

SUSTAINBLE GROWTH AND ENVIRONMENT CAPITAL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	Agenda Item No. 5
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Report of the Interim Chief Executive

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OPPORTUNITY PETERBOROUGH ANNUAL REPORT

1. PURPOSE

1.1 This report is being presented to provide the following:

- Review of the draft Economic Action Plan development;
- Review of Opportunity Peterborough activity 2014;
- Economic Snapshot December 2014 following request at previous Committee.

1.2 It should be noted that these documents are not intended as formal policy of the Council.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Committee discuss this report and provide comments.

3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

3.1 This report supports Priority 1 of the Sustainable Community Strategy, 'Creating opportunities – tackling inequalities', by encouraging businesses and other organisations to recognise and realise the economic benefits of investing in a supportive community. It particularly contributes to the 'Improving skills and education' outcome by encouraging greater interaction between employers and providers.

3.2 It supports Priority 2 of the Sustainable Community Strategy, 'Creating strong and supportive communities', by creating greater economic opportunity for the city's communities. It particularly contributes to the 'Building pride in Peterborough' outcome by providing a single framework through which stakeholders from all sectors can formulate and articulate their contributions to the future development of Peterborough.

3.3 It supports Priority 3 of the Sustainable Community Strategy, 'Creating the UK's environment capital', by encouraging businesses and other organisations to recognise and realise the economic benefits available through the adoption of environmentally business practices.

3.4 It supports Priority 4 of the Sustainable Community Strategy, 'Delivering substantial and truly sustainable growth', by increasing economic opportunity and prosperity for Peterborough's residents through support for local businesses and the attraction of new businesses as well as by encouraging businesses and other organisations to recognise and realise the economic benefits of investing in a vibrant city centre and sustainable community centres.

3.5 Whilst this report does not directly contribute towards the Safer Peterborough Partnership Plan it does embody the principles of the Single Delivery Plan.

- It highlights the importance of a multi-agency approach, focused on outcomes, not

organisations

- It addresses 'root causes' by encouraging action on the three fundamental pillars of sustainable growth – economy, environment and society – all of which are essential for successful economic growth.
- It seeks to be innovative and 'do things differently for less' by encouraging all stakeholders to take responsibility for sustainable economic growth, not just out of civic duty but because it delivers direct economic and financial benefits.
- Prioritisation – it has clear economic objectives which are brought into sharper relief through the establishment of a unifying framework.
- Big Society – it embodies the big society agenda by providing a framework for joint delivery, highlighting how all can benefit if all contribute.

3.6 Whilst indirectly contributing to the achievement of numerous National Indicators this report seeks to directly address NIs 5, 6, 7, 11, 85, 90, 91, 106, 117, 151, 152, 153, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 171, 172, 174, 182, 183, 185, 186, 188, 194.

4. BACKGROUND

4.1 Opportunity Peterborough is the City's economic development company and as such is responsible for the creation and delivery of the City's Economic Action Plan.

5. KEY ISSUES

5.1 The Economic Action Plan has been drafted to set out a direction of travel for the economy of the city. It is not the policy of, or in the ownership of, any individual organisation. As such, it would be inappropriate to apply specific targets to the objectives that have been identified; rather it is proposed that progress on the objectives of the plan are incorporated into OP's annual report to Scrutiny Committee.

5.2 With regard to OP's report for 2014, it should be noted that OP has supported the economic growth of the city, but also looked at new ways to underpin this through, for example, the expansion of the Skills Service and leadership of the Smart City agenda. It is intended that these various components will form the basis of OP's business plan for 2015/16.

6. IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no direct implications related to this report. The Economic Action Plan, as it stands at present, is a statement of intent. Over the coming year, OP will be sharing this with partners and will be building consensus around its aspirations. Ultimately, we would hope that several of the city's economic partners would sign up to a Peterborough pledge' to support the local economy, but more work needs to be put in place before that can happen.

6.2 Equally, there are no implications for the Scrutiny Committee in noting the activities of Opportunity Peterborough or the snapshot of the city's economy.

7. CONSULTATION

7.1 NA

8. NEXT STEPS

8.1 Should the Committee accept the Economic Action Plan, although the document will not become formal council policy, it will provide confidence that the aspirations, objectives and the 'Peterborough pledge' are a sensible way forward, and OP will begin to develop this with key partners.

8.2 OP will use its review of 2014 activities to underpin its business plan for 2015/16.

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

- 9.1 Peterborough City Council Sustainable Community Strategy Summary 2008-2021
(<https://www.peterborough.gov.uk/pdf/SustainableCommunityStrategySummary.pdf>)

Peterborough City Council Safer Peterborough Partnership Plan – Single Delivery Plan Principles

(http://www.peterborough.gov.uk/safer_peterborough/operation_can-do/single_delivery_plan_principle.aspx)

2012-03-14 List of NI Headings and Themes

(<http://archive.audit-commission.gov.uk/auditcommission/performance-information/performance-data-collections-and-guidance/nis/pages/nishandbookofdefinitions.aspx.html>)

Peterborough Local Economic Assessment 2011

(<http://www.peterborough.gov.uk/pdf/Peterborough-Local-Economic-Assessment-April-2011.pdf>)

Sustainable Urban Enterprise

(www.forumforthefuture.org)

Economic Snapshot of Peterborough October 2013

(<http://opportunitypeterborough.co.uk/download/economic-snapshot-of-peterborough-october-2013/>)

Creating the UK's Environment Capital: Action Plan

(<http://www.peterborough.gov.uk/pdf/Environment-EnvCap-EnvCapActionPlan.pdf>)

Peterborough Integrated Growth Study 2008

10. APPENDICES

- 10.1 Draft Economic Action Plan

- 10.2 Review of Opportunity Peterborough activity 2014

- 10.3 Economic Snapshot for Peterborough, December 2014

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