

Message from Lynne Miles, Director of City Access, Greater CambridgePartnership

From: Aaron Clarke <Aaron.Clarke@scams.gov.uk>

Sent: Fri, 25 Aug, 2023 at 18:37

To:

---

[image001.jpg](#) (9.9 KB)

---

Dear Parish Councils,

Many of you provided to our Making Connections consultation late last year and we have spoken to other at subsequent meetings. Thank you for taking the time to consider the proposals and give us your views.

Since the consultation closed on 23 December, we have analysed all 24,000 responses, including the 145,000 written comments. In May, we published a [report of the consultation responses \(PDF\)](#), and our governing bodies [considered the feedback in detail](#).

We have listened to many of the concerns and comments raised during the consultation and changed the proposals in response. Today we have published officer recommendations for a package of measures that strike the right balance between responding to consultation concerns and addressing the challenges Greater Cambridge faces.

If we do nothing, congestion will get worse, more bus routes and services will be cut, and air pollution and carbon emissions will get worse as a result – harming our health, quality of life and the region's economy.

#### Summary of changes to the preferred option

The new proposals would create a Sustainable Travel Zone (STZ) in 2026/27 that:

- charges during peak times only (7am-10am & 3pm-6pm);
- provides a budget of free days to every account holder;
- reduces charge rates for people on low incomes;
- provides additional discounts for SMEs;
- Does not charge motorcycles;
- match the parking discounts and allocations the hospitals currently provide in the STZ system (and cover any additional administrative costs of doing so);
- has an expanded definitions of exemptions, discounts and reimbursement eligibility in line with feedback received;
- maintains the same geographic boundary as consulted upon.

This would enable us to:

- deliver £50 million in bus service improvements and fare reductions before the charging scheme begins, and approximately £26m each year thereafter to support expanded, more affordable services
- ring-fence approximately £5m a year to invest in improving walking, wheeling, cycling for people as well as alternatives for moving goods and freight in our city

It is important to stress that no decisions have been made on the project at this stage. A formal GCP decision would be taken on 28 September 2023. Following this, Cambridgeshire County Council, the Local Highway Authority, will decide in the Autumn and the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) would also then decide to consult on bus reform proposals in late-Autumn.

More detailed information can be found on our website at: [www.greatercambridge.org.uk/mc](http://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/mc)

Yours Faithfully,

Lynne Miles  
Director of City Access  
Greater Cambridge Partnership

✉ [lynne.miles@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:lynne.miles@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

☎ 07471 405871

🌐 [www.greatercambridge.org.uk](http://www.greatercambridge.org.uk)

Greater Cambridge Partnership  
Cambridgeshire County Council  
PO Box 1493, Mandela House, 4 Regent Street, Cambridge CB2 1BY



Growing and sharing prosperity  
— Delivering our City Deal —

**Disclaimer**

The information contained in this communication from the sender is confidential. It is intended solely for use by the recipient and others authorized to receive it. If you are not the recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution or taking action in relation of the contents of this information is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful.

This email has been scanned for viruses and malware, and may have been automatically archived