

SCRUTINY COMMISSION FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES	Agenda Item No. 6
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Report of the Executive Director of Operations

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PETERBOROUGH MOPED INITIATIVE

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 The Economic Participation Programme team would like to introduce to the Commission the opportunity to champion the “Peterborough Mopeds” initiative within the rural areas of Peterborough.
- 1.2 This initiative helps people across Peterborough gain access to employment. The scheme is open to anyone aged between 16-65 years old with little or no access to public transport and with no private transport of their own. This is seen as a complimentary service to Peterborough’s travel choice network and is particularly suited to residents who currently live in the rural areas.
- 1.3 We are sure this initiative would be of interest to the members of the Commission and residents of the rural communities, though it is not exclusive to rural areas as there are many people within the urban areas of Peterborough who work night shifts that have already taken advantage of this scheme.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Commission scrutinises the content of the report and presentation on the Peterborough Moped Initiative and makes any appropriate recommendations.

3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

- 3.1 The Economic Participation Programme and in particular the activities of the project link directly the achievements of the Local Area Agreement and National Indicators as listed below:

LAA priority	Regenerating Neighbourhoods
LAA outcome	National Indicator
	NI153 – working age people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing neighbourhoods

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 “Peterborough Mopeds” is a moped gifting project that assists those seeking work, or those who are in danger of losing their job due to transport issues.
- 4.2 Mopeds are purchased together with related safety equipment, each applicant will be trained to statutory Compulsory Basic Training standard and the moped loan, alongside safety equipment and insurance, will commence once the applicant has a job offer. The applicant’s contributions consist of £40 per week over the 15 week payment period.

- 4.3 This project is designed to break the vicious circle of needing private transport to be able to get a job and not being able to afford such transport without a job and has been developed with the full support of end users.
- 4.4 Although this is an entirely new method of operation in Peterborough, it is based on KickStart's 11 years' experience of moped loans across the eastern region, and utilises well-established working relationships with agencies dealing with employment, education and training issues.
- 4.5 Peterborough mopeds are working closely with Peterborough Job Centre Plus and have been provided with a desk to work from within the Job Centre to enable the project to interact directly with clients who may need this scheme to enable them to secure employment.
- 4.6 This project funded by the East of England Development Agency (EEDA). EEDA's investment has been made as part of a joint programme of work with Peterborough City Council to help people in Peterborough overcome barriers to employment.

5. NEXT STEPS

- 5.1 The scrutiny committee are asked to consider the information on the Peterborough Moped's project and to make any appropriate recommendations for future development.

6. APPENDICES

- 6.1 None.