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| <b>SUSTAINABLE GROWTH AND ENVIRONMENT<br/>CAPITAL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b> | <b>Agenda Item No. 7</b> |
| <b>12 NOVEMBER 2015</b>  | <b>Public Report</b>     |

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| <b>Report from the Cabinet Member for Digital, Waste and Street Scene</b> |  |                   |
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## **PORTFOLIO PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE CABINET MEMBER FOR DIGITAL, WASTE AND STREET SCENE**

### **1. PURPOSE**

- 1.1 The update is being presented at the request of Councillor Sandford, Chair of the Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital Scrutiny Committee.

### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 Members are requested to note the contents of the report.

### **3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY**

- 3.1 This report supports the Sustainable Community Strategy by highlighting progress and change across a range of indicators and measures related to the Strategy's objectives:

- Creating opportunities and tackling inequalities
- Creating strong and supportive communities
- Creating the UK's Environment Capital
- Delivering substantial and truly sustainable communities

- 3.2 National Indicator NI192 – Household Waste Recycled and Composted information is contained within Appendix 1 which is attached to the end of the report.

- 3.3 National Indicator NI193 - Municipal Waste Sent to Landfill will be significantly improved as very little municipal waste under the Councils control will now go for landfill disposal. A low figure for this NI shows good performance in recycling, composting, reuse and energy recovery, meaning less material is going to Landfill Disposal.

### **4. BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 This report forms the annual progress report of the Portfolio Holder for Digital, Waste and Street Scene. This report is structured around Digital and Waste. A separate report on Street Scene was submitted to scrutiny at its September 2015 meeting.

- 4.2 The responsibilities of this Portfolio Holder are clearly linked to the Council's stated vision:

*The Council's vision is to create a bigger and better Peterborough that grows the right way, and through truly sustainable development and growth:*

- *improves the quality of life of all its people and communities, and ensures that all communities benefit from growth and the opportunities it brings;*

- *creates a truly sustainable Peterborough, the urban centre of a thriving sub-regional community of villages and market towns, a healthy, safe and exciting place to live, work and visit, famous as the environment capital of the UK.*

## **5. Progress Report**

### **Waste**

- 5.1 The decisions taken by Council in 2007 arising from the report – ‘Waste 2020 Doing Nothing is not an Option’, set an aspiration for high recycling and composting as well as recovery of energy and resources from waste not separately collected for recycling or composting.
- 5.2 The development of the Energy Recovery Facility (ERF) began in June 2013 after Viridor (the Council’s chosen partner) was issued formal notice to commence works, with the clearance of the redundant Materials Recovery Facility completed before construction proper could begin with the excavation of the basement and foundation area of the facility.
- 5.3 The following section of the report will concentrate on updating the Committee on the development of the ERF, with the requested graph showing recycling performance available in Appendix 1.
- 5.4 The construction of the ERF is now in its final stages with completion of the remaining items of exterior finishing, internal pathways, road marking and fencing. The complete technical plant has been in place for some months now and has been the subject of much testing in advance of operation.
- 5.5 The first phase of the testing is called Cold Commissioning and this began in May 2015 with testing of electrical circuits and filling of the boiler with water to undertake a pressure and integrity test, followed by testing of various pumps and fans.
- 5.6 The second phase known as Hot Commissioning began in early August 2015 with the use of the support burners to dry the refractory parts of the combustion chamber before bringing the boiler to full pressure and undertaking the steam blowing process used to clean the pipework out of manufacturing debris before connecting it to the steam turbine.
- 5.7 The Council began delivering waste on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> August in preparation for the first waste combustion which started at the end of that week, when a sufficient volume of waste was available to support the planned testing programme. The steam turbine and electrical connection were tested during the week commencing the 5<sup>th</sup> October and by the end of the week the facility began exporting electricity on a regular basis. As systems are optimised the process of commissioning will soon come to an end, likely by November 2015.
- 5.8 Acceptance testing is scheduled to begin in November which will see the plant ‘put through its paces’ under the watchful eye of an Independent Engineer to ensure the requirements of the specification for the facility are at least met if not exceeded. Subject to the successful completion of a suite of tests the facility is planned to be handed over to the Council in the early part of 2016, when the final endurance and stress tests will be undertaken. Even after the plant is handed over the construction and technical partners will remain in close contact in order to ensure satisfactory performance is maintained.

### **Digital**

- 5.9 Since approving the council’s Technology Strategy a huge amount of work has been undertaken in moving the Council forwards. With over 30 work streams currently in progress and support for the Customer Experience Transformation Programme the Council is on the verge of being in a position to truly transform the services it delivers.
- 5.10 Some of the major projects that have been undertaken this year or that are in progress are listed below:

- The Salesforce CRM is live in Customer Services;
- The server estate is currently being migrated to Amazon Web Services;
- Box has been rolled out across the estate;
- Chromebooks are on trial with 30 officers and we are now looking to increase the infrastructure to support another 500;
- The new HR system build is currently in progress and should go live in the New Year;
- Replacement applications are currently being built across Housing, Built Environment, Regulatory Services and Children's Services with further requests from another 10 work areas;
- The roll out of iPhones on the new EE contract is underway;
- The old website has been replaced with a new cleaner more modern version, including the integration of Transversal, our FAQ system;
- Work to implement Google Apps is underway. Again we have had a number of users testing this and they are seeing the benefits of not just Google apps but also Hangouts and Google +;
- Work is underway to replace the council's dated Intranet site;
- Work is underway to install the Salesforce Social media studio;
- The council has signed a contract with Alcove, who use the Internet of Things (IOT) technology to radically change the way that we provision social care which will improve residents wellbeing;
- The MyPeterborough app continues to be developed and is adding more and more services to its repertoire;
- Open+ has been rolled out to the libraries; and
- Phase 1 of the Cityfibre contract is complete, Gigaclear are laying fibre to the villages between Peterborough and Stamford and BT have been deploying fibre across the city as part of the Connecting Cambridgeshire programme.

5.11 Alongside these transformation projects we are also running a number of 'business as usual' projects to support the current environment.

5.12 Although work is progressing there is still a lot more to do. Technology will enable the council to deliver services in a much more efficient and joined up way, but it will take time to reach the end goal. Ultimately, the change programme that sits alongside the technology is almost more important than the technology itself. The speed at which technology is improving and changing is unprecedented. You only need to look at the specification and functions of a smart phone, compared to a full desktop computer from 10 years ago to see this rapid improvement.

5.13 The Council is now being seen as a leading light across the digital agenda. There are more and more local authorities now looking to the council to advise and guide them on their own change programmes. With this will come the recognition that Peterborough deserves, but will also help in promoting the city as a place that technology companies will want to be based in in the future. Work on the Digital city Programme due to launch next month will further enhance our reputation.

5.14 In October, Salesforce filmed the Council and locations around the city to be used in their promotional videos which will be shared across the world, again highlighting the city we live in as a lead across digital and technology. Likewise Amazon Web Services have asked for the Council to work with McKinney in Texas as "small giants" who are leading the way in changing perceptions. Peterborough will be heavily promoted across the USA as part of this.

## **6. IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 There are no direct implications arising from this report. It is provided for information and comment.

6.2 The impacts of the subject matters contained within the report are of relevance to the whole city and are not limited to a specific ward or part of the city.

## **7. CONSULTATION**

- 7.1 This document has been produced in collaboration with colleagues across the Resources Directorate.

## **8. NEXT STEPS**

- 8.1 The Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital Scrutiny Committee is at present the only recipient for this report.

Should the Scrutiny Committee seek further detail on any aspect described in this report, then a subsequent more detailed report will be made available.

## **9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

- 9.1 None.

## **10. APPENDICES**

- 10.1 Appendix 1 - Historic Recycling and Recovery Performance Graph.
- 10.2 Appendix 2 – Technology Strategy 2014-19