

<b>ENVIRONMENT CAPITAL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>	<b>Agenda Item No. 7</b>
<b>11 MARCH 2010</b>	<b>Public Report</b>

## **Report of the Director of Environment Capital**

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### **PROGRESS ON DELIVERY OF LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT PRIORITY**

#### **1. PURPOSE**

- 1.1 This report is presented to the Environment Capital Scrutiny Committee to update Members on performance of relevant outcomes contained in the Local Area Agreement, and to allow Members the opportunity to scrutinise and challenge performance where necessary.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 Members are asked to comment upon performance, to provide challenge where necessary and to suggest ideas and initiatives to support improvements in performance.

#### **3. LINKS TO CORPORATE PLAN, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY AND LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT**

- 3.1 This report contains information extracted from the regular Local Area Agreement reporting pack which is presented to the Greater Peterborough Partnership Executive.

#### **4. BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 Peterborough's Local Area Agreement contains four priorities: Creating Strong and Supportive Communities; Creating the UK's Environment Capital; Creating Opportunities, Tackling Inequalities; Substantial and Truly Sustainable Growth. Each of these priorities has four specific outcomes, beneath which sit a diverse range of actions and interventions to deliver lasting positive change for Peterborough.
- 4.2 This report focuses on performance in the Environment Capital priority, which is measured via four specific outcomes: Overall Consumption of Natural Resources, Increasing the Use of Sustainable Transport, Growing our Environment Business Sector and Making Peterborough Cleaner and Greener. The performance summary for September to December 2009 is attached as Appendix A to this report and represents performance for the third quarter of 2009/10.
- 4.3 A Red/Amber/Green flagging system is used to indicate overall performance against each of the outcomes described above – red indicates that the outcome is significantly behind target; amber indicates that the outcome is experiencing difficulties, and green indicates that the outcome is on target or has achieved its objectives.

#### **5. KEY ISSUES**

- 5.1 Overall, 7 of the priority's 13 indicators are currently on track against their targets, with 4 off track. This is an improvement from the previous quarter where only 4 of the indicators were on track.

- 5.2 Amongst the positive aspects, street inspections have shown that Peterborough's streets are clean, with low levels of litter, detritus and graffiti, the city's environmental goods and services sector continues to grow and the environmental awareness of Peterborough's citizens is high thanks to effective education and promotion of the sustainability agenda.
- 5.3 A number of areas are in need of improvement. The number of people using the city's buses has reduced over the first half of 2009/10 and reports of fly tipping have increased compared to last year. Peterborough is currently missing its CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction targets and levels of recycling and waste are below their quarterly targets.
- 5.4 Action plans are in place to improve performance in all under performing areas though it is clear that some targets will not be met by the end of 2009/10.

## **6. IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 Failure to achieve positive outcomes in the Local Area Agreement may impact upon Peterborough's ambition to be the UK's Environment Capital. Efforts to bring performance back on track aims to ensure the achievement of this overall priority.

## **7. CONSULTATION**

- 7.1 The Local Area Agreement Reporting Pack is discussed widely amongst Greater Peterborough Partnership members.

## **8. EXPECTED OUTCOMES**

- 8.1 The key outcome following presentation of this report is that the Committee will have a clearer understanding of the structure of Local Area Agreement reporting, will feel better equipped to scrutinise and challenge performance, and will be able to offer new solutions to help improve performance wherever necessary.

## **9. NEXT STEPS**

- 9.1 Any comments on LAA performance and ideas for action will be forwarded to the relevant Outcome Lead Officer for action. Further performance reports will be presented to the Committee on a regular basis.

## **10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

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

Local Area Agreement 2008-11.

## **11. APPENDICES**

Appendix A: Extract from the Local Area Agreement Reporting Pack December 2009.

# Extract from the GPP/ LAA Reporting Pack

Dec 2009

**FINAL**



## Priority Comments

Creating the UK's Environment Capital (EC)		
Trevor Gibson	Dec 2009	
<p>The areas of concern reported in Quarter Two have not improved during the intervening three months. Of the twelve indicators in this priority for which Q3 data is available, seven are performing at green status. However, the red status of a small number of key indicators has resulted in an overall amber status for Q3. Many performance reports are reliant on the publication of Citizens Panel data.</p> <p>The change in DECC carbon footprint baselines continues to cause problems for an indicator that was performing well against the original targets. Many local authorities have been similarly affected. Significant progress continues to be made on the awareness and education front although this will not have an impact on the outcome status for 2009/2010. Recycling performance is still significantly behind the stretched target and continues to be an area of major concern. Whilst there is evidence that rejection levels due to contamination are decreasing as a result of targeted education, further work is required to improve the trend. Action plans are in place to achieve this as well as performance against the fly tipping and recycling target. Work is also underway with local bus companies to understand the reasons for, and to address, a recent, significant decline in bus passenger journeys.</p> <p>Indicators relating to growing the environment business sector, cleansing standards, home to school transport and biodiversity are performing at or above target.</p> <p>Detailed and focused action planning will be undertaken to address all areas of shortfall during Q4 to bring overall performance back on track during 2010/2011.</p>		

Creating the UK's Environment Capital (EC)				
Trevor Gibson				
Jun Q1	Sept Q2	Dec Q3		Prediction
G	R	R	<b>Overall Consumption of Natural Resources (EC01)</b>	Likely to remain Red to March 2010
G	G	A	<b>Increase Use of Sustainable Transport (EC02)</b>	Likely to remain Amber to March 2010
G	G	G	<b>Growing our Environment Business Sector (EC03)</b>	Remaining Green
G	A	A	<b>Making Peterborough Cleaner and Greener (EC04)</b>	Remaining Amber



**Overall Consumption of Natural Resources (EC01)**

<b>Charlotte Palmer/Mick Robb</b>	<i>December 2009</i>	<b>R</b>
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Work is progressing steadily in all areas relating to the climate change indicators with exception to NI186 in which progress is limited by the extent to which we will be able to achieve the targets laid out.

**NI186: Red**

The status of this indicator is outside of the city's direct control. However we continue to formulate a portfolio of evidence demonstrating local actions to reduce the cities per capita carbon footprint. The winter project has proved to be particularly successful, this involved the launch of Peterborough's Heat Loss Study, and results reflect that the data has been accessed by up to 6000 residents. We are now in the process of purchasing a hand held camera for use in the rural communities not captured in the aerial survey.

**ECO1a: Green.** We await results of the 2009 Citizens Panel; we are unable to report further until this data has been released.

**ECO1b: Green.** Work has progressed significantly to ensure we remain on track with this indicator and data captured now reflects all natural resource education provided in the city.

**ECO1c: Green.** This indicator remains on track. PECT have arranged an Eco Education awards ceremony to recognise effort in this area with 30% of schools participating.

**NI192 and NI193: RED**

Recycling levels are still below the targets set, though efforts to improve current levels are ongoing. The levels of material rejected at the MRF continue to fall; they were 6% in December, thus showing an improvement in the quality of materials collected and the value of our education campaigns. The recent 4 day week letters to residents also contained information on recycling in order to refresh the message and the importance of "clean" recycling.

A second Migration Impacts Fund Officer has now been recruited to work within the migrant communities, with the aim of increasing recycling and reducing contamination in these low participating areas.

The trial with Martins by which material otherwise bound for landfill has just finished. This saw some 747 tonnes from Street Cleansing, CA Site and MRF rejects sent to be treated as Refuse Derived Fuel over a period of 8 weeks. The net result disappointingly did not increase the recycling levels for NI 192, but by reusing the material, this decreased material going to landfill, NI 193, by 2.2%. This was an interesting and successful trial, and investigations are now underway to look at other ways, such as MBT (Mechanical Biological Treatment), which may help both NI 192 and NI 193.

It is important to note that all such options are currently more expensive than landfill, and budgets are being monitored to assess their affordability.

**Increasing Use of Sustainable Transport (EC02)**

<b>Teresa Wood</b>	<i>December 2009</i>	<b>A</b>
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Quarter 2 passenger figures were received from Stagecoach which demonstrates a significant decline in passenger journeys. The estimated outturn for 2009-10 for **NI177** is currently 10.96m. This indicator is currently on red. A draft action plan is in place.

Citizen Panel data has not yet been released and therefore there is uncertainty about the performance of **NI175**. However, the Travelchoice Centre continues to perform well. Despite staff difficulties, Passenger Transport and Travelchoice continue to work on the promotion of buses, cycling and walking. New cycling and walking leaflets are currently being prepared and the rural area guides have been released. Cycle promotions have included a large floor vinyl cycle map in Queensgate Centre and using cycle lights campaign with the local police. There has also been further promotion on the car share website.

**NI198** is performing above target. Work progresses well in schools with Theatre in Education performance and Walk to School week amongst some of the events during Quarter 3.



### Growing our Environmental Business Sector (EC03)

Gareth Jones

December 2009

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January is looking like it is going to be a good month for growth as several new environmental businesses are looking at setting up in the Eco Innovation Centre. We have added a new company which manufactures electric vehicles to the cluster, taking the total number of LCEGS businesses here to 378 (EC03a).

### Making Peterborough Cleaner & Greener (EC04)

David Denson

December 2009

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As in the previous quarter two of the three indicators remain green and one amber

#### NI 195: Green

This service is on track and the NI195 reports for the survey 09/10 tranche 2 are as follows: - Litter 2%, Detritus 1%, graffiti 3% and fly posting 0%. The litter and Detritus figures are well below the predicted target at this point in time. The final figure for the financial year is based on the average of tranche 1, 2 and 3. The next survey results will be due at the end of March.

#### NI 196: Amber.

The performance of the indicator (measure of enforcement against fly tipping) was reported to a meeting of the GPP as under performing and is unlikely to improve beyond "not effective" – amber status. As agree the service is currently being reviewed by a work group made up of various organisation within the LAA, to identify issues so that an action plan can be put into effect.

#### NI 197: Green.

This service is on track to meet its target and in preparation for future years a review has been undertaken for the next three years which has predicted that 76% (81/106) of CWS will be in positive management for the 2009/10 reporting period.