

District and County Councillor's Report – August 2023

Government Announcement

For those that keep up to date with the news you may have seen a recent announcement from Michael Gove, the minister for 'Levelling Up' and house building. He announced plans to for major development in 3 cities around the county, the first being Cambridge. The plan is to build something in the region of 250,000 houses to encourage life sciences and R&D companies to move to the area, turning Cambridge into the UK's 'Silicon Valley'. To put the numbers into context, Cambridge City currently has circa 50,000 houses, meaning that the proposals would quintuple the size of the city.

Locally, we think this is a non-starter, but do keep tabs on this, as I'm sure it will be getting many column inches over the next year.

4 Day Week

The trail of a 4-day working week at the District Council is to be extended to the waste collection crews. This will mean that, from September, they will only be collecting bins between Tuesday and Friday each week. For our area this will mean a change in bin collection day. This will be communicated directly to all those affected but please do spread the word. The frequency of collection will remain the same – blue & green one week and black the next – it's just the day that they are collected which is changing.

A1307 Works

The A1307 was closed between Hildersham and Linton over the weekend of the 15th and 16th July to complete the works to that remodelled section of the road – the GCP are asking for any feedback from the closure – anything that we experienced locally that we think maybe could have been handled differently i.e., signage, amount of warning etc. If you do have comments, please do let Henry and John know.

For more up to date information go to the Greater Cambridge Partnership website - <https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/sustainable-transport-programme/public-transport-schemes/cambridge-south-east-transport/cambridge-south-east-transport-phase-1-background/cambridge-south-east-transport-phase-1-current-schemes>

Cambridgeshire Priorities Capital Fund

The County Council have updated and rebranded the Communities Capital Fund that they ran a few years ago. The fund is designed to support local communities in projects that enable them to upgrade community buildings and assets. There is up to £40,000 available in each bid. The Council are currently asking for an 'expression of interest' from those community groups/parish councils that are thinking of applying. Full information, plus an application, can be found on the website - <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/communities/cambridgeshire-priorities-capital-fund>

Councillors Henry and John Batchelor

Community Gritting Scheme

Each year the County Council offers communities the chance to volunteer to assist with gritting the roads in our area. The scheme allows people the chance to identify specific roads/paths in their parishes that might benefit from some gritting, which currently aren't. Full detail of the scheme can be found at - <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/gritting-roads-cycleways-and-paths/help-with-gritting-and-clearing-snow>

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