



Peterborough

a growing cluster of food-related businesses supported by strong transport infrastructure



Image courtesy of Produce World



From international brands to locally sourced produce, Peterborough's food and drink industry has a strong foundation and is a growing business sector across the sub-region. With processing and packaging companies, such as New Covent Garden Foods, Masterfoods and McCain, through to cutting edge food technology being undertaken by AB Agri and British Sugar, the city covers the full supply chain of production and innovation.

**Agricultural strength**

Greater Peterborough's agri-food industry generates over £2 billion of food-related trade and its hinterland has around 4,000 farms supporting 11,000 farming jobs.

The rich farmlands of the Fens to the south and east of Peterborough have given the city a natural base for a cluster of food-related businesses, supported by strong transport and logistics infrastructure.

**Food production**

100 food manufacturers and 350 other food-related firms – including machinery and equipment manufacturing, cold storage,

packaging, labeling and haulage – contribute an additional 7,000 jobs to Peterborough.

British Sugar, the sole processor of the UK's sugar beet crop and one of the largest single customers for the engineering sector in the East of England, operates from Peterborough, where it has enjoyed a long and profitable history.

Other major operators include New Covent Garden Foods, Masterfoods (part of the Mars UK Group) and Coca-Cola Enterprises. New food technology is also being driven by AB Agri from their base at Lynch Wood.

Along with Eurodix, who import and supply citrus fruit, providing goods from around the globe to the UK market, Produce World are also based near Peterborough and manage numerous fresh food supply chains for selected partners in retail and the food service industries.

Baker Perkins, also based in the city, is a market-leading supplier of technology to the food processing industry, working with clients in their own innovation centre producing

machinery for confectionary to breakfast cereal production.

**Support**

Within Peterborough and the East Anglia region, we have a number of organisations that provide support and advice to food and agricultural focused businesses.

With over 300 members, Peterborough-based Agricultural Industries Confederation (AIC) is the leading trade association in the agri-supply industry. The AIC is complimented by the Agricultural Engineers Association (AEA), which promotes the technical, trade and commercial interests of British manufacturers and suppliers of agricultural machinery.

The food and drink sector is supported by FoodEast, an information and networking service for food & farming companies in the East of England, situated in the city. In addition to this, the Fresh Produce Consortium (FPC), based in Peterborough, represents the fresh produce sector and is recognised across the UK and EU as the voice of the industry.



### Our people

Peterborough has a thriving multicultural population of over 170,000 residents, and is set to grow to over 200,000 by 2021. Around 65% (111,800) of the population is of working age and almost 30% is between 15 and 24, higher than the national average.

An excellent housing mix is available, from vibrant city centre accommodation to idyllic rural village settings and with a positive house price to earnings ratio of 8.52x (better than the national average), good housing is affordable.

### A connected city

London Kings Cross is only 45 minutes away and direct trains connect Peterborough with Leeds, Newcastle, Cambridge, Leicester and Birmingham. The A1M is right on the city's doorstep,

with the A47 and A14 providing key routes into East Anglia, the East Midlands and beyond. Travel from one side of the city to the other in just 15 minutes on our comprehensive parkway system and park in one of the many well-located car parks, or cycle around our 50-mile green wheel network.

### The right environment for business

Peterborough has a strong and diverse economy which has ridden the storm of the recent recession well. As well as our high-performing low carbon and environmental goods and services cluster, other sector strengths in the city include manufacturing, financial services, food & drink, and publishing & media. Big names locally include main offices for Caterpillar Perkins, British Sugar, Thomas Cook, New Covent Garden Foods, Amazon, Kiddicare and Bauer Media.

### Growing the city

Over £135m has already been invested into education locally to develop the city's University Centre and award-winning academies, with another £350m going into building the state-of-the-art City Hospital, the largest of its kind in Europe. Peterborough's billion-pound regeneration programme will deliver major new housing and employment opportunities in and around the city, including leisure development of the city's riverside on the South Bank and high-quality environmental offices near the mainline railway station.

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