



CIRCULAR PETERBOROUGH

Circulating resources, making the most of what we have locally, supporting economic resilience, developing strong communities and increasing environmental sustainability

CIRCULAR PETERBOROUGH COMMITMENT

Together we are committed to creating a Circular Peterborough. By working collaboratively we will change the way we do things so that by 2050 Peterborough can state that it is truly operating as a circular city: maximising the full potential of its resources and reconnecting people, places, businesses, organisations and communities. We will do this by rethinking, redesigning, repairing, reusing, remanufacturing, recycling and recovering products and services in our city - our 7 Rs.

This will enable us to make the most of what we have locally, support economic resilience, develop strong communities and increase environmental sustainability. It will contribute to achieving the city's vision of ensuring people live longer, healthier, more prosperous lives with better skills in a safe and sustainable environment that only uses the resources of one planet.



WHAT IS A CIRCULAR CITY?

A city can be compared to a living organism – it requires raw materials which it transforms for numerous purposes and produces waste as part of the process. Many resources criss-cross a city: equipment, materials, water, energy, heat, organic matter; and dealing with them requires many operating systems. Moreover, resources are not only about materials, they are also about capital, and more importantly, citizens. Cities exist because of people and as such a whole new dimension of flow enters into consideration: skills, transport, education, health, communities, recreational activities, etc.

In Peterborough, we have set out to create the enabling environment to manage these flows in a circular way. It's about circulating resources, making the most of what we have locally, supporting economic resilience, developing strong communities and increasing environmental sustainability. It's also about changing individual and collective behaviours and building trust and care, through new ways of learning and open and transparent sharing of information, knowledge and assets.



WHY NOW, WHY PETERBOROUGH?

Peterborough already has strong ambitions. In 2008 the city adopted the aspiration of creating the UK's Environment Capital. Put simply, it means living within the resources of one planet by 2050. At present, the average UK resident would need three planets worth of resources to be sustainable. In other countries, such as the US, this increases to five. With the number of people in our cities predicted to grow to 70% of the overall population by 2050, and with the resultant pressure this puts on natural resources, clearly things need to change. Adopting circular economy principles is one way to help us achieve this.

It's not just about the planet's

environment; economies and businesses are faced with increasing risks linked to resource scarcity, price volatility and dependency on global supply chains. Peterborough is one of the fastest growing cities in the UK: the Circular Economy - scaled-up at the city level with our Circular City initiative - provides us with the framework to generate a solution for sustainable growth that is resilient to those challenges. It enables us to make the most of our resources locally, generate new patterns of growth, develop new skills-sets and new jobs, waste less and decrease our environmental impact. The point is not to become circular for the sake of it: it is a

collaborative initiative that will tackle specific local challenges and take the city closer to achieving its overall vision.

Peterborough is starting to get recognised as a pioneering place that's testing innovative and collaborative Circular Economy approaches; where stakeholders from the public, private and third sectors act in parallel and in collaboration to change their patterns of producing, selling and consuming. We have an opportunity to build on our potential and the initiatives already begun in the city, acting as a living laboratory for new ideas and generating the prospect of new investment to test these initiatives.

THE 7 Rs

There are some practical steps that we can all take to embark on the Circular City journey; all are aimed at not only reducing potentially negative impacts and risks for the economy, society and the environment but also driving more effective use of our finite resources:

01 RETHINK

We can think differently about resources, remembering they're not only materials and products, but also capital and people. We can challenge why things are done the way they are and look for more economically viable and sustainable solutions for the products and services that surround us.

02 REDESIGN

This means creating things that last longer and are easier to upgrade, repair, pull apart and reuse. Think about your phone, what if it could be repaired instead of thrown away, and once out of service, wouldn't it be better to recover all the precious and rare components in it to make new ones?

03 REPURPOSE REUSE & SHARE

We tend to use things for only a short fraction of time. We should seek to maximise products' and services' lifecycles. What you don't want or need anymore can still be very valuable for others. You can share or swap underused items or items you don't need anymore rather than throwing them away. Share Peterborough, an online B2B platform where you can share and source resources with other organisations in the city, will launch in 2016 to facilitate this. You can also simply donate them, or sell and buy second-hand products.

04 REPAIR

Before filling up your bin, seek opportunities to repair broken items. As a manufacturer you can share user-guides on how to repair your products easily. As a customer, you can learn how to mend your broken items using online tutorials.

05 REMANUFACTURE

This is an exciting economic opportunity for companies. Remanufacturing means taking back items once they reach their end of life, recovering the usable components or materials in them and then producing new ones with the recovered materials. Take-back schemes and leasing rather than buying products offer great incentives for both businesses and their clients.

06 RECYCLE

If your items can't be repaired, reused or remanufactured, then it's time to recycle. Lots of everyday items can be recycled including paper, plastic, metals, electronic items and many more.

07 RECOVER

Every item retains a level of value within it, even at the end of its life. In Peterborough, we have our own Energy Recovery Facility which diverts 90% of residual household waste from landfill and provides energy to 15,000 homes in the city. The facility accepts commercial waste too.



COMMITMENT

By signing this commitment, we state that we agree with the principles of the Circular Peterborough vision and ambition.

We commit to supporting the Circular Peterborough initiative through one or all of its development mechanisms (Maturity Model, Share Peterborough, the 7Rs) and to supporting others in the Circular City journey through collaboration, partnership and shared insights.



PRACTICALLY, IT MEANS:

- Working out what we're doing now, how this can be improved from a resource effectiveness and Circular Peterborough perspective, and what changes can feasibly be made.
- Monitoring the impact of what we're doing now against the Circular Peterborough principles, and the impact of any new approaches adopted.
- Collecting and sharing any data or lessons learnt that are relevant where this does not conflict with any legal, statutory, regulatory or commercial constraints.
- Seeking opportunities to work in partnership where doing so will support the Circular Peterborough agenda.

Peterborough has a rare opportunity to demonstrate a new approach to the responsible stewardship of our city, our citizens and the resources of our planet, and we recognise the potential of the Circular Peterborough ambition in helping to realise that potential.

