



## Creating the UK's environment capital – public, private, community and voluntary sectors

With support from public, private, community and voluntary sectors Peterborough is building a reputation as the UK's environment capital (<http://www.ukenvironmentcapital.com>).

Activities to change behaviours and implement carbon reduction measures include:

- **Transport** – As a sustainable transport demonstration town, Peterborough is successfully persuading people to car share, use public transport, cycle and walk rather than make single-occupant car journeys. Bus passenger numbers increased for the sixth year in succession in 2008/09. See: [www.travelchoice.org.uk](http://www.travelchoice.org.uk)
- **Environmental goods and services businesses** – Peterborough has the highest concentration of businesses serving the environmental goods and services sector and has an Enviro-Innovation Centre to help firms profit from the demand for 'sustainable' technologies. See: [www.envirocluster.net](http://www.envirocluster.net) and [www.ecoinnovationcentre.co.uk](http://www.ecoinnovationcentre.co.uk).
- **Investors in the Environment** – Peterborough Environment City Trust (PECT) – established when Peterborough became one of only four Environment Cities in 1992 – has offered a Business Environmental Management Scheme for many years and is now launching an 'Investors in the Environment' scheme to promote environmental best practice among businesses. See: [www.pect.org.uk](http://www.pect.org.uk).
- **Home heating efficiency** – Peterborough City Council organised a night-time thermal imaging flight over the city's urban corridor and now residents and business occupiers can check the survey data for their properties to discover how they can reduce carbon emissions by improving insulation. People suffering 'fuel poverty' are being helped to install improved insulation. See: [www.peterborough.gov.uk/heatloss](http://www.peterborough.gov.uk/heatloss)
- **Zero Waste Place** – Peterborough Environment City Trust (PECT) is delivering a city centre Zero Waste Place project that has already helped 120 businesses improve their waste management, diverted over 3,000 tonnes of waste from landfill, prevented 1,500 tonnes of CO2 emissions and saved over £20,000 since its launch in April 2008. See: <http://www.zerowasteplace.com>.
- **Zero Carbon Homes** – Peterborough has been selected for the UK's largest development of 'Carbon Challenge' homes built to meet the government's Code for Sustainable Homes Level 6. A planning application for around 360 homes on a seven-hectare (17-acre) brownfield site is expected next year.
- **The Greenivisity** – Peterborough Environment City Trust (PECT) has launched a free community education scheme under which volunteers provide tuition in 'sustainable lifestyle' topics. See: <http://www.pect.org.uk/blog/viewpost/235>.
- **Education** – Peterborough aims to have 100 per cent 'Eco-Schools' by next year (2010), giving youngsters a thorough insight into how environmental issues affect them. A 'Going Green' board game developed by city council climate change officer Jenna Hiley with pupils from Hampton College and distributed to schools throughout Peterborough achieved a silver Green Apple award in November 2009. New school buildings incorporate sustainable technologies such as 'green roofs', rainwater harvesting, ground source heat pumps and extensive use of natural light. There are plans for environmental technology degree courses to be a priority at the fledgling University Centre Peterborough developed with Anglia Ruskin University. See: [www.anglia.ac.uk/ruskin/en/home/your\\_university/anglia\\_ruskin\\_campuses/peterborough.html](http://www.anglia.ac.uk/ruskin/en/home/your_university/anglia_ruskin_campuses/peterborough.html).
- **Cutting business carbon emissions** – Local businesses were invited to make pledges to cut carbon emissions by 10 per cent or equivalent to one tonne of CO2 annually at Green Day celebrations on 18 November.

- **Cutting local authority carbon emissions** – Peterborough City Council is working with the Carbon Trust to cut its carbon emissions by a massive 35 per cent over the next five years. This is one of the highest targets in the country and exceeds government targets.
- **Recycling** – Peterborough City Council was the top recycler among unitary authorities for 2006/07 and 2007/08 and was fourth highest with 48 per cent in 2008/09. It aims to recycle and compost more than 65 per cent of household and garden materials by 2020, conserving resources and minimising carbon emissions from mining, manufacturing and transportation activities. See: [www.65percentplus.co.uk](http://www.65percentplus.co.uk).
- **The Green Backyard and Eco Art Projects** – Community-led initiatives demonstrate how people can easily adopt more sustainable lifestyles. See: [www.thegreenbackyard.com](http://www.thegreenbackyard.com) and [www.ecoartenterprises.com](http://www.ecoartenterprises.com).
- The Peterborough-based **UK Centre for Economic and Environmental Development** (UK CEED) is retro-fitting a house in the Bretton area of Peterborough to show how existing properties can minimise carbon emissions.