



# Belonging Together...

“ A conversation about our  
communities and future



Peterborough



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Throughout this plan, we are posing some important questions about what it means to be a community, and what it means to ‘belong together’.

Over Summer 2019 we will be talking to local people about these questions and many more. What people say will help shape what we do in future.

## “Our ambition to build strong integrated communities...”

Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth - Minister for Faith

The government published the Integrated Communities Strategy Green Paper in March 2018. It set out our ambition to build strong integrated communities where people – whatever their background – live, work, learn and socialise together, based on shared rights, responsibilities and opportunities.

We want to see communities where what we have in common – and the strength we get from different faiths, beliefs and opinions – are celebrated, underpinned by a shared set of British values that champion respect and tolerance, freedom and equality of opportunity – bridging beliefs and backgrounds.

Britain is a great place to live. We want everyone to take advantage of the opportunities this country offers – especially women and girls who are too often denied these chances – while recognising and valuing their relationship with, and responsibility to, other groups and to our wider society.

We know that the challenges to integration vary throughout the country. The government's Integration Areas Programme focuses local and national resource on a common goal, to deliver integrated communities and to understand better and tackle the challenges specific to a place. Each area will take tailored actions to address the challenges specific to their place and capture the impacts of this work. This approach will help us to learn what works and how it could be applied in other places – ultimately helping us to improve integration in other areas.

We were delighted that Peterborough City Council agreed to participate in this programme. The local authority and its partners in the area have a clear understanding of the challenges they face and the strengths on which they can build and have shown their desire to be bold and innovative to meet the needs of the communities they serve.

We welcome the publication of Peterborough City Council's interim Local Integration Strategy which is a strong basis for their plans to undertake constructive consultation and engagement over the Summer. We look forward to learning from the delivery of its ambitious long-term vision for the communities of Peterborough which sits at the heart of this strategy.

## “Everyone deserves the same opportunity...”

Councillor Irene Walsh - Cabinet Member for Communities

**Integration is something that is easy to take for granted, and when we have it, we almost don't notice it. However, the impact can be huge.**

Everyone, no matter what their background, deserves the same opportunity to live in a safe neighbourhood, with access to good jobs, homes and education. Where there is a lack of cohesion within our communities, inequality can swiftly follow, leading to poor health, reduced income and fewer chances to take full advantage of the opportunities that life in Peterborough can offer.

Our approach is to help to break down the barriers that stop people from being able to integrate fully within society.

Whilst this strategy focuses on many of the issues that communities face, it is important to remember that there is much to be proud of within Peterborough. We are a highly diverse city and one where people hold a great deal of respect and trust both between and within communities, as people focus not on what makes us different, but on the values which we all share in common. This provides a strong platform from which all partners can work together to further improve integration in Peterborough.

We want our programme to be the catalyst for positive action and long-term change across the wider system to benefit all of our communities.

## “A city of opportunity...”

John Holdich - Leader of Council

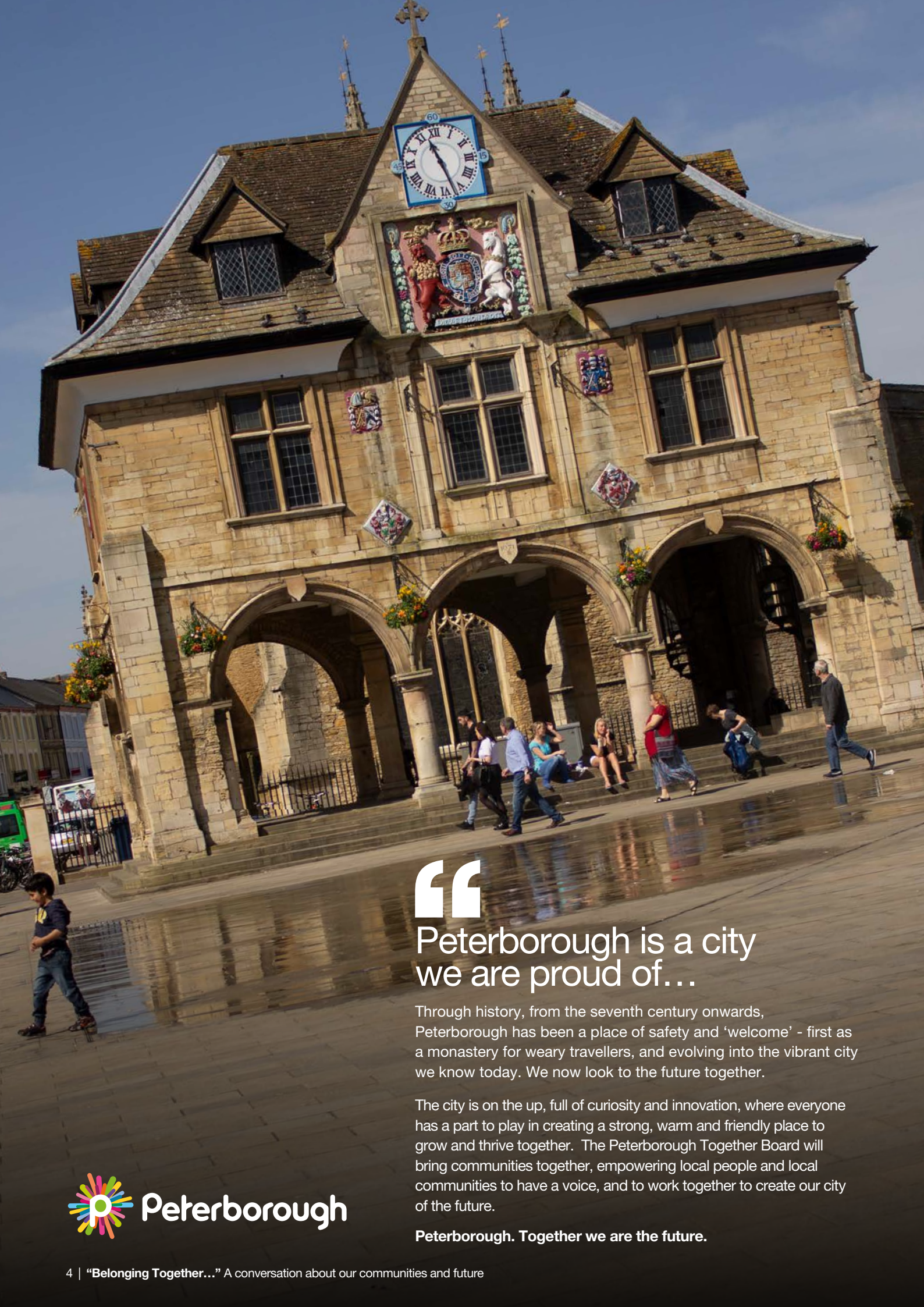
**Peterborough has always been a city of opportunity, from being one of the leading manufacturing hubs in the country to post war expansion as a new town.**

Our city has shown time and again how we can rise to new challenges and become a destination that more and more people want to call home. We have a long and proud history of welcoming newcomers to our city, both from within the UK and from across the world, over many generations.

Over the last few years, the council has provided significant investment into the city but we recognise that just growing our city's infrastructure is not enough; we must also ensure that we invest in and grow our communities.

I am therefore delighted the council and partners across the public, faith, community and business sectors are working closely with Government to test new ways to bring our communities together, build integration and create an inclusive city.

The work outlined in this strategy builds upon our successful approach to community cohesion that has been developed over many years.



“

Peterborough is a city  
we are proud of...

Through history, from the seventh century onwards, Peterborough has been a place of safety and ‘welcome’ - first as a monastery for weary travellers, and evolving into the vibrant city we know today. We now look to the future together.

The city is on the up, full of curiosity and innovation, where everyone has a part to play in creating a strong, warm and friendly place to grow and thrive together. The Peterborough Together Board will bring communities together, empowering local people and local communities to have a voice, and to work together to create our city of the future.

**Peterborough. Together we are the future.**





“

## Putting communities at the heart of all we do...

Along with its local and regional partners, Peterborough is developing a new vision for everything it does. This new approach puts working with communities at its heart.

The integrated communities work provides a great opportunity for Peterborough to kick start this new approach. Known locally as **‘Think Communities’** - this approach will change the way that services are designed and delivered alongside local people and communities.

Think Communities will make sure that public sector services focus on:

### People

- Ensuring that people have what they need to help themselves and each other

### Places

- Working with communities so that they are integrated, have a strong identity, and are able to support the needs of local people

### System

- Consider the whole picture, so that all public sector partners work seamlessly together, and alongside local people to deliver community-led services

**Our integrated communities strategy is an important first step in this approach - and is rooted in this bigger vision.**



“

what could you do on your street to make it a better place?

”

# Peterborough Our city...



## History

**As our city has grown, people from across the world have chosen to make Peterborough their home - bringing new skills, culture and heritage. Through our historical roots as a Cathedral city, to becoming a New Town in the 1960s and to the present day, Peterborough has a long and proud history as a city which welcomes all.**

We believe that Peterborough's cultural diversity is one of its greatest strengths and the city's future depends upon people from different backgrounds getting on well with each other.

There is much to be proud of within Peterborough. Our city has grown significantly over the years and with it has come new jobs, skills, housing and opportunities. Peterborough has benefited hugely from the rich, vibrant cultures that new and existing communities have brought with them.

## A changing city

**In recent years Peterborough has seen rapid growth in migration. Between the 2001 and 2011 census, Peterborough's population overall grew by 17%. We live in one of the fastest-growing cities in the country. Having a rapidly increasing and changing population creates great opportunities but also brings challenges.**

Demand for housing has increased and has changed

the nature of some local communities, with more adults of working age moving into areas that traditionally had provided homes for families.

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**“ Being a Local Integration Area provides us with a genuinely unique opportunity to design, test and review new ways of working, and to learn from the experiences of other areas. We want our programme to be a catalyst for long-term change to benefit all of our communities**

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This can create a feeling of overcrowding and the loss of a sense of community. In response the council has invested significantly into the city centre and public realm but just growing our infrastructure is not enough; we must also ensure that we invest in and grow our community strengths.

Growth has also increased demand for schools and council services, during a period of tight public spending and increasing expectations of what public services can deliver. In response to this local public services across in the city are well on the way to developing new and creative solutions to support residents as soon as issues arise, in order to limit and reduce demand for costly core services.

## Some of the challenges of Peterborough's growth:

### Health and Wellbeing

- 9.1% of people have no formal qualifications (8.8% UK average)
- 24% of children live in poverty
- There is a 19 year difference in healthy life expectancy between the least and most deprived areas of Peterborough. Higher proportions of black and minority ethnic (BME) communities live in these deprived areas
- Around a third of our population (62,000) live in the 20% most deprived areas in the country

### Migration

- Almost 5% of the population stated that they cannot speak English well or at all
- Net international immigration is far higher than the regional or national average at 9.7 people per 1,000 compared to 4.5 for England and 3.6 for the region

### Schools and education

- Since 2011, Peterborough has had the fourth highest increase (6.2%) across the country in the proportion of non-British pupils and the second highest nationally in the percentage of pupils who speak English as an Additional Language (9.4%).
- Across Peterborough's schools, 32% of pupils do not have English as their first language compared to a national average of 14%. In general, educational attainment is lower for pupils who speak a language other than English at home.



### Employment

- In 2011, 22% of Peterborough's minority population 16-24 year olds had no qualifications (compared to 14% White British).
- Problems of social exclusion have persisted for some ethnic minority groups and poorer White British communities. There are disproportionately high levels of un- or under-employment and economic inactivity and more limited progression in work for some - around 59% of women of Bangladeshi or Pakistani ethnicity are inactive in the labour market, and 50% of young people (aged 16-24) of a Black ethnic background are economically inactive compared to 35% of their White British peers. These disparities can generate disaffection, isolation and a sense of grievance.

## Our strengths

Peterborough has a reputation for grasping challenges and a desire to try new things. Any new activity we undertake will build upon a strong foundation spanning decades of community engagement, leadership and partnership working.

We have developed lasting relationships across our diverse communities and have effective partnership working across our public, business, voluntary and faith sectors. We will continue to build upon these foundations to develop a new programme of work to improve integration within Peterborough.

This is a fantastic opportunity to build on our already successful approach to community integration and to start new ways of working that are communityled.



“

What makes a strong community?

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# Our opportunity as a city championing integration and inclusion

In 2018, the Government published its [Green Paper on the national Integrated Communities Strategy](#). Peterborough was chosen to be one of its five Integration Areas. The other Areas are Bradford, Blackburn with Darwen, Waltham Forest and Walsall.

“ **Being a Local Integration Area provides us with a genuinely unique opportunity to design, test and review new ways of working, and to learn from the experiences of other areas. We want our programme to be a catalyst for long-term change to benefit all of our communities**

The Integrated Communities Strategy articulates the Government’s ambition to create strong, integrated communities where people – whatever their background

– work, learn, live and socialise together, based on shared rights, responsibilities and opportunities.

## Inclusive cities

Peterborough is also one of six cities taking part in the [Inclusive Cities programme](#) which is being led by Compas (Centre on Migration Policy and Society). The other cities are Glasgow, Cardiff, Liverpool, Bristol and London.

The programme provides an opportunity for us to learn from both US and UK cities experiencing significant population change as a result of inward migration, and how to develop inclusive and welcoming communities.

Through this we are learning from good practice elsewhere and can build this learning into our future plans.

## Our approach, responding to growth

**Our approach, rooted in our ‘Think Communities’ work, is to focus on the following four priority areas as the best way of grasping the opportunities and addressing the challenges that the city’s rapid growth has brought.**

Co-designed with a number of partners including the Department of Work and Pensions, University Centre Peterborough, and representatives of voluntary, faith and community sector organisations, our four areas of focus are:

### 1 Economic Opportunity

We want to ensure that everyone living in Peterborough can benefit from the city’s growth, for example by making it easier for people to develop skills relevant to today’s job market.

### 2 Bringing Communities Together

We want to encourage and help to build connections between people in local communities where rapid population change has impacted on their sense of community. Another focus of this theme is to ensure that when meeting new housing needs we place communities at the heart of our planning.

### 3 Young People

Rapid growth has brought big changes to our schools too. We want to increase our understanding of how this has impacted young people, and of how they think

their communities can support integration. Investing in young people, developing their skills and helping them to feel part of their community is crucial to developing a strong city.

### 4 English Language

Importantly we want to help our citizens to improve their language skills. Good communication strengthens relationships, and this priority underpins our other three priority areas. Better language skills will help with learning, gaining qualifications, and employability. In turn this will help to improve the life chances of adults and children currently living in poverty.

**Work in each of these four areas will focus on developing a better understanding of integration issues affecting our communities and trialling new ways of responding to them.**

We will commission research with people to understand how they experience their communities, which will help inform the delivery of this programme and the services we offer. This will lead to longer term improvements as we develop more responsive services.

“ what makes you feel part of your neighbourhood?”



## 1 Economic Opportunity

**We will work closely with businesses and with the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) to develop new approaches to improve the economic opportunities available for everyone.**

We know that all people need to be able to develop their skills, work experiences and careers. Increasing economic opportunity will help everyone to fulfil their potential, improve their quality of life and to contribute to the prosperity of the city.

We will remove barriers that prevent some people from accessing learning or employment, especially when people are from our most isolated communities. At the same time we will help our employers to do all they can to support their workforce to grow and develop.

**Projects to increase economic opportunity:**

- **Childcare** - we will develop targeted activity to help parents find affordable childcare so they are able to take advantage of employment opportunities.

- **Jobs and careers fairs** - we will develop a programme of jobs and careers fairs with leading employers to help people gain employment. The programme will integrate volunteering opportunities that help increase skills for work.
- **'Disability Confident Scheme'** - we will increase the number of employers signed up to the Government's Disability Confident Scheme - this will tackle barriers that prevent disabled people from finding good employment.



### Jobsmart, Mindset

**Ron is a mature student who had very low literacy and a lack of confidence when he first came to Jobsmart. He was only able to read short, popular words and had to try to sound out others. He had not worked for many years and his work coach at the Job Centre did not know how to move him forward.**

Ron joined the Jobsmart Mindset provision, aimed at those with the most barriers to employment.

He started taking reading lessons at the centre and proved to be an apt student. Ron was delighted with his progress. He passed his Award in Writing at Entry level 2 and this academic year started on the next level.

Ron also started studying the security officer

workbook with a view to taking the qualification in 2019 - he even studied the workbook for four months before starting the course. It was good to see his confidence grow over the course of the programme. He took timed multiple choice exams for the qualification and passed them all on his first attempt. Jobsmart has paid for his qualification to be converted into the SIA badge and are now supporting Ron in looking for employment.

“

how can we help parents juggle home life and work?



Read our  
achievements  
so far...



## 2 Bringing Communities Together

We want to develop resilient local communities that become stronger as they grow. Communities where local people support and look out for each other and know where to turn to for local help. This is central to our 'Think Communities' approach.

We will focus on developing strong community leadership for the future, protecting the most vulnerable when they need it, and placing communities at the heart of decision-making in their own neighbourhoods.

We will work alongside local people to design community-led solutions rather than applying a one size fits all approach, and we will improve integration both within and between neighbourhoods.

Projects to bring communities together:

- **Communities Fund** - we have set up a fund to enable communities to bid for cash to develop local initiatives that bring people together
- **Community Assets and Connectors** - we will identify and then work with the strengths of each local community by developing new community based jobs - our 'local connectors' will work in the community not in a 'council' building
- **Trailblaze a new approach to community integration in the local planning framework** - we will develop a new and unique approach to our planning framework - this approach puts designing for communities, neighbourliness and interaction at its heart
- **Tackling Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence** - we will support the development of community and faith champions to tackle Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (DASV). It will improve support to victims, raise awareness and improve reporting
- **Houses of Multiple Occupancy (HMOs)** - we will trial new approaches - building on our existing knowledge - to manage the number of Houses of Multiple Occupancy (HMOs) in local communities
- **Time credits** - we will launch a 'time credits' initiative improving opportunities through volunteering, and to enable better access to leisure and cultural activities
- **Community leadership** - we will work with Partners to empower community groups to have a greater say in decisions that affect them, and help to strengthen community leadership through training and development opportunities.

### Good Neighbours in Castor

Neil Boyce is the Chairman of Castor Parish Council and two years ago was also co-opted onto the Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee of Peterborough City Council which gave him a real insight into the difficulties faced by the City Council with regard to cohesion, engagement and finance. This led him to think about what parish councils could do to help. He came up with the Good Neighbours scheme.

Good Neighbours offers practical help providing short-term assistance to elderly and vulnerable residents locally and sign posts where further help is available. For example, if somebody has come out of hospital with a broken arm and can't manage the gardening,

a volunteer Good Neighbours can help with that. They can also support with running errands or basic tasks like filling in a form. For those with more complex needs or requiring additional support Good Neighbours help make sure they are referred to the right place.

“

how can we make it easy for people to give their own time to their community?



Read our  
achievements  
so far ...





### 3 Young People

We will empower and support young people to take ownership of their communities, putting power into their hands and allowing them the opportunity to share their vision for an integrated Peterborough. We will strengthen the voice of young people in informing policy direction and decisions about community cohesion. Our focus on young people will help everyone, and specifically local leaders, to better understand the challenges they face and the solutions they can see.

We will:

- **Develop a 'curriculum for life'** - to support young people in navigating the challenges they face when they leave home. It will build on the National Citizen Service scheme to support and enable young people to see and feel themselves as a citizens of Peterborough, working with youth organisations across the city to put youth voice front and centre.
- **Undertake in-depth research with young people Youth** - to better understand the integration issues our young people face we will launch a

comprehensive piece of research, including focus groups and a longitudinal study following a group of young people as they grow up.

- **Strengthen representation** - Strengthen the role of the current Youth Council and the Children in Care Council to enable young people to influence relevant policy which impacts on inclusion and integration issues.
- **Interfaith Network** - Establish a Young People's Interfaith Network.



### Co-creating our work

A core part of the Youth strand in our strategy is bringing partner organisations on the journey with us. To create our 'Curriculum for Life' we have been involving people and organisations who work with and for young people. We need to get a lot of people engaged if we are to deliver the curriculum across all the schools, colleges and youth organisations across Peterborough.

At the end of April we brought together adults from a range of organisations to participate in a workshop aimed at looking at Peterborough from the perspective of a young person. This new approach helped free us from our conventional thinking, and helped us to think

again about what a young person friendly city could look like. Building on the workshop we have started work on creating a Youth Opportunity Forum, taken forward the Curriculum for Life and developed ways to recruit young people into the future Young Commissioners.

“

how do you help young people get involved?



Read our achievements so far...





## 4 English Language

**We recognise that in order for communities to be truly integrated, the ability to easily communicate with one another in a shared language is vital. Approximately 5% of Peterborough's population cannot speak English well or at all. 35% of young people speak English and another language at home.**

This theme proposes to develop a strategic and effective approach to managing the demand and supply of English language training.

**We will deepen our local approach to delivering English Language classes:**

- **Research** - we will commission research to better understand the needs of existing and potential learners - this will improve the way English for Speakers of Other Languages training (ESOL) is provided locally
- **Bespoke English language classes** - we will refocus ESOL to make it more bespoke to individual groups - with a strong focus on helping people into work

where a lack of English is a barrier. Anecdotally, we know that Peterborough has many highly skilled migrant workers in the city, however a lack of English language skills can create difficulties in finding appropriate work.

- **ESOL provider partnership** - we will develop an ESOL providers network and partnership to strengthen collaboration and ensure we offer the right learning opportunities across the city in the most appropriate and flexible way.



## City College's work with refugees

**Since early 2017 the college has supported a group of mainly Syrian learners who arrived as part of the government's resettlement scheme. Of the twenty-five learners only three had some proficiency in the English language upon arrival in the UK.**

Since then students have worked hard to overcome learn English and also forge links with the local community. Helal, a Syrian refugee who arrived with his family not only works on his English but has been shown how to make connections with local community projects.

He volunteers for a furniture charity supporting the homeless and works in the cathedral herb garden

with other refugees. For Helal it is important to give back to the community as a way of saying thanks for the UK's support. With much improved English he is now applying for a position as a chef.

The college's programme of teaching English, and supporting the wider needs of refugees, is helping refugees make new relationships and really get involved in their community.

“

how do we go the extra mile to understand each other?



Read our  
achievements  
so far ...



## Bringing Communities Together

- **The Peterborough Communities Fund** was launched in January 2019. Community groups were invited to bid for up to £20,000 for projects to bring communities together and support greater integration:
- Since its launch, £215,000 has been awarded to 19 groups.
- Free bid writing courses have been run to build confidence for groups to make funding applications.
- Workshop sessions have been held to bring community groups and leaders together to share ideas, ask questions and develop their community aims.
- Building on the workshops, plans are in place to improve the networking of community leaders through future events, for example a 'fair' to showcase funding opportunities and funding bodies.

## The projects below are the first to be funded.

- **Basketball Club Vytis** has launched a new eight month project to provide indoor structured basketball sessions for young children from different backgrounds and mixed abilities.
- **Olive Branch Community Garden** is a new project to open up a community space for the public and local groups to host regular activities, events and workshops.
- **Disability Peterborough's inclusion project** is a new project of engagement that has been started with black, asian and minority ethnic people with disabilities, and their families and carers, in three Peterborough wards.
- **Bainton and Ashton Parish Council** 'in bloom' have started an intergenerational project to bring together young and old residents to use plants and gardening to bring people together. Village open days are planned and the new community partnership will develop further activity.
- **Art Pop-up at Langdyke nature reserves** is a new project connecting diverse rural and urban community groups through art workshops, nature activities and events.
- **Fabric of Society** is a project bringing together over 20 women from diverse cultures who share a common interest and knowledge of textiles. The project which brings people together, helps people gain new skills, and celebrates diversity, will now be extended. It recently won 'best project for community and culture' in the Community Leisure UK awards. Their recent exhibition ran at Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery until January 2019.



## Economic Opportunity

- **Mindset courses** are up and running with 30 people attending who feel significantly isolated, they come from a range of backgrounds. Many had not spoken to anyone for a number of weeks prior to attending, but feedback following six weeks of the course showed that people had started socialising more. Some had been getting involved in community events, such as charity fundraising. They told us that they felt less isolated, that their confidence had increased and they were starting to look at job opportunities as a result.
- **New volunteering activity** is being undertaken by our volunteer co-ordinator who has worked with 28 people interested in volunteering, matching them to opportunities and encouraging them to participate in the 'Job Club' to work together in a group looking at opportunities.



## Young People

- **Research into young people's views** is being co-created with Year 12 students from five schools working with University Centre Peterborough. While developing their skills as peer researchers they have also developed a survey to be carried out this summer with young people to gather their views on integration in the city.
- **A knife crime conference** has been developed by Peterborough Youth Council to bring young people together to share their views. The Youth Council is also looking at new ways to involve more young people in decision making processes in the city.
- **A Curriculum for life** is being developed by Youth Partners across the city.

## English Language

- **Our ESOL for Work course** started in April. Those involved also attend less formal 'coffee and conversation' sessions ahead of the course. This innovative approach aims to improve the effectiveness of the course by building strong relationships and helping put people at ease before the more formal activity.
- It also is an opportunity to start sharing ideas about how people can integrate more with their local communities when their English isn't strong. These have proved successful with positive feedback so far.



# Delivery through partnership and co-production

**Through strong partnership working we already positively engage with our communities, developing strong community relations and supporting activities that foster a sense of belonging. Effective partnership working is integral to this plan.**

We are now ready to take the next step and put communities at the heart of all our work; this is central to our 'Think Communities' approach. In developing solutions and activity to support this plan we are going beyond the traditional model of 'identifying what people need' and then delivering it. Instead we will work alongside people, in partnership, to discuss, create, produce, deliver and review what communities need.

**This plan to support integrated communities has already been developed in this way with the following people:**

- Focus groups comprising of representatives from a range of stakeholders including: community and voluntary sector organisations, faith groups, schools,

youth organisations, adult learning organisations, Opportunity Peterborough and the DWP.

- A partnership-led Programme Board to oversee progress
- Co-production and oversight by members of the Peterborough Together Partnership
- Engaging a wide range of elected Members with this work

**As we start to deliver this plan we will co-produce activity with:**

- Local people and residents - taking many opportunities to engage and talk
- Voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations
- Faith communities
- Schools and colleges
- Businesses
- Council and wider public sector colleagues

## The Peterborough Together Partnership

**The Peterborough Together Partnership is a multi-agency partnership, with over 30 representatives from the public sector, local businesses and community and voluntary organisations. It has a broad range of skills, experience and understanding of community issues in the city and an independent Chair.**

The Partnership will oversee the successful delivery of our integrated communities activity. Through a co-production approach involving many people it has the potential to do much more.

We anticipate that the membership of the Partnership will

evolve over the lifetime of the approach, bringing on new partners as appropriate.

### Jobcentre Plus

**We will build on our already strong relationship with our local partners in Jobcentre Plus and work closely with them to deliver new approaches to improve the economic opportunities for all.**

To support this strategy MHCLG have committed to fund Jobcentre Plus to identify communities where people are furthest from the job market, and to engage with those communities to support more people into work.



## Working collaboratively in Peterborough

**Richard Astle - Chair of the Peterborough Together Partnership**

Peterborough is a place of opportunity and heritage. It has a rich history and plans for a bold future. Those plans will make this one of the best places to live in the country, with improved educational, health, environmental and job opportunities.

The role of the Peterborough Together Partnership is to work collaboratively, innovatively and transparently to bring communities and individuals together to ensure that unity of purpose and to enable a growing sense of genuine pride in Peterborough.

It is not enough for us to concentrate on how we integrate new people into our city and its rural areas, we need to look hard at how we create a truly inclusive city whose agenda is shaped by and resonates with all its residents and visitors too.

If we can achieve that, then our ambitions for the future will be far easier to achieve and Peterborough's people will not only love living here, they will want to tell everyone about it too. With such shared pride, can come yet further success.



## Learning and evaluation

Learning will be ongoing to ensure a process of continuous improvement. Critical to our approach will be to try things out, reflect, learn and adapt. We don't expect to get everything right the first time. As one of MHCLG's Integration Areas, we welcome the opportunity to share our learning and to be part of a national evaluation and learning programme which

will help us to understand and share our learning about what works and what doesn't, contributing to a growing national evidence base.

An independent organisation has been commissioned by MHCLG to evaluate some of the common themes across the five Integration Areas.

“

what do you think a good future would look like?

”

### Next steps

**Over summer 2019, we will start a series of conversations in communities about what matters. We will use these conversations to help shape:**

- our new transformation 'Think Communities' approach
- our Integrated Communities work
- what the council and the local public sector delivers

Engagement and good quality conversations between us are central to our approach. In order to co-produce all that we do we need to be talking to people and communities about what matters and what is important to them.

Specifically, together we will talk about how people feel about their communities, how connected they are to them and if there is a sense of pride and neighbourliness. This will help shape our integrated communities work going forward.

A good conversation is 'two way' - and as part of the conversation we hope to hear what people want to contribute to their community and how the Council can support this. We will get them to consider where they can get involved, and where they are best placed to offer help and support.

These conversations will help firm up a new shared vision for the future with communities at the heart, and help shape the integrated communities strategy that we will publish at an event in October.

This event will set out the progress we have made, the learning from our work and our long term vision beyond the Integrated Communities programme.

This community conference - with local people attending - will help ensure that this strategy and our Think Communities approach is truly owned and co-produced by the communities in Peterborough.



# Timeline of events



We **will...**

**Sign up Work 60 employers in Peterborough to Disability Confident**

**Talk to people via the Community Conversation** events taking place summer 2019

**Offer free training courses** in bid writing and fundraising for **40 community groups**

**Provide £300,000 directly to community groups** via the Peterborough Communities Fund

**Train young people as Youth Commissioners** with a commissioning budget of £60,000 to pilot new youth projects that meet the needs identified by young people across the city.

**Engage and consult with 300 potential learners on their English language needs**

**Provide ESOL for Work courses for 80 individuals** and support 55% of these into work

**Train 20 Community Guides** representative of Peterborough's diverse community in the practice of asset based community development.



**Peterborough City Council**

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@PeterboroughCC



@PeterboroughCC

[www.peterborough.gov.uk](http://www.peterborough.gov.uk)