

CABINET	AGENDA ITEM No. 7.3
30 MARCH 2009	PUBLIC REPORT

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OUTCOME OF PETITIONS

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S	
FROM : Directors	
<p>1. This report recommends that the action taken in respect of the petition presented to full Council be noted.</p>	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 This report is submitted to Cabinet following submission of a petition to Council.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

2.1 The purpose of this report is to update Cabinet on the progress being made in response to the petition in accordance with Standing Order 10.

2.2 This report is for Cabinet to consider under its Terms of Reference No. 3.2.1 – ‘to take collective responsibility for the delivery within the Council's Major Policy and Budget Framework’.

3. TIMESCALE

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO
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4. PETITION PRESENTED TO FULL COUNCIL ON 8 OCTOBER 2008

4.1 PETITION – PROVISION OF A NEW RECREATIONAL AREA FOR EXTREME SPORTS

This petition was presented to Council by Councillor Benton and requested the City Council’s support by investing in the building of a new recreational area for extreme sports.

The Council’s Head of Culture has responded and advised as follows:

“Thank you for enclosing background information which I have read with interest. I am aware that the closure of **Y2SK8** by the owners has created a deficiency for extreme sports in the city. I am very sympathetic to your position.

The Council has identified the need for good quality indoor provision for both traditional and extreme sport, and consequently incorporated this into its Sports Strategy (2009-14). The strategy recognises the importance of sport and active recreation and the positive impact it has on people's lives which you have articulated in your background information. The Council is committed to improving its sports provision further and is currently investigating ways that this can be achieved.

The Council recognises that it needs to balance provision of facilities for traditional sports with others, such as extreme sports. As part of its plan, the Council is working closely with Opportunity Peterborough to explore the feasibility of a flagship city centre sports facility, which could bring together a number of sports, including an area for extreme sports. This however is likely to take a number of years to come to fruition.

With respect to outdoor skate parks, the Council has invested significant resources in recent years to improving localised provision. These are designed for universal use and I appreciate they do not provide enough challenge for competent and advanced skaters. I would be happy to facilitate a meeting with you and colleagues to explore ways in which these areas can be further enhanced.”

5. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 Standing Orders require that Council receive a report about the action taken on petitions. As the petition presented in this report has been dealt with by Cabinet Members or officers it is appropriate for the action to be reported in this way so that it will be presented in the Executive’s report to Council.

6. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 6.1 Any alternative options would require an amendment to the Council’s Constitution to remove the requirement to report to Council.

7. IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no legal or Human Rights Act implications.

8. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

- 8.1 The Council’s Constitution, petitions presented to Peterborough City Council and responses to those petitions from officers.