CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT – AUGUST 2024 LONGSTANTON, NORTHSTOWE, OVER, OAKINGTON & WESTWICK

CLLR FIROUZ THOMPSON

ADULTS & HEALTH

Covid Vaccine Programme

The government has accepted advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation for an autumn COVID-19 vaccination programme this year. All those aged 65 or over, all those in care homes for older people, and those aged six months or over who are in a clinical risk group, will be eligible for vaccination this autumn.

ASSETS & PROCUREMENT

Old Shire Hall

The County Council's Assets & Procurement Committee has agreed to enter into an exclusivity arrangement with a preferred bidder for a freehold sale of the old Shire Hall building in Cambridge. The move comes after the previous preferred bidder pulled out of a proposal for a leasehold arrangement, and a new marketing exercise was undertaken. The Committee also agreed to make arrangements in the event that contracts are not exchanged by 9 October.

Council owned companies

The Committee has also agreed to establish arrangements for strengthened oversight of companies in which the council has an interest as owner, and to recommend the council's Constitution & Ethics Committee to establish a shareholder sub-committee to consider how this should be done.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

'My Smile' accreditation for Children & Family Centres

All of the County Council's Child & Family Centres and Family Hubs are now 'My Smile' accredited. The 'My Smile' programme is aimed at reducing oral health inequalities for the most deprived and disadvantaged children in early years. The programme offers training to Child & Family Centre and Family Hub staff by the Oral Health team from Dental Health Care, part of Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust.

There are four steps to the programme, consisting of

- Training in good oral health
- How to share information to families around toothbrushing
- Tooth friendly diets
- Dental visits.

Acquiring a 'My Smile' accreditation shows that the staff at these centres have received the most the up-to-date, evidence-based oral health training. It also shows that their centres promote a 'tooth friendly' environment for children and can confidently promote and advise visiting families on how to support good oral health at home

New Director of Education

The Holiday

HAF Programme

The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme is due to stop at the end of 2024, let's hope the new Government will continue this crucial fund.

COMMUNITIES, SOCIAL MOBILITY & INCLUSION (COSMIC)

Household Support Fund

The new Government announced this week that the Household Support Fund will be continuing, this will be its fifth extension, as reported by the Guardian: Rachel Reeves to extend support fund to help poorest households | Welfare | The Guardian

In April 2024, Cambridgeshire County Council was awarded over £3,580,000 to support households in need and help with the rising cost of living. The scheme has experienced significant demand, with large numbers of applications being submitted every day both directly and through partners. The council's Household Advice and Support Team continue to process applications, with the current processing time being approximately three weeks.

Advice is available to those struggling with the cost of living. Help with utility bills, housing support, emergencies and benefits: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/communities/support-with-the-cost-of-living

The Government offers help and advice with living costs, childcare and maternity costs, managing money and debt and guidance for those over 60 or those who have a disability or health condition. www.gov.uk/cost-of-living

ENVIRONMENT & GREEN INVESTMENT

Wisbech incinerator

Fenland District Council's application requesting judicial review of the Government's decision to grant planning permission was unsuccessful.

Sunnica

After the decision by the Government to permit the development of the Sunnica solar farm between Burwell and Red Lodge, the four 'host authorities' (Suffolk and Cambridgeshire counties, West Suffolk and East Cambridgeshire districts) submitted a 'pre-action protocol letter'.

This asked the Government to correct an error in the permission, which loaded considerable costs onto the councils for all the work they will need to do on the detail of the permission. The councils expected the Government to correct this, but the response from Government was that this was not an error, and the councils were indeed expected to shoulder the financial burden.

This was the only ground on which the four councils were seeking to challenge the decision, and would not have affected whether the development itself went ahead or not. Two of the councils—West Suffolk and Cambridgeshire—decided not to proceed any further with the challenge, based on their judgement of the legal advice all four councils had seen, their view that the likelihood of success was low, and the consequent financial risk to local taxpayers.

The remaining two councils—East Cambridgeshire and Suffolk—are claiming that they would have proceeded to apply for judicial review if it had not been for West Suffolk and Cambridgeshire's decision. As all four councils had seen the same legal advice this appears to smack of political opportunism. And of course there is nothing to stop East Cambridgeshire and Suffolk going ahead with a judicial review application on their own.

The Say No To Sunnica action group, who had opened a crowdfunding webpage for their own judicial review, are now saying they are reviewing the situation and taking stock.

Community energy consultation

The County Council is currently consulting on its proposed Action Plan to support community energy. The draft Action Plan and survey seeking your views on the proposals have been published, and the survey will remain open until **Monday 16 September**.

https://consultcambs.uk.engagementhq.com/community-energy-project

Waste partnership awards new recycling contract

Local council waste partnership RECAP has awarded its contract for mixed dry recyclables (blue bin waste) to Biffa and Re-Gen after a procurement exercise. The contract was previously held by Thalia who run the waste facility at Waterbeach. The handover will take place on 1 September.

PLANNING

Pymoor enforcement update

Following an extensive investigation, on 16 November 2023 an Enforcement Notice was served on the owners of the land behind Corkers Crisps in relation to the importation, depositing, processing and exporting of inert waste materials and the raising of the land with waste without planning permission.

An appeal was then lodged, and on 14 February 2024 the Planning Inspectorate confirmed the start date of the appeal. County Council officers have submitted all relevant information required and await further information on the appointment of an Inspector and the next steps.

HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT

Maintenance work on old A14

Important maintenance work began on the A1307, known locally as the old A14, between Swavesey and Huntingdon. Since the County Council took over responsibility for the road from National Highways in February, there has been a temporary 40MPH speed limit in place between Fenstanton and St Ives due to safety concerns.

The road has been inspected and drainage works are needed here. From 29 July one lane was closed in each direction for four weeks. Once this is complete at the end of August, if the work has been successful, the 40MPH speed limit on this section will be removed.

Meanwhile the Godmanchester to Huntingdon section is currently restricted to a temporary 40MPH speed limit due to safety concerns with the barriers. The council expects to start work on the barriers on Sunday 15 September. This will also involve lane closures in both directions and the work is expected to take three months to complete.

In the meantime, the 40MPH speed limit will remain in place for safety reasons. Road resurfacing works will also be taking place overnight along the A1307 from 27 August onwards, for a period of three weeks, weather permitting, in a variety of locations. Road closures will be necessary, and signed diversion routes will be in place. All this work is being co-ordinated, and will be done together wherever possible to minimise disruption.

Active travel hierarchy consultation

A consultation on the development of an 'Active Travel Hierarchy' was launched on 22 July. This seeks feedback on which routes and public rights of way are considered most important to users, as well as asking residents about their preferences for prioritised maintenance activities.

We have given feedback, that the consultation was difficult to use and understand. In response, the council has revised the online material to make it easier and extended the consultation to **30 September**. https://consultcambs.uk.engagementhq.com/active-travel-hierarchy

Mill Road (Cambridge) bus gate new consultation

Cambridgeshire County Council has agreed with the claimant to end legal proceedings in relation to the Mill Road Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) challenge. The Council will no longer be defending the case through the courts, and the judge has agreed to quash the decision that was made to approve the traffic regulation order for the scheme.

A new statutory consultation on a proposed Traffic Regulation Order started on Friday 9 August. The Order would close Mill Road bridge to all vehicles, with some exemptions. The consultation runs until **midnight on**

Friday 13 September. https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/transport-projects/cycling-pedestrian-improvements/mill-road-bridge-tro

Vision Zero and iRAP (International Road Assessment Programme)

An update on the Vision Zero Partnership will be presented to the County Council's Highways & Transport Committee in December. At the same meeting, a report setting out the analysis of the Council's A roads using the iRAP methodology will be considered.

Vision Zero is a road safety partnership including local councils, police, fire, NHS and other relevant organisations. It is committed to preventing all road deaths across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, and to significantly reducing the severity of injuries, costs and social impacts resulting from road traffic collisions.

iRAP is is a registered charity working with governments, highways authorities, and others to provide the tools and training to make roads safer.

Government review of transport priorities

The new government is undertaking an internal review of the Department for Transport's capital spend portfolio and will be making recommendations about current and future schemes.

This could have implications for schemes in or around Cambridgeshire, including the A10 from Ely to Cambridge, East West Rail, and the Ely Area Capacity Enhancements around Ely railway junction.

Highways projects overview

The council wants to use its website more to enable residents to see more up to date information on highways projects. This is very much a work in progress, but some of the larger projects can be seen at https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/highway-projects/our-projects-and-programmes

Local Highways Improvement schemes

Local Highways Improvement applications are being scored and will be presented to the Highways & Transport Committee in October for approval.

36 of the 77 schemes added to the programme last year have been delivered, with a further ten ordered. Of the remainder, fourteen are with the contractor for pricing, fifteen are in design and consultation stage. Five schemes prior to 2023/24 have not yet been completed.

20MPH schemes

Scoring of the new and updated applications took place in May and June in preparation for presentation to the Highways & Transport Committee in October. These remain popular, with 65 applications received this year, many of which were re-submissions from the previous year.

Some of the 2023/2024 have been delayed as applicants undertake further informal consultation following feedback from residents, or due to changes to guidance from the Department for Transport, and the amount of time the formal consultation phase is taking to conclude.

Weeds

The first round of weed treatment, for those communities wishing to have this, is now coming to an end, and the second round will begin in October.

Winter gritting

Preparations are under way for the 2024 winter, which starts on Friday 1 November, with salt barns being replenished and servicing of gritting vehicles.

Traffic Management Centre (TMC)

The TMC responded to 88 incidents on the road network throughout Cambridgeshire in July covering 23 weekdays. This is a decrease to June's figure and that of what we were seeing in July 2023.

Please see the table below which illustrates the number of incidents over the last 6 months, compared to the same period last year;

Incidents by month/year

	Feb	Mar	Apr	Мау	June	July
2022/23	138	132	79	73	109	68
2023/24	126	80	110	103	108	88

MEETINGS ATTENDED and COMMUNITY WORK 7 July to 29 August 2024

Local meetings:

Oakington & Westwick PC meeting (8 July), Over PC meeting (9 July), Quarterly Highways meeting for my ward (12 July), Northstowe Community Consultation for Phase 3a Design Phase, Homes England (12 July), Bus Petition meeting with Combined Authority officer and Mayor Nik Johnson (15 July), Northstowe Delivery Group (18 July), 5asideCHESS (7 Aug), Chair of Oakington & Westwick (23 Aug), South Cambs Quarterly Community Engagement Meeting, Cambridge Police (28 Aug), Northstowe Education Campus meeting (29 Aug)

County Council meetings:

Mobile Libraries 60th Birthday Gathering for Past and Present Staff (12 July), CCC Full Council Meeting (16 July), Northstowe Wrap Around Care at Northstowe Primary School drop in (29 Aug),

Community work:

Unity Lake Sign Launch, Northstowe Arts (14 July), Northstowe Neighbour film premier (15 July), Thinking Place – Northstowe Place Making Steering Group Session 3 (26 July), CCVS meeting (7 Aug).

Parish/Town Council monthly report, Column write ups within Northstowe News, Oakington & Westwick Journal and Over News online magazine.

Northstowe Foodies meeting with Food Bank (31 July)

Private case work:

Most Councillors will have private case work that they are dealing with, details of which cannot be shared due to GDPR – current themes are Transport, Early Years, SEND, ASB, Highways, Youth.

WARD NEWS

HIGHWAYS

New Local Team

Local Highways Officer: Sarad Bligh – please note that we have another new LHO, who started this week and is on a 6 week induction programme, I believe Sarah has reached out to all the clerk directly to introduce herself, if not please do let me know. During these 6 weeks Aaron will be the main contact.

Local Highways Officer: Aaron Boddington

Quarterly Highways meetings 2024 dates

Friday 1 November 12noon - 1.30pm

Northstowe Busway Petition - update as per Facebook post on 8 August

Bus Petition Update - First wins on the busway!

Back in June, we launched a petition for Stagecoach to reinstate the bus service starting at Longstanton Park & Ride during peak times. Many residents told us they were struggling to get to their place of work and education on time, often waiting for 2-3 buses before being able to board. Thank you to the 550 residents who supported and signed the petition.

We timed this petition to align with the traffic commissioner's lead time (usually about 6-8 weeks) to ensure changes could be implemented prior to the start of the academic year in September.

In July, we met with Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority - Mayor Nik Johnson and a transport officer. Our timing proved fortuitous, as they already had a Stagecoach proposal under review for the southern end of the busway, which serves Addenbrooke's Hospital.

After our meeting and reviewing the Stagecoach proposal, it was decided to move forward with it.

The new proposal from Stagecoach states:

During morning and evening peaks, all Busway A (St Ives - Trumpington Park & Ride) and Busway B (Hinchingbrooke - Biomedical Campus) Services will operate through to serve Addenbrookes Hospital and the Cambridge Biomedical Campus.

This will allow a 10-minute frequency on either side of the track and introduce over 428 seats capacity at peak times. This upgrade has been supported by funding from the CPCA.

All B services at morning and evening peak times will serve the hospitals on the Cambridge Biomedical Campus and the B service will continue to serve Long Road College at college times. More services to St Ives are available from Addenbrookes Bus Station.

Busway B services will need to use Hills Road as double-deckers buses cannot use the Southern Busway track due to a low bridge.

This decision benefits residents at all stops before Longstanton, including Swavesey, where overcrowded buses have been also been a significant issue.

Additionally, the Combined Authority has agreed to conduct surveys at Longstanton Park & Ride to gather feedback from residents. This data will help inform any future adjustments if the new timings are not effective.

We are also planning to set up meetings with Hills Road, Long Road, and CRC to gather feedback from pupils and teachers.

In other news, Stagecoach has announced a reduction in the frequency of the No. 6 bus (serves: Oakington-Girton-Cambridge during the day), from every 30 minutes to every 40 minutes. This is extremely disappointing, and we are considering our next steps to address this decision.

Stagecoach Quarterly meetings

We are considering starting the quarterly meetings with Stagecoach and would like to hear your views on this as it would be essential to ensure that the busway, Citi5 and Citi6 run efficiently in our ward. I have asked if an officer from the Combined Authority can also attend these meetings. I am meeting with Stagecoach on 30 August and will also raise the issue. I will work with Sharon Forbes, Sustainable Travel Planning Manager at CCC to look to set these up.

Anti-Social Behaviour across the ward - update

Following our meeting with CCC and SCDC officers and South Cambs Police on 5 June, a follow up meeting was held on 28 August with Homes England (I was not present), where Homes England confirmed that CCTV will be put up on the South Access Road West (SARW) and they will look to see how they can share the footage with Police. Discussions have been continued about any other preventative measures that can be put in place, such as a permanent barrier on the roundabouts, rumble strips on the approach to roundabout.

Having attended the South Cambs Police Quarterly Community Engagement meeting – alongside Chair of Oakington Parish Council – David Reeves and Vice Chair of Longstanton Parish Council – Andy Wycherley. I have attached a picture of three of their slides, one regarding Northstowe, Survey results and how to complete their survey

The message was that residents should continue to:

- Report all incidents on 101, either by calling 101 or using live chat or filling out a form on this link, Report a crime (cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk)
- Fill out the community policing survey, with your concerns about the neighbourhood and community (not to log an incident), filling in the survey will help to set the priorities for the next 3 months for South Cambs Police: Community Policing Survey (office.com)
- Email address for those who wish to raise any issues direct with the South Cambs teams scambscops@cambs.police.uk

46 residents replied to the last survey, of which all the issues were critical with top 3 concerns were: knife carrying, drug dealing and Anti-Social Driving, followed by cycle theft, Violence and Anti-Social Behaviour.

Please consider filling out the survey about the concerns that you are seeing in our community.

Next meeting will take place on 27th November from 7-8pm. If you wish to attend, please email South Cambs to communitymeeting@cambs.police.uk and an email will be forwarded.

Northstowe Nursery on Education Campus update

Little Flames Ltd, the Early Years Provider for the Northstowe Nursery have updated their website: NORTHSTOWE NURSERY - Home (northstowe-nursery.com)

- To date over 90+ parents/carers have registered their interest for various times across the week,
 please note that there only be limited numbers for the autumn term, until the school reception class
 is able to move into the school building in the spring term in January. Thereafter, the max 78 places
 can be made available.
- They are still awaiting the Ofsted registration certificate for this provision and as soon as they received it, they can then confirm the launch date. Appreciate that many of interested parents/carers will need to give notice to your current providers, however, they are unable to give you an exact start date as yet.
- They received the key to premises only after the bank holiday and are busy setting up the facility.
- They are working closely with Meridian Trust Estate team and County Council Education Officers.

Wrap Around Care Northstowe Primary School

On 29 August a drop-in briefing was held for Northstowe Town Council to meet and ask any questions to Meridian Trust and CCC Education Officer and myself. NTC Cllr Carla Bros Sabria attended. It was outlined that surveys have been undertaken with parents of 4-year-olds registered at the school however there has been a low response to surveys (x4) with not all parents requiring full time wraparound care. Therefore, with low take-up the provision is not economically viable. Need has been dependent upon house sales and families moving in. The view is that the need will grow and there is a plan in place to meet the needs of pupils as the school begins to fill.

There is a Wrap Around Grant available that can assist with staffing and other costs until the school is fully filled. Details of the tender process to tender for a Wrap Around provider and the timelines has been emailed to Northstowe Town Council following the meeting. The tender process will be open to all providers, including those who have already come forward to Meridian Trust (x₃) and all the providers on the PDPS County Council system to make it fair and inclusive.

LONGSTANTON

Home Farm Estate Road Adoptions – I have been liaising with a Longstanton resident this week and I
wanted to share the details sent from County Council officer:

Currently there is no S38 Agreement for the adoption of the streets on this estate; this was due to the original developer going into liquidation before any such agreement was completed.

However, the County Council are actively working with the developers' engineers at Barratt David Wilson (BDW) and Taylor Wimpey (TW) to bring the streets up to standard and secure the adoption. Following the liquidation of the original developer, the developer had to acquire the freehold of the roads from The Crown. They also had to resolve longstanding drainage outfall issues so the sewers could be adopted by Anglian Water - which I understand has now been resolved.

The next step is for David Wilson (BDW) and Taylor Wimpey (TW) to complete the roads and street lighting to County Council standards, after which it is the intention to adopt the streets under Section 37 Highways Act 1980. Regretfully, the onus is upon the developer to complete the necessary works and offer the streets for adoption – the legislation is such that the County Council cannot compel them to do so.

Accordingly, and whilst County Council will continue to work proactively with the developers to secure the adoption of the streets, we are unable to provide you with a definitive timeline as to when such adoptions may take place.

NORTHSTOWE

Following meetings and correspondences with Meridian Trust, Homes England and County Council
about the Education Campus and the start of the new term next week, there are concerns about
parking in and around the campus and the construction traffic during drop off/pick up. We have
decided to set up a group on email to deal with the problems over the autumn term, until
construction is completed by early January, consisting of Homes England and their contractors,
school heads and officers. Please look out for the email.

OAKINGTON & WESTWICK

- Gas works from June to September, going ok, although we are still having issues with the buses not
 going through the village at all times. I also understand that Cadent's contractors may not be able to
 finish the works at the traffic lights, the county officers are trying to get to the bottom of this and
 have stated that the TTRO cannot be extended, and first available time to complete the works would
 be at Easter in 2025. We are waiting to hear their response.
- Beck Brook, Girton there has been a meeting set up on 13 September with the Environment
 Agency, County Council, Oakington & Westwick Council and Andrew Dennis and I, to discuss the issues of flooding in Westwick and the risk to the residents who live there.
- Below is my social media post after a meeting with David Reeves Chair on Friday 23 August, as I was
 informed of the Bus user group meeting in Girton. Since the post I have had one response on email
 from Oakington resident, I will ensure I gather all the information and send to you by Friday 7 September.

Stagecoach No. 6 Bus Announcement - 1st September

We're pleased to see the increased frequency for the busway, thanks in part to our recent petition, which will be surveyed at Longstanton Park and Ride.

However, there are some changes to the No. 6 bus service: during peak hours, buses will now run every 40 minutes instead of 30, and off-peak service will be every 70 minutes instead of 60.

Stagecoach has stated that this is due to severe ongoing and challenging traffic congestion in the city - especially record levels of road works by utilities companies - we have no choice but to amend the timetables to reflect the frequency our customers are actually experiencing. Which they will review this if traffic circumstances change.

***I also appreciate we have had problems with the bus going through Oakington since the Gas works has started, we have had ongoing conversations with Stagecoach about this and residents have been reporting, but with not much luck.

We've received numerous complaints from residents since the No. 5 bus stopped running through Oakington, eliminating all night buses. Girton residents are facing similar challenges, especially since they don't have access to the busway.

To move forward, it's essential that we show strong interest from residents in using the bus service; otherwise, it will be a case of "use it or lose it."

- There will be a Girton Bus User Group meeting on Sunday, 8th September at 3 PM at Cotton Hall, Girton. Representatives from the Oakington & Westwick Parish Council will be present.
- 2. The Oakington & Westwick Parish Council will also include this issue on their agenda for the meeting on Monday, 9th September at 7.30 PM At Oakington Sports Pavilion.
- All Oakington & Westwick residents are encouraged to attend both meetings.

Please note that each Full Council meeting includes an agenda item called 'Public Participation,' where residents can address the Council for up to 3 minutes on any agenda topic.

Cllr Natalie Warren-Green and I will be attending both meetings.

We would love to see you there, but if you can't make it, please feel free to email me your questions by lunchtime on Friday, 6th September, or leave your comments below.

→ This is also a great opportunity to remind everyone of the importance of getting involved with the Parish Council. There are current vacancies, so if you're passionate about issues like bus services, please consider applying!

OVER

No updates currently for Over.

Meanwhile on the Combined Authority Bus Franchising Consultation

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority is consulting on bus franchising. The consultation will run until 20 November.

The consultation outlines two options—franchising, and an Enhanced Partnership. Bus franchising would put routes, timetables and fares in the hands of the local transport authority. An enhanced partnership with bus companies would give local authorities less influence over buses than franchising, but would still allow for multi-operator ticketing and targeted fare discounts. More details, and residents' chance to have their say, can be found at

https://cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk/news/bus-franchising consultation-in-cambridgeshire-and-peterborough-goes-live/

Option 1:

You can participate online by visiting: https://cpca-yourvoice.co.uk/bus-franchising-consultation/. On the website you will find the relevant consultation documents, together with two questionnaires. A long questionnaire comprising 31 questions and a short one which comprises 11 questions. You can save your answers and return to your questionnaire if you would like more time to complete it.

Option 2:

If you would prefer a paper copy of the consultation documents or large print versions, please contact: <u>consultations@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk</u> or call us on: 01480 277180. You can also request a copy in the following languages: Polish, Lithuanian, Portuguese and Urdu.

Option 3:

There will be a series of 'drop-in' style events for residents who won't need to book a place to attend. Details of the drop-in events will be published soon.

Background to the bus franchising consultation

In March 2023, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority launched 'The Road to Better Buses' strategy, which sets out five key ambitions for buses in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough:

- Add more buses to the network
- Provide bus users with better information
- More reliability across the network
- Nicer, better-quality buses
- Better value for money for users

A year on, the Combined Authority's board has committed more than £13.5million and agreed to three major initiatives to progress our journey on the Road to Better Buses including:

- The introduction of 30 new routes across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough
- The introduction of a £1 fare for young people under the age of 25
- To consult on how buses are run across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

Our vision for Better Buses

The majority of buses across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough are currently run on a purely commercial basis. We believe our ambitions will only be realised if we change this to have greater influence and control over how buses are run. 81% of respondents to our last survey agreed.

We commissioned independent transport consultants, ITP, to undertake a detailed assessment of Cambridge-shire and Peterborough's transport needs and to provide an outline business case assessment for bus reform.

Two approaches have been outlined in the assessment: a Franchising solution and an Enhanced Partnership (EP).

Under a franchised network, the Combined Authority would contract bus operators to run services on its behalf but have control over the routes, frequency, fares and overall standards of the region's buses. An alternative Enhanced Partnership solution, while producing benefits over the current bus service provides less control over the routes, frequency and overall delivery of the services. This means, as a result, while both an Enhanced Partnership and Franchising can provide enhanced networks, franchising offers the region more control to specify the desired network, levels of service and integrated fares and ticketing, ensuring a more unified and accessible network.

Franchising also allows CPCA to deliver its strategic objectives; to have full influence over outcomes and the efficient delivery of bus service improvements to passengers and bus network changes. The EP is less likely to deliver the strategic outcomes as it leaves key decisions around the network in the hands of bus operators (as per the status quo) with any outcomes subject to negotiations with operators.

Before a final decision is made (due to be on Wednesday 22nd January 2025), we are required by law to seek views from statutory consultees. We are now consulting and would welcome your feedback.

If you would like to help the Combined Authority to promote this consultation, we are very happy to send you a package of leaflets and posters. If this is of interest to your organisation, please email consultations@cam-bridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk to request the promotional materials.

COUNCILS, RESPONSIBILITIES AND KEY GOVERNMENT FUNDED ORGANISATIONS

If you have a problem or concern do not worry too much about who can solve it just ask the question and we will endeavour to signpost to the right person. The organisational structure of Cambridgeshire is complex, but it is important to identify where responsibility lies.

County Council

Responsibilities: Education, Transport, Highways, Heritage, Social care, Libraries, Trading standards, - Waste management, Maintaining their estate.

Some of these services are shared between Peterborough City Council and Cambridgeshire County Council but any concerns should be directed to the county council.

District Council

Responsibilities: Council tax payments and benefits, Household bin collections, Housing and housing benefits, Council leisure facilities, Environmental health, Residential planning.

Parish/ Town Council

Responsibilities: Looking after community buildings, Open spaces, Allotments, Play Areas, Bus shelters.

Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP)

'The local delivery body for a City Deal with central Government worth up to £500 million over 15 years, to vital improvements in infrastructure (decarbonising transport), supporting and accelerating the creation of 44,000 new jobs, 33,500 new homes and 420 additional apprenticeships.'

Partnership between Cambridge City Council, Cambridgeshire County Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council, University of Cambridge.

The Combined Authority, Cambridge and Peterborough, our elected Mayor

'A combined authority (CA) is a legal body set up using national legislation that enables a group of two or more councils to collaborate and take collective decisions across council boundaries.'

What our mayor does – Business support, skills, housing, transport, environment, international, digital connectivity, resilience, research, and strategy. New homes.

Police and Crime Commissioner, Cambridge and Peterborough

To support and challenge the Chief Constable to provide effective and efficient policing services for the area.

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority

The Fire Authority is the governing body responsible for delivering a fire and rescue service to Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. It is made up of Cambridgeshire County Councillors and Peterborough City Councillors.

CONTACT DETAILS

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the above, or any other matters. Firouz Thompson, County Councillor for Longstanton, Northstowe, Over and Oakington & Westwick

Email: firouz.thompson@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

https://www.facebook.com/groups/2066298150052161/ - Longstanton, Oakington and Northstowe https://www.facebook.com/libdems3rdMay18 - Over & Willingham

Report a highways fault - Cambridgeshire County Council

 $\underline{Report\ a\ flood\ -\ www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/business/planning-and-development/flood-and-water/report-a-flood}$

NOTE: Homes England areas in Phase 2 Northstowe including South Access Road West and new B1050 roundabout – any estates or maintenance issues should be report to 24/7 helpdesk number 0845 603 1485 (which is the same cost as a local rate). The number is manned 7 days per week 24 hours per day and all calls are placed in an auditable system to ensure matters are progressed.