

# **CABINET**

**7 FEBRUARY 2011**

## **MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN**

### **SECTION 11 - BUDGET CONSULTATION RESPONSES**

**2011/12 – 2015/16**

**COUNCILLOR DAVID SEATON  
CABINET MEMBER FOR RESOURCES**

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**11. Budget Consultation Responses update**  
**Budget 2011/12 and Medium Term Financial Strategy to 2015/16**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Adult Social Care	Email	How can you reduce Adult Social Care by £2m when population is ageing rapidly? Introduce tariffs for self inflicted illness i.e. drug, smoking and alcohol related.	The proposed budget takes into account the ageing population and takes account of the costs of demographic pressures. We still need to achieve savings and there is good evidence that using effective services such as re-ablement can save money on adult social care budgets. Legislation requires us to meet the needs of anyone who is eligible for adult social care regardless of how a disability or illness came about.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Adult Social Care	Email	Under 'Adult Social Care' the cabinet is proposing to increase charges for those who can afford to pay so that the charges are in line with the true cost of services. Since you are already outsourcing homecare from private providers and sticking on a hefty 45% to 50% surcharge on top for 'administration' how can you justify increasing the charges? As far as I can see, you add nothing of value to the process. On top of this, the inference from the private providers is that social services are discouraging them from dealing directly with private individuals.	Home care services are provided both in-house and by the private and voluntary sector. Peterborough's "Independent Living Support Service" framework means that individuals who need care and support can access a choice of good quality services at value for money rates. Charges for people who can afford to pay are set at the actual cost of the service, no administration charge is made. NHS Peterborough manages the contract framework and service providers to ensure quality standards are met. Many individuals will choose to deal directly with social care providers. NHS Peterborough ensures that people's right to a community care assessment is met and that if eligible, they are provided with a Personal Budget which can be taken as cash or as a virtual budget with support to arrange services. Those not eligible for publicly funded social care are provided with sign-posting information and advice. Under Personal Budgets (which over 30% of service users now have) there is a greater emphasis on individuals making their own arrangements for care.
Adult Social Care	Neighbourhood Council South Area	Adult social care Page 88 - day care centres review – has this taken place and what was the result? Will it be publicised?	Preparatory work for this review is underway and a report on the principles was presented to the Health Scrutiny Commission on 17 January 2011. A further report will be presented in March 2011.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Adult Social Care	Neighbourhood Council South Area	Adult social care What will the increase in day care centre charges achieve? What if income doesn't come in?	The city council has to review its charging policy in line with new guidance. The proposed changes are based on a principle of no one, particular service being subsidised. Currently the situation is not equitable as someone who chooses to access day care is not charged the full cost of the service whereas someone who access home care is. As now, those who cannot afford to pay will be protected. The estimate for additional income raised already takes account of the fact that not everyone will be assessed as needing to pay a charge.
Adult Social Care	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	The proposed increases in fees and charges for adult social care was still showing as to be confirmed, how could scrutiny effectively scrutinise the proposals if all the details were not available?	The city council has to review its charging policy in line with new guidance. The proposed changes are based on a principle of no one, particular service being subsidised as set out in the consultation document. Currently the situation is not equitable as someone who chooses to access day care is not charged the full cost of the service whereas someone who accesses home care is. As now, those who cannot afford to pay will be protected. The estimate for additional income raised already takes account of the fact that not everyone will be assessed as needing to pay a charge. A more detailed document was provided to the Health Scrutiny Commission on 17 January 2011

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Adult Social Care	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	Growing numbers of people and more complex needs. Why were some of the increases in funding for areas such as learning disabilities and older people so big year-on-year?	The figures have been modelled on experiences of each of the service groups. These were groups (older people, learning disability etc) that were growing quickly and we have to plan for increases in numbers and in changing needs. The increases were because more people would become eligible for adult social care and some of the more complex needs were costly to meet. This is because more babies now survive with more complex disabilities and therefore more disabled young people come through into adult care services. In addition life expectancy is increasing. The figures put forward are 50% of our estimates and so carry some risk.
Adult Social Care	Neighbourhood Council Central and East Area	Has the review of day care centres for the elderly as mentioned on page 88 of the budget document been undertaken, and what was the result?	Preparatory work for this review is underway and a report on the principles was presented to the Health Scrutiny Commission on 17 January 2011. A further report will be presented in March 2011.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Adult social care	Churches Together meeting	The basic social services rate for residents in residential care homes is £387 per week, and this has not increased for 3 years, and as the majority of the cost in such homes are salary rated, is now significantly out of date, and has led to privately paying residents subsidising costs of funded residents. In the same period a number of homes have seen a reduction in the number of placements from Social Services in their homes, despite good ratings for the quality of care. Do equivalent homes run by the Council cost more than £387 per person per week? If so, by placing all potential residents in the private sector, either additional savings could be made or the rate provided could be increased to a sensible level.	We set maximum rates for residential services in accordance with national protocols. In setting such rates we take account of the market for these services, cost pressures and the overall budgets that we have to work within. There is an expectation that all providers contribute to efficiency savings. Like many other local authorities we have not increased rates in recent years. We will be looking carefully at the current situation before determining future rates. Less people are choosing residential care and most of the growth in care packages is in care at home. Additionally many more people are choosing extra care housing rather than residential care. People can of course choose any residential home within our rates if they are opting for residential services. In-house homes do tend to have higher unit costs than many homes in the private and voluntary sector and the city council has a current strategy to reduce the amount of in-house residential care that is run.
Adult social care	Churches Together meeting	Page 36: Reducing the cost of adult social care - we wonder how budget cuts will affect the care of the elderly. In particular, we note that £2m annual savings are expected in this area. There is little narrative on this section, so, at a time when the average age is increasing, we wonder how the	The proposed budget takes into account the ageing population and takes account of the costs of demographic pressures. We still need to achieve savings and there is good evidence that using effective services such as re-ablement can save money on adult social care budgets. Protecting vulnerable people continues to be the priority for adult social care services.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
		vulnerable will be protected?	

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Allotments	Email	<p>I think the council should focus on the following priorities: I think your proposed rent increase for allotments are unfair and totally unjustified, and then to add insult to take away the concessions for pensioners, unemployed, disabled and active card users is just totally disgusting. I think you need to reconsider.</p>	<p>We have listened to all the comments made and have decided to amend our original proposals. The charge for a standard size allotment will be remain unchanged at £52 per calendar year for the period from 1 January to 31 December. This figure will be annually inflated using an appropriate indexation as defined by the executive director of strategic resources.</p> <p>However, allotments smaller than the standard size of 300 square yards will be charged at the lower price of £39 per year.</p> <p>A discount of 30 per cent will be applied to anyone who is able to demonstrate that they are in receipt of any form of benefit or a state pension. This discount will only apply to the first allotment held by an individual. If an individual holds more than one allotment they will pay the full charge for any other allotment according to the size of that allotment(s).</p>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Allotments	Email (Sent in by a councillor who had attended a community meeting)	You quote that the National Society for Allotment and Leisure Gardeners has confirmed that our charges are significantly below what they see nationally, yet on their brief that they are circulating they quote £25 as the average rent, so where does the £52 come from?	The reference to £25 from the National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners refers to an average rent of £25 per year in a document dated 2008. The document goes on to say that this is a derisory amount in the 21st Century. The document also confirms that at the basic rate that local authorities are not obliged to provide fencing, water or pathways on the site, but merely to provide bare earth. Karen Kenny, who covers this area for the NSALG, has confirmed to us that she believes £52 is a fair and reasonable rent for an allotment.
Allotments	Email	Are allotments subject to the Crown?	As a general principle, the Allotment Act does not apply to land owned or occupied by the Crown.
Allotments	Email	What is the truth that all allotment land sold should go back into allotments?	The proceeds of sale of any allotments land (or any monies received by the authority on an exchange of land) must be applied when discharging the debts and liabilities of the Allotments Authority in respect of land acquired by them for allotments or in acquiring, adapting and improving other land for allotments

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Allotments	Email	What is the city council actually spending on allotments each year to upgrade them?	This will vary from year to year but for example new fencing has been provided in conjunction with ward councillors for Orton Goldhay allotment site and new raised plots have been delivered on other sites. We are currently considering whether or not the Werrington allotment can be extended by putting in new fencing to create a further 60 plots on that site. The cost of the fencing is significantly more than the income for one year and of course additional work has to be undertaken to prepare the area, set out paths etc. We are looking at when we could go about this work.
Allotments	Email	What is the total income from allotment holders each year?	From October 09 to October 2010 income was £27,161.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Allotments	Email	Do disabled allotment holders with raised plots, (small as they are) have to pay the same rates or is there going to be a concession for them?	<p>They will pay the £39 charge for a reduced size plot. We have also amended our original proposals in light of comments made in the consultation. The charge for a standard size allotment will be remain unchanged at £52 per calendar year for the period from 1 January to 31 December. This figure will be annually inflated using an appropriate indexation as defined by the executive director of strategic resources.</p> <p>However, allotments smaller than the standard size of 300 square yards will be charged at the lower price of £39 per year.</p> <p>A discount of 30 per cent will be applied to anyone who is able to demonstrate that they are in receipt of any form of benefit or a state pension. This discount will only apply to the first allotment held by an individual. If an individual holds more than one allotment they will pay the full charge for any other allotment according to the size of that allotment(s).</p>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Allotments	Email	<p>I wish to object in the strongest possible terms about the proposed removal of concessionary fees for allotment rental. Many people on low incomes rely on their allotment for providing not only vegetables through the year, but also for exercise and the improvement of their mental well being. Some allotment holders have more than one allotment and have held these, in good order, for a number of years. I hold three allotments at Bifield. I took them on at a time when allotments were on this site were difficult to let, in fact only about 25% of the site was in use. I've brought these plots into good order from a wilderness over the past five years or so. Now I'm told my rental for these plots will increase by around 200%. I'm sure that should these proposals go through the council will be left with large numbers of allotments vacant. The whole concept of allotment gardening is affordability for those on low incomes. I'm positive you will get many, many objections to these proposals and I will be advising others who may be interested to join with me in asking</p>	<p>We have listened to all the comments made and have decided to amend our original proposals. The charge for a standard size allotment will be remain unchanged at £52 per calendar year for the period from 1 January to 31 December. This figure will be annually inflated using an appropriate indexation as defined by the executive director of strategic resources.</p> <p>However, allotments smaller than the standard size of 300 square yards will be charged at the lower price of £39 per year.</p> <p>A discount of 30 per cent will be applied to anyone who is able to demonstrate that they are in receipt of any form of benefit or a state pension. This discount will only apply to the first allotment held by an individual. If an individual holds more than one allotment they will pay the full charge for any other allotment according to the size of that allotment(s).</p>

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		AgeUK and other organisations to campaign actively on our behalf and, if necessary, to month a formal challenge to the removal of concessions	

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Allotments	Email	<p>I have just learnt of the proposals by the city council to increase allotment charges to £52/£39 for large/small plots. This will make the city council's charges amongst the highest in the country. Moreover, why are small plots not going to be charged at half the rate of large plots? In addition, I understand that payment concessions for allotments will be removed. As an allotment tenant, I personally have not been informed of these proposals, which have been wrapped up and obscured in the detail of the city council Cabinet's deliberations. I have asked Stewart Jackson for his views on these proposals but his inadequate reply to me dated 18 November 2010 does not address any of these issues. I only have a pension for an income and this has not increased for 2 years. I find the city council proposals totally unacceptable in both the scale of increases and the removal of concessions. Both these issues (the increase in allotment fees and the removal of concessions) should be returned to the status quo ante.</p>	<p>We have listened to all the comments made and have decided to amend our original proposals. The charge for a standard size allotment will be remain unchanged at £52 per calendar year for the period from 1 January to 31 December. This figure will be annually inflated using an appropriate indexation as defined by the executive director of strategic resources.</p> <p>However, allotments smaller than the standard size of 300 square yards will be charged at the lower price of £39 per year.</p> <p>A discount of 30 per cent will be applied to anyone who is able to demonstrate that they are in receipt of any form of benefit or a state pension. This discount will only apply to the first allotment held by an individual. If an individual holds more than one allotment they will pay the full charge for any other allotment according to the size of that allotment(s).</p>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Allotments	Email	As an allotment plot holder, I wish to object to the proposed changes for new charges being introduced in January 2011. As I am a pensioner this will mean an approximate increase of 200% which is a lot of money to find.	<p>We have listened to all the comments made and have decided to amend our original proposals. The charge for a standard size allotment will be remain unchanged at £52 per calendar year for the period from 1 January to 31 December. This figure will be annually inflated using an appropriate indexation as defined by the executive director of strategic resources.</p> <p>However, allotments smaller than the standard size of 300 square yards will be charged at the lower price of £39 per year.</p> <p>A discount of 30 per cent will be applied to anyone who is able to demonstrate that they are in receipt of any form of benefit or a state pension. This discount will only apply to the first allotment held by an individual. If an individual holds more than one allotment they will pay the full charge for any other allotment according to the size of that allotment(s).</p>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Allotments	Email	<p>I understand that it is likely that the senior citizen's fee for an allotment is to be increased to £52 in 2011. This will be an increase for the less "well off" of approximately 200% on the present charge. If this goes ahead I request that we could spread the payments by direct debit by paying quarterly or six monthly.</p>	<p>We have listened to all the comments made and have decided to amend our original proposals. The charge for a standard size allotment will be remain unchanged at £52 per calendar year for the period from 1 January to 31 December. This figure will be annually inflated using an appropriate indexation as defined by the executive director of strategic resources.</p> <p>However, allotments smaller than the standard size of 300 square yards will be charged at the lower price of £39 per year.</p> <p>A discount of 30 per cent will be applied to anyone who is able to demonstrate that they are in receipt of any form of benefit or a state pension. This discount will only apply to the first allotment held by an individual. If an individual holds more than one allotment they will pay the full charge for any other allotment according to the size of that allotment(s).</p>
Allotments	Email	<p>I have been following developments about the council's plans for changes to the way the allotments are managed and wish to register my objection to the proposal to lease out the running of the allotments to a private company. I rent plot 9b on the Werrington site and I also object to</p>	<p>We have listened to all the comments made and have decided to amend our original proposals. The charge for a standard size allotment will be remain unchanged at £52 per calendar year for the period from 1 January to 31 December. This figure will be annually inflated using an appropriate indexation as defined by the executive director of strategic resources.</p>

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		<p>paying more for my half size plot than 50% of the cost of a full one (I had to take what was available) I believe the council has discounted its services too much over the years and so you have dug yourselves a bit of a hole by trying to increase charges back to what most people consider a normal level. If money is so tight why are the council wasting money by proposing new sites when they are saying that they can't manage the ones they have already! how about looking after and improving the sites you have already have been at Werrington for 5 months and the grass has only just been cut in the car park, which could do with some hardcore on it as it is very muddy! No good for disabled access then. As a building contractor I would be interested in tendering for the upkeep of the site or another suggestion would be to form committees on each site to run them. on a final note I enjoy my time on my allotment but my plot is being shaded by some large self set trees next to the old substation, as the council still has control ,can these trees be felled or</p>	<p>However, allotments smaller than the standard size of 300 square yards will be charged at the lower price of £39 per year.</p> <p>A discount of 30 per cent will be applied to anyone who is able to demonstrate that they are in receipt of any form of benefit or a state pension. This discount will only apply to the first allotment held by an individual. If an individual holds more than one allotment they will pay the full charge for any other allotment according to the size of that allotment(s).</p>

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		will you give me permission to do it myself?	
Allotments	Email	When I was first allocated allotment on wharf road I was only allowed a half plot and then later allowed another half plot the new proposed charges will mean I will be paying £78 for two plots instead of £52 for one full plot. I feel this is very unfair - plots 11a 35a	We would like to meet with you to discuss the best way forward to resolve this issue.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Allotments	Email	<p>I have just been told that the city council is going to remove the concessionary charges from allotment charges. I feel that with the increases in the cost of living - heating charges will also impact on the general costs of food production, pensioners, disabled and those on low income will need all the assistance they can obtain, and growing their own food will be a big part of their budgets and the increase in charges will wipe out any financial benefits they get from the allotment.</p>	<p>We have listened to all the comments made and have decided to amend our original proposals. The charge for a standard size allotment will be remain unchanged at £52 per calendar year for the period from 1 January to 31 December. This figure will be annually inflated using an appropriate indexation as defined by the executive director of strategic resources.</p> <p>However, allotments smaller than the standard size of 300 square yards will be charged at the lower price of £39 per year.</p> <p>A discount of 30 per cent will be applied to anyone who is able to demonstrate that they are in receipt of any form of benefit or a state pension. This discount will only apply to the first allotment held by an individual. If an individual holds more than one allotment they will pay the full charge for any other allotment according to the size of that allotment(s).</p>

Category	Source	Issue	Response
Allotments	Email	<p>Allotment gardens give us healthy exercise and food that is without unwanted additives. We are shocked and stunned that you have the temerity to withdraw the active card reduction at the same time you increase plot rental by such a high percentage. Austerity measures are the order of the day to help us struggle out oaf recession. A riot would be initiated if council salaries were reduced by a staggering 200%, yet the poorest people in the city are expected to find that sum just to keep healthy. Most of the allotment holders are old age pensioners. If you need to raise revenue you should consider looking at some of the inflated salaries paid to some council staff. The top earners would experience no difficulty in adjusting their life style if their pay was reduced by 5 or 10 percent. Bifield allotments received a new fence but the security has been breached frequently. Crops have been stolen, property damaged, tools taken away mindless acts of vandalism removed all hydrant taps. Someone knows the perpetrators of these crimes and</p>	

Category	Source	Issue	Response
		<p>information must be passed to the police and the courts must issue punishment to fit the crime. The criminal should be ordered to compensate for our losses. My pension will not stretch to cover proposed rental increases yet I want to continue growing my own fruit and vegetables. Since the recession it is the pensioners/savers that have lost out all round. We now have to use our capital for any little luxury as the interest rates for savers went to 0.05% whilst the mortgage rates tumbled. Most salaries went up. We are on a fixed income and facing increases in every commodity etc: gas, electricity, council tax, food etc. this extra 200% allotment increase is just TOO MUCH</p>	<p>We have listened to all the comments made and have decided to amend our original proposals. The charge for a standard size allotment will be remain unchanged at £52 per calendar year for the period from 1 January to 31 December. This figure will be annually inflated using an appropriate indexation as defined by the executive director of strategic resources.</p> <p>However, allotments smaller than the standard size of 300 square yards will be charged at the lower price of £39 per year.</p> <p>A discount of 30 per cent will be applied to anyone who is able to demonstrate that they are in receipt of any form of benefit or a state pension. This discount will only apply to the first allotment held by an individual. If an individual holds more than one allotment they will pay the full charge for any other allotment according to the size of that allotment(s).</p>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Allotments	Email	<p>We have been informed by letter that the council has proposed to increase the charges for us pensioners. One of the reasons why we appreciate the use of the allotment plot, is that it gives us over 60s a reason to improve in our lifestyles i.e. physical exercise and a more healthy living. We are very petrified to learn of the increase. This has come at a time when we pensioners still have limited resources after losing our jobs some 5 and 20 years ago. The allotment helps us tremendously and we appreciate what the council has done to provide us the opportunity to rent our plot. In spite of the hard work we continue to put into it, we can say that when we do get a good crop it has been a reward, However, we cannot force the council to retract, but with our low income, we would appreciate if they could reconsider their proposal and to continue to let us pensioners have a concessional rate. Otherwise, many of us who look forward to cultivating the land to benefit us, will have to resign. I am also disappointed with the fact that I was told to buy an Active</p>	<p>We have listened to all the comments made and have decided to amend our original proposals. The charge for a standard size allotment will be remain unchanged at £52 per calendar year for the period from 1 January to 31 December. This figure will be annually inflated using an appropriate indexation as defined by the executive director of strategic resources.</p> <p>However, allotments smaller than the standard size of 300 square yards will be charged at the lower price of £39 per year.</p> <p>A discount of 30 per cent will be applied to anyone who is able to demonstrate that they are in receipt of any form of benefit or a state pension. This discount will only apply to the first allotment held by an individual. If an individual holds more than one allotment they will pay the full charge for any other allotment according to the size of that allotment(s).</p>

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		card which I am told will now become void. This to me was a waste of my resources. I hope that you will look into the matter and pass on our dismay to the authorities.	

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Allotments	Email	<p>I was very disappointed to hear that the allotment rent for senior citizens is likely to be increased next year by about 300% this does not seem fair to me. Many senior citizens rely on allotments both for food and exercise to keep fit. Surely the council should be encouraging senior citizens to keep their allotments, instead of making it difficult to pay this huge rent increase. Healthier senior citizens will result in less strain on community care in the long term!!!</p>	<p>We have listened to all the comments made and have decided to amend our original proposals. A discount of 30 per cent will be applied to anyone who is able to demonstrate that they are in receipt of any form of benefit or a state pension. This discount will only apply to the first allotment held by an individual. If an individual holds more than one allotment they will pay the full charge for any other allotment according to the size of that allotment(s).</p>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Allotments	Email	<p>My husband obtained an allotment plot last summer at The Grange, Netherton. At that time he was advised to purchase an active card at a cost of £8. We have now been informed (not officially) that the concessions are to be abolished for pensioners and the total cost of an allotment plot may be in the region of £52 per annum. We are pensioners and intended to grow our own vegetables and fruit to supplement our pension. If the rumours are correct we are going to be substantially out of pocket and the savings we had anticipated for this year will not now be possible. There must be many pensioners in our position. What do you think the council should do to put things right: The cost of living does go up every year unfortunately. Pensioners like us have to put everything into what we can afford and what is important like heating and food together with essential bills. We do not therefore feel that pensioners should pay the full costs and should only pay an increase in the cost of the allotment in keeping with inflation.</p>	<p>We have listened to all the comments made and have decided to amend our original proposals. A discount of 30 per cent will be applied to anyone who is able to demonstrate that they are in receipt of any form of benefit or a state pension. This discount will only apply to the first allotment held by an individual. If an individual holds more than one allotment they will pay the full charge for any other allotment according to the size of that allotment(s).</p>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Allotments	Email	<p>Having heard that the council intend to privatise the allotments I must say I'm totally against any change in the way the allotments are managed or charged. I have had an allotment for many years and know that without the concessions in place, privatisation will force many allotment owners including myself to quit due to greed and price rises.</p>	<p>We have listened to all the comments made and have decided to amend our original proposals. The charge for a standard size allotment will be remain unchanged at £52 per calendar year for the period from 1 January to 31 December. This figure will be annually inflated using an appropriate indexation as defined by the executive director of strategic resources.</p> <p>However, allotments smaller than the standard size of 300 square yards will be charged at the lower price of £39 per year.</p> <p>A discount of 30 per cent will be applied to anyone who is able to demonstrate that they are in receipt of any form of benefit or a state pension. This discount will only apply to the first allotment held by an individual. If an individual holds more than one allotment they will pay the full charge for any other allotment according to the size of that allotment(s).</p>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Allotments	Email	<p>I wish to object in the strongest possible terms about the proposed removal of concessionary fees for allotment rental. Many people on low incomes rely on their allotment for providing not only vegetables through the year, but also for exercise and the improvement of their mental well being. Some allotment holders have more than one allotment and have held these, in good order, for a number of years. I hold three allotments at Bifield. I took them on at a time when allotments were on this site were difficult to let, in fact only about 25% of the site was in use. I've brought these plots into good order from a wilderness over the past five years or so. Now I'm told my rental for these plots will increase by around 200%. I'm sure that should these proposals go through the council will be left with large numbers of allotments vacant. The whole concept of allotment gardening is affordability for those on low incomes. I'm positive you will get many, many objections to these proposals and I will be advising others who may be interested to join with me in asking</p>	<p>We have listened to all the comments made and have decided to amend our original proposals. The charge for a standard size allotment will be remain unchanged at £52 per calendar year for the period from 1 January to 31 December. This figure will be annually inflated using an appropriate indexation as defined by the executive director of strategic resources.</p> <p>However, allotments smaller than the standard size of 300 square yards will be charged at the lower price of £39 per year.</p> <p>A discount of 30 per cent will be applied to anyone who is able to demonstrate that they are in receipt of any form of benefit or a state pension. This discount will only apply to the first allotment held by an individual. If an individual holds more than one allotment they will pay the full charge for any other allotment according to the size of that allotment(s).</p>

Category	Source	Issue	Response
		AgeUK and other organisations to campaign actively on our behalf and, if necessary, to month a formal challenge to the removal of concessions.	
Allotments	Email	I am shocked at the high increase we are being asked to pay in rent for our allotment. Mine has gone from £17 to £52 for a year. I am a pensioner and this outrageous of the extra amount I have to find if I want to carry on gardening; a very great hobby I have had since a very early age, childhood in fact. It	<p>We have listened to all the comments made and have decided to amend our original proposals. The charge for a standard size allotment will be remain unchanged at £52 per calendar year for the period from 1 January to 31 December. This figure will be annually inflated using an appropriate indexation as defined by the executive director of strategic resources.</p> <p>However, allotments smaller than the standard size of 300 square yards will be charged at the lower price of £39 per</p>

Category	Source	Issue	Response
		<p>is even more important now I am retired as it gives me plenty of exercise, fresh air and the chance to meet and chat with friends with the same interest also above all some fresh vegetables and fruit essential for a healthy diet. I was expecting a rise of about £5 for the year because of the present financial cutbacks the government has to make, but this is an increase of 200%. Yet again I feel the elderly and the not so well off are the ones to pay. The more well off and more fortunate, have the finances to buy a large house and gardens. People like myself can only afford a small property and a postage stamp size garden therefore to be able to rent a plot of ground to grow essential vegetables and fruit is great bonus. I feel we move backwards in society these days - we are constantly told to keep active, eat healthy, make friends as we get older and retire - then we get 'trodden and stamped on back into the ground' and left indoors to vegetate sat in front of 'a box' watching repeated programmes. In fact the more I write the more</p>	<p>year.</p> <p>A discount of 30 per cent will be applied to anyone who is able to demonstrate that they are in receipt of any form of benefit or a state pension. This discount will only apply to the first allotment held by an individual. If an individual holds more than one allotment they will pay the full charge for any other allotment according to the size of that allotment(s).</p>

Category	Source	Issue	Response
		<p>angry I get because I cannot see how you can justify such a large increase in allotment fees. I sincerely hope you can reassess the amount and make it more realistic for us to pay and continue with our interest.</p>	
Allotments	Email	<p>I am writing in respect of the changes that the present Peterborough City Council intends to make as regards the city's allotments. I would like to know why the council is intending to do away with the Active card. The affect this will have on a vulnerable section of society is extremely unfair. The allotments that they tend provide them and their families with food. These people are on tight budgets, and because the Active card helps to keep the costs down it means that they can afford to have an allotment. Though the city council have said it is only a pound a week. It is a pound a week which will have to be found from an already stretched budget. I speak from personal experience. My husband had a heart attack two years ago and is now left in ill health. Because of this we have lost everything. Our</p>	<p>We have listened to all the comments made and have decided to amend our original proposals. The charge for a standard size allotment will be remain unchanged at £52 per calendar year for the period from 1 January to 31 December. This figure will be annually inflated using an appropriate indexation as defined by the executive director of strategic resources.</p> <p>However, allotments smaller than the standard size of 300 square yards will be charged at the lower price of £39 per year.</p> <p>A discount of 30 per cent will be applied to anyone who is able to demonstrate that they are in receipt of any form of benefit or a state pension. This discount will only apply to the first allotment held by an individual. If an individual holds more than one allotment they will pay the full charge for any other allotment according to the size of that allotment(s).</p>

Category	Source	Issue	Response
		<p>home... the lot, and now both of us in middle age have had to go and live with my elderly parents. They have given us a roof over our head in exchange for me caring for them. Just recently published in the Your Peterborough is the yearly allowances paid to Peterborough councillors, and it leaves a sour taste in the mouth when you read some of the amounts they claim. I doubt very much that they have to worry about paying any of their bills. Further to this outrage I gather that they are planning to change the rules and regulations in respect of the tenancy agreement. Surely it would be a courtesy of the city council to invite the allotment holders to a meeting and outline their plans and give the allotment holders a chance to put over their views. One subject that seems to be contentious is the bonfires. Why does the council want to ban them? They haven't given an explanation about this. I would like to know what it is. The number of bonfires that our carried out on sites are not going to destroy the ozone layer. The waste burning incinerator in Fengate that they</p>	

Category	Source	Issue	Response
		<p>have backed will do that. ( if this has subsequently been overturned then hooray and please ignore) It has apparently been suggested that the allotment waste be taken home and disposed of in the brown bins, but you can only put "garden waste" in that not vegetable matter. Obviously you will get people who are just going to dump it any where. This does happen already on some sites, and I do not condone it. We do our best to compost as much as we can. In conclusion I would like to have an answer to my question concerning the Active card. Further to this I think the council should have a meeting with the City allotment holders to discuss the changes they want to make.</p>	

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Allotments	Email	<p>As the Orton Malborne representative this is my final opinion on the subject. The size of plots on site varies from 170sq.m. to 350sq.m. and so disregarding size when pricing is totally illogical. The current proposed penalizes those who cannot afford or manage a full plot, While a full plot (disregarding previous concessions) is priced the same, part plots are subject to at least a 50% increase. Many of these tenants will feel more keenly the loss of concessions. The only fair solution is to measure the plots and set a price per sq.m. To meet your total requirements, this can be done easily and disagreements dealt with on appeal. With the removal of concessions and a recorded area for each plot the billing process should be easier and less expensive.</p>	<p>We have listened to all the comments made and have decided to amend our original proposals. The charge for a standard size allotment will be remain unchanged at £52 per calendar year for the period from 1 January to 31 December. This figure will be annually inflated using an appropriate indexation as defined by the executive director of strategic resources.</p> <p>However, allotments smaller than the standard size of 300 square yards will be charged at the lower price of £39 per year.</p> <p>A discount of 30 per cent will be applied to anyone who is able to demonstrate that they are in receipt of any form of benefit or a state pension. This discount will only apply to the first allotment held by an individual. If an individual holds more than one allotment they will pay the full charge for any other allotment according to the size of that allotment(s).</p>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Allotments	Email	<p>What constitutes a 'plot'? This was generally accepted as 300sq.yds however plots at Orton Malborne vary considerably. Some are small enough to equal the area of a half-plot but will attract a rent of £52.00.</p> <p>If a tenant has two half-plots will he/she be charged for each individually or as one full plot?</p> <p>Does the demise of the Activity card mean no concessions at all e.g. for old age, infirmity or unemployment? Tenants on the new site consider the half-plot rent unfair as the average area of their plots is 133sq.yds only</p>	<p>We have listened to all the comments made and have decided to amend our original proposals. The charge for a standard size allotment will be remain unchanged at £52 per calendar year for the period from 1 January to 31 December. This figure will be annually inflated using an appropriate indexation as defined by the executive director of strategic resources.</p> <p>However, allotments smaller than the standard size of 300 square yards will be charged at the lower price of £39 per year.</p> <p>A discount of 30 per cent will be applied to anyone who is able to demonstrate that they are in receipt of any form of benefit or a state pension. This discount will only apply to the first allotment held by an individual. If an individual holds more than one allotment they will pay the full charge for any other allotment according to the size of that allotment(s).</p>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Allotments	Email	<p>WESTWOOD GRANGE ALLOTMENT SOCIETY- RENT RISES I refer to the meeting held on the 17 November at the Caliente Club, Paston, where you informed members that the "activity" cards for elderly and disabled members were being withdrawn and as a result the rents on the plots were to be raised by over 250% and even more for the disabled (600%) as their plots are only 1/8th of a half plot. These huge rises may be fine for cabinet and councillors but to the vulnerable disabled who have their own difficulties in life this would mean a serious tightening of the belt that is already strangling the hernia and in our opinion is totally unacceptable. We therefore respectfully request that the members of the Culture, Leisure and Strategic commission would seriously reconsider revising the rents for the disabled. We at Westwood Grange were delighted to have the disabled plots installed and would now be disappointed if the members voted with their feet and abandoned them because of the proposed increase of rents.</p>	<p>We have listened to all the comments made and have decided to amend our original proposals. The charge for a standard size allotment will be remain unchanged at £52 per calendar year for the period from 1 January to 31 December. This figure will be annually inflated using an appropriate indexation as defined by the executive director of strategic resources.</p> <p>However, allotments smaller than the standard size of 300 square yards will be charged at the lower price of £39 per year.</p> <p>A discount of 30 per cent will be applied to anyone who is able to demonstrate that they are in receipt of any form of benefit or a state pension. This discount will only apply to the first allotment held by an individual. If an individual holds more than one allotment they will pay the full charge for any other allotment according to the size of that allotment(s).</p>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
		<p>They are in the vulnerable minority and cannot sustain such a rise especially if they only have a restricted income as their only means of support. Therefore mark would you kindly pass these remarks on to the relevant committee.</p>	

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Allotments	Email	<p>Dear Sir or Madam I understand that the fees for allotments are to increase to £52 a year, even for pensioners. I have recently taken on an allotment and was told to buy an active card in order to obtain a reduction in the fee. This I did a couple of weeks ago. So, I assume I will still have to pay the £52. If that is the case, can I give back the active card and have a credit?</p> <p>Also, as I am on a limited income, can I spread the payments for the allotment?</p>	<p>We have listened to all the comments made and have decided to amend our original proposals. The charge for a standard size allotment will be remain unchanged at £52 per calendar year for the period from 1 January to 31 December. This figure will be annually inflated using an appropriate indexation as defined by the executive director of strategic resources.</p> <p>However, allotments smaller than the standard size of 300 square yards will be charged at the lower price of £39 per year.</p> <p>A discount of 30 per cent will be applied to anyone who is able to demonstrate that they are in receipt of any form of benefit or a state pension. This discount will only apply to the first allotment held by an individual. If an individual holds more than one allotment they will pay the full charge for any other allotment according to the size of that allotment(s).</p>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Allotments	Email	<p>As a former city councillor and current Allotment Representative for Fane Road Allotments for the city council I am APPALLED by the news that all concessions on allotment fees are to be scrapped. £52 per year may not seem much to people earning a salary, but for older pensioners totally reliant on the state pension it is a small fortune, especially when it has to be found in one lump sum. I am one of those pensioners, so I speak from experience. I don't think it would be fair to allocate this increase on current plot holders. In today's economic climate, people are having to make savings in their personal spending, and one way to do this is to cultivate an allotment, grow their own food, and live a healthier lifestyle. In many cases it can be the only social interaction they can afford. There are many elderly Italians who have allotments, who work hard and grow wonderful vegetables, we have a couple on our site who are in their mid eighties and are amazingly hard workers. It would be a crime to change their fee from £17 to £52 in one fell swoop. This</p>	<p>We have listened to all the comments made and have decided to amend our original proposals. The charge for a standard size allotment will be remain unchanged at £52 per calendar year for the period from 1 January to 31 December. This figure will be annually inflated using an appropriate indexation as defined by the executive director of strategic resources.</p> <p>However, allotments smaller than the standard size of 300 square yards will be charged at the lower price of £39 per year.</p> <p>A discount of 30 per cent will be applied to anyone who is able to demonstrate that they are in receipt of any form of benefit or a state pension. This discount will only apply to the first allotment held by an individual. If an individual holds more than one allotment they will pay the full charge for any other allotment according to the size of that allotment(s).</p>

Category	Source	Issue	Response
		is a case of cutting off your nose to save your face. You would lose plot holders, revenues would drop, and people would be disenchanted. DON'T FORGET, ALLOTMENT HOLDERS ARE VOTERS.	

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Allotments	Email	<p>I think your proposed rent increase for allotments are unfair and totally unjustified, and then to add insult to take away the concessions for pensioners, unemployed, disabled and active card users is just totally disgusting. I think you need to reconsider Yes, reduce the wages of your highest overpaid staff. (Gillian Beasley) Also remove Marco Cereste before he wastes any more of other people's money on things like water fountains. It might also be an idea to stop paying large amounts of money to over paid consultants</p>	<p>We have listened to all the comments made and have decided to amend our original proposals. The charge for a standard size allotment will be remain unchanged at £52 per calendar year for the period from 1 January to 31 December. This figure will be annually inflated using an appropriate indexation as defined by the executive director of strategic resources.</p> <p>However, allotments smaller than the standard size of 300 square yards will be charged at the lower price of £39 per year.</p> <p>A discount of 30 per cent will be applied to anyone who is able to demonstrate that they are in receipt of any form of benefit or a state pension. This discount will only apply to the first allotment held by an individual. If an individual holds more than one allotment they will pay the full charge for any other allotment according to the size of that allotment(s). On the issue you raise about staff pay, the Deputy Leader made a statement that the cabinet will not be asking senior managers to take a pay cut as many are going to be asked to take on additional responsibilities for no more money as a result of the reduction in senior management posts proposed by the cabinet.</p>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Allotments	Scrutiny at the Meeting of the Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee	Would this really be a saving due to the admin time spent in collecting the fees? The Cabinet should look to introduce a one off fee to cut out the administration. Councillor Peach suggested that the Cabinet remove the charge altogether to encourage allotment use.	<p>We have listened to all the comments made and have decided to amend our original proposals. The charge for a standard size allotment will be remain unchanged at £52 per calendar year for the period from 1 January to 31 December. This figure will be annually inflated using an appropriate indexation as defined by the executive director of strategic resources.</p> <p>However, allotments smaller than the standard size of 300 square yards will be charged at the lower price of £39 per year.</p> <p>A discount of 30 per cent will be applied to anyone who is able to demonstrate that they are in receipt of any form of benefit or a state pension. This discount will only apply to the first allotment held by an individual. If an individual holds more than one allotment they will pay the full charge for any other allotment according to the size of that allotment(s).</p>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Allotments	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	Allotment Charges. What was the justification for the allotment fee increase?	<p>We had consulted with service users about the charges. It was a very good service and worked out at £1 a week. However we have listened to all the comments made and have decided to amend our original proposals. The charge for a standard size allotment will be remain unchanged at £52 per calendar year for the period from 1 January to 31 December. This figure will be annually inflated using an appropriate indexation as defined by the executive director of strategic resources.</p> <p>However, allotments smaller than the standard size of 300 square yards will be charged at the lower price of £39 per year.</p> <p>A discount of 30 per cent will be applied to anyone who is able to demonstrate that they are in receipt of any form of benefit or a state pension. This discount will only apply to the first allotment held by an individual. If an individual holds more than one allotment they will pay the full charge for any other allotment according to the size of that allotment(s). On the issue you raise about staff pay, the Deputy Leader made a statement that the cabinet will not be asking senior managers to take a pay cut as many are going to be asked to take on additional responsibilities for no more money as a result of the reduction in senior management posts proposed by the cabinet.</p>
Allotments / Translation	Email	When allotment agreements are signed, do we have a system for those non-speaking English residents?	If we need to have a document translated into a community language then we would ideally seek to have this done by an employee of the authority that speaks that language

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Business	Business	Is city council supporting local business through how it spends its money?	The council's preference is to spend money locally where it can – although it would be illegal for us to have that as an explicit policy. The issue is whether we can add any weight to any procurement exercise for the benefits it would bring. Any procurement would need to go through the appropriate tender process and demonstrate best value
Business / Culture and Tourism	Email	Look at cities locally for more trade and business such as Nottingham, Cambridge, Leicester rather than twinned euro cities	Peterborough is a member of the association of town centre management (ATCM) this membership naturally twins us with all the towns and cities within the East Anglia region. We meet regularly to discuss best practice and swap contacts such as Continental markets, funding streams, businesses that are looking to expand or relocate.
Capital Programme	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	Right to Buy. Why was there no figures projected for Right to Buy from 2012/13 onwards?	Figures had not been projected because the share agreement with Cross Keys Homes would have ended.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Chief Executive	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	It was now being proposed that the post of Deputy Chief Executive would be deleted; however a number of years ago we were told that the post was vital. What has now changed?	During the previous Senior Management Review there had been a move from an Assistant Chief Executive to a Deputy Chief Executive to improve the officer structure of the Council and to provide support to the Chief Executive. Ben Ticehurst undertook the Deputy role and delivered a number of pieces of work around HR and the growth agenda. At the end of his post a view was taken that we would not recruit for six months to see if the work could be absorbed by other officers. Since then the work has been taken on by the Chief Executive and Executive Director of Strategic Resources.
Children Services	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	The budget proposals made reference to deleting vacant roles and rationalising the back office, what roles would be deleted?	We had had a radical look at how we provided corporate functions within the department. During the recent voluntary redundancy programme those back office staff who had submitted an application had been recommended to go. We were starting to look at the department as a business, including what levels of staffing were needed. The review of back office roles had also enabled improvements in some service areas for example social work teams now had dedicated admin support. Other departments within the Council had already transformed their back office functions.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Children's services	Churches Together meeting	Page 12 Reviewing Children's services we buy in from other organisations – we would always encourage a review of whether value is being received, but the statement here appears to go against messages elsewhere in the document about outsourcing services. The general question therefore arises about if services are being outsourced to particular voluntary or charitable organisations, how long-term will those arrangements be?	It is now unlikely that the whole of children's services will be outsourced as proposed in the document. We currently contract with many organisations as part of our ongoing review value for money. This will be done against a reducing resource base.
Children's social care	Churches Together meeting	Page 14 Review of in-house children's homes – we wonder what is meant by "equally good and less expensive alternatives" for respite care, as we would assume that, if they were "equally good" they would already be in place.	There is in place a link scheme which provides respite care for children with disabilities and their families. We are intending to expand this and to introduce contract carers as well.
Children's social care	Churches Together meeting	Page 14 Review of support to reduce children coming into care and offending (MST) - if we are not achieving the £5:£1 benefits locally, then firstly we would question why not? Only if it is agreed that Peterborough's issues differ from those worldwide, would it appear sensible to cut this funding, as presumably there would be a knock on effect onto	The contribution made by Peterborough to this project is approximately a third of the total funding. The remainder comes from government. The government part of the costs ceases in 2012. If the project was to continue this additional money would have to be found from within the childrens services budget. we continue to review the effectiveness of the pilot and are in discussion with the DfE about possible future funding.

Category	Source	Issue	Response
		other budgets, including the point noted above. (We also note that the pilot project ends in 2011 anyway and so unsure whether the intention was to continue the project).	
Children's Social Care	Email	Has the Cabinet missed any obvious areas for investment or service reduction? Service reduction in social workers	The number of social workers employed within children's services reflects the case load requirement for children which require services. The volume of work including entries and exit from care is monitored on a monthly basis and the number of social workers is flexed accordingly. We intend to continue to monitoring the establishment level and with a safe service we hope savings can be made in future years.
Children's Social Care	Email	I think the council should focus on the following priorities: Working with children to get them ready for their adult life. This is not only with formal education but their leisure time as well	As a department we provide services to meet all of the every child matters outcomes. These prepare young people for transition to adulthood and adult life. This happens in our schools as well.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
City centre conservation	Churches Together meeting	We welcome the work that has been done around St John's and ask that the area be well maintained (as the City Council has agreed to do) and that some concerted effort be made by the Council in cooperation with the Church to deal with the menace of pigeons who are already disfiguring and making hazardous some of the new surfaces, particularly immediately west of St John's.	City Centre Management are actively working with the cleansing department to uphold the newly regenerated area.
City Services	Hard copy	Cut down on grass cutting and tree surgery. Stop spraying weedkiller around trees and lamp posts etc. Cancel call Connect service.	The council has an excellent reputation for its grounds maintenance work having achieved Anglia in Bloom gold status in 2010 as well as being commended for its environmental quality work.
Community Safety	Churches Together meeting	Page 24 Combining services that improve community safety – we wonder what is meant by “a different support service for those affected by domestic abuse” What is the reality behind this? (There appears to be an inconsistency between the £100,000 savings referred to in the text and the £50,000 in the table).	We are talking to Cambridgeshire Constabulary and other local authorities throughout Cambridgeshire to explore the development of a joint, multi-agency domestic abuse support service. This model would draw in additional expertise from, for example, adult and children's social care. The £100k savings figure in the text refers to the saving to the taxpayer by combining some Police and Council community safety staff into one location – a £50k saving for the city council and the same for the police.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Council Finances	Scrutiny at the Meeting of the Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee	The work put in to develop the Strategy was recognised and it was acknowledged that some bold and difficult decisions have had to be made. Did the cabinet member believe that enough savings would be delivered and did he believe the strategy was sound? Members were aware that a community budget system would be introduced in 2013. What would the implications be for the council?	This was a balanced budget. The Government would only be giving us details of the grant settlement for two years and we did not know what would happen in years four and five. We had not yet looked in detail at the impact of community budgets.
Council Finances	Scrutiny at the Meeting of the Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee	The proposals showed a lot of debt for an authority of our size.	Our level of borrowing was not high compared to others. When it came to funding the capital programme there were only two options – either sell off assets or borrow. The other option would be to stop items on the programme.
Council Finances	Scrutiny at the Meeting of the Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee	When would publication of spending over £500 start?	Spending would be published from January 2011.
Council Finances	Neighbourhood Council South Area	Education proposals - difficult to understand how it will impact on residents. E.g. re education, shows same figures for five years but is this realistic? Salaries go up, costs go up, population goes up etc. Even a short percentage reduction over five years is a massive change and not much	Cllr Seaton said there are savings schools can make e.g. joint purchasing and procurement. John Harrison said funding for education easier than rest of budget as not really affected by 28% cut to council budget. Looking at a slight increase, maybe 1% a year. Up to schools locally on how the money is shared out and how to make improvements but it is very difficult

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
		scope for savings in schools.	
Council Finances	Neighbourhood Council South Area	Grants team – good job done	Your comments have been noted
Council Finances	Neighbourhood Council South Area	No information provided on Grants team, Events budget and carbon reduction commitment (CRC) to give a proper appraisal of the services	There is information on the implications for these areas in the original budget proposals document
Council Finances	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	Sustainability of the budget. Was the proposed budget still sustainable in light of the Government's final announcement and had enough cuts been made?	We believe the budget was still sustainable but some of the figures from Government had been interestingly presented. We would like to be able to save more but we were getting to the point where we would need to cut services further. The challenge for scrutiny was to examine whether the proposed £27m of savings next year were right.
Council Finances	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	Priorities. Who decided on what the council's six priorities would be?	The priorities were set following discussion at Cabinet and they were largely already contained in the Sustainable Community Strategy.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Council Finances	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	2010/11 Budget and Probable Outturn. What was the expected overspend of £358K in the City Services budget down to?	This overspend has now been reduced by £196k to £162k and work is ongoing to reduce it to zero.
Council Finances	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	Level of council tax. Who were the four unitary councils who had lower levels of council tax than Peterborough?	The other councils were, based on Band D properties: Bracknell - £2 less, York - £5 less, Isles of Scilly - £55 less, Windsor and Maidenhead - £100 less
Council Finances	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	Did the proposed budget take into account the expected outcomes from this year's Census?	This year we would be looking to deliver our best figures for Census returns. 2013/14 would be the first year when the Census returns would have an affect so nothing had yet been fed into the process. We believed that we had a greater population than was officially stated and each extra person identified at the Census would mean £600 more to the city. We, along with other councils, had mounted a campaign to the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) to recognise our situation. We had met with Bob Neill MP who had agreed that if we could come up with a solution the new government would look favourably at us.
Council Finances	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	The funding for the Capital Programme was showing that up to £64m would need to be borrowed, what impact would increased interest rates have?	The borrowing would be through the Public Works Loan Board which was a Government agency whose rates were sharper than other institutions. We looked at economic forecasts to ensure best value and our borrowing rates were well established. We did not borrow as much as we used to and would look to pay off debt rather than borrow.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Council Finances	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	The Minimum Revenue Provision looked as if it was making a saving or is it just the way it was being presented?	This was about using asset sales to repay some debt. The exact level needed would depend on when we took the capital receipts. For example, if we were able to generate £10.4m of capital receipts 8 years from now, that would mean the total costs were equal over the life of the projects.
Council Finances	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	Minimum Revenue Provision. Would the cost of borrowing be higher?	The cost of borrowing would not be higher as a lump sum would have been paid off and it would be cheaper in the earlier years. The costs would be more if we delayed paying the lump sum.
Council Finances	Scrutiny at the Meeting of the Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee	Should the council be looking to concentrate spending only on statutory services?	This could be done but it would mean the end of services such as the Museum and libraries. A good proportion of our discretionary spend was now with Vivacity
Council Finances	Scrutiny at the Meeting of the Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee	What was the split between statutory and discretionary spend?	An analysis of spend had been undertaken and could be sent to interested members.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Council Finances	Email	<p>The only comment I wish to make is that the document could be much improved presentational by the following inclusions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a simple income and expenditure account as seen in companies act type reporting.</li> <li>I find it almost impossible to understand where your total income comes from and what it gets spent on.</li> <li>Comparative actual/forecast figures for the current year should also be shown so that readers can get a sense of year on year change</li> <li>A year end balance sheet showing assets held and borrowing liabilities highlighted again with comparisons.</li> <li>Headcounts and total cost for each department again with comparisons to prior years.</li> </ul> <p>Whilst I realise the Council is not analogous to a company I would urge some simple reporting up front to make the information clearer. Otherwise I welcome the consultation process and the timing for what must be a very difficult set of decisions for officials and ultimately Councillors</p>	<p>Thank you for your feedback. We aimed to make this year's budget proposals as easy to understand as possible for all our residents. We will consider further improvements for next year</p>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Council Finances	Hard copy	Make all takeaway shops pay extra council tax to pay for cleaning up their waste to include McDonalds where waste is scattered by motorists.	Businesses pay business rates rather than council tax and this money goes directly to the Government. The amount of rates to be paid is based on the valuation office assessment – we can not change this figure
Council Finances	Scrutiny at the Meeting of the Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee	The Council's auditor, in a report on the 2008/09 accounts, said that he did not like the way Opportunity Peterborough was funded as we would have no rights to any share of its assets if it was wound up.	
Council Finances	Neighbourhood Council Central and East Area	If the national/local financial position changes for the positive is there any indication that the council budget decisions could be reversed?	No
Council Finances	Neighbourhood Council Central and East Area	Why isn't the council considering an increase in the council tax to raise more money?	The Council could increase council tax rates however the Council would then be ineligible for any additional grant from central government.
Councillors	Email	Ask all councillors to scrap their allowances	Allowances for Councillors are considered by an independent panel, which takes into account all circumstances, including allowances paid elsewhere in the country. The panel then makes recommendations to full council, which is obliged to take those recommendations into account. The latest review by the panel will be presented to full council on 23 February 2011.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Councillors	Email	<p>Ask all councillors to revoke their £8k 'Allowance' plus the £2k to £6k committee membership allowance and the cabinet payment of £16k pa for the foreseeable future. Shouldn't they be leading by example? Revoke all Parish Councils - these are an additional burden to the taxpayers who have one. Reduce the size and payment to Greater Peterborough Partnership.</p>	<p>Allowances for councillors are considered by an independent panel, which takes into account all circumstances, including allowances paid elsewhere in the country. The panel then makes recommendations to full council, which is obliged to take those recommendations into account. The latest review by the panel will be presented to full council on 23 February 2011. The budget proposals put forward by the cabinet already include proposals to reduce the level of funding to GPP following the abolition of the Comprehensive Area Assessment. In respect of parish councils, Peterborough City Council does have the power to commence a community governance review with a view to abolishing a parish council, but this would be inappropriate, as parishes have an important part to play in delivering the government's decentralisation and localism agenda.</p>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Councillors	Email	Service reduction - Cancel all stupid ideas such as Marco's water transport system. Insist that anyone standing as a city councillor has the qualifications to be useful to the community and therefore reduce reliance on consultancies.	The budget proposals already include a commitment to reducing consultancy costs. The water taxis are just part of the council's vision for making Peterborough a more attractive vibrant city in the future and to encourage people to use other forms of transport than the car. The viability study will enable us to cost the provision of such a service and obtain funding from future developers. Councillors are elected by the public to represent the public but receive training to enable them to carry out their duties.
Councillors	Neighbourhood Council South Area	With increased outsourcing etc, are 57 Councillors still needed to carry out all the work?	Councillor Seaton told the meeting there are still many people to represent in Peterborough. He said councillors are not all directly managing and running services provided. He said maybe we could reduce the number of councillors but many do lots of work for residents
Councillors	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	Car parking charges should also be referred to the Independent Members Allowances Panel for them to consider in relation to councillors parking.	The Independent Panel report referred to all remuneration for councillors. There would be a full debate about their recommendations at full council on 23 February 2011.
Councillors	Neighbourhood Council Central and East Area	With increased outsourcing of council services, are 57 councillors still needed to carry out the work?	There are still many people to represent, and not all Councillors are directly involved with managing and running the services provided. It would be possible to reduce the number of Councillors, however many Councillors do a lot of work for residents

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Councillors	Email	To save £20,000, why not ask the Chairman of Neighbourhood councils to do the job free of any wages. I would find it an honour and privilege to be allowed to be Chairman of any committee and would not expect pay as we get enough to cover expenses as it is.	Allowances for councillors are considered by an independent panel, which takes into account all circumstances, including allowances paid elsewhere in the country. The panel then makes recommendations to full council, which is obliged to take those recommendations into account. The latest review by the panel will be presented to full council on 23 February 2011.
Councillors	Email	Introduce parking charge for Councillors too - however, they will probably just vote themselves a higher allowance to cover this cost. Why aren't local councillors using local public transport? Is there any incentive for this? They should be setting an example	Allowances for Councillors are considered by an independent panel, which takes into account all circumstances, including allowances paid elsewhere in the country. The panel then makes recommendations to full council, which is obliged to take those recommendations into account. The latest review by the panel will be presented to full council on 23 February 2011.
Councillors	Email	Reduce Special Responsibility Allowance for Scrutiny Chairmen to half of the current rate; save £21,497.85 a year so £107,489.25 over the 5 year budget. There are only 6 meetings a year, they do not take decision and only make recommendations. Each is given £1,194 per meeting. Even if that included 10 hours of work (inc. 2 hours for the meeting), that is over £100 per hour! They have little other work outside the actual meeting as support officers do it all.	Allowances for Councillors are considered by an independent panel, which takes into account all circumstances, including allowances paid elsewhere in the country. The panel then makes recommendations to full council, which is obliged to take those recommendations into account. The latest review by the panel will be presented to full council on 23 February 2011.

Category	Source	Issue	Response
		<p>Also, the rest of the committee, who receive nothing, contribute to the debates and recommendations too, not just the chairman who's role seems to be simply to control the meeting for £1000 a time</p>	
Councillors	Email	<p>Reduce Cabinet allowances/positions - (i) get rid of Cabinet Adviser post as it is only providing 'advice' for one topic and that Cabinet Member should be capable of doing this work on her own especially if she receives an extra £14k to do it. (ii) Get rid of Business Engagement post. Is this not OP job? Is not the Leader now controlling growth and Economic Development? Give this to Cabinet Member for resources. (iii) Get rid of Community Cohesion, Safety and Women's Enterprise. Share this among the other (make them work for their money as some do little compared to others) and scrap the women's' enterprise altogether - how sexually discriminating and</p>	<p>Allowances for Councillors are considered by an independent panel, which takes into account all circumstances, including allowances paid elsewhere in the country. The panel then makes recommendations to Council, which is obliged to take those recommendations into account. The latest review by the panel will be presented to Council in February 2011.</p>

Category	Source	Issue	Response
		patronising. The above will save £35,829.75 per year which is £179148.75 over the 5 year budget.	
Councillors	Email	A 20% reduction in councillor's allowances. They are not at the moment leading by example	Allowances for Councillors are considered by an independent panel, which takes into account all circumstances, including allowances paid elsewhere in the country. The panel then makes recommendations to Council, which is obliged to take those recommendations into account. The latest review by the panel will be presented to Council in February 2011.
Culture and Leisure Services	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	How significant was the proposed reduction of hours at some of the libraries?	We will provide a response in writing. However some of the libraries would see an increase in their opening hours.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Culture and Leisure Services	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	What was Vivacity's view to increasing sports charges?	It was not expected that charges would be significantly raised as they had to compete with a wider market place. There was now a very different charging structure being introduced for example around gym memberships. When the charges were available we would make them available.
Culture and Tourism	Email	I question the value of much of the council's work in promoting tourism. There is no doubt that tourism makes a significant contribution to the city's economy - but it is far from clear that the council's tourism promotion activity makes any significant difference to the number of tourists or the amount of time or money they spend here. There is a need to provide a certain amount of basic information about attractions, hotels, etc, but the 'promotional' elements of the council's activities should be subjected to a careful cost/benefit analysis.	Tourism is the UK's fifth largest industry. Peterborough's tourism service supports many local businesses by actively promoting and attracting visitors and businesses to choose Peterborough as a destination of choice. The tourism service is continually increasing its income streams with the aim of becoming cost neutral. The staff also work at the bus station information/ticket sales bureau.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Culture and Tourism	Email	The role of 'culture' in attracting and retaining business and personal investment should not be overlooked. Cutting contributions to Vivacity so soon after setting it up seems short sighted and counter productive.	The council is committed to supporting culture in the city, and establishing Vivacity, the culture and leisure trust demonstrates that commitment. In the current financial climate, the council cannot consider that any services are exempt from the financial reality. The proposed cut to the grant to Vivacity is lower than the reduction in grant that the council is facing overall, so in that respect these services are being relatively protected.
Customer Services	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	Call Centre. With an expected increase in the number of abandoned calls, how long would callers have to wait to be dealt with?	We were looking at ways to mitigate the delays and were also looking at the training of staff. We had already introduced ring direct.
Democratic Services	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	What were the plans to replace the former Principal Democratic Services Officer?	It was proposed not to replace this post. A restructure was about to take place and it would be proposed that Democratic Services would merge with the Compliance and Ethical Standards Team, however this was subject to consultation.
Democratic Services	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	What assurances were there that the support to scrutiny will not be cut as the level of support was already low?	The proposed restructure of Democratic Services would provide the same level of support to scrutiny.
Democratic Services	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	Excellent support had been given by Democratic Services at neighbourhood councils.	Your comments have been noted

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Democratic Services	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	During the last elections some agents felt that they knew the Electoral Commission's guidance better than the staff working in electoral services. It was important to ensure that this area was staffed by people that knew the legislation.	We were very aware that at the last elections a new team was in place. An intensive training programme had been put in place and we were looking to 'grow our own' as it was an area where it was very difficult to recruit to. We had every confidence in the ability of the team and we had also received a good assessment from the Electoral Commission.
Education	Email	Cabinet may have to consider the urgent and very real probability of a £500,000 reduction in local school sports partnership money as the scheme looks likely to be pulled nationally. This scheme gives young people a chance to experience sports of many kinds and provides excellent value and meets a whole host of priorities of engaging young people, improving academic achievement and saving on child obesity and emotional wellbeing. It is the type of investment that pays dividends with saving further down the road. There is also a need to consider investing in counsellors for secondary schools to help young people negotiate this period of time with more ease. Again this investment in Scotland has proved to save money in the longer term.	We have lobbied government on retaining the sports grant. We await the outcome.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Education	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	What would the impact of the growing number of academies be on the authority?	Currently Peterborough had four academies, including one primary. There was also a potential of two more during the coming year. The proposed reduction by the Government of £1m over the next two years did not make sense as they had not yet said what services academies would not want from the Authority. We would still have the responsibility for school improvement.
Education	Hard copy	Encourage Government to include child care in curriculum to minimise requirement for social services intervention	We will consider this issue in the wider context of our ongoing discussions with government advisers.
Education	Email from Peterborough Regional College	We have noted an opportunity to streamline services and providing a financial saving through the amalgamation of further education funding in the City. This streamlining and potential savings to the City Council budget could be achieved through the amalgamation of the PCC Adult Education Service (City College Peterborough) within Peterborough Regional College.	This is a long term proposal which we will consider as part of our review of service delivery for 14 to 19 and adult learning and skills.
Efficiency programme	Scrutiny at the Meeting of the Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee	What projects would the business transformation team be working on?	There was not a definitive list and this was a cost neutral part of the budget as money would not be spent unless at clear benefit was identified.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Food Waste	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	Food waste collection had been agreed as part of the Waste 2020 strategy, what guarantees were there that it would ever happen and what would the impact be on our recycling targets?	We believe that this was an area where we could do it cheaper and more efficiently.
Green Projects	Business	You mentioned work around photovoltaics and windmills to generate energy. Is the city council being generally supportive of this, or putting money in?	People should be able to take advantage of the feed in tariffs to support this financially, and we can point out how to go about this. Beyond that city council will help to deliver where possible
Green Projects	Neighbourhood Council South Area	Carbon Reduction Commitment – want to see what city is doing about it	Peterborough City Council is fully committed to meeting its legal requirements under the Carbon Reduction Commitment. As such, the Council has committed to reducing carbon emissions from its operations by 35% of 2008/09 levels by 2014 as part of its Carbon Management Action Plan. Please go to <a href="http://www.peterborough.gov.uk/environment/climate_change/what_is_the_council_doing.aspx">http://www.peterborough.gov.uk/environment/climate_change/what_is_the_council_doing.aspx</a> for more information.
Green Projects	Neighbourhood Council Central and East Area	Will the council be pursuing green energy funding opportunities, for example installing solar panels with a view to selling surplus energy back into the national grid for extra income?	the Council is looking at all opportunities, including installing solar panels on the top of city centre council buildings, and looking at land for wind farms

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Growth	Email	Get rid of the Growth Delivery Team, Peterborough Delivery Partnership and/or Opportunity Peterborough completely. Aren't they doing (or not doing as far as OP goes) the same things?	The growth team and Peterborough Delivery Partnership is responsible for delivering major growth and regeneration for the city, such as Fletton Quays, Station Quarter, Football Club redevelopment and Peterborough District hospital site. As schemes progress and joint venture structures are set up, the cost of this partnership will be progressing subsumed into the joint venture vehicles. To end this service will mean these schemes are not progressed. The role of Opportunity Peterborough will be reviewed in light of the proposals for the Local Enterprise Partnership.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Growth	Email	Stop wasting money trying to kick start the North Westgate and Station Quarter proposed developments and realise that no private investors will ever invest in these projects, since being next to and part of socially deprived areas i.e. Central Ward, West Town, they are too risky. Look into the future by looking at Millfield now. Instead build low cost housing with possibly a mosque as a centrepiece in the Station Quarter and a multi-story car parking complex with excellent road access in North Westgate. Then concentrate finances and effort on the Embankment development.	As a council we look to take forward development in all areas of the city. In some areas such as the Embankment we are able to lead on the development as the majority of the land is in public ownership. North Westgate and the Station Quarter will be fundamentally driven by the private sector and as a result are dependent upon the schemes being financially viable. As a council our role is very much as enablers in this area and the actual investment by the council has been small. The comment about Millfield and other areas is noted and as a council we are now looking at the infrastructure that the city needs to support growth. To date this has been reflected by such documents as the Integrated Growth Study. We are also developing the City Centre Action Plan that will set out the strategy for the development of the city. These plans set out where we are and where we want to go to as city and allow us to focus on those areas which will bring maximum benefit in an reasonable timescale to the people of Peterborough
Growth	Scrutiny at the Meeting of the Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee	How had the New Homes Incentive figure been arrived at?	The figure was based around an average Band D Council Tax property. Full details were still to be provided but it would be based on actual properties built. We had been conservative as we had only allowed for Year 1 – the fund in future years was likely to be finite.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Growth	Scrutiny at the Meeting of the Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee	How did the approval of the Local Economic Partnership affect the budget? Would this mean a reduction in the funding for Opportunity Peterborough?	The announcement of the LEP had only recently been made and the partners still had to consider what it meant and agree a delivery model. There would be no direct government funding but LEPs would be able to bid into funds. OP had already said that some of their work could move into the LEP. OP now only received a third of its original funding as it was now only an economic development vehicle. It was an effective unit at the moment and we needed it now more than ever. No concerns had been raised with officers or the Audit Committee.
Growth	Business	The new homes bonus is potentially beneficial to Peterborough. Is the council being proactive in its approach to planning and land use to support this?	There has been a huge amount of work in planning to get it where we want it to be. We are prepared to work with developers and housing associations over land use, but there are two issues we must always take into account: The need to abide by European procurement requirements Our duty of care to secure best value for use of the Council's land
Growth	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	Would we be able to achieve the growth needed to enable us to receive our share of the New Homes Incentive funding as some of the developments in Site Allocations document may not come to fruition in the future?	We had not been optimistic in what we would be expecting from the New Homes initiative. For 2011/12 the amount we would receive was fixed and had been based on what had been built by October 2010. It needed to be made clear that if we did not grow as a City we would lose funding to those areas which did grow.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Growth	Email from Peterborough Regional College	STEM CENTRE - We are pleased to be very involved in this project and are working in partnership with the development of the STEM Centre. It would be useful to have clarification of the £2million in the Council budget.	It is a provision that the council has made to cover the financial risk associated with the development of the STEM centre
John Mansfield Centre	Email from Peterborough Regional College	We would question if this significant capital expenditure is being placed at the best venue (John Mansfield Centre) and would perhaps provide better value for money if the comments about streamlining services and the amalgamation of the PCC Adult Education Service (City College Peterborough) within Peterborough Regional College where activated.	City College Peterborough has been delivering learning at the John Mansfield Centre for some time now, and has successfully engaged with a number of young people that might not ordinarily have accessed learning. Much of the educational activity is vocational and therefore very practical. Although located in Dogsthorpe, the John Mansfield Centre will be a citywide venue.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Libraries	Email	<p>Library opening hours: The proposed opening hours allocated to each library seem to have been plucked out of the air. Without increasing the total amount of opening hours that the council is proposing, the hours could be distributed in a much more meaningful way, based on actual usage of the libraries, and the cost of running those sites. For example; Thorney library is seeing a slight INCREASE in its opening hours. Yet Thorney library is the most expensive library in the city to run based on the cost per visitor and at certain times can have a use rate as low as two or three people an hour. This is not an effective use of money! The council should give the total amount of hours that they can afford to fund to Vivacity and then leave it to Vivacity to decide exactly how those hours should be distributed, with the caveat that no libraries be closed. Is one of the reasons for having a cultural trust not that they know how to run the cultural services better and more efficiently than someone sitting in a council office somewhere?</p>	<p>The council works closely with Vivacity culture and leisure trust and sought its advice on the best way of delivering savings in the area of libraries</p>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Neighbourhood Councils	Scrutiny at the Meeting of the Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee	A saving of £44,000 had originally been put forward for neighbourhood councils but now all of the funding was being removed.	The capital funding would be replaced by S106 monies that would become the responsibility of the Neighbourhood Councils.
Neighbourhood Councils	Neighbourhood Council South Area	Neighbourhood council S106 money, if going into neighbourhood councils, will it go to the local neighbourhood council or be dispersed from a central pot?	Cllr Seaton said we are looking to give some to local area and some to rest of city – 65% to city wide strategic, 35% to Neighbourhood Council pool
Neighbourhood Councils	Neighbourhood Council South Area	Re 65-35%, some areas will have lots of development, others not much development but will still have money when they haven't made sacrifice of open space etc	J Harrison, can circulate a simple guide on what the 65% pot will/has to pay for
Neighbourhood Councils	Neighbourhood Council South Area	Neighbourhood council If large development and therefore large sums of money involved, would this still apply?	Yes.
Neighbourhood Councils	Neighbourhood Council South Area	Need to look at all areas money could come from to fund neighbourhood council	Your comments have been noted and there is currently a review of neighbourhood councils underway
Neighbourhood Councils	Neighbourhood Council South Area	Will there be different weighting to monies from different types of developments?	Cllr Seaton said the planning obligation monies differ depending on the type of development; can provide this info and how it is different. Must not overlook places that won't have development but still need funds to develop existing area
Neighbourhood Councils	Neighbourhood Council South Area	Concern that some areas don't want development but will still benefit from monies coming from	

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
		other areas	
Neighbourhood Councils	Neighbourhood Council Central and East Area	If S106 money is going to Neighbourhood Councils, will it go to the local neighbourhood council or will it be dispersed from a central pot?	We will be looking to give some funds to the local area and some to the rest of the city, for example 65% for city wide strategic projects and 35% to the neighbourhood council pool. This would still apply for large developments involving large S106 contributions
Neighbourhood Councils	Email	Scrap Neighbourhood Councils completely; lots of money for little outcomes	The Neighbourhood councils are crucial in delivering the localism agenda and fit with the Government's 'Big Society' initiative and the recently announced Localism Bill.
Neighbourhood councils	Churches Together meeting	How can communities have input into how Section 106 monies are spent for the benefit of the communities?	It is proposed that as much section 106 money as possible is delegated to neighbourhood councils so that it can be invested on projects, schemes and improvements that directly benefit the areas most affected by growth.
Neighbourhood Councils	Email	Stop giving neighbourhood councils money to waste on such futile projects as the annual St Botolph Green Festival, no matter how the money has been received i.e. from developers	The budget proposals include plans to remove the capital budgets previously allocated to neighbourhood councils. They will still continue to have access to the money provided from developers, as the agreement with those developers requires it to be spent in this area.
Outsourcing	Neighbourhood Council Central and East Area	Is the council certain that outsourcing certain services will give the best outcome?	It is about getting the right contract and managing it well. We believe that we have the right company to work with and have been impressed so far. The finance deal for the Council is good or we wouldn't enter into the contract. The Council expects better service standards than we currently have

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
PECT	Email	2. As a former director and trustee at Peterborough Environment City Trust (PECT) I am concerned about the grant reduction to this organisation. Whilst accepting that it must bear its 'fair share' of reductions, care should be taken (I suggest) not to impair its ability to bring grants and other investment into the city. This cost/benefit analysis should consider not just direct investment which PECT attracts but also its role in promoting the city which indirectly contributes to attracting inward investment.	We are working closely in partnership with PECT to ensure its sustainability and its ability to continue the excellent work it does in relation to drawing in external funding. We believe that the organisation is capable of managing this reduction and as board members we will continue to support as partners.
PECT	Churches Together meeting	We assume that PECT has a major impact on Peterborough's 'environment city' aspirations. Does this reduction endanger those aspirations? For PECT and other organisations, how can PCC support funding bids of local charities?	<p>We have been working closely with PECT throughout this period to ensure that the reduction in funding does not impact on either our Environment aspirations or their business. We will achieve this through continued work programmes and further support from PECT utilising their areas of expertise.</p> <p>The city council is working well with all the voluntary sector organisations to enable them to seek additional funding or to work in different and more efficient ways.</p>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Planning	Email	<p>Where there are council owned tree belts or other landscaped areas adjacent to or behind private residential properties have you considered the idea of offering to sell a narrow strip of this land to the immediately adjoining property owner, at a reasonable price? Not only would it provide revenue income, and reduce city council's public liability risk, but it would also help to reduce future tree and public space ongoing maintenance costs. Obviously this land could be sold with covenants to prevent development, restrict removal of existing trees, stipulate minimum management requirements, and upon transfer city council could offer practical advice on tree management &amp; tree preservation orders. Many residents like myself (8 Elliot Avenue) would be pleased to participate in this, and would welcome the idea of owning, using, managing and enjoying a small woodland strip at the rear of my property.</p>	<p>The council has previously sold pieces of land at the front of properties as part of Right to Buy applications. This has led to small areas of land having to be maintained between elements of property that are privately owned. When property has subsequently changed hands new owners do not always maintain the land and this leads to confusion amongst residents where pieces of maintained land are mixed with non-maintained areas. The council may consider offers to acquire whole strips of land but the sale of small individual spaces is liable to cause future problems.</p>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Print and design	Email	The council could stop having so many professional posters printed. Give everyone a MS Publisher template and 20 minutes of training if they need it and stop paying Danwood a ridiculous amount of money for producing posters that could easily be done in house	To maintain a professional and consistent approach to our publications, and communications in general, it is essential that we do not allow all employees to produce their own materials. Brands like Tesco or Sainsbury's would never allow different stores to have their own look and approach to marketing and we must be just as professional. The Danwood contract has helped us achieve consistency and savings but is currently being reviewed as it is due to end it's primary term on 31 March 2011.
Public Conveniences	Scrutiny at the Meeting of the Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee	Cabinet should look again at this proposal as they were services that the public valued and were of good quality. The proposed saving of £10,000 was minimal.	The savings would be made during periods of low usage but the comments would be passed on.
Registration Services	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	Bereavement Charges. What was the justification for the increase in fees?	A great deal of work was being done with the service. It was also a large user of energy. Compared to other authorities we were in the middle of charges but provided one of the best services in the country
Registration Services	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	Private Citizenship Ceremonies. Why was the percentage rise for private citizenships ceremonies low compared to the other services provided by the Register Office?	All of the proposed increases had been challenged and we would provide an answer in writing.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Roads and Transport	Email	1. Does the council have scope to increase the level of fines for speeding detected by safety cameras and/or in other ways to increase the 'income' (e.g., by adopting a 'zero tolerance' approach rather than as at present, I understand, not taking action against drivers who are travelling only slightly faster than the limit) rather than cutting the expenditure?	The income generated from speeding fines goes directly to the Treasury and so any increase in fines would not influence local funding. Cambridgeshire Constabulary is able to run driver safety courses as opposed to fines when speeding is under a certain limit and this income will support the use of safety cameras and road safety across the area.
Roads and Transport	Email	5. Plans to encourage more people to use 'green' transport are to be welcomed. More resources could surely be found for this if the review of car parking charges were more 'aggressive' in extracting money from car drivers?	There is a balance to be achieved with regard to parking. Peterborough City Council is not the only provider in the city and has no control over local competition. If we increase our charges to generate more income from car drivers they could use alternative non-city council car parks. The draft Local Transport Plan 3 however, recognises this and talks about permanent park and ride solutions to support this.
Roads and Transport	Email	I wish to challenge your cabinet report in respect of funding to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Road Safety Partnership. From papers recorded in the partnership publication scheme the funding provided to the partnership do not only pay for safety cameras but other initiatives run by that partnership. Your description of the cut as for cameras only is	The latest version of the budget document has amended wording to reflect this.

Category	Source	Issue	Response
		misleading and may provoke the wrong reaction from the public at large.	
Roads and Transport	Letter from Stagecoach	I am particularly pleased to note the authority's support for the following initiatives: Investment in street lights and traffic signals: I trust these will be of the appropriate standard to link into the council's plans for an 'intelligent transport system' whereby the traffic signals link up to the buses fitted with real time tracking which will enable priority to be given to buses only when required.	The street light and traffic signals funding identified in the budget have been proposed with the Council's environmental capital aspirations in mind to deliver energy savings. However, the intelligent transport system project currently being delivered through the LTP programme will allow tracked buses to be identified and priority given to vehicles behind timetable. The council will work with bus operators to identify locations where such an approach could potentially address punctuality issues. New traffic signals infrastructure will be designed to be fully compatible with the Peterborough intelligent transport system.
Roads and Transport	Email	2) Also on the issue of saving money I would to draw the council's attention to the time and expense of motorists queuing on the A1 every morning to exit onto the A47 towards Peterborough; invariably there are thousands of cars every morning blocking the southbound carriageway because the whole junction, in particularly the slip-roads (both south-bound and north-	The roads you mention are major routes and come under the control of the Department of Transport, not the local council

Category	Source	Issue	Response
		bound to and from the A47/A1) are woefully inadequate and quite literally a death trap)	
Roads and Transport	Email	Having recently spent a long time responding to the council's consultation on the Local Transport Plan I was surprised to come across the article in Your Peterborough, which implies that expenditure on transport is already finalised for the next few years. I notice for instance plans to spend £700,000 on widening an exit route on Boongate roundabout to improve flow of traffic and plans to save £80,000, by reducing contributions to the Cambridgeshire Safety Partnership. Neither of these seems to fit with the proposals consulted on in the Local Transport Plan consultation and it is hard to see where they emerged from. For instance why spend £700,000 on improving flow of traffic if the aim is to reduce motorised traffic? Over	The need to improve the access arrangements through transport infrastructure to the East Embankment was highlighted in LTP2. The East Embankment is one of the key areas the Council is looking to develop as part of its Core Strategy. The first stage of any wider improvement to access the Embankment area relates to addressing the existing queuing problem on the Boongate Junction 5 slip road. Queuing here causes tails backs on to the Perkins Parkway and represents a serious road safety issue. This queuing issue requires resolution regardless of any wider work to access the Embankment and represents a scheme that helps make best use of the existing transport infrastructure. Like any responsible organisation the Council strategically allocates funds to undertake work that is essential to meet their priorities and plans ahead to have those funds in place at the time the work is required. The improvement scheme is a priority and is programmed for 2012/13 and is therefore allocated in the draft medium term financial strategy for consideration. The LTP consultation leaflet clearly states that in the next five years we will concentrate on finding funding streams for the projects listed. The schemes listed cover investment for a variety of transport types. The leaflet is a consultation document and we will carefully consider the all

Category	Source	Issue	Response
		<p>recent years a lot of money has been spent on transport infrastructure and much of this we would consider to be wasted. Indeed when the Council decided to develop a long term transport plan one of the reasons was that there was real concern that infrastructure changes were being implemented as opportunities arose rather than in any strategic way. It will not be possible for Peterborough to build road infrastructure to accommodate a growing population, if that population continues to rely on the private car to anything like the extent that the existing population does. There will never be enough money for this, nor is there likely to be cheap fuel, so any sensible financial and infrastructure planning needs to be based around very different models, especially if the quality of life and the local environment are to be protected. Sustrans has set out its vision for transport in the attached document and we believe that transport investment needs to be redirected so that it is focused on achieving long term aims and the aims must</p>	<p>the views that have been sent to us before submitting the final plan to the Council for consideration. The reduction in the road safety contribution to the Cambridgeshire Safety Partnership has been proposed because of the reduction in the funds received from Central Government. The reduction in the overall funding the Council receives means that some difficult decisions have had to be made. Officers are working together to try and ensure that the reduction in funding has as little impact on the overall objectives of the Cambridgeshire Safety Partnership. The Council has a successful history of supporting sustainable modes of transport. The decision to develop the brand Travelchoice was a deliberate decision that the best way to encourage people to use sustainable modes of transport was to promote and market the options available to residents when they are planning their journeys. It is through a combination of investing in sustainable modes and smarter choices to help reduce the demand for motorised travel, coupled with infrastructure improvements to make best use of the existing transport network, that the city's growth agenda will be supported. The Local Transport Plan 2 invested heavily in sustainable modes of transport including cycling. We are currently looking for funding opportunities to be able to increase the amount of finance available to bring forward schemes that will encourage the use of sustainable modes and streams</p>

Category	Source	Issue	Response
		<p>be clearly understood by all. In the past the council has set out ambitions to change to more sustainable modes of travel, but this has never been adopted in a comprehensive way. If it is there could be enormous benefits for the city and great financial savings. For instance re-allocating road space to walking, cycling and public transport will be much cheaper and easier to deliver than brand new expensive infrastructure. There are great savings to be made in reprioritising transport investment. This will help to create a vibrant, healthy and attractive Peterborough.</p>	

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Roads and Transport	Email	<p>Please can I have a Quality Street? As a constituent I am writing because I know you are currently deciding local transport budgets and making decisions that will affect where I live. I understand that with budget cuts and reduced government spending, the pressure is now on to deliver value for money in local services. I would like to see you focus your transport budgets on making my street into a space for people as well as cars, by redesigning it to reduce the speed and volume of traffic. Doing this will make it easier for all of us to choose to travel by foot and bike from our front door, whether to work, the shops, to the bus stop or train station. The more of us who do this the less we will all need to spend on the consequences of congestion, CO2 emissions and physical inactivity, and the safer and more pleasant our communities will be. Making our streets safe, attractive and social spaces will enable us all to have a better quality of life. With your help these 'quality streets' will be places for people to meet and children to play outdoors, with less speeding,</p>	<p>The council is aware of the recently launched Sustrans Quality Street campaign and specifically their desire to introduce 20 MPH speed limits into most urban areas across the country. We are in discussions involving Sustrans and these points are being considered as part of that dialogue. The Sustrans website generates an automatic letter, which details a number of generic issues that their organisation would like to see addressed and highlights the benefits of doing this. This correspondence appears to be one of these automatically generated letters. The council's transport planning team at is currently in the process of consulting on its proposals for the Third Peterborough Local Transport Plan, which will run from 2011 to 2016.</p>

Category	Source	Issue	Response
		<p>noise and pollution - quality streets for quality lives. As a first step please tackle the one thing that stops me walking, cycling and feeling safe on my local streets, and has been recognised by the British Crime Survey as the most commonly mentioned problem behaviour - speeding traffic. Please make 20 mph the default speed limit across areas where people live, work and play - including my street. This is the first step to enabling us all to make smarter travel choices. Please pass this letter on to the Executive Member for Transport and other lead officers.</p>	

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Roads and Transport	Letter from Stagecoach	<p>I would respectfully ask that you take into consideration my comments on the following proposals, before taking these forward.</p> <p>Increased Income from parking charges:- I acknowledge the council is seeking a more commercial approach to the management of its car parks. However, I urge you to consider prevailing bus fares as part of the process when revising charges.</p> <p>The need to maximise income from assets is appreciated, but if this isn't viewed strategically in conjunction with all forms of sustainable transport together with pollution, CO2, noise, etc, you run the risk of increasing income at the expense of a negative impact on bus passenger journeys. As a result walking, cycling and environmental targets may require increased investment to reverse this trend. There would be a real risk that the authority would find itself financially supporting bus services that become commercially unviable as a result of the parking charges policy.</p>	<p>Any parking pricing that Commercial Operations would be reviewing would continue to support the goals and policy aspirations of the Local Transport Plan, which in its latest draft states the following goals:</p> <p>To encourage sustainable modes and reduce long term parking in the city centre. To reassign land for development. Improve the quality of the city centre experience. Maximise parking revenue. The policy intends to: Reduce parking spaces in the core area. Reassign long term space to outlying locations. Adapt parking allocation, pricing and standards to support sustainable agenda and Environment Capital aspiration</p>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Roads and Transport	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	<p>Increased Income from parking charges:- I acknowledge the council is seeking a more commercial approach to the management of its car parks. However, I urgent you to consider prevailing bus fares as part of the process when revising charges. The need to maximise income from assets is appreciated, but if this isn't viewed strategically in conjunction with all forms of sustainable transport together with pollution, CO2, noise, etc, you run the risk of increasing income at the expense of a negative impact on bus passenger journeys. As a result walking, cycling and environmental targets may require increased investment to reverse this trend. There would be a real risk that the authority would find itself financially supporting bus services that become commercially unviable as a result of the parking charges policy.</p>	Nothing had happened to the scheme except the Government had now removed responsibility for administration of the scheme from second tier councils. Due to changes in the formula we would now be getting reduced funding however with one of the options we could have lost over £1m.
Roads and Transport	Hard copy	Use Traffic wardens for a dual job, booking offenders who drop litter and GUM, cigarette ends etc. I propose a £100 fine when convicted to go to council funds.	We are in the process of broadening the roles of all our enforcement staff

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
roads and Transport	Hard copy	Reducing street lighting after 11pm on the ring road.	We are currently preparing a strategy for significant long term energy cost and carbon savings that will involve changes to the street light network including turning off or dimming lights together with the use of energy saving bulbs. This will be progressed in partnership with local communities and in a way that will not prejudice highway or community safety.
Roads and Transport	Letter from Stagecoach	We acknowledge the national awards the council has received, but disappointed to note that none of the many transport awards are detailed in the document – UK Bus Awards Transport Authority of the Year is a prestigious award, rightly recognising the achievements of the council in this field and envied by many neighbouring authorities. For our company to be name UK Bus Operator of the Year, again recognising what has been done to develop transport in the city, shows how our partnership success has been recognised above other regions in the UK.	Thank you for your feedback and we take on board your comments. We tried to include as many of our awards as we could but there was not the space in the Your Peterborough budget special to include them all. However we are very proud of our joint success in transport which we publicised at the time the awards were won.
Roads and Transport	Letter from Stagecoach	I am particularly pleased to note the authority's support for the following initiatives: Top up Local Transport Plan funding: I trust this will continue to include investment in sustainable transport measures as well as physical highway	Thank you for your support on these budget proposals. Local Transport Plan funding will continue to be used to support investment in sustainable transport measures where practical and appropriate. Sustainable transport forms a key part of the council's transport policy, and is planned to be a significant component of future integrated transport programmes, which are being set out in the emerging Local Transport Plan 3.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
		improvements.	
Roads and Transport	Letter from Stagecoach	I am particularly pleased to note the authority's support for the following initiatives: New approach to tourism: I trust any subsequent reinvestment of funding will include the Travelchoice Centre located in the bus station.	We are restructuring tourism with the aim of delivering a more integrated and cost effective service
School Transport	Email	The main thing I have concerned about is this section: - Post 16 charges – We are one of the only council's who still provides free transport to children over 16 in education on medical grounds or with statements of special educational needs costing the taxpayer £20,000. All other families are charged £300 for this service. We are proposing to introduce this charge for all families, which brings us in line with other neighbouring councils. We also intend to charge per child rather than per family. However, families receiving benefits that currently get free transport will only pay half of this charge ensuring we continue to support those on the lowest incomes. The H.M. Treasury spending review is clear about	There will be further discussion at Cabinet about these proposals

Category	Source	Issue	Response
		<p>vulnerable people on benefits. Everyone making a fair contribution. 1.70 The Government will continue to support the most vulnerable while ensuring all sections of society who are able to do so contribute to deficit reduction. To do this and ensure that the choices made are fair, the Government has for the first time undertaken and published a distributional analysis of the impacts of the entire fiscal consolidation. While the estimates have limitations and continue to be refined, they show that those in most need will continue to receive the most support from the state in absolute terms and, relative to the amount they consume, those on the highest incomes will experience the greatest reduction in the services they receive. The estimates also show that after combining the impact of tax, benefits and public service spending changes, the highest quintile of earners will make the greatest contribution towards reducing the deficit as a percentage of their income and benefits in kind. My concern is that</p>	

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
		<p>we, I believe are only talking about around 60 families and if this support is stopped it may well encourage some parents to give up their jobs to stay home to look after their disabled siblings, or the children will just not attend school, which is classed as respite care as well.</p>	

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
School Transport	Email	Dear Peterborough City Council - 1) I would like to propose a thorough review of costs associated with then council's home-to-school policy where in some cases private taxis are being used to ferry children to and from city centre schools. Surely there are more cost effective ways for children to get to school - perhaps parents might take more responsibility for ensuring their children arrive at school; the provision of buses might be a solution however has the council considered promoting the use of bicycles and/or walking to school which might also go some way to addressing of the issues of children getting more exercise?	Taxis are used as an option of last resort unless proven to be more cost effective than other types of transport. They are used more widely in special schools where pupils travel to the 4 school in the city from various locations which due to their disability / educational issues it either means they cannot access bus services or require an escort to ensure they safely arrive at schools. We continue to review all taxi routes and these are renewed on a more regular basis than more traditional bus passes or private hire buses to ensure best value. In relation to our policy for accessing free transport, in the medium term financial plan there are a number of savings around transport – all of which will bring our transport policy in line with our minimum statutory requirements. We now only provide transport for children who live over two miles away up to the age of 7 and 3 miles for children aged 8 to 16. We continue to offer parents who are eligible for transport the opportunity to reclaim mileage costs for transporting their own children and we are working on a scheme to offer children bikes / training / safety equipment to replace bus passes. This will save money and also promote exercise / independence.
School Transport	Scrutiny at the Meeting of the Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee	What were the services to schools?	This was about how we traded services to schools, for example, workforce training and governor services. We would be looking to trade more aggressively by selling services to schools including other authorities.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
School Transport	Churches Together meeting	Page 17 first paragraph: Post 16 charges – the proposals appear to penalise the parents of a vulnerable group in the community, who deserve all the help they can get. Supporting the most vulnerable families by allowing them to only pay half, still leaves a large sum for them to pay. What will happen if they literally cannot afford it? And with the school leaving age scheduled to rise to 17 in 2013 and 18 in 2015 it will unfairly affect those who currently do not have to stay on beyond 16.	These points will be considered as part of the review of all transport arrangements.
School Transport	Email from Peterborough Regional College	Limit post 16 transport to a 30 mile radius from home - We consider this a very reasonable response and provides learners with choice of delivery in meeting their individual needs.	Your comments have been noted
School Transport	Shailesh Vara MP	Comment on School Transport for Children with Disabilities and Special Educational Needs “I have reservations about the proposals to axe free school transport for children over 16 with disabilities or holding special educational needs statements. Whilst I fully appreciate the financial pressures facing the Council, we need to ensure that the most vulnerable in our society	<i>There will be further discussion at Cabinet about the School Transport proposals</i>

Category	Source	Issue	Response
		<p>continue to have access to the support they need. This proposal, and its impact on service users and their families, needs to be looked at again.”</p>	
Staff terms and conditions	Email	<p>The essential user's allowance is agreed between employers and unions. It cannot be fair to just withdraw it across the board. There are quite a lot of employees who are genuine essential users and the detailed survey that the council carried out two or three years ago should have identified those employees who are truly essential users. Anyone else who does not need the allowance to carry out their daily duties should have it withdrawn (to include all grades and levels of management). A much lower casual mileage rate could still be allowed for those who must use a car to attend occasional meetings etc. This would be a much fairer decision to make, if as we are lead to believe, That FAIRNESS is the new watchword, and savings might even be greater if my suggestion is adopted.</p>	<p>We have listened to staff feedback and have been working with the trade unions and have revised the staff terms and conditions saving proposals in respect of staff car park permits, the essential user allowance scheme and mileage reimbursement rates with the overall aim to achieve collective agreement with the unions. Based on latest discussion and negotiation, the savings proposal has been refreshed for best estimate, namely to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduce bandings dependent on salary grades alongside a salary sacrifice scheme for staff car park permits;</li> <li>Remove essential user allowance and implement a 'Key User' policy to enable the possibility of issuing free permits to employees meeting the policy;</li> <li>Remove current council essential and casual mileage reimbursement rates to that of mileage reimbursement rates recognised by Her Majesty Revenue and Customs (HMRC)</li> <li>Exclude City Services staff from the savings proposal as these staff will TUPE to the new City Services provider before the implementation of revised terms and conditions for council staff</li> </ul>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Staff terms and conditions	Email	<p>Charge for staff car parking - massively unfair to apply a £500 charge to all staff; tax by the back door and a pay freeze too! Council is looking to take money from staff, many of whom have to drive in to work as public transport is not adequate for their needs. Higher earners should pay a higher rate and lower earners a lower rate with £500 a cap and £200 a minimum. This will hit lower earners massively hard as £500 a year from a lower salary is a big chunk of money. Will this enable everyone to park everywhere or will there still be segregation between Car Haven and Bishop's Road etc? If everyone pays the same, everyone should have the same access rights (this should include Councillors and the chief exec too). Why not just cover the cost of the admin for the passes and times it by 2? Maybe £50 for the year, £75 for Car Haven.</p>	<p>We have listened to staff feedback and have been working with the trade unions and have revised the staff terms and conditions saving proposals in respect of staff car park permits, the essential user allowance scheme and mileage reimbursement rates with the overall aim to achieve collective agreement with the unions. Based on latest discussion and negotiation, the savings proposal has been refreshed for best estimate, namely to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduce bandings dependent on salary grades alongside a salary sacrifice scheme for staff car park permits;</li> <li>Remove essential user allowance and implement a 'Key User' policy to enable the possibility of issuing free permits to employees meeting the policy;</li> <li>Remove current council essential and casual mileage reimbursement rates to that of mileage reimbursement rates recognised by Her Majesty Revenue and Customs (HMRC)</li> <li>Exclude City Services staff from the savings proposal as these staff will TUPE to the new City Services provider before the implementation of revised terms and conditions for council staff</li> </ul>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Staff terms and conditions	Email	Training for Officers - how can this be reduced if you are looking to recruit in-house expertise instead of external consultants. The staff training budget needs to be increased for relevant strategic needs. NO MENTION MADE ABOUT WHAT COUNCILLORS WILL HAVE TO SAVE!!	The reduction planned is a fairly small sum of £10k, and should not have an adverse impact on staff development. Many professionally-qualified employees have to fulfil a number of CPD (continuing professional development) hours each year. For most, this is 16 hours. There are a number of ways this can be obtained, including research, and provision of training for others. Traditionally, hours were obtained by attending relatively expensive, externally provided courses, usually in London, which means incurring travel costs in addition. The Legal Services department are accredited by the Solicitors Regulation Authority to provide CPD training. In the last year, a practice has been adopted where only one member of a team will normally be permitted to attend an external course. That member of staff then produces a training course for colleagues (And in some cases, colleagues from external authorities locally). This helps consolidate the learning from the course, and provides additional learning and CPD points free of charge (except for lost time) to the member of staff providing the training, and to colleagues. The arrangement with other authorities means that we can host their staff to provide training free of charge and also reduce costs yet gain CPD points. As a result of this arrangement, costs have naturally reduced. No necessary external training to increase in-house expertise has been, or will be, denied.
Staff terms and conditions	Email	All staff above the standard grading structure to take a pay cut e.g. Directors, Heads of Service etc.	The Deputy Leader made a statement that, the cabinet will not be asking senior managers to take a pay cut as many are going to be asked to take on additional responsibilities for no more money as a result of the reduction in senior management posts proposed by the cabinet.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Staff terms and conditions	Email	Reduce the wages of your highest overpaid staff. It might also be an idea to stop paying large amounts of money to over paid consultants	The Deputy Leader made a statement that, the cabinet will not be asking senior managers to take a pay cut as many are going to be asked to take on additional responsibilities for no more money as a result of the reduction in senior management posts proposed by the cabinet. The budget proposals outline where we have already reduced the spend on consultants, and where we plan to continue this reduction in the future.
Staff terms and conditions	Email	As an essential car user I am naturally concerned about the fact that the car allowance is to be scrapped. This monthly amount pays for my car finance and if this is scrapped and I am asked to pay £500 a year parking I will have to hand back my car and use public transport. I also pay a higher rate of insurance as required in my employment contract the difference being covered by the car allowance each month. I live three miles from the city centre and can use public transport to and from work a lot cheaper than the above. My worry is how I will then do my job as I go out and about every day completing initial assessments. These have to be done within 7 days and Bretton on public transport will take at least two hours.....Has consideration	We have listened to staff feedback and have been working with the trade unions and have revised the staff terms and conditions saving proposals in respect of staff car park permits, the essential user allowance scheme and mileage reimbursement rates with the overall aim to achieve collective agreement with the unions. Based on latest discussion and negotiation, the savings proposal has been refreshed for best estimate, namely to: Introduce bandings dependent on salary grades alongside a salary sacrifice scheme for staff car park permits; Remove essential user allowance and implement a 'Key User' policy to enable the possibility of issuing free permits to employees meeting the policy; Remove current council essential and casual mileage reimbursement rates to that of mileage reimbursement rates recognised by Her Majesty Revenue and Customs (HMRC) Exclude City Services staff from the savings proposal as these staff will TUPE to the new City Services provider before the implementation of revised terms and conditions for council staff

Category	Source	Issue	Response
		<p>been given to this? I can understand it for non-essential users – will pool cars be available and how will this work with out employment contracts which state that we have to have access to a car. I live alone and have no spare money so am in fact taking approximately £150 a month cut in salary and will be £150 in the red each month so the only solution will be to get rid of my car. Please this is form info only and not for publication as I am sure a lot of employees will be in the same position</p>	
Staff terms and conditions	Email	<p>Avoid redundancies but reduce hours voluntarily especially with higher paid staff. Save on salary and redundancy payments. For example introduce a voluntary 30 hour working week</p>	<p>A consultation process on the proposed changes to terms and conditions is currently underway with trade unions and employees. All comments made in this area will be fed into that consultation, aiming to find an acceptable way forward</p>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Staff Terms and Conditions	Scrutiny at the Meeting of the Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee	There was a need to remove the essential car user allowance as in some cases it was being used as a perk. Not all members of staff who received the allowance needed to use their vehicles.	<p>We have listened to staff feedback and have been working with the trade unions and have revised the staff terms and conditions saving proposals in respect of staff car park permits, the essential user allowance scheme and mileage reimbursement rates with the overall aim to achieve collective agreement with the unions. Based on latest discussion and negotiation, the savings proposal has been refreshed for best estimate, namely to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduce bandings dependent on salary grades alongside a salary sacrifice scheme for staff car park permits;</li> <li>Remove essential user allowance and implement a 'Key User' policy to enable the possibility of issuing free permits to employees meeting the policy;</li> <li>Remove current council essential and casual mileage reimbursement rates to that of mileage reimbursement rates recognised by Her Majesty Revenue and Customs (HMRC)</li> <li>Exclude City Services staff from the savings proposal as these staff will TUPE to the new City Services provider before the implementation of revised terms and conditions for council staff</li> </ul>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Staff Terms and Conditions	Scrutiny at the Meeting of the Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee	Standard Mileage Rate. Noted the proposed 40p per mile rate for all users. Cabinet should be encouraged to consider an additional 5p per mile for car sharing.	<p>We have listened to staff feedback and have been working with the trade unions and have revised the staff terms and conditions saving proposals in respect of staff car park permits, the essential user allowance scheme and mileage reimbursement rates with the overall aim to achieve collective agreement with the unions. Based on latest discussion and negotiation, the savings proposal has been refreshed for best estimate, namely to:</p> <p>Introduce bandings dependent on salary grades alongside a salary sacrifice scheme for staff car park permits;</p> <p>Remove essential user allowance and implement a 'Key User' policy to enable the possibility of issuing free permits to employees meeting the policy;</p> <p>Remove current council essential and casual mileage reimbursement rates to that of mileage reimbursement rates recognised by Her Majesty Revenue and Customs (HMRC)</p> <p>Exclude City Services staff from the savings proposal as these staff will TUPE to the new City Services provider before the implementation of revised terms and conditions for council staff</p>
Staff Terms and Conditions	Scrutiny at the Meeting of the Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee	Sick Pay. Were the proposed savings of £350,000 bankable?	They were largely bankable as it should lead to a reduction in providing cover. However it was acknowledged that in areas such as children's services these services still needed to be provided.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Staff Terms and Conditions	Scrutiny at the Meeting of the Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee	Recruitment. The Council should look again at maintaining a freeze on all non-essential recruitment as some jobs were still being advertised.	Agree that only essential recruitment should be happening. If any members believed a job which was being advertised was not essential then please let the cabinet member or chief executive know.
Staff Terms and Conditions	Scrutiny at the Meeting of the Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee	Staff Working Hours. Staff should be given the opportunity to reduce their working hours. Working four days rather than five may be an incentive to some staff.	Staff could already request to reduce their working hours and Directors were authorised to approve any such requests. Any reduction in hours would only be voluntary and it was not clear how many staff would volunteer. We were already talking to the unions and we would publicise to staff that they were able to reduce their hours. If we were to reduce pay we would need to come out of national bargaining which we did not plan to do. We are currently in discussions with the unions whose national position was no pay cuts.
Staff Terms and Conditions	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	What did the reduction in redundancies linked to terms and conditions savings mean?	This related to proposed changes to staff terms and conditions around removal of the essential car user allowance and introducing parking charges. If all were agreed this would reduce the number of compulsory redundancies which would need to be made.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Staff Terms and Conditions	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	When would charges for staff car parking be implemented?	<p>We have listened to staff feedback and have been working with the trade unions and have revised the staff terms and conditions saving proposals in respect of staff car park permits, the essential user allowance scheme and mileage reimbursement rates with the overall aim to achieve collective agreement with the unions. Based on latest discussion and negotiation, the savings proposal has been refreshed for best estimate, namely to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduce bandings dependent on salary grades alongside a salary sacrifice scheme for staff car park permits;</li> <li>Remove essential user allowance and implement a 'Key User' policy to enable the possibility of issuing free permits to employees meeting the policy;</li> <li>Remove current council essential and casual mileage reimbursement rates to that of mileage reimbursement rates recognised by Her Majesty Revenue and Customs (HMRC)</li> <li>Exclude City Services staff from the savings proposal as these staff will TUPE to the new City Services provider before the implementation of revised terms and conditions for council staff</li> </ul>
Staff Terms and Conditions	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	Pension contributions. Were these savings due to future lower contributions?	It was due to contribution rates being left at current levels until the next valuation of the Scheme.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Staff terms and conditions	Hard copy	10 per cent reduction for chief executive plus 'anybody paid £100,000 or more' managers	The Deputy Leader made a statement that, the cabinet will not be asking senior managers to take a pay cut as many are going to be asked to take on additional responsibilities for no more money as a result of the reduction in senior management posts proposed by the cabinet. The budget proposals outline where we have already reduced the spend on consultants, and where we plan to continue this reduction in the future.
Staff Terms and Conditions / Councillors	Scrutiny at the Meeting of the Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee	If we are all in this together senior managers and councillors should be asked to take a pay cut.	The Deputy Leader made a statement that, the cabinet will not be asking senior managers to take a pay cut as many are going to be asked to take on additional responsibilities for no more money as a result of the reduction in senior management posts proposed by the cabinet. The budget proposals outline where we have already reduced the spend on consultants, and where we plan to continue this reduction in the future. Allowances for Councillors are considered by an independent panel, which takes into account all circumstances, including allowances paid elsewhere in the country. The panel then makes recommendations to full council, which is obliged to take those recommendations into account. The latest review by the panel will be presented to full council on 23 February 2011.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Staff Terms and Conditions / Councillors	Scrutiny at the Meeting of the Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee	Believe a reduction in pay and hours should be looked at as other councils and public services were already looking at it.	The Deputy Leader made a statement that, the cabinet will not be asking senior managers to take a pay cut as many are going to be asked to take on additional responsibilities for no more money as a result of the reduction in senior management posts proposed by the cabinet. The budget proposals outline where we have already reduced the spend on consultants, and where we plan to continue this reduction in the future. Allowances for Councillors are considered by an independent panel, which takes into account all circumstances, including allowances paid elsewhere in the country. The panel then makes recommendations to full council, which is obliged to take those recommendations into account. The latest review by the panel will be presented to full council on 23 February 2011.
Staff Terms and Conditions Councillors	Churches Together meeting	We welcome the fact that the Council has been able to cope with cutbacks of c.28% with suggested staff cutbacks of less than 10% and hope that such savings can be made without any compulsory redundancies.	Your comments have been noted. We are working hard to reduce the impact of compulsory redundancies
Staff Terms and Conditions Councillors	Churches Together meeting	Has the effect of cutting funding to other organisations been assessed in terms of the number of redundancies that may result?	We have worked with organisations where possible to mitigate the impact as much as possible and provide suitable advance notice enabling them to redeploy staff or look at different ways of working. We have not however done a trawl across all areas to identify headcount loss if any.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Staff Terms and Conditions Councillors	Churches Together meeting	Clearly, reductions in staffing levels are key, but the effects are not spelled out except in one case (processing some applications). However well managed, there will be a lot of extra pressure on people, especially the top executive staff. The Dunkirk spirit can only last for a short time, but this is really for the long haul. Making redundancies, however few, is a traumatic time for those wondering, those losing their jobs and those administering the package. We assume that every consideration will be given to assist those directly affected but it is an institutional crisis. We would, therefore, be keen to know what independent pastoral care is available within the structures to support at every level, perhaps in the form of chaplaincy. (Affected staff can contact the city centre pastor at Westgate Church)	Thank you for your offer and we will make our staff aware
Street Scene	Scrutiny at the Meeting of the Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee	Some of the street furniture and clutter on the streets should be removed as it cost money to maintain.	The comment will be passed on to the Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Planning.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Translation	Email	<p>I refer to the article in a recent edition of 'Your Peterborough' in which you ask for suggestions for plugging the Council's funding gap. My suggestion relates to the expenditure arising from the use of interpreters. Whilst I do not know the precise cost to the Council for the service of interpreters, I would be surprised, and pleasantly so, if it were not many thousands of pounds. It is my contention that it is the responsibility of those who to choose to come to this country, presumably voluntarily, to ensure that they are able to communicate effectively in the language of this country. Before coming to the UK, they would know that the language of this country is English. Should there be situations where someone requires the services of an interpreter, then they should pay an economical rate for such services. It strikes me that it is irresponsible stewardship of public funds for these services to be free. Furthermore, if these services are free, they can only be at the expense of other more important needs. In conclusion, if the interpreting services are provided</p>	<p>We keep our expenditure to the minimum required to meet our statutory and service obligations to our service users. Total spend was in region of £171k last year, less than 0.1% of the council's budget. A formal translation and interpretation policy has been developed and was approved by Cabinet on 13 December. The issue of expenditure in this area will be considered in depth by the Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities Committee at its meeting on 21 March 2011.</p>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
		free, this is a cost that ought to be eliminated	
Translation	Email	Stop the translation services and spend the money on play service and other children's services	We keep our expenditure to the minimum required to meet our statutory and service obligations to our service users. Total spend was in region of £171k last year, less than 0.1% of the council's budget. A formal translation and interpretation policy has been developed and will be considered by cabinet on 13 December. The council does not spend unnecessarily in this area.
Translation	Email	Translation costs need to be looked at	We keep our expenditure to the minimum required to meet our statutory and service obligations to our service users. Total spend was in region of £171k last year, less than 0.1% of the council's budget. A formal translation and interpretation policy has been developed and will be considered by cabinet on 13 December. The council does not spend unnecessarily in this area.
Unring fencing of grants	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	Removal of Ring Fencing. What would the impact be on the Council of the removal of ring fencing of grants? Some of the grants appeared to be missing, what was the reason?	Removal of ring fencing would give the Council flexibility to make its own choices on where funding was allocated and this was welcomed at a local level. The phrase being used nationally was 'missing in action'.
Unring fencing of grants	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	Some councils have ringfenced funding for Connexions and Sure Start. Had Peterborough considered doing that?	We were not ring fencing any grants and a decision had been made to passport cuts in Children's Centre onto the services. Zero based budgeting was now happening on all grants and the Council was looking very carefully at future service delivery.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Voluntary Sector and Charities	Email	Cuts to support for the voluntary sector cannot be sensible. If the voluntary sector is to take over more of the tasks previously done by local and central government (both to reduce costs and to implement the 'big society') it will need the resources to do so.	We are working closely with the voluntary sector to ensure that the cuts, which are minimal, are easily managed and will be actively seeking to work with them on further investment to increase capacity by working more efficiently and effectively alongside them.
Voluntary Sector and Charities	Email	Cutting discretionary rate relief for charities seems to be a retrograde step. Instead, could the council not negotiate with the charities to see how they could assist it to meet its targets in exchange for keeping their rate relief? For example, battery or waste electronic equipment recycling points in charity shops would help the council meet targets that might be expensive to meet in other ways.	Charities are able to claim 80 per cent rate relief, and this is paid by the Government. They will continue to be able to do so. The council's discretionary rate relief budget is used in some cases to consider paying some part of the remaining 20 per cent. This budget can also be used to provide relief to other companies. Even with this reduction, many charities will continue to receive a significant discount in their business rates.
Voluntary Sector and Charities	Email	The budget looks fairly well balanced between investment needed to stimulate the local economy and the need to cut costs due to reduced budgets. I would attempt to seek greater input from the private sector in terms of community investments and reducing the role of the GPP will probably not help here. The funding to support voluntary sector infrastructure as the bodies	We are working closely with our voluntary sector partners to explore the potential for better joint working, including the potential for delivering services differently. A range of workshops have already been held with the sector and will continue to run over the next few weeks to explore this further.

Category	Source	Issue	Response
		involved in PIC can support many other charities and voluntary groups and equip them with the skills to create good, innovative public services that are cheaper to run.	
Voluntary Sector and charities	Churches Together meeting	Community grants - will this, or any other cut, affect the annual rent that PCC pays to St John's for the exclusive hire of the St John's Church Hall in Mayor's Walk, which the Council then provides to the West Town Community Association for many community users? Were the Council not to continue to pay this rent, we doubt if the Community Association would be able to meet the cost, and the church, which relies upon this as a revenue stream for its work, might well not be in a position to retain the building for community use.	We are working with Community Action Peterborough to put in place a new system for awarding grants to community associations, which will be based more on the wider role they play in their community. It is proposed that every community association receives a small minimum grant, which can then be topped up with an additional payment through an application process.
Voluntary Sector and charities	Churches Together meeting	One of the big issues for charitable and voluntary groups is the amount of time writing policies and procedures. Would the city council be able to release their standard	We will work with Peterborough Council for Voluntary Service (PCVS) to develop model policies and procedures that can then be shared across the voluntary sector.

Category	Source	Issue	Response
		documents for use / adaption by the voluntary sector?	
Wheelie Bins	Scrutiny at the Meeting of the Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee	Wheelie Bins fee increase. Would this really be a saving?	<p>We have listened to the comments made about wheelie bin fees and have made the following changes to the original proposals. The council will charge £36 per bin for all new properties that request a waste service. Residents who lose their bins will be entitled to receive one replacement, second-hand bin free of charge from 1 April 2011.</p> <p>Any additional lost bins will be charged at £36. Anyone not wishing to have a previously used bin, i.e. requiring a new bin, will also be charged £36.</p> <p>City services and Enterprise will endeavour to ensure that there is always a supply of recycled bins by obtaining them from other sources if necessary.</p>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Wheelie Bins	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	Wheelie Bins Fee Increase. The increase in fees would only raise a small amount of money. The Administration tried to bring in the charges a couple of years ago so why was it being brought back now?	<p>We have listened to the comments made about wheelie bin fees and have made the following changes to the original proposals. The council will charge £36 per bin for all new properties that request a waste service.</p> <p>Residents who lose their bins will be entitled to receive one replacement, second-hand bin free of charge from 1 April 2011.</p> <p>Any additional lost bins will be charged at £36. Anyone not wishing to have a previously used bin, i.e. requiring a new bin, will also be charged £36.</p> <p>City services and Enterprise will endeavour to ensure that there is always a supply of recycled bins by obtaining them from other sources if necessary.</p>
Wheelie Bins	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	Wheelie Bins Fee Increase. If people were required to pay for a replacement bin they would simply put their green waste into their black bins which would then have an impact on landfill.	<p>We have listened to the comments made about wheelie bin fees and have made the following changes to the original proposals. The council will charge £36 per bin for all new properties that request a waste service.</p> <p>Residents who lose their bins will be entitled to receive one replacement, second-hand bin free of charge from 1 April 2011.</p> <p>Any additional lost bins will be charged at £36. Anyone not wishing to have a previously used bin, i.e. requiring a new bin, will also be charged £36.</p> <p>City services and Enterprise will endeavour to ensure that there is always a supply of recycled bins by obtaining them from other sources if necessary.</p>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Wheelie Bins	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	How many refurbished bins were in stock?	There was currently a large stockpile at the depot as people were currently resistant to using refurbished bins.
Wheelie Bins	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	Would people have to pay for a replacement bin if for example it was lost in the cart?	<p>We have listened to the comments made about wheelie bin fees and have made the following changes to the original proposals. The council will charge £36 per bin for all new properties that request a waste service. Residents who lose their bins will be entitled to receive one replacement, second-hand bin free of charge from 1 April 2011.</p> <p>Any additional lost bins will be charged at £36. Anyone not wishing to have a previously used bin, i.e. requiring a new bin, will also be charged £36.</p> <p>City services and Enterprise will endeavour to ensure that there is always a supply of recycled bins by obtaining them from other sources if necessary.</p>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Wheelie Bins	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	Would people have to pay for the first replacement or only if it was replaced a second time?	We have listened to the comments made about wheelie bin fees and have made the following changes to the original proposals. The council will charge £36 per bin for all new properties that request a waste service. Residents who lose their bins will be entitled to receive one replacement, second-hand bin free of charge from 1 April 2011. Any additional lost bins will be charged at £36. Anyone not wishing to have a previously used bin, i.e. requiring a new bin, will also be charged £36. City services and Enterprise will endeavour to ensure that there is always a supply of recycled bins by obtaining them from other sources if necessary.
Wheelie Bins	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	Will the same charge apply for smaller bins as well as the larger bins?	There would be no difference in charges to ensure that the scheme was as simple as possible.
Wheelie Bins	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	Would all new houses be required to pay for three bins?	All new properties will be required to pay for their bins.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Women's Enterprise Centre	Email	Get rid of Women's Enterprise Centre altogether and encourage cafe or retail use. Use an existing spare council office to provide this service from especially as it's only 9 to 5 hours. Save £424k instantly and therefore £2,120,000 over 5 years (or a bit less if still provided service from council office)	The majority of the costs of the Women's Enterprise Centre have been funded by EEDA in the current financial year. With the abolition of EEDA, the council would have been required to meet these costs in future. However the budget proposals include plans to generate income from the centre, reducing the need for the council to contribute. By 2015/16 the last year of the current Medium Term Financial Plan, the council intends to have withdrawn all funding to the centre.
Women's Enterprise Centre	Scrutiny at the Meeting of the Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee	It was noted that there would be a staggered reduction in the funding for the Women's Enterprise Centre, should there be a more aggressive reduction in funding?	This would be passed on to the Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion, Safety and Women's Enterprise. It was felt that this was the quickest way the savings could be delivered
Women's Enterprise Centre	Business	The proposals include plans for the women's enterprise centre and the eco-innovation centre to be self-financing. Will you see them fail if this does not happen?	They will not fail, as they are fundamental to our future, and as such we may have to review support in the future. However by looking at new patterns of delivery, we are confident we can achieve this e.g. Women's Enterprise Centre extending its role to support men as well

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Your Peterborough	Email	I refer to your request for ideas towards where savings could be made in Council budgets. 'Your Peterborough' strikes me as a publication that has extremely little value and barely read, if at all, by Peterborough's residents - at considerable cost no doubt to council tax payers. I would be grateful if you could let me know what the full annual costs are of producing this paper including staff costs, distribution etc.	It currently costs around £150,000 to design, print and distribute six editions of Your Peterborough to about 80,000 homes in the city. The magazine is written internally to inform residents about the council's vision for Peterborough and the services it provides. The new director of communications is currently reviewing all aspects of Your Peterborough, with a view to greatly reducing the costs and is looking at ways to make it as self-financing as possible.
Your Peterborough	Email	No, but I am very upset to read that the excellent "Your Peterborough" magazine may stop. Please, please try and keep it up, it's so good.	This was a difficult judgment call to make. The delivery of Your Peterborough cost a great deal of money and it was difficult to continue with it when cuts had to be made. We are looking at different ways of providing information to the community.
Your Peterborough	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	What were the proposals for Your Peterborough?	It was proposed to remove the dedicated funding for Your Peterborough. The new Director of Communications is currently reviewing the magazine and how we can continue to communicate with the public at a greatly reduced or cost neutral basis
Your Peterborough	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	We needed to maintain Your Peterborough in some form as a way for the community to access information.	This was a difficult judgment call to make. The delivery of Your Peterborough cost a great deal of money and it was difficult to continue with it when cuts had to be made. We would look at different ways of providing information to the community.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Your Peterborough	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	Your Peterborough was essential as not everyone would want to read an online version. Future options could include selling additional advertising and having pick-up points at various points in the city.	It was clear that Your Peterborough had caused a lot of discussion and in view of this meeting we would be happy for a report to be produced on how information could be delivered in the future and would ask the Director of Communications to undertake a quick review.
Your Peterborough	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	Could ward councillors help to deliver Your Peterborough when they delivered their ward newsletters?	Regulations were in place around publicity but the offer was appreciated.
Your Peterborough	Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions	When Your Peterborough was initially introduced it was agreed that it would be used to advertise some of our public notices, therefore saving costs. Could the magazine be used to publicise the information we were required to publish as well as possibly using an agency to sell advertising space?	Income has been generated for the past three years to offset the costs of the production by selling adverts to businesses and space to partner organisations. These were areas that would be picked up during the review.
Your Peterborough	Hard copy	Print Your Peterborough on newspaper and reduce its size.	We are exploring all those options are part of the review
Staff	Neighbourhood Council North and West Area	Are any senior jobs to be lost	Deputy Chief Exec has gone

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
Staff	Neighbourhood Council North and West Area	Senior officers take the most money so if looking to remove lower jobs, should senior positions be looked at too	The Deputy Leader made a statement that, the cabinet will not be asking senior managers to take a pay cut as many are going to be asked to take on additional responsibilities for no more money as a result of the reduction in senior management posts proposed by the cabinet.
Growth	Neighbourhood Council North and West Area	Why give money to occupy Woolworths building if we don't own it	Cllr Seaton told the meeting it creates jobs (around 200), will bring more visitors to that end of Bridge Street, maybe around an extra 25,000 shoppers to Peterborough a week. Investment will more than be paid for
Outsourcing	Neighbourhood Council North and West Area	Outsourcing services not always best	Cllr Seaton told the meeting if the contract is right and managed correctly it produces good savings. One example is Serco for IT and improved service, hopefully Enterprise will be the same
City services	Neighbourhood Council North and West Area	Outsource pensions too for Enterprise staff	Cllr Seaton told the meeting they are still in the same pension scheme but the outsource company will pay their contributions, not the council
Growth	Neighbourhood Council North and West Area	Reverse premium incentive is only incentive, no other money back from Woolworths	no
Council finances	Neighbourhood Council North and West Area	Werrington Centre, shop units being removed for Tesco, still not done. Lost business rates from empty shops	John Harrison told the meeting the council collects business rates on behalf of the Government, the council doesn't keep the money so there is no loss to the council
Growth	Neighbourhood Council North and West Area	£8m on buying the football ground, what about South Bank development? Is this the end of it? Same situation for North Westgate	Cllr Seaton said a developer is coming in to build homes on the South Bank, the football ground is being developed too with an education centre included. Rental income for the loan on £8m comes from the football club. More expensive to build a new ground somewhere else

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
	Neighbourhood Council North and West Area	Need better communications on these issues so people know	Cllr Seaton said the council now has a new director of communications who is jointly employed with the hospitals trust and he is reviewing all communications
	Neighbourhood Council North and West Area	Lots of city council management of local services. Council needs to provide leadership for the local community to take up the tasks because too much management leads to people backing off	Comments noted
	Neighbourhood Council North and West Area	What services to be cut or reduced	Cllr Seaton referred to the budget document
	Neighbourhood Council North and West Area	If population increasing, how can services be cut	Cllr Seaton said grants still based on previous census. He said the new census should result in better grant settlement
	Neighbourhood Council North and West Area	Limon café chip shop offer rejected when could have got rents from that	Cllr Seaton said with city centre development, really good retailers are expected. Lots of things being put in place and more being planned
	Neighbourhood Council North and West Area	Lots of low budget shops in high street, need to go to Queensgate for good shopping. Businesses see cheap labour and therefore do not pay wages for people to buy enough products from good shops	Cllr Holdich said this city has good footfall and lots of shoppers, fewer empty units than other towns. Lots of high skilled, well paid jobs included even in distribution centres. More diverse workforce and population now so more businesses coming in e.g. Nandos, bigger stores in Queensgate
	Neighbourhood Council North and West Area	Peterborough is not just shops. Also lots of other things to be proud of such as swimming pools etc	Comments noted

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
	Neighbourhood Council North and West Area	Why is Vivacity giving main budget saving as library openings and not sport etc?	John Harrison said the council holds some control over Vivacity budget and libraries were identified as least disruptive option to save money
	Neighbourhood Council North and West Area	If libraries cut opening hours, is that affecting most vulnerable more	Vivacity is managing the reduction in service to 29 hours per week
	Neighbourhood Council North and West Area	Cutting libraries disproportionately to other Vivacity services. Libraries taking 12-13% cut but not same elsewhere	Vivacity is managing the reduction in service to 29 hours per week
	Neighbourhood Council North and West Area	If cutting Saturday hours, employed people have less time to access the service and also access to educational resources for children	Vivacity is managing the reduction in service to 29 hours per week
	Neighbourhood Council North and West Area	Need to keep local libraries instead of just good opening times of Central	Vivacity is going to be consulting with the public with options for how the new hours could be managed
	Neighbourhood Council North and West Area	Consultants' fees to be cut?	This is already part of the consultation
	Neighbourhood Council North and West Area	Consultants Why need so many in the first place	Cllr Seaton said we do not always have expertise in the council. Each project appointment has a business case for delivery of an outcome and is assessed at end of project. Cllr Seaton added that usually we only need a particular skill set for a short space of time for a set piece of work.
	Neighbourhood Council North and West Area	Need to fill empty shops before starting on Westgate project	Cllr Seaton said the council is talking to lots of companies all the time to fill empty shop units.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Response</b>
	Neighbourhood Council North and West Area	Who pays for new housing	John Harrison said some from government (receive council tax incentive), some private developers (receive S106).
	Neighbourhood Council North and West Area		
	Neighbourhood Council North and West Area	Energy from waste facility?	John Harrison said we are still considering this as landfill sites will soon be full
	Neighbourhood Council North and West Area	Recovered Icelandic money?	John Harrison said not all of the money had been recovered yet. We had invested £3m in 2 banks and maybe up to £2.5m could come back
	Neighbourhood Council North and West Area	Good news, reported a pot hole, 3 days later was fixed; very impressive so good work is done by the council (but never reported).	Thank you for your comments