

<b>CHILDREN AND EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>	AGENDA ITEM No. 6
<b>3 JULY 2017</b>	<b>PUBLIC REPORT</b>

Report of:	Wendi Ogle-Welbourn (Director People and Communities)	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Cllr Lynne Ayres (Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University)	
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**PETERBOROUGH READING STRATEGY 2017-2020**

<b>R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S</b>	
<b>FROM:</b> Service Director: Education	<b>Deadline date:</b> N/A
<p>It is recommended that the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Notes the content of the report.</li> <li>2. Schedules further reports to update on progress.</li> </ol>	

**1. ORIGIN OF REPORT**

1.1 Vivacity, which provides library services for the city, approached the Education service to propose the joint development of a Reading Strategy for Peterborough

**2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT**

2.1 The report is presented to update members on the joint development of the Reading Strategy by Vivacity, the National Literacy Trust and Peterborough City Council

2.2 This report is for the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference Part 3, Section 4 - Overview and Scrutiny Functions, paragraph No. 2.1 Functions determined by Council :

Education, including

- a) University and Higher Education;
- b) Youth Service;
- c) Careers; and
- d) Special Needs and Inclusion.

2.3 This report links to the Corporate Priority : Improve educational attainment and skills

2.4 This report links into the Children in care Pledge: Support Children in Care to have a good education.

**3. TIMESCALES**

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	<b>NO</b>	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	N/A
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#### **4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES**

- 4.1 Reading attainment in Peterborough, measured by 2016 KS2 national test outcomes is very low. Research evidence shows reading:
- Improves health and well-being
  - Supports social interactions, creativity and empathy
  - Has a positive impact on educational success
  - Is strongly linked to higher earnings

#### **5. CONSULTATION**

- 5.1 The strategy has been jointly developed with Vivacity and the National Literacy Trust and will be used to engage with partner organisations in the city

#### **6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT**

- 6.1 The strategy will be used to engage a wide range of organisations in the private and public sector to contribute to:
- Improved achievement in reading
  - Improve community cohesion
  - Increase the number of children using local libraries and reading for pleasure
  - Improve educational and employment opportunities for children and young people

#### **7. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION**

- 7.1 To increase Member support for city council engagement with improving reading.

#### **8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 8.1 To maintain current discrete improvement initiatives: rejected in favour of more cohesive and wider ranging approach to add value

#### **9. IMPLICATIONS**

##### **Financial Implications**

- 9.1 The proposal will have no cost for the city council. Vivacity has contributed a small amount in development costs. New initiatives will be within individuals' existing responsibilities and work programmes

Engagement by partner organisations will entail devoting efforts to the promotion of reading but this will bring wider benefits

##### **Legal Implications**

- 9.2 There are no legal implications

##### **Equalities Implications**

- 9.3 Improved reading outcomes improves life chances for disadvantaged groups.

##### **Rural Implications**

- 9.4 There are no specific rural implications

#### **10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

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

- 10.1 None

**11. APPENDICES**

11.1 Appendix 1 - Draft Reading Strategy

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