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Peterborough City Council is working with Queensgate shopping centre to make this year's Christmas lights switch-on the best yet.

The event, on Saturday 19 November, will include a packed programme of entertainment for all the family.

The fun will start in Cathedral Square at 1pm with a line-up of local acts to get everyone in the Christmas spirit.

The entertainment will include 'One Boyband' Tom Korní, Peterborough Male Voice Choir & Peterborough Voices who will perform a selection of festive favourites, and The Stringlers who will entertain the audience with Christmas classics on their violins.

The cast of Dick Whittington at the Key Theatre will also lead the crowd in a pantomime sing-along before Mayor of Peterborough, Councillor David Sanders, joins a Salsa group on stage to dance to festive favourites.

The big switch-on will take place at 5pm with Father Christmas, the Mayor, and Leader of the Council, Councillor John Holdich, pressing the button.

Proceedings will then move to Queensgate for the centre's own switch-on. Starting at 5.30pm, crowds can expect plenty of entertainment including the official opening of Father Christmas' grotto in North Square at 6pm.

Councillor Janet Goodwin, cabinet member for city centre management, culture and tourism, said: "This year's event includes entertainment for all the family which I hope will encourage lots of people into the city centre. As well as enjoying the big switch-on, you can take the chance to do some Christmas shopping and enjoy the many restaurants that Peterborough has to offer.

"Working in partnership with Queensgate means we are able to offer an event packed with local entertainment as well as plenty of festive sparkle."