agenda to implement a mandatory allergy policy and risk assessment. She said that the Youth Council could also be engaged to take this as a pupil conversation in schools and ensure that the allergy policy was developed.

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

- Things had improved in schools with regard to managing allergies but previously had not been given the recognition or importance and implementing an allergy policy in schools should be supported.

- Cross-party support for the motion was welcomed.
- Earlier in the month, the Education Minister had encouraged that schools adopt the Code and that Members be reassured that it had the support from those in the highest authority in the land.

The motion was **CARRIED** as follows:

This motion asks that the Council should recommend to Peterborough Schools that they should consider adopting the Schools Allergy Code outlined in the Motion to increase the safety and inclusion in Peterborough schools for children with allergies.

72(5) Motion from Councillor Cole

Councillor Cole moved her motion as listed in the report at Agenda Item 12 to the agenda.

Councillor Cole said that Peterborough had a proud history of residents putting their country before themselves and belonging to the armed forces.

Councillor Cole said that the participants of the testing program were 'lab rats' or 'guinea pigs.' These men were used in experiments to test the effects of nuclear warfare, with no regard for the indigenous people, their lands or their lives. She said that veterans, indigenous people, scientists and civilians had all died as a consequence of the tests; yet their stories remained unheard by the general population of the world and that an apology to these men was long overdue.

Councillor Cole said that most veterans and direct family members were getting a complete refusal from the Ministry of Defence when requesting their full medical records and the records they had received often had large sections of their records blacked out or redacted. She said that some of the medical records had information that had been falsified and imagine medical professionals trying to diagnose someone's medical problems or design a plan of treatment without knowing their full medical history. She went on to say that these veterans and their families urgently needed access to their full medical history, including what they had been exposed to or results of blood and urine tests that had been taken during the testing program.

Councillor J Fox seconded the motion and reserved his right to speak.

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

- Numerous affected by nuclear testing across the world.
- No mention of the casualties in the USSR when weapon-testing began.
- German atomic scientists atmospheric testing – no mention of this also or others or premature deaths linked to cancer.
- At best, the Motion was naïve – at worst, disingenuous.
- Reference to RAF serviceman and the appalling way in which medals had been delivered. One had received his under a mat but would have it formally presented to him following a talk by him in the city this weekend.

Councillor Fox, as seconder of the motion, said that Peterborough City Council had signed up to the Armed Forces Covenant in 2013, which was a promise by this nation ensuring that those who served or had served in the armed forces, and their families, were treated with fairness and respect within their communities. He said he was concerned that veterans, and their families, who served during atomic bomb tests should be treated with fairness and respect, which they and their families deserved.

Councillor Fox said that the Motion put forward was strong, concise and to the point and he congratulated Councillor Cole on her dogged determination and heartfelt concerns by bringing this Motion not only to the Council but, if all went well, to the present government to ask for more positive action.

On a vote being taken (46 For, 2 Against and 7 Abstentions), the Motion was **CARRIED** as follows:

Peterborough City Council therefore **RESOLVES** to:

- Recommend that the Council Leader write a letter to Minister for Veterans and the Shadow Veterans minister, lobbying the Government for a full apology to the veterans of British Nuclear Testing, acknowledging these men were used as test subjects in order to understand the effects of nuclear warfare.
- Recommend that the Council Leader and Group Leaders write a jointly signed letter to the Minister for Defence demanding full access to medical records without the need to sue the Government for the British Nuclear Veterans' medical history.
- Ask Education Officers to signpost schools and colleges to information about British Nuclear Testing and worldwide Test experiments and work with a range of organisations who can direct schools to a range of resources and firsthand accounts of what veterans and family members have experienced as a result of the testing. (One such resource is www.labratsacademy.online).
- Recommend that on the anniversary of the first British Nuclear Test (Operation Hurricane), which was detonated off the Montebello Islands, Australia on the 3rd of October 1952, the Town Hall and other public buildings in Peterborough be lit up in Yellow to thank and commemorate the veterans of British Nuclear Testing in recognition of all they have and continue to suffer as a consequence of the testing that took place.

72(6) Motion from Councillor Stevenson

Councillor Stevenson withdrew her motion as listed in the report at Agenda Item 12 to the agenda.

73. Reports to Council

73(a) Amendments to Shareholder Cabinet Committee Terms of Reference

Council received a report, which sought approval of the amended Shareholder Cabinet Committee Terms of Reference, to make the Committee cross-party and to enable greater oversight from Members across the Council of the Council's commercial entities.

Councillor Howard moved the recommendation and said that the report was seeking

minor amendments to Terms of Reference of the Shareholder Cabinet Committee, to enable the inclusion of non-Cabinet Members as part of the Cabinet Committee membership to allow greater cross-party oversight. He said that this particular Committee had come under the interest of the Improvement Panel and he hoped that these measures would reassure it and allow more robust challenge in the Group. He said the non-Cabinet Members appointed would be non-voting Members.

Councillor M Farooq seconded the recommendation and reserved his right to speak.

RESOLVED that the amended Terms of Reference for the Shareholder Cabinet Committee, as set out at Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.

73(b) Report of the Peterborough City Council Independent Improvement and Assurance Panel

Council received a report, which provided the Panel's fourth six monthly review of the work of the Council against the previously agreed Improvement Plan and the recommendations of the independent reports commissioned by the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

It was moved by the Mayor, seconded and **RESOLVED** that Standing Order 16.11 be suspended during consideration of items 13(b) and 13(c) to allow both the Chief Executive (CE) and the Chair of the Independent Improvement and Assurance Panel (CIIAP) to address Full Council.

Councillor S Allen highlighted a typographical error at page 108 to the report, which stated that "Blue Sky (the energy trading company including solar panels) remains active....", and that this should read "inactive."

The Mayor then invited questions to the Chair of the Panel (who was in attendance) and or the Council's Chief Executive and a summary of the points made and responses received included:

- Page 104 S2.2 – In response to a question as to how likely statutory intervention was and what were the contributory factors to this, the CIIAP said that from a pragmatic sense insofar as what statutory intervention could mean for Peterborough, she said it was not at risk of further statutory intervention at this time. She said that very good progress had been made over recent years and features of that progress were down to colligative cross-party working and the strengthening of the Council's governance and management structures and that the risk of further statutory intervention above that currently (which was the lowest level of intervention) was extremely low.
- Page 104 S3.3 – In response to a question around Theme 1 – Financial Sustainability, where it talked about savings, transformation plans, accountabilities and priorities and the "turning off" of core and can't afford "things" and what was meant by core and could not afford, the CIIAP said that Paragraph 3.3 referred back to Council what it had agreed in December 2021 as the core themes within its own Improvement Plan and what the Council was saying was that it would examine its current activities, which included deep dives into those activities, in order to be able to identify, in the Council's view, what was core. She said that the Council now had its Portfolio Boards that examined how the Council currently operated, how it could work in a more modernised or more streamlined way where those opportunities were to change how things were done currently. She said it was a reflection back of the Council's own ambition in being able to identify what those things were. She confirmed that it was solely

for the Council to determine what was core to the city and what could no longer be afforded.

- Page 105 S4.1.2 – In response to a question around greater clarity required on both the likely costs and outcomes from the transformation workstreams identified in the MTFS paper, and whether the CIIAP had had any further clarity on this since the report had been published and what type of things did she mean when asking for further clarification, the CIIAP said that this was a relatively broad point in relation to progress on the transformation boards and that the workstreams arose out of the work of those boards. She said the point about the likely costs was about the investment that was needed into the work that would be required to change ways of working and to transform some of the ways that services and departments worked. She talked about investment, which may be required in IT or changes in working practices and that the reasons why the cost was not identified in the MTFS was because of some of the practical issues having not yet been fully identified and fully costed to allow them to be included within the MTFS and, in terms of the outcomes as to what would change and how, and had quantified what benefits would come from it, this could not be included within the MTFS either. She said this was about the continuing work of the transformation boards reporting into the Council via the Financial Sustainability Working Group, to identify and seek approval to the investment required to make the changes and that those investment decisions would be taken when there was confidence about the levels of savings, which might come out of that.
- Page 104 S3.3 – In response to a question around Theme 3 – Governance and Culture, as to what advice the Panel would give to the new Administration in terms of the immediate priority to ensure the confidence and stability shown so far by the majority of the Chamber to see the Council through to May 2024 and what were the elephant traps, as a Council, it needed to avoid, the CIIAP said that to answer the question, she would refer Members to the conclusion within the report and said that Council had made significant strides within regard to its budget management and financial planning but that more still needed to be done.

She said there was still too much reliance in relation to not actually making some of the changes, which were required to be made to be able to realise the savings and the Council tended to fall back either on mitigation or the use of reserves and the ability to do so lessened as reserves reduced. The CIIAP said that all the progress made had been commendable but that the challenges remained and the collaborative approach that the Council had demonstrated over the past two years had, she thought been a very specific feature of Peterborough's success.

The CIIAP said that the pitfalls would come from not continuing and not keeping the pace up on the improvements from an officer perspective in relation to the improvements that they had made in governance structures, and across departments to address the issues identified across the four themes and four transformation boards. She said that the political risk was very clearly in respect of the fact the Council had not acted in an oppositional way at all, across an authority, which had no overall control over the course of the last two years and that it would be detrimental to the Council to fall into the trap of doing this, not so much in relation to the current situation and the minority Administration but more the challenges moving forward into 2024 and the general election, which may fall during that year.

- Councillor Farooq said that his new Administration would offer the Panel political

stability and transparency to carry on this work and to see through the delivery element of it. He said the Administration agreed with the Panel in respect of arms-length companies and that changes had been made to the Cabinet Committee and the Council wanted to check what value these added to residents' services and best value principles and whether those companies needed to be enhanced or whether an exit strategy was required.

- Councillor Fitzgerald said that the Panel had come into existence voluntarily and he was pleased to hear the CIAP say that the past two years had seen good progress made.
- In response to a question as to whether the Panel felt that political instability had increased as a result of the recent change of Administration, the CIAP said that at Page 1 to the report, it stated that the smaller size of the Administration did increase what was already a high degree of uncertainty about decision-making in the Council Chamber and that this had been reported by the Panel, in its third report that this risk existed.

She said that the Panel would continue to observe to see whether the collaborative approach, which had existed continued to do so and that the Panel had seen that up until now that it had, however the highly unusual position of having a group of 11 being the administration in a Council of 60 Members was a unique position and it fell to the Council and to each individual Councillor to take responsibility for their role in running the City Council.

Councillor Farooq – point of accuracy – it was not one person's request to ask her to stay on but a decision by all Members.

In response, the CIAP said that the key point in relation to the Panel continuing was that the Council had not taken that decision yet and there had been discussions in relation to the fact that the Panel did not think that it would be the right time to make its final report in December when there was still uncertainty over the budget decisions the Council had to take in February.

She said that in relation to the work had done with Members, Officers and, more recently, Group Leaders, had helped to support the Panel's view that the way that Members all worked together and pulled together was incredibly important for Peterborough and if it did not hold together in that continuing way, then the progress could be slowed because the Panel had already commented on the amount of senior officer time had been taken up by the politics and the Panel did not want to see this as a detriment of the pace of the improvements being made.

The Chief Executive spoke on a point of context in relation to what Councillor Jones had said earlier. The Chief Executive said that he had seen the survey today and that there was a number of challenging issues being faced by local authorities and that Peterborough was now "in the middle of the pack now" as opposed to bottom, two years ago and it was commendable that the Council had come such a long way thanks to collaborative working. He added that the three themes had been agreed by full Council two years ago and that all had been addressed. The Chief Executive said he totally supported the work of the Panel and discussion around extending this had been very constructive. He said that the nature of the Panel might change and because of the budget issues coming up, it would still be watching very carefully, getting the budget over the line at Council in February.

The Chief Executive said that, in respect of transformation, the first two years

had been hard work to put the basics in place and the Council was entering the next phase and asking what did transformation look like/what was the core purpose of Peterborough City Council? He said that this was the message the Panel was giving to the Council, to keep going with the work but the Council faced many challenges.

- Page 105 S4.1.3 – In response to a question around Capital Spend in that once its assets had been disposed of the Council would be unable to reacquire these, where would future funding come from as it was unlikely to be met by Central Government, the CIIAP said that Members had to look at the previous paragraph in the report to look at this matter in context. She said the Council was seeking to avoid borrowing costs and further borrowing. She added that the Council would have to source external funding or have an asset disposal programme. She said it was a fact that once a local authority sold off an asset, it was gone, but what a Council was seeking to do via its asset disposal programme was to sell off assets that were no longer required in order to be able to invest that money in the transformation of the Council for the future.

The CIIAP acknowledged that it was a very difficult balancing act for Peterborough, as a Council but the Council was very limited in terms of moving forward since it wanted to avoid further borrowing and would therefore need to consider sale of assets or ways of maximising income to the Council.

- A Member commented that a lot of the work had been done by the Council's hard-working officers in terms of transforming the Council and the approach to the Council's Budget, which was root and branch and how it could work better had been inspirational.

In response to a question put by the same Member as to how the CIIAP had viewed this evening's proceedings and what her initial response had been, she said that she echoed the sentiments of recognising the hard work of staff and the work carried out by them and the Council's Chief Executive and in terms of conducting meetings of the Council, she said that the behaviour of Members had been exemplary compared to many other local authorities.

- A Member commented on looking back two years earlier when the behaviour was quite toxic and how the Budget was agreed then by a casting vote and that the argument then was about toxicity in the Chamber, and not amongst officers. He said that the then Leader, Councillor Fitzgerald, should take a lot of credit for changing that culture to one Member opposing the budget last year. He said the Council in terms of political leadership and behaviour of Members in the Council Chamber had come a long way.

In response, the CIIAP said that the last two years had been difficult and that the responsibility and credit for all of the changes across the whole Council but undoubtedly it had been the case that Councillor Fitzgerald had brought about a new collegiate approach to the improvement process and one of the defining features was the Financial Sustainability Working Group and working with Group Leaders making the information that was available to the Panel, available to the FSWG to ensure that everything was being looked at in an open, honest and accountable way. This she said had come about when Councillor Fitzgerald had been Leader of the Council.

The CIIAP said that now, there were signs of real respect and listening to the advice of the Council's Statutory Officers and it was a step change arising from individuals getting it in relation to their responsibilities and what they had to bring

to that change agenda.

On the proposition of the Mayor, seconded by Councillor M Farooq, it was **RESOLVED** that:

1. Having considered the contents of the fourth report of the Independent Improvement and Assurance Panel, included at Appendix 1 to the report, that this be noted.
2. A fifth report from the Independent Improvement and Assurance Panel be received at the Council meeting on 20th March 2024.
3. Cabinet be asked to consider this report and respond with the action it wishes to take.
4. The Growth, Resources, and Communities Scrutiny Committee be asked to review this report, the Cabinet's response to it and the progress being made with the delivery of the Improvement Plan.

73(c) Peterborough City Council Independent Improvement and Assurance Panel Extension and Renewed Terms of Reference

Council received a report, which sought approval to extend the work of the Independent Improvement and Assurance Panel (the Panel) for a further year and to approve the amended Terms of Reference.

On the proposition by Councillor M Farooq, seconded by Councillor Howard, it was **RESOLVED** that:

1. The extension of the Independent Improvement and Assurance Panel for an additional 12 months until December 2024, be approved.
2. The amended Terms of Reference for the Independent Improvement and Assurance Panel, as detailed at Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.

73(d) Revision to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Health and Wellbeing Board Terms of Reference

Council received a report, which presented new terms of reference for the new joint Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Health and Well-being Board and Integrated Care Partnership.

On the proposition by Councillor S Farooq, seconded by Councillor Elsey, it was **RESOLVED** that:

1. The Terms of Reference, as set out in Appendix A, for inclusion in the Constitution, be approved.
2. The Monitoring Officer be authorised to make any other minor or consequential amendments to the Constitution necessary for, or incidental to, the implementation of these proposals.

The Mayor
6.00pm to 10.05pm
6 December 2023

APPENDIX A

FULL COUNCIL 6 December 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 Mick Bratley</p> <p>Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Housing, Growth and Regeneration</p> <p>Peterborough has now effectively lost its showground. How will the city provide cultural, sporting and other outdoor activities to residents and visitors on a large scale in the future?</p> <p>The Cabinet Member responded:</p> <p>The status of the Peterborough Showground remains an active showground, currently, and although we are aware of planning applications for residential and leisure facilities on the site, these are yet to be determined, Mr Mayor and it would be inappropriate for me to comment on the proposals at this early planning stage.</p> <p>Meanwhile, this council is committed to supporting our partners to deliver events in Peterborough and we continue to extend the use of council land to help facilitate this. For example, Mr Bratley, we accommodated 45 public events in the last quarter, including the Bridge Fair, the Great Eastern Run, and the Beer Festival.</p> <p>The Embankment and Cathedral Square provide excellent opportunities to expand this further and we are keen to speak with potential promoters about future offerings to benefit our city.</p> <p>This council is also a founding member of the Peterborough Culture Alliance, which brings together our cultural, heritage, and arts organisations, and which is developing a delivery plan of activities and events for the coming years. To support this further, an Arts Council England funding application has been submitted which, if successful, will allow us to further build on plans for the long-term and ensure residents and visitors can continue to enjoy the very best the city has to offer.</p> <p>Supplementary Question</p> <p>One of the supporting assets that is about to be lost, is Peterborough's Speedway track, which has been at the East of England Showground site since 1970. What can the Council do to ensure this popular and successful spectator sport, isn't lost to Peterborough forever?</p> <p>The Cabinet Member responded:</p> <p>I'm told Mr Bratley, you have or have had an active interest in the speedway facility at the Showground and quite naturally are disappointed in its demise, as are a number of</p>

visitors to this regular sporting event. I have to say to you Mr Bratley, while the process is ongoing with the owners and their agents regarding the potential for housing development here, there's not much I am able to add to what's already been said. That's said, if validated you will have the opportunity to comment to planners on any planning application pertaining to the showground. Also, if indeed these potential outline applications are put before our planning committee, you will also have the further opportunity to make public representation to the Members of that Committee before any decisions are made. Leading on from that Mr Bratley, I have huge sympathy for both yourself and any interested parties in the speedway facility. I myself in a former life, was a very keen on speedway from the Thames Valley area, if there is anything that we are able to do to facilitate the continuation of a speedway facility, then I am sure the current Leader Councillor Farooq will be very keen to be involved as I would myself.

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 Councillor Hussain (2)

Councillor Bisby, Cabinet Member for Children's Services

Can you please advise the council on how many household support fund vouchers have been paid out and how many are waiting to be processed?

The Cabinet Member responded:

I thank Councillor Hussain for his question, 8,647 vouchers have been issued totalling £501,260; 93.75% of these were for supermarket vouchers.

Since October applicants contacting the Citizens Advice Buro, who deal with these for us, are still averaging 90 plus per day and sometimes reaching over 120.

The value of vouchers increased from £40 to £80 from 2nd October 2023.

Supplementary question:

It's just recently referring to residents who are trying to apply for the vouchers, they're told they can only apply by phone system and not email in. The phone system is constantly engaged where I've had people tell me they've been on the phone, three or four hours. Sometimes they've called numerous times throughout the week and struggled through. It's good that we are offering this support to residents, but if they can't access it easily, are we not putting those same residents in more turmoil? And can you please tell the Council what actions you will take to address the issues of not being able to get through.

The Cabinet Member responded:

	<p>I haven't heard about this personally; nobody's contacted me to say they have that problem. What I will do is I will actually talk to the officers and get them to report back to Councillor Hussain directly.</p>
2	<p>Question from Councillor Tyler</p> <p>Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Housing, Growth and Regeneration</p> <p>I was pleased to see due to the hard work of the previous administration and officers the Key Theatre has been reopened in time for Panto season. Can the leader or the relevant cabinet member please advise this council as to when the regional is pool is likely to reopen or are you determined to keep it closed for good?</p> <p>The Cabinet Member responded:</p> <p>I think the condition report that we have just released regarding the Regional Pool, may well have overtaken this question frankly, but I have to say, I did find your accusation about whether this administration was determined to keep it closed for good was somewhat bizarre Councillor Tyler. It demonstrates a lack of understanding about a legacy problem that we've inherited for our City.</p> <p>The pool was closed under the watch of the Conservative former administration, you'll obviously be aware of that. It's reported the then Deputy Leader alluded during an October BBC interview that it might not reopen at all, Councillor Tyler, so perhaps you should ask him if indeed it was his determination to keep it closed?</p> <p>As Group Leader, Councillor Jones has publicly stated now, it isn't just the recent concrete issues at play here, it's a decades long period of underinvestment in our leisure assets which has also inevitably caused the pool to be closed. Members may now be aware that we have just received the structural survey report, I alluded to that earlier. It concludes that a complete new roof is required along with other related maintenance works to be able to reopen the building. This remedial work is estimated to cost £5m Mr Mayor, this is in addition to the latest conditions survey, indicating that about £6m of legacy maintenance work would be required to ensure the building was operational over the next 10 or so years.</p> <p>It is now obvious Councillor Tyler that we have to consider best value for our residents and whether £11m being spent to keep the existing pool operational is justifiable or whether this money would be better supporting working in partnership with the private sector for the potential of a brand-new pool in the City.</p> <p>We will be in a position to update our residents shortly. Meanwhile, I can confirm that the Vivacity Swim Academy, providing vital swimming lessons at the weekend has been relocated to Stanground Academy swimming pool and the additional swimming lessons have been built into the programme at the Vivacity Premier Fitness in Hampton. Officers are continuing discussions with other pool operators in the City to try to identify other alternative arrangements whilst we work up a full plan for the future of the regional pool and I hope to be able to announce more details shortly. I hope Councillor Tyler, like all members on this side of the Chamber, you agree that ultimately, we want the best outcome for the residents and visitors to our city. The taxpayers of Peterborough deserve a pool fit for purpose, environmentally and financially efficient and of a quality that attracts and benefits users both locally and in the wider region.</p>
3	<p>Question from Councillor Coles (1)</p>

Councillor John Howard – Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Corporate Governance and Finance

What is the predicted cost of borrowing currently to fund capital projects and service capital debt and what additional costs are forecast for the next financial year?

The Cabinet Member responded:

Thank you for the questions Councillor Coles, I was hoping for a good question. I am pleased to say that the current cost of borrowing is within the Treasury Management mid-year report, which is item 9a on the agenda tonight.

The net capital financing budget is £30.3m in 2023/24. This comprises (£1m) for interest receivable, £16m for interest payable and £16m for Minimum Revenue Provision, which is an amount set aside to repay the initial principal amount (like repaying a mortgage).

As can be seen in Appendix D of item 9a, officers are expecting to overachieve on income receivable by £350k, due to high interest rates, bringing in £1.3m. This is due to high interest rates and a strategy of using money market funds to obtain the best value for the Council. Interest payable is forecast to be on budget at £16m; this is because whilst interest rates have continued to rise, the capital programme has a large element of internal borrowing and so the amount borrowed is £128m less than it could have been.

For future years, officers are still finalising the capital programme with new bids for 2024/25 onwards. This will be brought to Council in February. I can reassure colleagues that the Council is not intending to amend its Capital Strategy which sets out that borrowing is only allowed for projects that have a sound business case and/or failure to do so would result in a breach of our Health & Safety/Statutory duties. Which I am sure will be agreed across the floor. Currently there is only a small amount of additional borrowing required, where the costs of borrowing are not met from income or savings.

Supplementary questions

I'd like to thank Councillor Howard for the answer to my question and welcome to another difficult jobs in a Cabinet role which is to try to get your head around some complex figures, so thank you for that.

And I also like to sort of refer to the briefing yesterday that some very clear figures on capital programme and thanks to officers for that where it says at the end of the year, the debts going to be about £451m, so it's quite a significant sum and the challenge that you will have over the next year is that there are other projects coming on stream. So, for example, extra money for the Hilton, we've already heard about the regional pool and so on. I'm just hoping that you'll be able to keep to the conservative policies in the past and trying to manage this account, sorry this fund appropriately, but thank you very much for your answer.

4 Question from Councillor S Allen

Councillor Howard, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Corporate Governance and Finance

With the current administration having inherited a sensible initiative regarding the ongoing review of the City Council's community venues and locations; can I ask the

	<p>current cabinet member whether he will continue to sensibly manage the review and confirm that at this stage no decision has been taken with regard to sales or disposals.</p> <p>Additionally, will he assure the chamber that all interested parties and incumbent organizations will be included in the necessary negotiations, and acknowledge that this will be a fair, reasonable and transparent process?</p> <p>Indeed, a process as put in place by the now deposed Conservative Administration, (who of course remain the largest party in the chamber).</p> <p>The Cabinet Member responded:</p> <p>Councillor Allen. Well, firstly, I hope you feel reassured by the work we did together a few years ago with the libraries review and keep it in the same sentiment of that.</p> <p>I can confirm that we will continue to sensibly, and sensitively, manage this process and, at this stage, where a site is currently operational, no decision has been taken with regards to sales or disposals. I can also give assurance to the Chamber that the consultation process does include all interested parties and organisations, and also that all ward members are being kept informed on the progress, indeed as are Group Leaders. I know that officers anticipate that the updates will be provided in January to Scrutiny and February to Cabinet will clearly set out each site under review and the proposals being brought forward for consideration with this expectation that this information will not now be exempt.</p> <p>The is part of the Peterborough First administration’s push for more transparency with the process and I’m sure it is agreed across the chamber as a positive step forwards. Thank you Councillor Allen.</p> <p>Supplementary question:</p> <p>Councillor Howard, thank you for the answer. Bearing in mind the financial challenges the Council continues to face, can I ask how you will juxtapose the need to make difficult choices whilst ensuring that all of our communities are well served by the provision of Youth Services, libraries and sports facilities, in particular; with the unique challenges which are faced by rural communities as such, as Eye, where the long established and well supported youth club is run to a high standard by selfless group of volunteers and shares a building with a much needed and valued library facility.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member responded:</p> <p>Thank you Councillor Allen, and I think we share the passion on the communities and I fully agree with you, and that’s why the community engagement has continued at a pace to get a full understanding but I’m optimistic that we can achieve the objectives of streamlining where suitable but also looking after the community groups and users in the centres that are affected. So I think I’m confident we can do both well and look forward to updating soon</p>
5	<p>Question from Councillor J. Allen</p> <p>Councillor Ray Bisby, Cabinet Member for Children’s Services</p> <p>In the academic year 2022-2023, our School Admissions Team processed a total of 5,901 applications for school places – that’s 2,100 more applications than the previous academic year, this is significant and has clearly had an impact on Home to School</p>

	<p>Transport costs with the early indication that there is a £1 million pressure on this service.</p> <p>Are there any situations where it is permissible to cross charge or to seek recovery costs for Home to School transport from Local Authorities outside of Peterborough who place their homeless families in our local authority to take advantage of the cheaper rental costs in Peterborough.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member responded:</p> <p>Thank you for your question Councillor Allen, Peterborough City Council do recoup transport costs from other Local Authorities where the client is a Child in Care for another Local Authority and under the Belonging Regulation to other Local Authorities remains responsibility for transport cost.</p> <p>Children and Young people who are not Children in Care and who have been placed in Peterborough through another Local Authority's Housing department do not fall under the Belonging Regulation and as these families are paying council tax to Peterborough City Council these costs are not able to be recouped.</p> <p>Supplementary Questions:</p> <p>Thank you Councillor Bisby. Mentioned in the November Cabinet papers for Home to School Transport, a new system is being implemented and saving plans are being developed. Can you please share with us what this might look like and will this be an evidenced based standard to ensure all children accessing home to school transport are all dealt with equitably?</p> <p>The Cabinet Member responded:</p> <p>There are things that are happening at the moment and as I was in Bournemouth this last week, I did bring some information back that is being presented to the officers and this has been looked at, but until it's being looked up and everything is being costed in detail, then I cannot bring anything forward. But once it happens we will bring it forward.</p> <p>Mr Mayor</p> <p>Are you saying you will respond in writing when that information has been received?</p> <p>The Cabinet Member responded:</p> <p>Mr Mayor, Councillor Allen's been invited to the improvement panel, so the information will be there, once that comes out, she will be part of that panel.</p>
6	<p>Question from Councillor Coles (2)</p> <p>Councillor John Howard – Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Corporate Governance and Finance</p> <p>I was pleased to see Cllr Howard announcing the arrival of article 4 powers in the city to enable the council to regulate new Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMOs). Can Councillor Howard please let us know what work he has done personally to deliver this policy for the city?</p> <p>The Cabinet Member responded:</p>

	<p>Thank you, Cllr Coles, for the question and I know you share my passion to see an Article 4 Direction through your ward as much as I do for Hampton. I was a member of the Hampton Parish Council before even joining as a city councillor and as member of the Parish with Cllr Wiggin and to be fair with Councillor Cereste's support we made a big push for Article 4. As an elected member of the City Council, I continued the push with the then administration including making a case in group meetings with Councillor Fitzgerald during his term as a Leader which led to Councillor Hiller writing the Cabinet report on a possible Article 4 Direction. I was a member of the Cabinet at the time the Article 4 recommendation was made, and I was a member of the cross-party working group, which was chaired by Cllr Marco Cereste, to progress the Article 4 Direction. This is a great example of cross-party collaboration to address an important issue for local people, with Members from all political groups working together to achieve a shared objective. I also sent many emails over many years chasing the progress of Article 4 and I am sure as you are, I am delighted to see it come to life, thank you.</p> <p>Supplementary question:</p> <p>Thank you very much Mr Mayor and through you. I am indeed delighted and that is why I proposed a motion in March 2021 which was accepted by all parties to bring this ahead so yes of course a lot of us were involved in that. Councillor Howard has taken over my role in the Council, that is the way it goes, fair enough. I did not know he was also taking over my private life because I like to write historical fiction but what he had to say on a recent post on Facebook unfortunately reflects quite badly on him because he is not being particularly honourable when he is writing on Facebook about his activities.</p> <p>Thank you very much Mr Mayor, I was just getting to the quote so I can give you the evidence so that I can ask my question. We were impacted by delays by the previous administration. Myself and Councillor Chris Wiggin fought the case for Hampton and the Article 4 member's working group and the new administration is happy to see it delivered.</p> <p>My question is, why are you saying that there was a delay caused by the previous administration when we all know, we were all there that the issue was with an officer. We all wished to deliver this so could you please correct the record there and say that the issue is not with the administration but with an officer, thank you Mr Mayor.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member Responded:</p> <p>Yeah, Councillor Coles, I will respond as best as I can for you. The Facebook post said we are delighted to see it which is absolutely true as an administration and across the Cahmber I think we are all delighted to see it. My interpretation of delay was having sat in the February Cabinet where we pushed collectively for that letter to go to the Secretary of State, then did not go until the end of October and it is not for me to say why there was a delay or what happened, that is lost in history, but I would define February to October as a delay, in fairness.</p>
7	<p>Question from Councillor Hussain (1)</p> <p>Councillor Saqib Farooq, Cabinet Member for Adults and Health</p> <p>Can you inform council how we compare in public health funding terms to similar local authorities? And what are the main challenges we face?</p> <p>The Cabinet Member may respond:</p>

	<p>Thank you, Mr Mayor, and thank you to Councillor Hussain for the question. Funding is a key challenge for Peterborough Public Health, with Peterborough residents receiving less per head in the public health (PH) grant than they should based on need. The total PH grant for Peterborough is currently £11.9m or £55 approximately per head, compared to £73 per head for other local authorities and CIPFA comparators.</p> <p>This equates to a Peterborough PH grant under-funding of approximately £4m per annum. The gap between need and level of funding in Peterborough has also been clearly and independently identified in work by the Health Foundation and Institute of Fiscal Studies as well as local analysis.</p> <p>One of the main reasons for the underfunding in public health in Peterborough is the level of population growth, especially in children. Peterborough has seen a population growth of 17.5% between 2011 and 2021, which is one of the fastest in the country. Peterborough also has had three times the growth in children and young people compared to England; with 5–9-year-olds seeing the highest growth in the country at 37%.</p> <p>Unfortunately, Peterborough still has high levels of poverty with a quarter of our children in relative poverty, leading to higher need and poorer health equality outcomes. The underfunding impacts the funding that can be provided to key public health services such as the Healthy Child Programme, sexual health services, behaviour changes services and health checks, thank you.</p> <p>Supplementary Question:</p> <p>Yes, thank you Mayor, thank you Councillor Saqib for the answer. Within your role now, can you tell me what you are going to personally do in improving and ensuring that we get a fair share of funding and what timescale will you make this happen to bring us to a fairer and equitable level.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member responded:</p> <p>Thank you, Councillor Hussain, for your supplementary. I know that within your role prior to mine, well in the same role that you had done some work with our MP to try and lobby government for some more funding, which I am more than happy to work with yourself to try and reach that outcome as well, thank you.</p>
8	<p>Question from Councillor Sharp</p> <p>Councillor Howard, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Corporate Governance and Finance</p> <p>Can the cabinet member confirm the current status of the Hampton community centres within the Localities Review and whether they are in scope. And specifically, if discussions have been had to date with any stakeholders such as Hampton Parish Council?</p> <p>Thank you, and through you Mr Mayor. Thank you, Councillor Sharp, for the question. We can confirm that there are no Hampton Community Assets in the first phase of the Locality Asset Review, however the estates and communities' team are looking at the spaces you mention in the Hampton Ward. Whilst we can't give further details whilst discussions take place, we hope soon to make an announcement that will show some good work and positive outcomes will come of the assets review under this administration, thank you for the question.</p>

	<p>Supplementary Question:</p> <p>At the Growth Scrutiny Committee on the 23rd of October, Officers were requested to review the exemption of publishing the local asset list and follow up with an extraordinary meeting being convened...Given the currently dippersful...does he not accept that he was wrong to do so, wasted Officers and Members time and the former leadership is correct in supporting Officers while the review is undertake and as Councillor Howard has said, stakeholders were consulted with, thank you.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member responded:</p> <p>I think Councillor Sharp, all I can say is that it comes back to an earlier answer that I made that you know, come January, February we will be pushing for a more open document which will show either the work that has been done so far or the work that is still to do but that will be done in a very open way and by that point we had the time to breathe and let the community groups engage in a safe space but we will be coming back with full transparency on what happens next, thank you.</p>
9	<p>Question from Councillor Stevenson</p> <p>Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Housing, Growth and Regeneration</p> <p>Thinking of the recent destruction of the city's hydrotherapy pool, will the leader and his cabinet assure the public that they won't destroy any more of the city's assets solely on the basis of a belief that they 'could' become dangerous?</p> <p>The Cabinet Member responded:</p> <p>I thank Councillor Stevenson for the question. The decision to decommission the Hydrotherapy Pool was made via Cabinet approval under the previous Conservative Administration. It has been stated that the subsequent demolition of the pool has since happened for safety reasons and in order that the site could be made available for alternative use.</p> <p>Mr Mayor, I am unable to comment on the previous decision-making rationale, but the Peterborough First Administration is aware that some assets owned by the Council are indeed in relatively poor condition and could most likely begin to reach the end of their economic life. In some cases, as you might imagine Councillor Stevenson that demolition may be the only viable option.</p> <p>That said, this must be considered on a case-by-case basis, I can reassure you that all decisions to demolish any asset will be sensible, nonpolitical, and subject to rigorous transparent debate through our governance processes prior to any action being taken. The current media reports about the former Leader and Deputy Leader personally ordering the final destruction of this once valued facility is very upsetting for many Peterborough residents and hydrotherapy users and I really cannot imagine the scenario where anything like that would happen again Councillor Stevenson, thank you Mr Mayor.</p> <p>Supplementary Question:</p> <p>Thank you very much, Councillor Hiller, for your wholesome response. Given the situation we are in now with the regional pool and decisions that have to be made around that, I ask that the needs of hydrotherapy users are considered when thinking about what to do when thinking about the regional pool, thank you.</p>

	<p>The Cabinet Member responded: I can absolutely 100% tell you that they will be considered, thank you Mr Mayor.</p>
10	<p>Question from Councillor Stephen Lane</p> <p>Councillor Gavin Elsey, Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Climate Change</p> <p>Abandoned supermarket trolleys continue to be a problem and annoyance to Peterborough residents, and especially in the neighbourhoods that surround Werrington Centre. We see public green spaces, footpaths, car parks and watercourses blighted by abandoned trolleys.</p> <p>Can residents expect support from the council by asking it to deal with an issue where supermarkets seem to be ignorant of their role in contributing to the quality and appearance of our local environment? The curse of abandoned trolleys needs to stop, and each respective owner be made to act accordingly.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member responded:</p> <p>Thank you, Mr Mayor. I am happy to respond now or given that Councillor Lane is unfortunately absent tonight, would you prefer me to answer in writing, either way, I do not mind.</p> <p>Mr Mayor – It is entirely up to you, which do you prefer?</p> <p>I understand residents' frustrations that shopping trolleys are being abandoned on both private and public land and I appreciate the negative impact that this can cause. Officers will continue to follow government guidance on the removal of trolleys. This includes contacting relevant supermarkets and private landowners including the Environment Agency to arrange removal and if necessary, instructing our contractors to remove them.</p> <p>I would like to take this opportunity to remind people that there are different ways that members of the public can report abandoned shopping trolleys. This includes an app facility called TrolleyWise (which reports the issue directly to the supermarket), the Council's online tool called Fix My Street, or people can call in to the Council to report the trolley via Peterborough Direct. Crucially our officers can only assist in the removal of trolleys if they are made aware of specific issues.</p>

	<p>Questions on notice to:</p> <p>The Combined Authority Representatives:</p> <p>There were none.</p>
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FULL COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 4
	PUBLIC REPORT

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT: FOR INFORMATION

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

2. ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION – From 7th December 2023 – 24th January 2024

Attending	Event	Venue
Mayor and Mayoress	07.12.23 Thomas Deacon Academy Christmas Concert	Peterborough Cathedral
Mayor and Mayoress	08.12.23 Wizard of Oz on Ice	Planet Ice, Peterborough
Mayor and Mayoress	10.12.23 Annual Carol Service for Northants & Hunts Freemasons	Peterborough Cathedral
Mayor and Mayoress	11.12.23 Nativity Performance	Dogsthorpe Infants School
Deputy Mayor & Consort	11.12.23 Extinction Exhibition *	Peterborough Museum
Mayor and Mayoress	11.12.23 NHS Anglia Charity Carol Service	Peterborough Cathedral
Mayor	12.12.23 Visit to Barnack Estates	Orton Southgate, Peterborough
Mayor and Mayoress	14.12.23 Peterborough Drop In Launch – Cambridgeshire Deaf Association & Dean of Peterborough	Peterborough Cathedral
Mayor and Mayoress	15.12.23 PARCA Christmas Party	Unity Hall, Peterborough
Mayor and Mayoress	15.12.23 HELP Christmas Gift Giving	Norfolk Street, Peterborough
Mayor and Mayoress	16.12.23 Edo Indigenes End of Year Party	Herlington Community Centre
Mayor and Mayoress	17.12.23 Carol Service	All Saints Church, Paston
Mayor and Mayoress	18.12.23 Millfield Window Dressing Competition	Millfield, Peterborough
Mayor and Mayoress	18.12.23 HDC Chair Carol Service	St Mary's Church, Huntingdon
Mayor and Mayoress	19.12.23 Visit to Broadleigh Care Home	Broadway, Peterborough
Mayoral Party	19.12.23 Peterborough Staff Conversations	Sand Martin House, Peterborough
Mayor	19.12.23 Citizenship Ceremony	Town Hall, Peterborough
Deputy Mayor & Consort	19.12.23 Presentation Evening *	Jack Hunt School, Peterborough
Mayor and Mayoress	21.12.23 Christmas Wreath Laying	Town Hall, Peterborough
Mayor and Mayoress	24.12.23 Christmas Eve Crib Service	St John's Church, Peterborough
Mayor and Mayoress	25.12.23 Salvation Army Christmas Lunch	Salvation Army Centre,
Mayor and Mayoress	25.12.23 Community Christmas Day Lunch	New Road, Peterborough
Mayor and Mayoress	27.12.23 Wizard of Oz Pantomime	The Cresset, Peterborough
Mayor and Mayoress	08.01.24 Opening of Store (Noble Trading)	Aston Business Park, Peterborough
Mayor and Mayoress	09.01.24 Visit to Smart Flat	Kingfisher Court, Peterborough
Mayor and Mayoress	10.01.24 Reception for Property Team	Mayors Parlour, Town Hall
Mayor and Mayoress	11.01.24 Peterborough Community Business Awards	Delta by Marriott Hotel, Peterborough
Mayor & Mayoress	13.01.24 Great Achievers Symposium	Afro Caribbean Centre, Dickens St.
Mayor	16.01.24 ARU Topping out Ceremony	Bishops Road, Peterborough

Mayor	16.01.24 Citizenship Ceremony	Town Hall, Peterborough
Mayor & Mayoress	17.01.24 Tour of Kidney Research UK Labs	Robinson Way, Cambridge
Deputy Mayor	18.01.24 Citizenship Ceremony *	Town Hall, Peterborough
Mayor & Mayoress	18.01.24 Northampton Charities Curry Evening	Mewar Haveli, Northampton
Mayor & Deputy Mayor	20.01.24 Diwali Presentation Ceremony	Town Hall, Peterborough

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COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 9
24 JANUARY 2024	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Interim Director of Legal and Governance and Monitoring Officer – Adesuwa Omoregie	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Councillor Howard, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Corporate Governance and Finance	
Contact Officer(s):	Charlotte Cameron, Senior Democratic Services Officer	Tel. 384628

PETITION FOR DEBATE ‘PCC TO KEEP OPEN EYE YOUTH CENTRE AND LIBRARY BUILDING’

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM: <i>Interim Director of Legal and Governance and Monitoring Officer</i>	Deadline date: <i>N/A</i>
1. It is recommended that Council consider the petition in accordance with the Council’s Petition Scheme included at Appendix 1 and determine next steps.	

1. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

1.1 A petition has been received by the Council which contains more than 500 valid signatures from people who live, work or study in the city. As such, the right to a debate of the petition by a meeting of the full Council has been triggered, in accordance with the Petition Scheme.

2. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

2.1 On 15 November 2023 a paper petition was received by the Council from Mr Dale McKean, which included eligible 648 signatures.

Subsequently, additional signatures were received, and the number of eligible signatures increased to 1517.

2.2 Mr McKean requested that the petition be debated at a meeting of Full Council, in accordance with the Petition Scheme.

2.3 The petition is titled ‘PCC to keep open Eye Youth Centre and Library Building’ and details are set out below:

“We call on the Council to not close Eye Youth Centre Building and use the grants available from the Governments £75M fund for Youth Clubs and Buildings Renovation to upgrade the building in time for the Councils reopening of Senior Youth Club by 2025. And for the continuation of the current Junior Youth Club, Brownies, Rainbows and Girl Guides use of the building along with the Library.”

3. DEBATE

- 3.1 The petition will be debated in accordance with section 8 of the Council's Petition Scheme.

The Lead Petitioner will have five minutes to present this petition and Members will then be invited to debate the request.

4. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

- 4.1 N/A

5. APPENDICES

- 5.1 Appendix 1 – Peterborough City Council Petition Scheme

Petition Scheme

Peterborough City Council

Part 5 Section 9 – The Petition Scheme

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Peterborough City Council is always interested in feedback on our services and ideas for improvement.
- 1.2 There are local public consultations into matters affecting our city and details can be found on our website <https://www.peterborough.gov.uk/council/consultations/>.
- 1.3 Our public meetings are published on our website at <https://www.peterborough.gov.uk/council/council-meetings/> and displayed in the noticeboards outside the Town Hall and Bayard Place. Please contact Democratic Services on 01733 747474 or email democratic.services@peterborough.gov.uk for further information.
- 1.4 Often a telephone call or email is all it takes to get a matter investigated and our Customer Services Team can be contacted on 01733 747474 or by email at customer.services@peterborough.gov.uk. Your enquiry will be directed to the relevant department. They will listen to your concerns or suggestions, try to resolve them and explain the current situation. This will achieve the fastest response.
- 1.5 A petition to the council should only be considered when all other avenues have been exhausted. This section of the constitution sets out what makes a valid petition, how to get the petition to the Council and what the Council will do once a petition is received.

2. Petitions that Cannot be Dealt with Through this Scheme – Planning, Licensing and Verge Parking Decisions

- 2.1 The following matters are excluded from this petition scheme:
- Any matter relating to an anticipate, current or past planning application or decision, including a development plan document or community infrastructure levy (a new local levy that authorities can choose to introduce to help fund infrastructure in their area.)
 - Any matter relating to a request for verge parking restrictions.
 - Any matter relating to an alcohol, gambling or sex establishment licensing decision.*

* A 'Licensing Decision' is:

- Any decision in relation to an application for the grant, variation or review of any authorisation under Part 3 or 4 of the Licensing Act 2003 (premises licences and club premises licences) or any hearing or appeal in respect of any such application.
- Any decision in relation to the application for the grant, renewal or transfer of a licence under Schedule 3 to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 (control of sex establishments), a request for the variation of any term, condition or restriction contained in such a licence or the revocation of such a licence.
- Any decision in relation to any application for a licence, permit or registration under the Gambling Act 2005, a request for a variation of any term, condition or restriction associated with any such licence, permit or registration or the revocation of any such licence, permit or registration.

- 2.2 However, a petition that alleges a systematic failure to deliver services in the above areas is within the scope of this scheme (e.g. while a petition on an individual planning application could not be taken, a petition about the Council's failure to deliver an effective service for planning applications would be within the scope of this scheme).
- 2.3 Comments and inquiries on licensing and planning applications including appeals should be made to licensing@peterborough.gov.uk and planningcontrol@peterborough.gov.uk respectively or by telephone to 01733 747474 and asking for either the Licensing or Planning Department.
- 2.4 Petitions in relation to a request for verge parking restrictions in a particular area should be made to vergeparking@peterborough.gov.uk. More information on this scheme can be found on the Council's website.

3. Guidelines for Preparing a Petition

- 3.1 To qualify as a petition the submission must meet certain criteria. The petition must:
- Clearly state the concern or problem to be addressed.
 - Clearly state what the Council is being asked to do.
 - Must be relevant to a function that the Council has a responsibility for and/or directly affects Peterborough inhabitants.
 - State who the lead petitioner is and include their contact details.
 - Must not concern a planning, licensing or verge parking application or decision.
 - Must not be similar to, or a duplicate of a petition submitted within the previous 12 months. Past petitions can be viewed on our website <https://www.peterborough.gov.uk/council/consultations/petitions/>.
 - Contain at least 20 names, address and signatures of people living, working or studying in the area.
- 3.2 If the petition does not contain 20 signatures it can still be considered if the issue relates to a small local area. Further information is available from Democratic Services, Town Hall, Bridge Street, Peterborough PE1 1HG 01733 747474 or by emailing petitions@peterborough.gov.uk
- 3.3 The address given by those signing the petition must be within the Peterborough City Council area. People who work or study in Peterborough and are affected by the subject of the petition must use the address of their place of work or study to be counted. Email address are also required for online petitions. More information on e-petitions submitted online via the Peterborough City Council website can be found in section 4.
- 3.4 Petitions will not be considered if they are:
- Abusive.
 - Vexatious (intending to cause only annoyance, frustration or worry)
 - Presented for the purpose of making mischief.
 - Relates to a function the Council is not responsible for and/or could not influence.
 - Relates to a decision by the Council that has already been taken and there is no realistic possibility of a different decision being taken.
 - Otherwise inappropriate.
- 3.5 Reasons for rejection will be given to the lead petitioner in writing or by email where possible.

3.6 During the period before an election or referendum, known as Purdah, it could be necessary for a petition to be dealt with differently. Should this happen a full explanation will be given including any anticipated timescales.

4. E-petitions

4.1 Online petitions are the easiest way to submit a petition and can be created online via our website using the link:

<https://www.peterborough.gov.uk/council/consultations/petitions/>.

4.2 The petition organiser will need to register using their own name, address and email address.

4.3 The petition must give a clear indication of the issue and the action required by the Council and comply with the petitions criteria set out in item 3.

4.4 The lead petitioner will decide how long the petition will remain open and available for signature.

4.5 The petition will be published on the Council website within five working days.

4.6 Should the petition not be suitable for publication the Council will contact the lead petitioner and will give advice on how the petition could be adapted and re-submitted. If the petition is not re-submitted within ten days the details will appear on our website and the status classified as “Rejected” or “Invalid”.

4.7 Once an e-petition has closed for signature Democratic Services will automatically be notified. There is no need for the lead petitioner to contact them separately.

4.8 E-petitions are signed by visiting our website <https://www.peterborough.gov.uk/council/consultations/petitions/> where current e-petitions are available to sign online. A name, postcode and email address will be required and an email will be sent to the email address given to complete the process. It is important the information given is accurate.

Caution: there are some online petitions which will not be accepted by this Council as they do not comply with the terms of our scheme. If you are in any doubt and require advice please contact us at petitions@peterborough.gov.uk or 01733 747474 and ask for Democratic Services and we will be happy to help.

5. Paper Petitions

5.1 Petitions can be collected on paper and a template is included at Appendix 1. Using the template will ensure all relevant information is included.

6. Delivering a Petition to the Council

6.1 E-petitions created through our website are automatically sent to us once the time limit set for the petition has expired and there is no need for you to take further action at this stage as we will contact you within 5 days of the petition closing.

6.2 A paper petition can be presented to the Council in several ways:

- It could be delivered by post to Democratic Services, Town Hall, Bridge Street, Peterborough PE1 1HG.

- It could be handed in at the Town Hall.
- It could be handed to a Councillor.
The contact details of all Councillors can be found on our website at: <http://democracy.peterborough.gov.uk/mgMemberIndex.aspx?bcr=1>
- It could be emailed to petitions@peterborough.gov.uk.
- It could be delivered in person at a meeting of the Full Council or Cabinet. *Dates of the Council meetings are on the Council's website and displayed on the notice boards outside the Town Hall and Bayard Place. Council meetings take place approximately every six weeks. Details can be found at <http://democracy.peterborough.gov.uk/ieDocHome.aspx?bcr=1>. Democratic Services must be informed 10 working days before the meeting of your intention to present a petition. Full details must be received in writing or by email to petitions@peterborough.gov.uk by 12:00 noon on the working day before the meeting.*

6.3 If delivered a meeting the lead petitioner can present the petition themselves or ask someone else, such as a Councillor, to do so on their behalf. An officer in Democratic Services will be available to talk through the process beforehand.

6.4 The lead petitioner or their representative will have one minute to present the petition to the Council. The petition will be received without comment.

7. What Will the Council do when a Petition is Received?

7.1 An acknowledgment will be sent to the lead petitioner by letter or email within five working days of receipt. This will provide details of what we intend to do with the petition and when further information can be expected.

7.2 If the petition does not comply with the criteria set out in section 3 and the Council is unable to proceed, an explanation will be given in the acknowledgment letter. In relation to paper petitions, the petition will be published on the website with the status "Invalid" or "Rejected" together with a copy of the letter to the lead petitioner explaining why this decision has been taken.

7.3 The petition will be published on the Council's website unless it is inappropriate to do so.

7.4 A response will be provided to the lead petitioner within 15 working days of the acknowledgment being sent and a copy will be published on our website for paper petitions.

7.5 A petition containing over 50 validated signatures will be eligible for submission to the Cabinet or Scrutiny Committee alongside or in advance of the business the petition is seeking to influence. This option will be offered after the response letter is received as it might not be necessary if the Council is able to comply fully with the wishes of the petitioners.

7.6 A petition containing over 500 validated signatures will be eligible to be discussed at a meeting of the Full Council, Cabinet or Scrutiny Committee. This option will be offered

after the response is received as it might not be necessary if the Council is able to comply fully with the wishes of the petitioners.

7.7 The lead petitioner will be contacted after the response has been sent and asked if they wish to take one of these options.

7.8 Any petition to be debated at a Scrutiny Committee, Cabinet or Full Council meeting must relate to a matter on which the Council can take action, to be determined by the Monitoring Officer.

8. Full Council Debates

8.1 If a petition contains more than 500 signatures from people who live, work or study in the Peterborough area, it is eligible for debate at a meeting of the Full Council. If the lead petitioner chooses this option the petition will be discussed at the next Council meeting. The following protocol will apply:

8.2 The Mayor will lead the debate. There is a 45 minutes time limit on the discussion of an individual petition. At the end of this period Council will move immediately to the remaining votes without debate.

8.3 The lead petitioner, or their representative, will have five minutes to present their petition to the meeting to begin the debate. Times are strictly controlled and it is recommended to have a speech prepared in advance to ensure all relevant points are expressed.

8.4 The relevant Cabinet Member will be offered the opportunity to propose a course of action (propose a motion) which could be one of the following:

- To take the action requested in the petition if it is possible to do so.
- To refer the petition to either Cabinet, a Cabinet Member or the relevant Scrutiny Committee for consideration having regards to the comments made in the debate.
- To note the petition and comments but take no action for the reasons given in the debate.

8.5 The Mayor will ask for a seconder for the proposed motion.

8.6 The Mayor will then ask if there is an alternative course of action and each proposed alternative will need to be seconded.

8.7 All proposals must be provided in advance by Members to Democratic Services by 12noon on the day before the meeting.

8.8 Members will then debate the first proposal moved by the Cabinet Member, following the normal rules of debate.

8.9 When the debate has finished the Mayor will offer the lead petitioner, or their representative, the “right of reply”. They can respond to any matters raised, speaking for up to three minutes.

8.10 The Mayor will then offer the “right to reply” to the relevant Cabinet Member.

8.11 If only one motion has been proposed and seconded the Mayor will call for a vote on that motion which can be either carried or defeated.

- 8.12 When more than one motion has been proposed and seconded, the Mayor will only move on to the debate for subsequent motions if the first motion is defeated in the vote. Each subsequent motion will be debated in the format set out above and voted on in turn until a motion is carried and an outcome achieved.
- 8.13 If no proposals are agreed, the Mayor will move that the petition be noted.
- 8.14 The lead petitioner will be notified of the outcome of the debate in writing or by email within five working days.

9. Outcome

- 9.1 The lead petitioner will receive a written response by letter or email confirming the action the Council intends to take with a full explanation.
- 9.2 The Council's website will be updated to indicate that a decision has been taken and the petition status will be updated to reflect this.
- 9.3 A copy of the response to all petitions will be published on the council website.

Further information about the Council, its services and meetings are available on our website at www.peterborough.gov.uk

Appendix 1 Peterborough City Council Petitions Scheme Template

Those signing this petition must live, work, or study in the Peterborough area to be validated as a signatory. Those living outside the area can also sign the petition and will be taken into consideration but will not be counted. Further details can be found on the Peterborough City Council website

<https://www.peterborough.gov.uk/council/consultations/petitions/>

Petition Subject:
By signing this form we ask that the Council take the following action:
Lead petitioner (who must live, work or study in Peterborough) Name: Address: Telephone number: Email address:

	Name	Address	Signature
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COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 11
24 JANUARY 2024	PUBLIC REPORT

RECORD OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS MADE SINCE THE LAST MEETING

1. CABINET MEETING HELD ON 4 DECEMBER 2023

A) Approval to Extend Day Opportunities Services for Learning Disabilities – DEC23/CAB/64

1. The Cabinet approved an extension to the following Agreements totalling £1,720,563, relating to provision of day opportunities for adults with learning disabilities from 1 April 2024 until 31 March 2025 for the following Providers:

- Thera East Anglia (company number 05566295)
- THHG Limited trading as Helping Hands Group (company number 07359910)
- Sense, the National Deafblind and Rubella Association (company number 01825301)

B) Extra Care Housing Tender in Peterborough – DEC23/CAB/65

1. The Cabinet approved the award of a care and support contract to Atlas Care Services Ltd, for three extra care schemes: The Pavilions, Friary Court and The Spinney; with an annual value of £1,711,454; to begin 1 April 2024 for a period of three years, with an option to extend, at the sole discretion of the Council for up to two years, with a total contract value of £8,557,270.

C) Budget Consultation Launch 2024/2025 - DEC23/CAB/66

1. The Cabinet approved the launch of the Budget Consultation 2024/25 from 4 December 2023, closing on 7 January 2024.

2. CABINET MEETING HELD ON 18 DECEMBER 2023

A) Peterborough Community Short Breaks for Children with Disabilities – DEC23/CAB/68

The Cabinet approved:

1. The award of 8x block contracts for the delivery of Community Short Breaks from 01.04.2024, each with an initial contract term of 3 years; with an option to extend up to 2 years, in increments of 12 months, as follows:
 - a. A1 – All Year Small Group awarded to Circles Network (Company Number: 02972700), with a value of £60,000 per annum (£300,000 for the contract term including extension period).
 - b. A2 – Holiday Only Small Group awarded to Circles Network (Company Number: 02972700), with a value of £60,000 per annum (£300,000 for the contract term including extension period).

- c. A3 – Term Time Only Small Group awarded to Circles Network (Company Number: 02972700), with a value of £30,000 per annum (£150,000 for the contract term including extension period).
 - d. A4 – Holiday Only Small Group awarded to Breakthrough Therapy (Company Number: 11919412), with a value of £25,000 per annum (£125,000 for the contract term including extension period).
 - e. B1 – All Year Large Group awarded to Circles Network (Company Number: 02972700), with a value of £32,000 per annum (£160,000 for the contract term including extension period).
 - f. B2 – All Year Large Group awarded to Peterborough Limited (Company Number: 1493249), with a value of £28,000 per annum (£140,000 for the contract term including extension period).
 - g. B3 – Holiday Only Large Group awarded to Circles Network (Company Number: 02972700), with a value of £28,000 per annum (£140,000 for the contract term including extension period).
 - h. B4 – Autism Focused Large Group awarded to Romsey Mill Trust (Company Number: 3556721), with a value of £25,000 per annum (£125,000 for the contract term including extension period).
2. Delegate approval to the Executive Director of Adult Social Care & Commissioning following consultation with the Executive Director for Children and Young Peoples Service for the decision whether to invoke the extension period for each or any of the 8x block contracts following the initial contract term and in accordance with the contract provisions.
 3. Delegate approval to the Executive Director Adult Social Care & Commissioning to agree an uplift (per annum) of the contract value, subject to internal governance arrangements.

B) Write-off of irrecoverable debts in excess of £10,000 (Biannual process) – DEC23/CAB/69

1. The Cabinet authorised the write-off of the irrecoverable debt shown as outstanding in respect of Non-Domestic (Business) Rates (NDR) accounts included in the Appendices to this report (which detail the financial year and the category for the write-off request). The total value of irrecoverable NDR debts in excess of £10,000 outlined in this report is £554,336.

C) Council Tax Base 2024/25 and Collection Fund Declaration 2023/2024 - DEC23/CAB/70

That Cabinet approved to:

1. The calculation of the Council Tax Base for 2024/25 set at a level of 62,103.69 Band D equivalent properties based on the existing council tax support scheme.
2. Note the estimated position on the Collection Fund in respect of Council Tax as at 31 March 2024 being: £2.437m Deficit.
3. Note the estimated position on the Collection Fund in respect of Business Rates as at 31 March 2024 being: £2.224m Deficit.

4. Delegate authority to the Executive Director of Corporate Services and S151 Officer to amend the final estimated position on the Collection Fund in respect of Council Tax and Business Rates as at 31 March 2024 in accordance with the statutory Determination legislation and timescales.

D) Quarterly Performance Report - Quarter Two (2023/2024) - DEC23/CAB/71

Cabinet noted the Corporate Performance Report for Quarter Two, 2023/24.

3. CABINET MEETING HELD ON 15 JANUARY 2024

A) Draft Housing Strategy – JAN24/CAB/74

Cabinet approved the DRAFT Housing Strategy 2024 to 2029, for consultation.

The purpose of this report is to provide Cabinet with an overview of the draft Housing Strategy 2024-29 and to seek approval for the document to begin a 6-week period of public consultation. On adoption, the Peterborough Housing Strategy will be a major policy for the Council. The draft sets out the Council's priorities and commitments for the period 2024-2029 for a broad range of housing matters. The draft Housing Strategy will be widely consulted on to ensure that all stakeholders and partners have an opportunity to influence the final report.

A 'do nothing' option (where no new Housing Strategy is developed, and the existing Housing Strategy is not updated) was considered. However, such an approach would mean that Peterborough would have an out-of-date Strategy which did not reflect the significant changes to national housing and welfare policy and how we as a council plan to respond to them. A refresh of the Strategy was necessary to ensure that we have a fit for purpose Housing Strategy

The reason for the decision is that the existing Housing Strategy has now lapsed.

3. CALL-IN BY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Since the publication of the previous report to Council, the call-in mechanism has not been invoked.

4. SPECIAL URGENCY AND WAIVER OF CALL-IN PROVISIONS

Since the publication of the previous report to Council the urgency, special urgency and/or waiver of call-in provisions have been invoked once.

1. Termination of Contract - DEC23/CMDN/67

This report is NOT FOR PUBLICATION in accordance with paragraph (s) 1, 2, 3 and 5 of Schedule 12A of Part 1 of the Local Government Act 1972 in that it contains information relating to an individual or likely to result in the individual being identified. The public interest test has been applied to the information contained within the report and it is considered that the need to retain the information as exempt outweighs the public interest in disclosing it as to do so.

With approval from the Monitoring Officer and the Growth, Resources and Communities Scrutiny Committee Chair all urgency powers are being invoked to waive the 28-day Forward Plan, 5-day consideration and 3-day call-in requirements.

The Cabinet Member approved the termination of a contract.

5. CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS

CABINET MEMBER AND DATE OF DECISION	REFERENCE	DECISION TAKEN
Extension of Housing Related Support Grant Funding 22/11/2023	NOV23/CMDN/61	<p>The Cabinet Member is recommended to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve an extension to the grant funding for Housing Related Support in relation to supported accommodation for homeless households, funded through the Housing Related Support Programme, to the following grant recipients for the period 1 January 2024 to 31 March 2024: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Longhurst Group (formerly Axiom Housing Association) – Hostel accommodation and drop-in services - £141,907.50 • Cambridgeshire & Peterborough YMCA – hostel accommodation - £66,953.40 • Futures Housing Group – hostel accommodation - £15,547.32 2. Authorise entering into a grant agreement between the Council and recipients of grant funding for the period 1 January 2024 to 31 March 2024. 3.
Joining the National Parking Platform 30/11/2023	NOV23/CMDN/62	<p>The Cabinet Member approved the decision to:</p> <p>Join the National Parking Platform (NPP) to give parking customers the choice of which cashless parking provider they use to pay for their parking by either phone or app.</p> <p>Enter a contract with the parking providers (currently Pay by Phone, RingGo (EasyPark), APCOA Connect and JustPark) for an initial period of 2 years with an option to automatically extend, after the initial period, for successive periods of 12 months for the purpose of receiving payments from the parking providers, made by Peterborough City Council's parking customers. The annual value of the overall contracts is anticipated to be £24,000 per year, being 2.5% of the transaction. However, this cannot be broken down per provider because it is the motorist who chooses which provider to use to pay for their parking in a Council car park.</p> <p>Enter into contracts with further parking providers as and when they join the NPP for a term to coincide with the contract period stated at paragraph 2 above.</p>
Delegated partnership agreement for	DEC23/CMDN/63	<p>The delegation of function to Cambridgeshire County Council to act as the lead Local Authority in commissioning Independent Advocacy Services for children/young people across Peterborough & Cambridgeshire be authorised from</p>

<p>procuring independent advocacy services for children and young people across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough</p> <p>4/12/2023</p>		<p>5th February 2024 until 4th February 2027 with the option to extend for 12 months. This shall include the associated transfer of funding to Cambridgeshire County Council of £35,368,00 per annum, totalling a maximum of £141,472.00 over the 4 years period.</p> <p>Delegation and Partnering Agreement between Peterborough City Council and Cambridgeshire County Council be authorised to enable the function to be transferred between the local authorities in respect of this function.</p> <p>Cambridgeshire County Council, as the lead authority, enter into a contract with the successfully procured provider for the delivery of this function.</p>
<p>Compensation for Upheld Complaint (Housing Needs)</p> <p>20/12/2023</p>	<p>DEC23/CMDN/72</p>	<p>The Cabinet Member approve a payment of £2950 to compensate a complainant for delays in the processing of their application in line with the Peterborough Homes Allocations Policy and delays in the Peterborough City Council complaints process.</p>
<p>Approval to Award. Peterborough Lifeline and Alarm Receiving Centre Contract</p> <p>9/01/24</p>	<p>JAN24/CMDN/73</p>	<p>The Cabinet Member approved:</p> <p>A contract for the Peterborough Lifeline and Alarm Receiving Centre Services to Doro, (registered company 04133585) from 1 April 2024 for an initial period of 3 years, with the option to extend for a period of 2 years, in 1-year intervals, for a maximum value of £200,000 per year and total contract value of £1,000,000.</p> <p>Delegated authority to the Executive Director of Adult Social Care & Commissioning to decide whether to invoke the extension period for the contract following the initial contract term and in accordance with the contract provisions.</p> <p>Delegated authority to the Executive Director Adult Social Care & Commissioning to agree an uplift (per annum) of the contract value, subject to internal governance arrangements.</p>

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COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No.13
24 January 2024	PUBLIC REPORT

MOTIONS ON NOTICE

1. Motion from Councillor Rangzeb

Peterborough Cease Fire Motion

Peterborough is rich in diversity because of the city being multi-ethnic, multi-cultural and multi-faith where the residents of this city are living in peace and harmony.

Residents of our city have been rightly appalled by the huge escalation of violence and deaths in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories. Many residents have approached local councillors to get an official response from their council to call for an immediate ceasefire and a negotiated release of hostages arrested since 7th October 2023.

Council notes:

That on 7th October 2023 Hamas launched a horrific attack on the state of Israel, resulting in the death of around 1,200 Israeli citizens and the abduction of 240 people including children, in contravention of the Geneva Convention.

Since that attack, Israeli forces have dropped 6,000 bombs on Gaza, one of the world's most densely populated places, home to 2.2 million trapped Palestinians (of whom almost half are children).

As of 31 December 2023, over 22,000 Palestinians, at least 8,000 of whom were children, have been killed, with 57,000 injured and more than 1 million displaced, by Israeli forces. 352 schools have been damaged. 26 out of the 35 hospitals across Gaza are non-functional.

Collective punishment is against international law under the Geneva Convention.

The Israeli government has cut off water, food and electricity to Gaza which is a war crime under International Law.

There has been a 16-year illegal blockade of Gaza, an occupation in the West Bank, including in our twin city of Ramallah, and major NGOs say there is a system of apartheid.

Hamas continue to send missiles into Israel, between October 2023 and January 2024 more than 10,600 rockets and mortar shells were launched at Israel, with 10% of them failing.

Council believes that:

There must be an immediate, permanent ceasefire in Gaza.

Humanitarian aid must be delivered to all civilian's in the hostilities.

Neither the actions of the Israeli government nor Hamas will contribute to a just peaceful resolution.

The British government must work with all relevant partners to establish a permanent peaceful solution in Israel/Palestine.

The killing of all civilians and atrocities committed against civilians in both the ongoing bombardment of Gaza by Israeli forces and the Hamas attacks are horrific and must be condemned.

Polls show over 70% of the British public surveyed support a ceasefire, which has been called for by the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights, UNICEF, Save the Children, the head of the WHO, and Oxfam.

There are major concerns about the Israeli army and settler violence and intimidation of Palestinians in the West Bank and Ramallah, areas that have no connection with any Hamas attacks.

Antisemitism, Islamophobia, racism and hate crimes of all forms, including against Jewish or Muslim communities and places of worship, have no place in Peterborough.

Council agrees to:

Request the Council Leader to:

1. Write to both of Peterborough's MPs, demanding that they call for an immediate, permanent ceasefire.
2. Write to the Foreign Secretary asking him to:

Work to ensure full access for humanitarian aid is granted in Gaza.

Seek an immediate unconditional release of all hostages.

Call for Palestinians in arbitrary military detention to be given access to justice through an independent, non-military system.

Raise concerns about Israeli army and settler violence in the West Bank.

COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 14(a)
24 JANUARY 2024	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Adesuwa Omoregie, Interim Director of Legal and Governance and Monitoring Officer	
Contact Officer(s):	Charlotte Cameron, Senior Democratic Services Officer	Tel. 384628

NOTIFICATION OF CHANGES TO THE LEADER'S SCHEME OF DELEGATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM: Interim Director of Legal and Governance and Monitoring Officer	Deadline date: N/A
It is recommended that Council note the changes made by the Leader of the Council to the members of the Cabinet as set out in Appendix 1 .	

1. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Council of changes made to the Cabinet appointments by the Leader and for Council to note these changes.

2. CHANGES TO THE EXECUTIVE DELEGATIONS

2.1 At Full Council held on 1 November 2023, Councillor Mohammed Farooq was elected as Leader of the Council and tabled his Cabinet appointments.

2.2 Subsequently, the Leader reviewed his appointments and advised Cabinet in December 2023 that Councillor Harper would now take the position of Cabinet Advisor for Legal, Finance and Corporate Services. There will be no Cabinet Advisor for Growth and Regeneration

2.3 These changes have been agreed by the Monitoring Officer as the changes to the scheme of delegations fall within the remit of the Leader.

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

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

1. The Economy & Inclusive Growth
 - Carbon Impact Assessment – this decision has a neutral carbon impact.
2. Our Places & Communities
3. Prevention, Independence & Resilience
4. Sustainable Future City Council

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

4. CONSULTATION

4.1 This is a Leader decision therefore no consultation is required.

5. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

- 5.1 There are no changes to the financial implications as there are no changes to the overall amount paid in terms of special responsibility allowances.

Legal Implications

- 5.2 The decision on appointing Cabinet Members is that of the Leader. Therefore, there are no legal implications arising from this report.

Equalities Implications

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

6. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

- 6.1 [Peterborough City Council Full Council Meeting 1 November 2023 – Minutes](#)

7. APPENDICES

- 7.1 Appendix 1 – Revised Executive Scheme of Delegations

Scheme of Cabinet Delegations

Section 3 – Executive Functions

3.4 Individual Cabinet Members

- 3.4.1 The Leader has allocated a “portfolio” to each Cabinet Member and delegated to each “Portfolio Holder” responsibility for the discharge of functions set out below.

Appendix 1 - Revised Executive Scheme of Delegations
Part 3, Delegations Section 3 – Executive Functions

CABINET ROLE	MEMBER NAME	SCOPE OF ROLE
Leader of the Council	Councillor Mohammed Farooq	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All functions of the Leader of the Council • Political leadership and strategic direction for the Council • Communications
Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Corporate Governance and Finance	Councillor John Howard	Responsibility for the Corporate & Community functions of the Council including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal • Finance • Business Transformation • Governance • Commercial Strategy • Capital Programme • Treasury Management • Procurement • Registration/Bereavement Services • Commercial Partnerships, Property and Assets • HR • IT • Equality and Diversity • Community Engagement and Community Support, including International Relations • Data insight and analytics
Cabinet Advisor for Legal, Finance and Corporate Services	Councillor Chris Harper	To advise and support the Cabinet Member for Corporate Governance and Finance.
Cabinet Member for Adults and Health	Councillor Saqib Farooq	Responsibility for the Adult Social Care and Public Health duties of the Council, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Care Act 2014 and related legislation • Safeguarding Adults and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards • Oversight of selected NHS staff and services via s75 arrangement • Early Intervention and Prevention including Reablement, Therapy Services and Technology Enabled Care, Disabled Facility Grants • Care Act Assessments • Mental Capacity Act assessments • Mental Health, Learning Disabilities and Autism and Physical Disabilities. • Integrated Community Equipment • Commissioning and Market Sustainability • Better Care Fund

Appendix 1 - Revised Executive Scheme of Delegations
Part 3, Delegations Section 3 – Executive Functions

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent Mental Health and Mental Capacity Advocates • Integrated Care System (partnership and Integration) • Health and Social Care Act 2012 (as amended) and related legislation • Public health services including children’s public health services, sexual and reproductive health services, integrated behaviour change services, substance misuse services • Public health duties such as emergencies that present a risk to public health • Health promotion for oral health • Public health intelligence • Health in Everything We Do
Cabinet Advisor for Adults and Health	Councillor John Fox	To advise and support the Cabinet Member for Adults and Health.
Cabinet Member for Children’s Services	Councillor Bisby	<p>Responsibility for the Children’s Services & Education functions of the Council, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children’s Social Care, including all matters specifically provided for by the Local Authorities (Social Services) Act 1970, personal social services and care in the community, together with the responsibilities under associated and ancillary legislation not limited to but including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Crime and Disorder Act 1998 ○ Children Act 1989 ○ Children Act 2004 ○ Childcare Act 2006 ○ Education and Inspection Act 2006. • Safeguarding Children • Services for Looked After Children and Corporate Parenting • Early Help Services • Specialist Young People Services • Responsibility for Councils health related functions under Health Act 1975 in so far as they relate to children. • Targeted Youth Services • Education services (excluding certain functions relating to higher education and adult education) • School property maintenance and asset management (excluding disposal) • School Admissions and Place Planning • SEND • Early Years

Appendix 1 - Revised Executive Scheme of Delegations
Part 3, Delegations Section 3 – Executive Functions

<p>Cabinet Member for Housing, Growth and Regeneration</p>	<p>Councillor Peter Hiller</p>	<p>Responsibility for the Growth, Regeneration, Housing, Skills and University functions of the Council including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning • Building Control, including the Building Act 1984 (as amended) • Economic Growth and Development • Housing Strategy • Tourism • Heritage, Leisure and Libraries • Homelessness and Rough Sleeping • Community Safety and Enforcement • Business Improvement District (BID) • Learning and Skills for post 16 and for 16–25-year-old learners with learning difficulties or disabilities • Skills Strategy • Further Education, Higher Education and University provision • Adult Learning and Skills Service • City College
<p>Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment & Climate Change</p>	<p>Councillor Gavin Elsey</p>	<p>Responsibility for the Infrastructure, Environmental and Climate Change functions of the Council, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulatory Services • Highways and Transport • Car parking strategy for the use of Council car parks and a charging policy. • Climate Change and Net Zero Ambition • Environment Strategy • Energy Strategy • Waste Management, including strategy and operations • Parks and Open Spaces • Flood Risk Management

COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 14(b)
24 JANUARY 2024	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Interim Director Legal and Governance and Monitoring Officer – Adesuwa Omoregie	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Councillor Howard, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Corporate Governance and Finance	
Contact Officer(s):	Charlotte Cameron, Senior Democratic Services Officer	Tel. 384628

MEMBER APPOINTMENTS AND CONSTITUTION UPDATES

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM: <i>Interim Director Legal and Governance and Monitoring Officer</i>	Deadline date: <i>N/A</i>
<p>It is recommended that Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approves the appointment of the Chairs of the Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee and Licensing Committee and changes to the appointments to committees and other authorities as listed in Appendix 1. 2. Notes the consequential changes to the Constitution made by the Monitoring Officer are set out in Appendices 2,3 and 4. 	

1. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 In accordance with the Constitution, Full Council must appoint the members, the Chair, the Vice-Chair of non-executive committees and nominate representatives to sit on the Committees of Council, and other authorities.
- 1.2 The Constitution permits the Monitoring Officer to make consequential amendments to the Constitution.

2. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

2.1 Committee Appointments

The Council must note which councillors should be appointed to each of its committees at its annual meeting. Should there be any changes within the municipal year, Council must note those at the next available meeting following those changes.

2.2 Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs

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

- 2.2.2 At the Full Council meeting held on 1 November 2023, the role of Chair for the Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee and the Licensing Committee were tabled as VACANT.

The Council is asked to approve the following appointments to those positions:

- The Chair of the Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee will be Councillor Cereste.
- The Chair of the Licensing Committee will be Councillor Ray.

2.3 Appointments to Committees and Other Authorities

2.3.1 Following the Full Council meeting on 1 November there have been subsequent changes to the appointments to committees and other authorities. The list of these appointments can be found in appendix 1.

The Council is asked to note the changes to these appointments.

2.4 Consequential Constitution Updates

2.4.1 The Monitoring Officer has made a change to the Constitution in accordance with Part 2, Article 13 - Monitoring and Reviewing the Constitution, section 3(b).

There is now a link at part 7a and 7b of the Corporate Leadership Team and Departmental structure charts on the Council's website.

This will ensure that the information contained within the charts are kept up to date.

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

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

- 1.The Economy & Inclusive Growth
- 2.Our Places & Communities
- 3.Prevention, Independence & Resilience
- 4.Sustainable Future City Council

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

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 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Legal Implications

4.2 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

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

5.2 [Peterborough City Council Constitution](#)

6. APPENDICES

6.1 Appendix 1 – Committee Membership, Chairs and Vice-Chairs and Appointments to Other Authorities.

Appendix 2 – New Part 7a Management and Council Structure

Appendix 3 – Old Part 7a Management Structure

Appendix 4 – Old Part 7b Council Structure Chart

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Part 1

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP, CHAIRS AND VICE-CHAIRS
2023 – 2024

LEADER OF THE COUNCIL AND CABINET MEMBERS		PORTFOLIOS
Cllr Mohammed Farooq		Leader of the Council
Cllr Howard		Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Corporate Governance and Finance
Cllr Elsey		Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Climate Change
Cllr Bisby		Cabinet Member for Children’s Services
Cllr Saqib Farooq		Cabinet Member for Adults and Health
Cllr Hiller		Cabinet Member for Housing, Growth and Regeneration
CABINET ADVISOR		
Cllr John Fox		Cabinet Advisor for Adults and Health
Cllr Harper		Cabinet Advisor for Legal, Finance and Corporate Services

SHAREHOLDER CABINET COMMITTEE (5)

CABINET MEMBERS	CONSERVATIVE	LABOUR	LIB DEM	GREEN
Cllr Mohammed Farooq	Cllr Steve Allen	Cllr Iqbal	Cllr Hogg	Cllr Day
Cllr Howard				
Cllr Hiller				
SUBS:				
N/A	Cllr Coles	Cllr Dennis Jones	N/A	Cllr Skibsted

SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

ADULTS AND HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (11) (3:3:1:2:1:1)

Conservative	Labour	Lib Dem	PF	Green	Non-Aligned
Cereste (Chair) Hussain Tyler	Qayyum Mahmood Bi	Shaheed (Vice-Chair)	Rush Lane	Skibsted	Stevenson
SUBS:					
Asif	Sabir A Jones	Barkham	Judy Fox	TBC	N/A
GROUP REPS:					
Cereste	Qayyum	Shaheed	Rush	Skibsted	Stevenson

GROWTH, RESOURCES, AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (11) (4:3:1:2:1:0)

Conservative	Labour	Lib Dem	PF	Green	Non-Aligned
S Allen Ayres Casey Warren	Iqbal Jamil (Vice-Chair) Thulbourn	Wiggin (Chair)	Rush Judy Fox	Knight	N/A
SUBS:					
Sharp	Qayuun Sabir	Sandford	Lane	TBC	N/A
GROUP REPS:					
S Allen	Iqbal	Wiggin	Rush	Knight	N/A

Appendix 1 – Appointments to Committee and Other Authorities

CHILDREN AND EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (11) (5:2:1:2:1:0)

Conservative	Labour	Lib Dem	PF	Green	Non-Aligned
J Allen Asif Fenner Over	Hemraj (Vice-Chair) Cole	Shaheed (Chair)	Lane Rush	Skibsted	Rangzeb
SUBS:					
Ray	Sabir	A Bond	Judy Fox	TBC	N/A
GROUP REPS:					
J Allen	Hemraj	Shaheed	Lane	Skibsted	N/A

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (11) (5:2:1:2:1)

Conservative	Labour	Lib Dem	PF	Green	Non-Aligned
Sharp Simons Ahmed Perkins Warren	A Jones Strangward	Sandford (Vice-Chair)	Judy Fox Rush	Day (Chair)	N/A
SUBS:					
Fenner	Mahmood	Wiggin	Lane	TBC	N/A
GROUP REPS:					
Sharp	A Jones	Sandford	Judy Fox	Day	N/A

REGULATORY COMMITTEES

EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE (7) (3:2:1:1:0:0)

Conservative	Labour	Lib Dem	PF	Green	Non-Aligned
S Allen Cereste Coles	A Jones (Chair) Jamil (Vice-Chair)	Wiggin	Rush	N/A	N/A
SUBS:					
Ray	Thulbourn	Seager	M Farooq	N/A	N/A
GROUP REPS:					
Coles	A Jones	Wiggin	Rush	N/A	N/A

LICENSING COMMITTEE (REGULATORY) (11) (5:2:2:2:0:0)

Conservative	Labour	Lib Dem	PF	Green	Non-Aligned
Ray (Chair) Ayres Fitzgerald Khan Trust	Thulbourn Qayyum	Wiggin S Bond (Vice-Chair)	John Fox Hiller	N/A	N/A
SUBS:					
S Allen	Iqbal	Hogg	Harper	N/A	N/A
GROUP REPS:					
Ray	Thulbourn	Wiggin	John Fox	N/A	N/A

Appendix 1 – Appointments to Committee and Other Authorities

PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMITTEE (11) (4:3:2:2:0)

Conservative	Labour	Lib Dem	PF	Green	Non-Aligned
Fitzgerald Hussain Sharp Warren	Iqbal (Chair) Jamil (Vice-Chair) D Jones	Hogg A Bond	Rush Harper	N/A	N/A
SUBS:					
Casey J Allen	Mahmood	S Bond	John Fox	N/A	N/A
GROUP REPS:					
Fitzgerald	Iqbal	Hogg	Rush	N/A	N/A

APPEALS AND PLANNING REVIEW COMMITTEE (11) (4:2:2:2:1:0)

Conservative	Labour	Lib Dem	PF	Green	Non-Aligned
Coles Ray Over Simons	Thulbourn (Chair) Qayyum (Vice-Chair)	Sandford Seager	Lane Howard	Day	N/A
SUBS:					
Ayres	Mahmood	S Bond	S Farooq	TBC	N/A
GROUP REPS:					
Coles	Qayyum	Sandford	Lane	Day	N/A

Appendix 1 – Appointments to Committee and Other Authorities

CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE (11) (4:3:2:2:0:0)

Conservative	Labour	Lib Dem	PF	Green	Non-Aligned
J Allen Nawaz Over Sainsbury	D Jones (Chair) Bi (Vice-Chair) Cole	S Bond Seager	Bisby Howard	N/A	N/A
SUBS:					
Casey	Hemraj	Barkham	Lane	N/A	N/A
GROUP REPS:					
J Allen	D Jones	S Bond	Bisby	N/A	N/A

AUDIT COMMITTEE (7) (2:2:1:2:0:0)

Conservative	Labour	Lib Dem	PF	Green	Non-Aligned
Perkins	Haseeb (Vice-Chair) D Jones	Barkham	Rush Judy Fox	N/A	Rangzeb
SUBS:					
Trust	Strangward	Sandford	Lane	N/A	N/A
GROUP REPS:					
Perkins	Haseeb	Barkham	Rush	N/A	Rangzeb

Appendix 1 – Appointments to Committee and Other Authorities

CONSTITUTION AND ETHICS COMMITTEE (7) (3:2:1:1:0:0)

Conservative	Labour	Lib Dem	PF	Green	Non-Aligned
Ayres Coles Ray	Jamil Qayyum (Chair)	Sandford	Hiller (Vice - Chair)	N/A	N/A
SUBS:					
Fitzgerald	Thulbourn	Shaheed	Harper	N/A	N/A
GROUP REPS:					
Ayres	Jamil	Sandford	Hiller	N/A	N/A

COMMITTEES APPOINTMENTS TO WHICH POLITICAL BALANCE DOES NOT APPLY

LICENSING COMMITTEE (LICENSING ACT 2003) (11)

Same membership as Licensing Committee (Regulatory)

JOINT HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD (2 as per the Terms of Reference)

Members
S Farooq Bisby

SUB-COMMITTEES/PANELS

JOINT CONSULTATIVE PANEL

Same membership as Employment Committee.

EMPLOYEE APPEALS SUB-COMMITTEE

Same membership as Employment Committee.

OTHER

PARISH COUNCIL LIAISON MEETINGS (2 Members)

TBC	TBC
Hiller	TBC
SUBS:	
Howard	TBC

Part 2:

OTHER AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP
2023 - 2024

CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL (3) (1:1:1:0:0:0)

Conservative	Labour	Lib Dem	PF	Green	Non-Aligned
Tyler	D Jones	Barkham	N/A	N/A	N/A
SUBS:					
Warren	Jamil	Hogg	N/A	N/A	N/A

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH FIRE AUTHORITY (4) (2:1:1::0:0)

Conservative	Labour	Lib Dem	PF	Green	Non-Aligned
Fitzgerald Warren	Jamil	A Bond	N/A	N/A	N/A
NO SUBS					

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY (1) (0:0:0:1:0:0)

Conservative	Labour	Lib Dem	PF	Green	Non-Aligned
N/A	N/A	N/A	M Farooq	N/A	N/A
SUBS:					
N/A	N/A	N/A	Howard	N/A	N/A

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY AUDIT & GOVERNANCE (1) (1:0:0:0:0:0)

Conservative	Labour	Lib Dem	PF	Green	Non-Aligned
Coles	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SUBS:					
J Allen	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY (2) (1:0:0:1:0:0)

Conservative	Labour	Lib Dem	PF	Green	Non-Aligned
Fitzgerald	N/A	N/A	John Fox	N/A	N/A
SUBS:					
S Allen	N/A	N/A	TBC	N/A	N/A

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY SKILLS AND EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE (LEADER APPOINTMENT (1) (0:0:0:1:0:0)

Conservative	Labour	Lib Dem	PF	Green	Non-Aligned
N/A	N/A	N/A	Hiller	N/A	N/A
SUBS:					
N/A	N/A	N/A	Howard	N/A	N/A

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE (LEADER APPOINTMENT (1) (0:0:0:1:0:0)

Conservative	Labour	Lib Dem	PF	Green	Non-Aligned
N/A	N/A	N/A	Esey	N/A	N/A
SUBS:					
N/A	N/A	N/A	Hiller	N/A	N/A

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE (LEADER APPOINTMENT (1) (0:0:0:1:0:0)

Conservative	Labour	Lib Dem	PF	Green	Non-Aligned
N/A	N/A	N/A	Esey	N/A	N/A
SUBS:					
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Day	N/A

Appendix 1 – Appointments to Committee and Other Authorities

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE (0:0:0:1:0:0)

Conservative	Labour	Lib Dem	PF	Green	Non-Aligned
N/A	N/A	N/A	Howard	N/A	N/A
SUBS:					
N/A	N/A	N/A	M Farooq	N/A	N/A

ARMED FORCES CHAMPION (1) - Cllr John Fox

Part 3:

KEY PARTNERSHIPS

For all seats in the **key partnerships** category, the Executive seats required by the partnership agreement will be filled automatically by the relevant Cabinet member, unless not appropriate. Where the relevant person is not readily identifiable, the Leader will determine which Members are appointed to fill the required number of seats.

The **non-Executive** seats required by the partnership agreement will be totalled across these key partnerships and then allocated proportionally to the Council's various political groups using the appointments procedure.

ORGANISATION	FUNCTION	NO. OF REPS	APPOINTMENT
Safer Peterborough Partnership	Community Safety Partnership	1	D Jones
Youth Justice Board	Youth Offending Service Management Board	1	D Jones

COUNCIL OWNED COMPANIES

For all seats in the **Council owned companies** category, the Executive seats required by the companies agreement will be filled automatically by the relevant Cabinet member. Where the relevant person is not readily identifiable, the Leader will determine which members are appointed to fill the required number of seats.

ORGANISATION	FUNCTION	NO. OF REPS	APPOINTMENT
Peterborough Investment Partnership	Joint Venture Company Board	2	Adrian Chapman Tom Hennessey
Opportunity Peterborough Board	Economic Development Company	1	M Farooq
Opportunity Peterborough Audit Committee	Economic Development Company Committee	1	M Farooq

Appendix 1 – Appointments to Committee and Other Authorities

Peterborough Investment Partnership (Fletton Quays) Limited	Special Purpose Vehicles	2	Adrian Chapman Tom Hennessey
Peterborough Investment Partnership (Pleasure Fairs) Limited	Special Purpose Vehicles	2	Adrian Chapman Tom Hennessey
Peterborough Limited	Local Authority Trading Company	3	C Hogg A Jones Steve Crabtree
Peterborough HE Property Company Ltd	University Joint Venture Company Board	1	Adrian Chapman
Medesham Homes (PCC & CKH Developments)	Joint Venture Group	1	Jon Sawyer
Empower Community Interest Company Limited (Dormant)	Strategic Partnership Board	2	N/A N/A
Blue Sky Peterborough (Dormant)	Energy Services Company	2	N/A N/A

STRATEGIC & EXECUTIVE

For all seats in the **strategic and executive** category, the presumption will be that the Executive allocates them to the political Administration except where:

- (i) the external organisation's constitution/partnership agreement states otherwise;
- (ii) in the case of the Local Government Association, where wider representation is usual;
- (iii) the Executive decides otherwise.

National

ORGANISATION	FUNCTION	NO. OF REPS	APPOINTMENT
Local Government Association	Membership Organisation	4	Farooq Fitzgerald D Jones Hogg Sub – Howard
PATROL (Parking and Traffic Regulations Outside London Adjudication Joint Committee)	Membership Organisation	1	Gavin Elsey

Appendix 1 – Appointments to Committee and Other Authorities

Regional

ORGANISATION	FUNCTION	NO. OF REPS	APPOINTMENT
Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation (ESPO) Management Committee	Public Sector Professional Buying Organisation	2	Hogg Dennis Jones
Great Fen Project / Steering Committee	To undertake Strategic Direction and fulfil Collaboration Agreement	1	Dowson
Natural Cambridgeshire	Local Nature Partnership	1	Day
Nene Park Trust	Registered Charity	2	TBC
Ox-Cam Pan Regional Partnership	Regional Partnership	1	TBC (Officer – Nick Carter)

Appendix 1 – Appointments to Committee and Other Authorities

Local

ORGANISATION	FUNCTION	NO. OF REPS	APPOINTMENT
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Waste Partnership (Recap Board)	To work with local communities to help reduce waste and increase recycling	1	Eley
Pensions Committee – Cambridgeshire County Council	Pensions Fund Board	1	Howard
North West Anglia NHS Foundation Trust (Council of Governors)	Trust	1	S Qayyum
Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery	Museum and Art Gallery Board	1	Skibsted Sub – Harper
Standing Advisory Committee for Religious Education	Statutory Body	3	S Bond Trust Fenner
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Adults Board	Safeguarding Board	1	S Farooq
Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board	Safeguarding Board	1	Bisby
Local Action Group (Leader Rural Funding Programme)	Local Action Group	1	Hiller
Green Backyard	Registered Charity and Community Growing Project	1	Hogg

Appendix 1 – Appointments to Committee and Other Authorities

Peterborough Flood and Water Management (FloW) Partnership	Management Partnership	1	Eley Sub –Hiller
Growing our Green Spaces Future Parks Accelerator Project	Joint Project Group	1	Sandford
City College Governing Board	Governing Body	1	Hiller
ARU Peterborough	University Board	1	Adrian Chapman
Peterborough Positive	Business Improvement District (BID) Board	1	Hiller

Please note: Organisations where **all** Members of Council are appointed by virtue of office such as Cross Keys Area Forums, Police Neighbourhood Panels etc, have not been included in this list.

“Councillors appointed as Trustees are personally responsible to the Trust as a Trustee (quite distinct from their duties as members) and are liable for any mismanagement or breaches of Trust because they are required to act in good faith and for the benefit of the Trust at all times. There are strict requirements for Trustees to administer/manage the Trust property for the benefit of the Trust (and not for any other purposes) and in accordance with the express terms of the Trust document.”

- Peterborough City Council Constitution, Part 3, Delegations Section 5 – Appointments to External Organisation

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

For seats in the **community engagement** category, excluding any allocated automatically by virtue of office, the total number of seats available across all organisations in the category will be calculated. Seats will then be allocated equitably amongst the Council's declared political groups, as far as is reasonably practicable reflecting the political balance of the Council. The final allocation does not have to be exactly proportional, provided that distribution is equitable.

Not necessary to fulfil strategic or executive function but still beneficial in terms of leading, engaging and supporting the community: District wide-role.

ORGANISATION	FUNCTION	NO. OF REPS	NOMINATIONS
Anglian (Northern) Regional Flood and Coastal Committee	Committee of the Environment Agency	1	Elsy
North Level Internal Drainage Board	Statutory Board	6	D Jones Hiller Elsy Simons Brown Holdich
Welland and Deeping Internal Drainage Board	Autonomous Public Body	1	TBC
Peterborough Allotment Representatives Consortium	Community Representatives Body	3	Wiggin A Jones Knight

LOCAL ENGAGEMENT

Seats in the **local engagement** category, excluding any allocated automatically by virtue of office, will be allocated having regard to the political composition of the ward(s) most closely affected. The expectation is that local candidates will be considered ahead of other nominees for representation.

Appendix 1 – Appointments to Committee and Other Authorities

Local engagement appointments are an opportunity for Ward Councillors and other Councillors to work closely with the communities that they represent. A limited number of the appointments are on the basis of statutory guidance, but the majority appointed following requests from local organisations.

ORGANISATION	FUNCTION	NO. OF REPS	NOMINATIONS
Eye Quarry Local Liaison Committee	Local Liaison Committee	3	S Allen Ray Simons
James Bradfield Trust (Helpston)	Trust	1	Over
Maxey Quarry Local Liaison Committee	Local Liaison Committee	2	Hiller S Farooq
Pode Hole Quarry Local Liaison Committee	Local Liaison Committee	3	S Allen Ray Simons
Thornhaugh 1 Local Liaison Committee	Local Liaison Committee	1	Eley
Willow Hall Farm Quarry Local Liaison Committee	Local Liaison Committee	3	S Allen Ray Simons

LOCAL ENGAGEMENT – COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS

ORGANISATION	FUNCTION	NO. OF REPS	NOMINATIONS
Dogsthorpe	Community Association	1	Hussain
Italian	Community Association	3	Harper Rush Coles

Appendix 1 – Appointments to Committee and Other Authorities

Longthorpe	Community Association	1	Ayres
Millfield	Community Association	1	Qayyum
Newborough and Borough Fen	Community Association	1	S Allen
Nepalese	Community Association	1	Nawaz
Pakistan	Community Association	1	Hussain
Paston and Gunthorpe	Community Association	1	Shaheed
South Grove	Community Association	1	Dowson
George Alcock Centre (formerly Stanground Community Association)	Community Association	1	Hogg
Werrington	Community Association	1	Vacant
Werrington Neighbourhood Council	Community Association	6	John Fox Judy Fox Lane S Bond A Bond Tyler
Woodston (Belsize Community Centre)	Community Association	1	Thulbourn

LOCAL ENGAGEMENT – COMMUNITY CENTRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES

ORGANISATION	FUNCTION	NO. OF REPS	NOMINATIONS
Herlington (Herlington Community Association)	Community Centre Management Committee	1	Casey
Loxley (Loxley Community Association)	Community Centre Management Committee	1	Judy Fox
Manor Farm (Eye Community Association)	Community Centre Management Committee	1	Ray
Orton Goldhay	Community Centre Management Committee	1	Skibsted
Parnwell (Parnwell Community Association)	Community Centre Management Committee	1	Hemraj
Nene Valley Community Centre (Previously known as Riverside Community and Sports Centre Interim Committee)	Community Centre Management Committee	1	Coles
Thorney (Also known as Bedford Hall Management Committee)	Community Centre Management Committee	1	Simons
Light House Community Group CIO (East Community Centre Management)	Community Centre Management Committee	1	J Allen

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Part 7a Management Structure

The link to the Corporate Leadership Team and details of directorates is here:

<https://www.peterborough.gov.uk/council/council-structure>

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Matthew Gladstone
Chief Executive



Rochelle Tapping
Director of
Legal &
Governance
and Monitoring
Officer



Cecilie Booth
Corporate
Director
Resources



Adrian Chapman
Executive
Director for Place
and Economy



Debbie McQuade
Interim Service
Director of Adult
Services



Elaine Redding
Executive
Director for
Children's
Services



Jyoti Atri
Director Public
Health

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Chief Executive
Matthew Gladstone

Law and Governance
Director:
Rochelle Tapping

Deputy Monitoring Officer
Amy Brown

Child Protection
Elaine Lewis

Property, Planning and Highways
Edna Johnson

Litigation and Governance / Contracts and Procurement
Michelle Abbott

Constitutional Services
Rachel Edwards

Data Protection Officer Information Governance
Ben Stevenson

Contracted services:

LATCO:
Aragon Direct Services - Waste and Building Cleaning, Street Cleansing, Parks Trees and Open Spaces, Transport, Property and Vehicle Workshop

~~**Peterborough Serco:** Business Support, Business Transformation & Service Improvement, Customer Services, Procurement and Transactional Services~~

Skanska: Highways Maintenance services

Peterborough Ltd and City Culture: Culture, Recreation and the Arts

Adult Services:
Debbie McQuade

Adults Services and Safeguarding
Tracy Gurney and Kirstin Clark

Adult Safeguarding, Quality and Practice
Donna Glover

Adults Performance and Strategic Development
Tina Homsby

Transfers of Care
Carole Bargewell

Commissioning
Will Patten and Oliver Hayward

Commissioning, Partnerships and Programmes
Caroline Townsend

Service Safeguarding Boards
Jo Procter

Executive Director for Corporate Services and Section 151 Officer:
Cecilie Booth

Corporate Finance / Deputy S151
Patricia Phillipson

Service Director - Financial Management / Deputy S151
Emma Riding

Internal Audit and Insurance
Steve Crabtree

Registration / Bereavement Services
Mark Sandhu

Commercial Partnerships, Property and Assets
Simon Lewis

Human Resources
Mandy Pullen

Head of Communications
Amanda Rose

IT and Digital Services
Sam Smith

Procurement Specialist Lesley Meek

Places and Economy Executive Director:
Adrian Chapman

Planning Services
Jim Newton

Growth and Regeneration
Nick Carter

Environment, Transport & Highways
Charlotte Palmer

Environmental Partnerships
James Collingridge

Waste Resources & Energy
Richard Pearn

Community Safety
Rob Hill

Regulatory Services
Peter Gell

Chief Executive
Matthew Gladstone

Children Services

Interim Executive Director for Children Services
Elaine Redding

Education
Jonathan Lewis

Children's Social Care
Sharmain Lawrence

Safeguarding and Quality Assurance
Alison Bennett

Fostering, Regional Adoption and Specialist Young People Services
Ricky Cooper

Education Capital and Place Planning
Fran Cox

School and Setting Improvement
Carley Holliman

SEND and Inclusion
Toni Bailey

Public Health Director:
Jyoti Atri

Deputy Director of Public Health Peterborough: Health Protection, Health in all Policies, Public Health Intelligence
Emmeline Watkins

Deputy DPH Cambridgeshire: Public Health Commissioning Health Improvement, Prevention and Communities
Val Thomas

Public Health Consultant - Mental Health and Communities
Dr Kathy Hartley

Public Health Consultant: Children's Public Health and Clinical Policies
Dr Raj Lakshman

Public Health Consultant: Older people, Adult Social Care, NHR Research links
Dr Emily Smith

Public Health Consultant - Population Health Intelligence:
Vicki Peacey

Public Health Consultant - Covid
Saurabh Gupta

Head of Public Health Business Programmes
Kate Parker