

AUTUMN 2023

Cambridge Matters

Cambridge City Council's magazine for residents



**Enjoy our free
fireworks display
Saturday 4 November
Midsummer
Common**

**What's on at
your local
community
centre?
See pages 8-9**

**Check the most up to date information about bin
collections on our website cambridge.gov.uk/bins**

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Front cover: Cambridge City Council's firework display 2022

Cambridge City Council does not necessarily endorse the products or services featured in advertisements in this magazine.

Request an audio version of Cambridge Matters on CD for visually impaired people using the contact details below.

For any editorial enquiries:

✉ communications@cambridge.gov.uk

☎ 01223 457290



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Check your bin collection schedule online

The best way to find out about recycling and waste collections is on our website, where you can:

- Search by post code to check your upcoming collection schedule. This will give you useful information about any changes – such as over holiday periods
- See alerts about any short-term issues with collections – this could include where a particular street's collections may have been missed, or disruptions due to roadworks or bin lorry breakdowns
- Find information about what can be recycled, what can be put in your green bin, and what to do with any excess waste – including a limited amount of additional recycling that can be placed next to your bin on



collection day, within reason

- Report any missed bin collection, so that the crew will know to revisit your address to collect within the following few days – please note that our online form to report a missed bin must be completed between 3.30pm on the day the collection was due, and 3.30pm the next working day.

Visit cambridge.gov.uk/bins for the latest information on household bin collections

Keep up to date with council news and events on social media

We regularly post updates about free events happening across Cambridge, opportunities to share your views to help inform council projects, how to access funding to support community activities, updates to services – and much more.

You can find us on:

Facebook: [camcitco](https://www.facebook.com/camcitco)
Twitter: [camcitco](https://twitter.com/camcitco)
Instagram: [camcitco](https://www.instagram.com/camcitco)
LinkedIn: [cambridge city council](https://www.linkedin.com/company/cambridge-city-council)

Reader survey: prize winners

In the spring and summer we ran a survey to capture your views about this magazine. Thank you to everyone who took part, whether by returning a paper copy, completing the survey online, or talking to our interviewers out and about in Cambridge.

We entered people who completed the survey into a prize draw for a chance to win one of five £50 Love Cambridge vouchers – congratulations to the five winners who have now been contacted to claim their vouchers.



Contacting your council

It's often easier to contact us online, at a time that suits you. You can complete a short form to report things like flytipping – cambridge.gov.uk/report-flytipping, a missed bin collection – cambridge.gov.uk/report-a-missed-household-bin-collection, or a change in your circumstances affecting your benefits or Council Tax – cambridge.gov.uk/online-accounts.

cambridge.gov.uk

☎ 01223 457000, Monday to Friday, 9am to 5.15pm

☎ 0300 3038 389, for emergencies outside of office hours

† Appointments are available for customers who have queries which cannot be resolved by telephone or online. Call us for help.

Appointments are available 9am to 5.15pm, Wednesday to Friday, at our Customer Service Centre at Mandela House, 4 Regent Street, Cambridge, CB2 1BY.

Please note that we no longer operate customer services from the Guildhall.

Safety advice for e-bike and e-scooter batteries

Readers may be aware of a tragic house fire that occurred in Sackville Close in Cambridge at the end of June which sadly led to fatalities. Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue has advised that the house fire is believed to have been caused by an electric bike that was charging, and that some fire services and fire investigators have seen a rise in e-bike and e-scooter battery fires in recent years.

Most of these items are powered by lithium-ion batteries which can be charged in the home. On occasions these batteries can fail catastrophically. They can explode and/or lead to a rapidly developing fire so you should always use them with extreme caution and follow guidance.

The Fire Service is advising residents on how to safely charge, store or dispose of products like these, to help avoid the risk of a fire starting.

Charging

- Follow the manufacturer's instructions, only use the manufacturer approved charger, and buy an official replacement charger if yours becomes damaged.
- Charge batteries while you are awake, and do not leave them to charge while you are not at home.
- Unplug your charger when it's finished charging.
- Do not overcharge your battery – check the manufacturer's instructions for charge times.
- Ensure you have working smoke alarms.
- Charge or store your e-bike or e-scooter in a safe place such as an unoccupied room. Ensure you have working smoke alarms in the same room and a door that you can keep closed.
- Do not cover chargers or battery packs when charging as this could lead to overheating or even a fire.
- Do not charge batteries or store your e-bike or e-scooter near combustible or flammable materials.
- Do not overload socket outlets or use inappropriate extension leads (use un-coiled extensions and ensure the lead is suitably rated for what you are plugging in to it).

If there is an e-bike, e-scooter or lithium-ion battery fire, do not attempt to extinguish the fire. Get out, stay out, and call 999.



Storage

- Do not store or charge e-bikes and e-scooters on escape routes inside your home, or in communal areas of a multi occupied building. If there's a fire, it can affect people's ability to escape.
- Store e-bikes and e-scooters and their batteries in a cool place. Avoid storing them in excessively hot or cold areas.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for the storage and maintenance of lithium-ion batteries if they are not going to be used for extended periods of time.

Buying

- Buy e-bikes, e-scooters and chargers and batteries from reputable retailers.
- Many fires involve counterfeit electrical goods. Items which don't meet British or European standards pose a huge fire risk and while genuine chargers (or battery packs) may cost more, it's not worth putting your life at risk and potentially destroying your home by buying a fake charger to save a few pounds.
- If buying an e-bike conversion kit, purchase from a reputable seller and check that it complies with British or European standards. Take particular care if buying from online auction or fulfilment platforms. Also be aware that if buying separate components, you should check that they are compatible.
- Register your product with the manufacturer to validate any warranties – batteries are usually included in warranties. Registering makes it easier for

manufacturers to contact you in the event of safety or recall information.

- Check any products you have bought are not subject to a product recall. You can do this by checking Electrical Safety First's website or the government website.

Damage and disposal

- Batteries can be damaged if you drop them or if you crash your e-bike or e-scooter. Where the battery is damaged, it can overheat and catch fire without warning. Check your battery regularly for any signs of damage and if you suspect it is damaged it should be replaced and should not be used or charged.
- If you need to dispose of a damaged or end of life battery, don't dispose of it in your household waste or normal recycling. These batteries, when punctured or crushed can cause fires in bin lorries, recycling and waste centres. Your e-bike or e-scooter manufacturer may offer a recycling service. Alternatively check the council's website for suitable battery recycling arrangements in your area.



CAMBRIDGESHIRE
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

For more information visit:

cambsfire.gov.uk

cambridge.gov.uk/recycling-and-rubbish-a-to-z

October is Black History Month

Black History Month, which promotes the history and contributions that Black people with origins in Africa, the Caribbean, North and South America and other Black communities around the world have made, takes place in October.

The council supports Black History Month by funding and supporting local groups to run events, and a full programme of events will be publicised at the start of Black History Month, with community

events, performances, exhibitions, lectures and more.

The council has recently funded Oblique Arts to capture stories from the Windrush generation in Cambridge – people who were encouraged to move to the UK from Caribbean countries between 1948 and 1971 to help with post-war labour shortages and to rebuild the UK's battered economy.

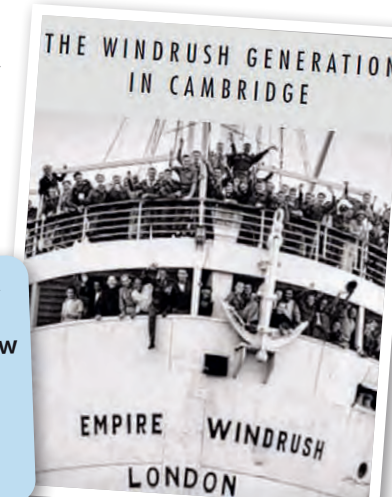
Oblique Arts commissioned Carol Brown-Leonardi from the African Caribbean Research

Group to interview people to capture the stories of their lives before they left for the UK, their journeys, and their experiences of living in the UK. The stories have been collated into a booklet which can be downloaded for free.

Find out more about Black History Month events, the Windrush booklet, and how to get involved:

cambridge.gov.uk/black-history-month

mail@obliquearts.co.uk



Help for households tackling condensation, damp and mould

In June we reiterated our commitment to tackling the scourge of damp, condensation and mould with the introduction of a new policy to address the issue in council homes. We are:

- providing additional training to help staff identify properties where there is a concern
- undertaking regular tenancy audits and investigating occurrences of damp, condensation and mould
- inspecting properties and blocks where issues have been identified in neighbouring homes to prevent problems spreading
- following up with households that have had damp, condensation and mould after the situation has been

addressed, to check if the solution was effective

- looking into providing better clothes drying areas in communal flat blocks
- carrying out work before new tenants move in to help prevent problems from occurring.

Council tenants concerned about damp, mould or condensation in their home should contact the council so that staff can help get it addressed as quickly as possible.

cambridge.gov.uk/condensation

condensation@cambridge.gov.uk
01223 457000

Private tenants, including Housing Association tenants, should report damp or mould to your landlord. If your landlord is unable to resolve these concerns, you can contact our customer services environmental health team and we can support you in making a housing complaint.

env.health@cambridge.gov.uk

01223 457900

Prevent
mould
Tackle mould
Report
mould



Annual canvass of electors – have you had your email, text or letter yet?

Over the summer our electoral services team began contacting households in Cambridge to do our 'annual canvass'. This is when we check with households whether the details we hold about the people who are registered at that address to vote are still correct.

You should have received an email, text or letter asking you to respond. The easiest way to confirm your household's details is online:

elecrag.co.uk/cambridge

You will need the two-part verification code which has been sent to you by email, text or letter.

Alternatively, you can call (freephone) 0808 284 1430, or text 07786 209 430 to tell us that you have no changes to report.



You will still need to provide the verification code from your email, text or letter.

If you haven't yet responded, our canvass staff may call at your home to help confirm whether the information we hold is correct. If you are called on, please do ask our staff to show their ID.

cambridge.gov.uk/elections-and-voting
01223 457048

How did we do? Achievements and challenges highlighted in annual reports

In July we published our annual report, which gave residents a clear update on how the council performed during 2022 to 2023.

The report shows that 2022 to 2023 was another challenging year when the country was still emerging from the difficulties brought about by the pandemic. The consequences of war in Ukraine also prompted the

arrival of families seeking refuge, and contributed to rising fuel costs and the inflation/cost of living crisis. The council responded to these pressures, as well as the rising demand for services of a rapidly growing city. Read more about the council's performance on our website.

cambridge.gov.uk/annual-report-2022-2023



Yep, us too.

We are Anne & Steve and we run Indie Cambridge – a unique membership community in Cambridge dedicated to promoting small, independent businesses. And, because we believe there is strength in numbers, we help them learn from and trade with each other.

Whether you're an artist, architect, restaurant owner or retailer, in fact any type of local business, our website is the go-to place for customers who are looking for a business like yours and we'd love you to be a part of our growing community.

So, we'd like to invite you aboard – it's completely

Free

To claim your free listing* visit www.indiecambridge.com/free or scan the thingy below. Together, we can help make Cambridge the home of small business.

indie
CAMBRIDGE



Home of the **best** independent businesses in Cambridgeshire

* Full membership is also available, see 'Join us' on our website

Students value creativity in nature at Highfields

Highfields is a small tree belt in the north of Cambridge which is managed by the council for educational purposes.

Two local charities – Cambridge Curiosity and Imagination (CCI) and Cambridge Acorn Project (CAP) – have been working with the council's biodiversity team to share this space with small groups of students from North Cambridge Academy since 2022. Two local nursery schools – Colleges and Brunswick – also bring young children to learn here and the organisations are exploring how to collaborate on some sessions.

The students are invited to be Artscapers, where they create art in response to their experiences of exploring outside, with CCI artist Hilary Cox Condon and CAP therapist Evonne Austen.

This July the group worked to create an exhibition. This included four new hangings for the Fantastical Forest, CCI's ongoing public art project that celebrates creativity, community and



the natural world. The school was also given their own copies of the hangings to display in school.

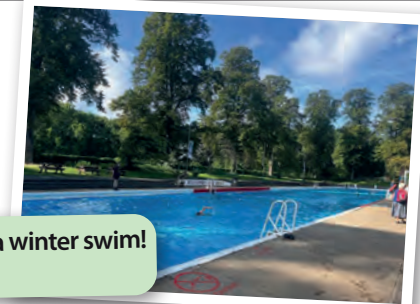
The Fantastical Forest collection is displayed each year for Tree Charter Day in Wandlebury Country Park (Saturday 25 November) and at other events and exhibitions around the region.

The council is committed to finding new ways to tackle the challenges young people face and supporting local schools and communities, through projects like this.

cambridgecandi.org.uk

Celebrating Jesus Green lido's centenary

On 28 August 2023 we marked the hundredth anniversary of Jesus Green Lido – the longest outdoor pool in Britain – with a birthday party at the pool.



[Find out more about the lido, including how to book a winter swim!](http://cambridge.gov.uk/jesus-green-lido)

cambridge.gov.uk/jesus-green-lido

We want to know what you think

We regularly ask for your views. Your responses to our consultations and surveys help us decide how to improve our services and what to prioritise.

Examples of recent consultations include asking for your views about punt touting in the city centre; proposed new play equipment in King's Hedges; taxi fares and what sort of cars can be licensed as taxis; dog control measures;

parking charges; and the council's 2023 to 2024 budget priorities.

One of the best ways to find out about opportunities to share your views on upcoming consultations is to sign up to our dedicated consultation platform to receive notifications when a new consultation is launched. You can choose which types of consultation you are notified about.

cambridge.citizenlab.co

Upcoming council meetings

Meetings are a great way to find out about decisions being made that affect council services. You can ask a question or raise an issue in advance. And many meetings are streamed live so that people can watch online.

- **Planning and Transport Scrutiny Committee** - 28 September, 5.30pm
- **Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee** - Monday 2 October, 5.30pm
- **Planning Committee** - Wednesday 4 October, 10am
- **Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee** - Thursday 5 October, 6pm
- **Council** - Thursday 19 October, 6pm

- **West Central Area Committee** - Thursday 16 November, 6.30pm
- **Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee** - Monday 20 November, 5.30pm
- **Housing Scrutiny Committee** - Tuesday 21 November, 5.30pm
- **North Area Committee** - Thursday 23 November, 6.30pm
- **South Area Committee** - Monday 27 November, 7pm
- **Council** - Thursday 30 November, 6pm
- **East Area Committee** - Thursday 7 December, 6.30pm

cambridge.gov.uk/your-council

Enjoy our free fireworks display

Our free fireworks display will take place on Saturday 4 November, from 7pm, on Midsummer Common.

Organised by the council, the annual event is one of the largest free displays in the region and regarded as the safest and best way to enjoy the fireworks!

There will be a lot of people heading to the event so we strongly advise local residents to walk, cycle or use public transport where possible.

cambridgelive.org.uk/city-events

Supporting the Mayor's charities

Each year Cambridge's Mayor chooses two local charities to support. Mayor Cllr Jenny Gawthrop-Wood is supporting The Red Hen Project in its 25th year; and the Cambridge Branch of Parkinson's UK.

Find out about both of these charities, or look out for fundraising events during the coming year.

cambridge.gov.uk/mayoral-charities

You can also find out about inviting the Mayor to attend your local event.

cambridge.gov.uk/the-mayor

Helping you look after you

How Are You Cambridge is a website that brings together useful local information to support wellbeing.

You can find ways to connect with others, get active, learn new skills, be creative, explore the outdoors and volunteer. There's also information about local support services.

haycambridge.co.uk
[HowAreYouCambridge](https://www.facebook.com/HowAreYouCambridge)
 Or find out more about featuring your local group or activity on the How Are You website.
haycambspboro.co.uk/join-us



Your community centres

Have you visited your local community centre to see what's on offer?

We run a number of community centres across Cambridge, which are warm and welcoming spaces for residents to spend time in. Everyone is welcome at our any of our community

centres – not only your closest one.

There are events that are open to everyone, as well as plenty of clubs, activities and classes that people can sign up for.

Find out more about what's on at each centre:
cambridge.gov.uk/community-centres

1 Akeman Street Community Centre

80 Akeman Street, Arbury CB4 3HG

facebook.com/akemanstreetcc

Why not pop in to the Akeman Street breakfast club one Thursday? It runs every week from 8.45am to 10.45am and is open to anyone who would like to get together over breakfast for a chat. Or try the Akeman Street afternoon club. It runs on the second Thursday of every month from 2pm to 4pm and is open to anyone who would like to have fun and meet new people, while doing an activity together with refreshments.

There's also activities including a Lego club for children aged five and above; a get together for families with young children; and much more.

2 Brown's Field Community Centre

31a Green End Road, East Chesterton CB4 1RU

facebook.com/brownsfieldcc

Brown's Field Community Centre has a busy calendar with everything from holiday lunches and activities, to craft groups and fitness classes. Follow the centre on Facebook to find out what's on each week.

Spotlight on Veterans' Shed: One of the newest offers at Brown's Field Community Centre is the Veterans' Shed which the council helped to set up, and is run by the Cambridge Veterans' Club.

Anyone who has served in the Armed Forces is invited to drop in to the shed where you can access tools and equipment, work on your own projects or support others, while making new friends. The shed is currently open to veterans on Mondays, 10.30am to 12.30pm, and some Wednesdays, 1.30pm to 3.30pm. The club asks for a cash donation of £3 per session to help cover costs.

Find out more about the Veterans' Shed plus other activities by following the Brown's Field Community Centre Facebook page.

3 Campkin Road Community Centre

70 Morello Place, Campkin Road CB4 2ZH

Campkin Road Community Centre is a new fully accessible centre with a large activity room and garden area. Although it is relatively small it will provide a wide range of community events and activities for residents of all ages in King's Hedges.

4 Darwin Green Community Rooms

50 Galton Road, Darwin Green CB3 0UL

This centre offers residents in Darwin Green a space for activities, workshops and events. We are working closely with the community to build up a programme of activities for people to enjoy in the coming months.

5 Clay Farm Community Centre

Hobson Square, Trumpington CB2 9FN

facebook.com/clayfarmcentre

Clay Farm Community Centre hosts a Cambridgeshire Library and a café, where people can come to spend time together or use a work space.

The centre hosts a full programme of events and activities each week – including sewing groups, parent and baby yoga, falls prevention classes, Lego stay and play, and much more.

Find out what's on each week by following the Clay Farm Community Centre's Facebook page.

6 Storey's Field Centre

Eddington Avenue, Eddington CB3 1AA

facebook.com/StoreysField

Events at Storey's Field Centre include regular yoga, dance and zumba groups, community café, the Artastic after school club, a sewing club for children, breathwork, painting, plus a wide selection of gigs, theatre shows, comedy nights – the list goes on. Find out more by following the centre on Facebook, or check the centre's website.

storeysfieldcentre.org.uk

7 Meadows Community Centre

299 Arbury Road, Arbury CB4 2JL

facebook.com/meadowscambridge

The new Meadows Community Centre has a café where people can meet or work, and has a weekly programme of activities including yoga, art, tai chi, sessions for parents with young children, and much more.

Find out what's on each week by following the Meadows Community Centre's Facebook page.

8 Mill Road Community Centre

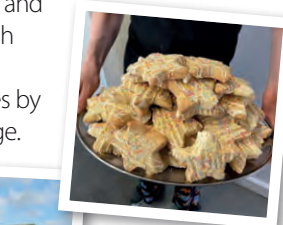
6 Hazell Street CB1 2GN

[Mill Road Community Centre](https://facebook.com/MillRoadCommunityCentre)

[@millroadcommunitycentre](https://instagram.com/millroadcommunitycentre)

Why not call in to the Tuesday coffee morning at 10am every Tuesday, or if you are a parent or carer of a young family, join in with Petersfield Pickles, the toddler group which runs every week from 10am to 12 noon. Other events and regular activities are available on Facebook and Instagram.

romseymill.org



Hosting your own event at a community centre

Our community centres also have rooms and other facilities that can be booked at very competitive rates for community events, private functions, exercises classes, conferences, meetings, away days – with the income being put back into running the centres, events and activities for the local community.

With a real mixture of capacity, with rooms able to accommodate up to 190 people for a seated event, you can also hire the new football pitches and changing facilities at the Meadows, the soft play zone at Brown's Field, or the café at Clay Farm.



cambridge.gov.uk/community-centres



adco theatre
the home of amateur theatre

Kiss Me, Kate!, March 2023 (Photo by Paul Ashley)

Cambridge America Stage Tour
ROMEO & JULIET
By William Shakespeare
In the dystopian world of Verona, two lovers of opposing households must fight against the odds to secure their freedom.
TUE 03 - SAT 07 OCTOBER AT 7.45PM
SAT 07 OCTOBER AT 2.30PM

Heywood Society
THE WELKIN
By Lucy Kirkwood
Rural Suffolk, 1759. As the country waits for Halley's Comet, Sally Poppy is sentenced to hang for a heinous murder. A jury of twelve women are snatched from their housework to decide whether she's telling the truth, or simply trying to escape the noose.
TUE 24 - SAT 28 OCTOBER AT 7.45PM
SAT 28 OCTOBER AT 2.30PM

Cambridge University Musical Theatre Society
THE DROWSY CHAPERONE
By Lisa Lambert, Greg Morrison, Bob Martin and Don McKellar
The Drowsy Chaperone is a musical within a comedy that is guaranteed to make the whole family smile! With catchy tunes and hilarious antics, you won't want to miss this!
TUE 31 OCT - SAT 04 NOV AT 7.45PM
SAT 07 NOVEMBER AT 2.30PM

CUADC and the Cambridge Footlights
DICK WHITTINGTON AND HIS CAT
By Naima Clarvis, Toria White and Jude Crawley
Follow **Dick Whittington**, an aspirational young man, as he journeys to London to find success where the streets are allegedly paved with gold! Don't miss out on this year's annual pantomime presented by CUADC and the Cambridge Footlights.
WED 22 NOV - SAT 02 DEC AT 7.45PM
MATINEES AT 1PM and 2.30PM

www.adcotheatre.com | 01223 300085

CAMBRIDGE JAZZ FESTIVAL
12 - 26 NOVEMBER 2023



WWW.CAMBRIDGEJAZZFESTIVAL.INFO

CDC Cambridge Dancers' Club



Ballroom & Latin • Rock n Roll • Salsa • Tango

Friendly evening classes in central Cambridge
Complete beginners welcome!

See our website for timetables, directions to venues, and prices

www.cambridgedancers.org

Struggling with high food prices?

Many people have been finding the high cost of food difficult to afford recently. We hope some of these ideas will help to make your money stretch further.

Planning ahead
The Making Money Count website offers tips on saving money when doing your food shop. This includes planning meals for the week ahead, making a shopping list, buying in bulk where possible and freezing discounted items, and sticking to your spending limit (online shopping can help with this).

makingmoneycount.org.uk/money/shopping

New recipe ideas
You can also find plenty of recipe ideas via the Making Money Count website including recipes that are easy, cheap and nutritious. The Red Hen Project also has a meal planner template for affordable meals.

redhenproject.org/club-cook

Could you be eligible for free school meals?
If you are in receipt of certain benefits your child may be entitled to free school meals, which would save you up to £470 per year per child. This is available for school-age children and post-16 students at a school with a sixth form or college.

cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Monthly vouchers to use in supermarkets
Supermarket vouchers can be provided by Healthy Start to spend on fruit, vegetables and milk if you're pregnant or have a child under four – and you will receive a top-up every four weeks.

You can also pick up free vitamins from the child and family centres across Cambridgeshire – including The Fields, Galfrid Road, and Arbury Community Centre, Campkin Road.

healthystart.nhs.uk

Fairbite
The Fairbite club is designed to help local people who are struggling financially. For a very low membership fee local families and individuals can access low-price items.

fairbite.org.uk

OLIO: free food that would have been wasted
OLIO is an app that lists food (and other items) in Cambridge that would be thrown away otherwise, but which can be collected for free. In the OLIO app you can see what is available, and where, and request items that are suitable.

Free prepared meals for anyone in difficulty
• **Cambridge Community Kitchen**
Cambridge Community Kitchen provides hot, hearty,



Find out more about support with food prices, household bills, debt and money advice, and other support through the cost of living crisis.

cambridge.gov.uk/cost-of-living

01223 457000

vegan meals for anyone who needs one, which can be delivered to your home.

cckitchen.uk
• **FoodCycle Cambridge**
FoodCycle Cambridge invites anyone for a warm meal, whatever your reason for needing one. Drop into St Andrew's Street Baptist Church from 12.30pm on a Saturday. No matter your background, you'll be greeted warmly by friendly volunteers.

foodcycle.org.uk/location/foodcyclecambridge
• **The EDGE Café**
The EDGE Café is running a £3 lunchtime deal that takes place each Wednesday, called 'Cheap Wednesdays'. For just £3 you can have a delicious, hearty and healthy EDGE made meal.

theedgecafe.cambridge.org

What to do if you need food in an emergency
• **Food banks**

Food banks can help if you can't afford the food you need. You'll usually need to get a referral. A number of organisations can make a referral to a food bank including:

- Cambridge City Council
- Citizens Advice
- Local charities or faith groups
- Schools or children's centres
- Health visitors
- GP practices

If you are a council tenant, the quickest way to access urgent support is by contacting our Customer Service Centre.

incometeam@cambridge.gov.uk

01223 457070

• **Food hubs**
Food hubs can also provide free food, are run independently and often don't need a referral. Cambridge Sustainable Food coordinates food hubs in Cambridge.

cambridgesustainablefood.org

Moving to Universal Credit

Universal Credit was introduced in Cambridge in October 2018 and replaced all new claims from people of working age for:

- Child and working tax credits
- Employment and Support Allowance
- Housing Benefit
- Income Support
- Jobseeker's Allowance

Now, the government has begun to migrate existing recipients of these benefits to Universal Credit. This will happen in stages, so might not affect everyone immediately. If you receive child or working tax credits

and none of the other benefits listed above, the government will contact you soon. They will invite you to claim Universal Credit. You must respond, as your tax credits will stop after three months.

If you receive other benefits as well as tax credits, the government may not contact you until 2024. However, even if you are not contacted, you are able to check whether you should migrate to Universal Credit now.

The government believes that most people would be better off receiving Universal Credit rather than existing benefits.



You can use an approved benefits calculator to check what would be best for you, and whether to apply for Universal Credit before the government contacts you about this.

cambridge.gov.uk/moving-to-universal-credit



Book a free collection today

House clearance available

Call your local new BHF Cambridge Store
01223 664235
bhf.org.uk/collection



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Everyone has a back story.

But we're here to help rough sleepers start the next chapter.



0300 500 0914
cambridge.gov.uk/rough-sleepers

Why do people sleep on the street?

Everyone has a back story, and the reasons that people become rough sleepers are likely to be multiple and complicated. In many cases, rough sleepers will have experienced trauma or adversity in their lives. Some may have mental ill-health, some may struggle with alcohol or drugs.

The impact of these challenges can be long-lasting, and may act as barriers to people making the move away from the streets into more permanent accommodation.

We work with local partners – including those organisations that make up the new Streets to Homes service in Cambridge – to support people who are sleeping rough. This may be through helping to meet immediate needs such as making sure during cold weather that rough sleepers have somewhere warm to sleep for free, and providing

free daily meals and shower and laundry facilities.

An important part of this work is getting to know repeat rough sleepers and building trusting relationships with them, so that we can support them if they wish to move away from a street-based life.

The council has a new Team Around a Person service, which focuses on providing personalised support through individual plans to support each person who is rough sleeping in Cambridge – including personalised support with issues such as mental ill-health, or drug or alcohol dependency.

The offer of accommodation is there for people in Cambridge who have been verified by our street outreach team, if or when people are ready to accept it.

cambridge.gov.uk/rough-sleepers

Street Aid Week

Did you know giving cash to people on the streets can actually keep them there for longer? If you want to help, Street Aid gives you an alternative to handing money to people on the street.

We're holding our annual Street Aid Week from Monday 9 to Friday 13 October this year. We would love people to get involved. You could help raise awareness, or even arrange a fundraising event – for example a cake sale or sponsored cycle. Find out more online.

cambridge.gov.uk/cambridge-street-aid-week



Want to help rough sleepers?

You could donate to Cambridge Street Aid, the charitable fund set up by the council to give meaningful grants to help people make long-term change to move away from rough sleeping.

Tap on one of the many contactless donation points in Cambridge
Text "STREET AID 3" to 70085 to donate £3

cambridge.gov.uk/streetaid

If you see someone sleeping rough, report their location to Streetlink.

0300 500 0914

streetlink.org.uk

Visit the Street Support website for further details of the services operating in Cambridge.

streetsupport.net/cambridge

How our Local Plans address the need for new homes

You may have seen reports in the national news about the government suggesting hundreds of thousands of additional new homes could be built in the Cambridge area in the coming years.

The council was not consulted in advance of these announcements, and we await further detail from the government.

Over the past few years we and South Cambridgeshire District Council have been working on our next Greater Cambridge Local Plan – a joint document to plan ahead for development in Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire between now and 2041.

The emphasis in our emerging Local Plan is on sustainable development, climate change, environment and wellbeing, and creating great places to live.

Councils are required by the government to create Local Plans, so that we can meet our anticipated housing need, which in Greater Cambridge relates to the predicted growth in jobs in the area. Local Plans ensure that new homes, services and infrastructure are delivered in the right way and in the right timeframe.

The councils’ existing (or ‘adopted’) Local Plans include sites that could deliver 37,200 new homes in Cambridge and

South Cambridgeshire between 2020 and 2041. The new joint Local Plan for Greater Cambridge (which hasn’t yet been finalised, or ‘adopted’), forecasts that there is a need for around 66,600 jobs and 51,700 homes in the area by 2041, meaning that an additional 14,500 homes would need to be planned for to meet those needs in full. Together with the 37,200 already provided for in the adopted Local Plans for both councils, this totals approximately 50,000 new homes between now and 2041 – a significantly lower number of homes than the hundreds of thousands

suggested by government recently. Greater Cambridge currently has approximately 125,000 homes, so an extra 250,000 would triple the number of homes in our area.

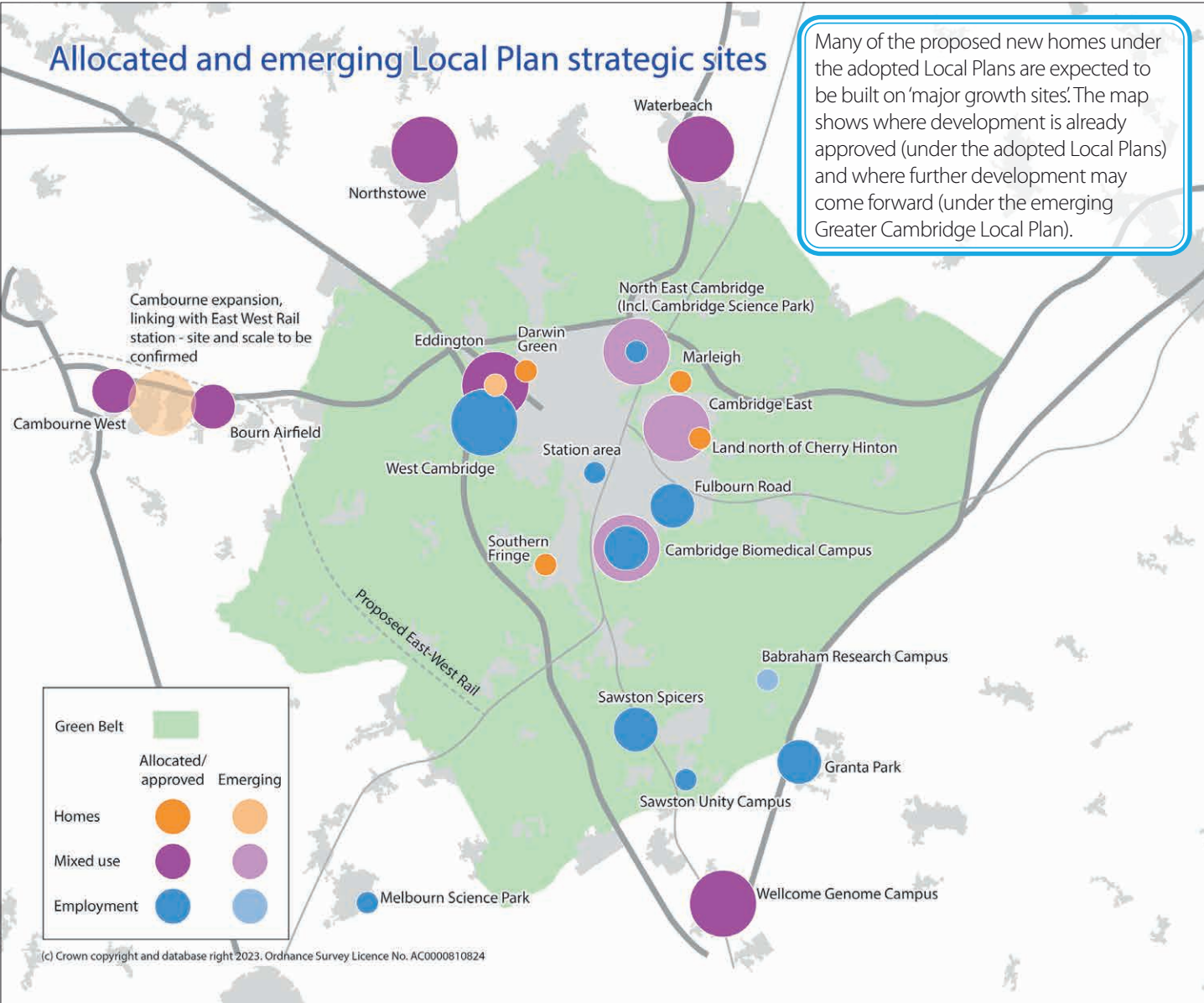
The councils have previously warned that planning for even the 51,700 new homes our evidence forecasts would only be acceptable if there was greater certainty about the future of water supplies in the area, and if there was evidence that the scale of development would not cause unacceptable environmental damage.

At present, the water industry is making plans to

increase water supply, including potential new reservoirs and piping additional water into the area, but it is unclear whether this infrastructure will be ready to supply the homes identified in the adopted Local Plans.

Without that process speeding up, and additional interim action, the councils warned that development levels may have to be capped to avoid unacceptable harm to the environment, including the region’s important chalk streams.

The councils are continuing to engage with government and the water industry to get clarity on the water supply situation.



Council homes

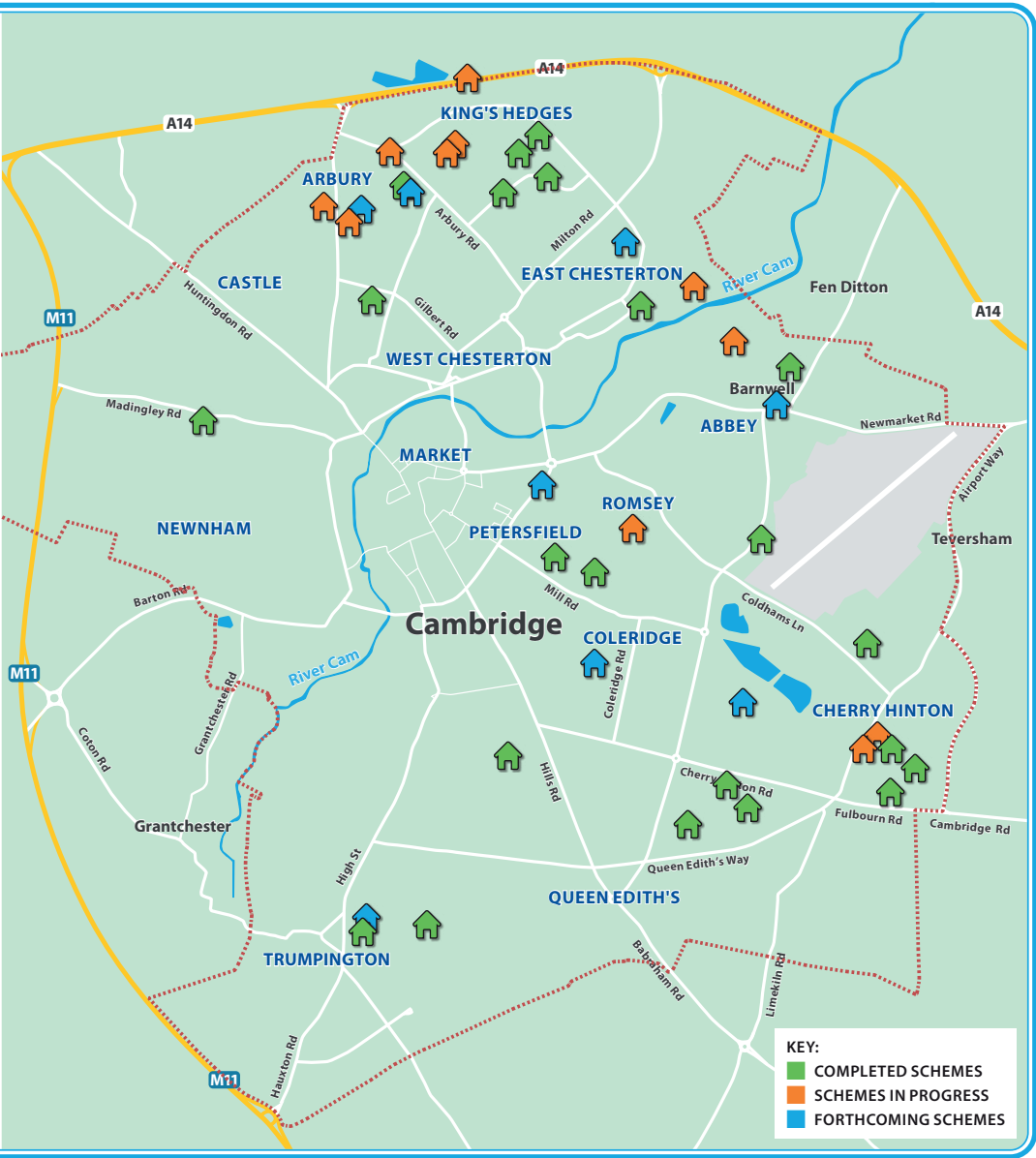
In addition to our role as a planning authority to enable house builders to build homes that people need in Cambridge, we also have our own house-building programme to build hundreds of new council homes.

So far we have completed or started work on more than 700 new council homes at 20 sites across the city.

One of these sites – L2 Orchard Park – reached a milestone in July when the final piece of roofing felt was laid. 75 new homes have been built. 30 of the homes will be social rent council homes, while a further 45 will be available at 80% of the average private rental rate.

75 more council homes were also completed at Campkin Road in the summer, where 32 post-war ageing homes were replaced with four new council houses, 71 council apartments, and a new accessible community centre.

cambridge.gov.uk/affordable-housing-programme



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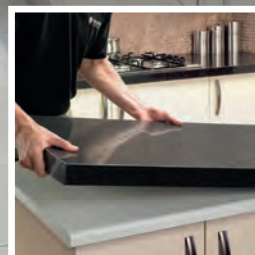
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Greater Cambridge Partnership update on the proposed Sustainable Travel Zone

In August, the Greater Cambridge Partnership published a revised package of proposed measures to upgrade public transport, improve air quality and cut congestion in Cambridge.

The updated proposals follow on from the Making Connections 2022 consultation, where a Cambridge Sustainable Travel Zone (STZ) was proposed. The STZ proposals include a road user charge as part of a package of

measures which would include new, cheaper and better bus services, and improved infrastructure to make walking, cycling and scooting more attractive and safer, before road charging began.

The GCP Executive Board is set to meet on 28 September to decide whether to put the updated proposals forward to the highways authority – Cambridgeshire County Council – for a decision.

Watch the meeting online.

greatercambridge.org.uk

What is the Greater Cambridge Partnership and how does it work?

The Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) was established as the local delivery body for a 'city deal', which was signed in 2014. The city deal is an agreement with central government, giving powers, and investment worth up to £500 million over 15 years, to deliver vital improvements in infrastructure, supporting and accelerating the creation of new jobs, new homes and additional apprenticeships.

The GCP Executive Board is a Joint Committee of three councils and is made of three elected members appointed by:

- Cambridge City Council
- Cambridgeshire County Council
- South Cambridgeshire District Council.

A representative of the following organisations attends the Board in an advisory capacity and do not have a vote:

- University of Cambridge
- Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority Business Board.

greatercambridge.org.uk/about/governance



What should Cambridge be like? What is it like now?

We've been pulling together ideas from people and partners across Cambridge to create a picture of a future Cambridge – focusing on the themes people have told us are important to them. We're calling this 'the Rich Picture' (shown right).

We have also recently published a 'State of the City' dashboard, which provides a data-led overview of what Cambridge is currently like – economically, socially, and environmentally. It also compares Cambridge to other cities in England and Wales.

Both the Rich Picture and the State of the City dashboard will be useful tools for the council and its partners in the years ahead, and will be updated as needed. Find out more online.

cambridge.gov.uk/state-of-the-city

cambridge.gov.uk/rich-picture



Proudly providing over £3 million worth of grant-funded adaptations to support people with disabilities

Last year Cambridgeshire Home Improvement Agency (Cambs HIA) - a shared council service operating across Cambridge, South Cambridgeshire, and Huntingdonshire - completed £3.3m worth of adaptations for people with disabilities.

Cambs HIA supports people to install level access showers, stairlifts, ramps and door widening, hoists, small extensions, replacement boilers and other work to make the home safer.

The service works collaboratively with other organisations to raise awareness of the grants available to help with this work.

Cambs HIA has now been in operation for over 10 years. During that time £25.7 million worth of adaptations have been completed, helping to keep people out of hospital, maintaining independence, and reducing the need for care.

If you or someone you know needs help and advice about disability or repairs grants - or just needs help to complete this type of work to enable someone to remain living safely in their home - contact Cambs HIA.



cambshia.org hia@cambshia.org
01954 713 330 [Cambs HIA](#)



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Green grants for business

Cambridge businesses can apply to a new Green Business Programme for help to reduce carbon emissions and improve productivity and profitability.

The programme is managed by Allia Impact Ltd - local business support specialists - and open to small and medium sized businesses in Cambridge, Huntingdonshire and South Cambridgeshire. It offers access to expert advice to develop a practical net zero road map, and the opportunity to apply for a capital grant of up to £5,000 to part-fund investment in carbon-saving technology,

equipment or improvements.

The programme is a partnership project led by Cambridge City Council, Huntingdonshire District Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council and the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Growth Hub, part funded by the UK Government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and overseen by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority.

For more information contact:
ventures@allia.org.uk



Energy saving in traditional buildings

Traditional buildings are usually built with solid walls or are timber framed. They need to accept and release moisture through their fabric and breathe, functioning differently from modern buildings.

Having an appreciation of how traditional buildings work can help home owners to make informed decisions about introducing sensitive energy efficient measures. Occupants should also be aware of the risks presented by introducing standard non-breathable materials and excessive sealing-up, both to buildings and occupants' health.

As with more modern homes, energy saving measures can include turning off lights and appliances when not in use, draughtproofing windows and doors, installing appropriate loft insulation and thermal curtains and blinds. It's also important to look after your roof, keep your gutters and drainpipes clear, and make sure that water is not collecting in the ground around your house. There is a wealth of additional information to help home-owners.

Generating your own power and heating may also be something to think about - although the visual impact of solar panels is an important consideration for listed buildings and specialist advice should be sought.

- The design and installation of heat pumps also needs to be carefully considered so that the impact on the historic building and its setting is minimised.
- greatercambridgeplanning.org/historic-homes
 - historicengland.org.uk/advice/technical-advice/retrofit-and-energy-efficiency-in-historic-buildings

If you live in a listed building, you may need to apply for Listed Building Consent for works which affect their 'character'.

- greatercambridgeplanning.org/listed-building-advice

New electric vehicle charging points switched on at Cambridge car parks

Our ambitious programme to install hundreds more electric vehicle (EV) charging points in our car parks has reached another milestone, with the official switching on of the first 15 publicly accessible chargers in July, at Adam and Eve Car Park off East Road.

More than 600 new EV charging points are being installed at 14 car parks across Cambridge in the coming years, in partnership with Connected Kerb, one of the UK's largest providers of EV charging infrastructure.

The programme aims to make it significantly easier for people in Cambridge to charge electric vehicles, with free parking available for anyone doing so overnight between 6pm and 8am.

- cambridge.gov.uk/charge-your-electric-vehicle



Planning improvement work to your home? 3C Building Control are here to help

3C Shared Services Building Control is an award-winning partnership of Cambridge City Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council and Huntingdonshire District Council. If you're making improvements to your home or planning building work, contact our shared Building Control team for guidance via the phone or book to arrange an inspection visit.

Our professional Local Authority Building Control team are an invaluable source of useful local knowledge and give great advice about overcoming unexpected issues on site.

Our Building Control surveyors can help by assessing compliance with the building regulations including foundations, structural elements, drains, damp proofing, insulation, and fire safety. Your Local Authority Building Control team can even help if you or a previous owner has carried out work without permission, through the regularisation process.

To find out more and to apply for a building regulation application contact us today:
3csharedservices.org
buildingcontrol@3csharedservices.org
0300 772 9622

Funding secured to protect veteran trees

Trees play a vital role in the life of our city, with tangible benefits to people's wellbeing, helping to combat the effects of the climate emergency, and providing food and shelter to wildlife.

The council has a tree strategy to increase the overall number of trees in the city, and to protect Cambridge's trees - including 'veteran trees'.

A veteran tree is not necessarily very old, but through natural process or management practices such as regular pollarding (harvesting all branches above the reaches of grazing animals) has developed features more often seen on ancient trees. This can include large, low, trunks with hollow cavities and plenty of dead decaying wood, providing homes to a rich array of insects, birds, bats and fungi. The majority of Cambridge's veteran trees are riverside willows that

have historically been pollarded for timber and animal fodder.

The council and our partners have secured funding from the National Lottery Community Fund for 'River Cam CAN (Climate Action through Nature)' projects to support Cambridge's veteran trees located on riverbanks.

The partners in this project include Cambridge Past Present and Future, Abbey People, CoFarm, Water Sensitive Cambridge and Climate Outreach.

The council will work to deliver a project called 'DiversiTree'. The vision for the DiversiTree project is to identify and sustainably manage Cambridge's veteran riverbank trees and to make them accessible to current and future generations of Cambridge's residents, workers and visitors for their enjoyment and education - with a particular



Find out more about trees in the city and what the council is doing to manage them.
cambridge.gov.uk/trees

focus on supporting access for disadvantaged communities.

Veteran trees are essential for biodiversity, providing habitats for animals, have cultural and historical value, and can contribute to making the city climate resilient.

In 2018, the council adopted a veteran management plan on Sheep's Green and Coe Fen, the home to 119 veteran trees.

The project will aim to

engage the owners of veteran trees, as well as the local community, to encourage sustainable management and care for the trees.

The project will run over the next two years. The council will undertake a tree survey, develop a sustainable tree management plan, and host events with residents to get them involved. Keep an eye out for when these events are announced!

Creating new habitats for invertebrates and wildflowers

With the help of our conservation volunteers and the University of Cambridge, we have been working on a project to increase new habitats for invertebrates on Bramblefield's local nature reserve to help boost biodiversity.

Using clean, recycled commercial waste material such as crushed concrete, bricks, sand and gravel, we have created three mounds suitable for wildflowers, insects and common lizards. These mounds sit alongside the first mound, made in 2018 using recycled ceramics, which has been particularly successful in supporting solitary bees.

As these materials are nutrient poor, they are ideal for the growth of wildflowers without being overtaken by vigorous grasses

and brambles. They also provide bare areas for reptiles to bask and invertebrates to dig burrows.

The mounds are being monitored to see how they continue to support biodiversity.



Read more about our commitment to increasing biodiversity:
cambridge.gov.uk/biodiversity
Find out more about Bramblefields.
cambridge.gov.uk/bramblefields-local-nature-reserve

Keeping your home warm this winter

As we head into the colder autumn and winter months, you may be thinking about how to keep your home comfortable and warm, as well as potentially high energy bills.

Increasing the energy efficiency in your home can lower energy bills, increase comfort, and help protect your health. This can be done by installing retrofit measures which increase the insulation of your home and changing your main heating source to a more environmentally friendly and efficient option.

The council-backed Action on Energy website has advice for Cambridgeshire residents on energy efficiency, retrofit measures, funding opportunities, installation, and other practical guidance.



Find out more about Action on Energy:
actiononenergycambs.org
01223 457340
@ActionOnEnergy
Action on Energy
@actiononenergycambs

Work insight and skills week

In July a group of 16 to 18 year olds spent the week taking part in a work skills and insights week run by the council in association with national charity Social Mobility Business Partnership. The week focused on increasing young people's access to the local creative and cultural industries. The group spent time with local employers including Cambridge Junction, Cambridge University Press, The Fitzwilliam Museum, Kettle's Yard, and the council's Cultural Services team. As well as learning about the breadth of careers on offer in creative and cultural industries, the young

people were able to build networks with local employers for the future. Leah, aged 18, said: "The day at Cambridge University Press was my favourite. I'm interested in design and we met a product designer who gave me so many ideas on how to improve my portfolio and CV and how to meet people in the design industry. I have been quite worried about getting a job – having missed work experience because of COVID – and I think this experience will really help." Leonardo, aged 17, said: "I wasn't sure what area to pick for a work experience week so my teacher recommended this, and

I definitely don't regret it. My favourite part was a task to promote an item that would help educate people about climate change, which has sparked an interest in marketing. We also got to talk to people in different roles, showing how many jobs really are out there for us after school."



Find out more or sign up for news about future opportunities. my-cambridge.org

Showcase your skills with digital badges

Our Region of Learning project works with local learning and skills providers to create digital badges to recognise and verify someone's skills.

What are digital badges? Digital badges can help you show future employers what you're made of and help you to explore, engage, and articulate particular skills and learning experiences. Whether it's work experience, visiting a local museum, volunteering, or learning a new skill, with badges you can create a digital record of your experiences and accomplishments. The badges are portable micro credentials that can be shared across multiple platforms and verified in real-time, online. The badges showcase skills you have gained – anything from communication or creativity, to time management – through a variety of activities, from arts to sciences to sports and

many more. They are widely recognised by employers and universities and can even be uploaded to your CV.

How can digital badges help you? Region of Learning champions a number of digital platforms, including Navigatr, which signposts opportunities across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. These platforms enable you to discover local learning activities and boost employability, by improving skills and collecting digital badges.

Join the Region of Learning community Region of Learning also uses the Navigatr platform to look at your skills and map out career pathways you may be interested in, as well as live job opportunities within your local area – bringing diverse opportunities, no matter your background. Sign up to find exciting learning and work experiences in your area.



For more information visit: cambridge.gov.uk/cambridgeshire-and-peterborough-region-of-learning regionoflearning@cambridge.gov.uk



Help improve things for young people

Are you aged 11+ and passionate about improving things for young people in Cambridge? The council is looking for young people who would be interested in working with local decision makers to help set up campaigns and projects to improve things for all young people in the city. The Youth Advisory Board is free to join, and training will be available for anyone wishing to take part. Participation offers young people a great chance to meet new people and learn new skills in a supportive friendly environment – and will help you to demonstrate your experience when applying for jobs in the future.



Find out more or get involved. communitydevelopment@cambridge.gov.uk

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County Lines









Gangs and organised crime groups exploit children to transport and sell drugs. It's called 'county lines' because the children often have a spare mobile phone 'line' for taking orders for drugs.

If your child
was at risk,
would you spot
the signs?



Young people are often
unaware that they're being
exploited until it's too late.
Parents are unlikely to be
aware of what is happening.

Possible signs a young person is being exploited:

-  Having more than one mobile phone
- or being edgy or anxious after
receiving calls and texts
-  Unexplained money, clothes or gifts
-  Missing school or college
-  Unexplained injuries
-  New friendship groups, including
older young people and adults
-  Being in trouble with the police
or being found with drugs
-  Uncharacteristic changes in
behaviour
-  Words like Going country, OT,
Trapping, Cuckooing, 'G', 'Q',
Shotter and Plugging

Remember, **you're not to blame.**
And **your child is a victim** of their exploiters.

Talk to your child

Stay calm, ask them questions about what's going on,
tell them that you want to help them and keep them safe.

Gather evidence

If your child is picked up in a car or has rail or bus tickets,
keep a record of these for the Police.

Get help and support

Talk to other parents. Talk to your child's school. Or talk to another professional.

When to tell the Police

If you have any concerns that your child is being exploited by criminals,
you should report this to the Police. They can help them end the situation.
Remember, they are victims and should be treated as such.

If your child stays away from home, you should report them as missing to
the Police immediately. If you are worried about your child's safety, report
these fears to the Police or your child's school.



Find out more and get support.

 cambridge.gov.uk/cambs-against-county-lines

If a child or young person is in immediate danger call 999

Missing People Safecall (call or text)
11600
Parents Against Child Exploitation
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Cambridgeshire Constabulary 101
Crime Stoppers 0800 555 111



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Wards: Arbury, East Chesterton, King's Hedges & West Chesterton


Arbury


 **Iva Divković** Labour ●
07946 076949
iva.divkovic@cambridge.gov.uk

 **Patrick Sheil** Labour ●
07519 800341
patrick.sheil@cambridge.gov.uk

 **Mike Todd-Jones** Labour & Co-operative ●
07580 764586
mike.todd-jones@cambridge.gov.uk

East Chesterton

 **Gerri Bird** Labour ●
01223 425595
gerri.bird@cambridge.gov.uk


 **Alice Gilderdale** Labour ●
alice.gilderdale@cambridge.gov.uk

 **Baiju Thittala Varkey (Deputy Mayor)** Labour ●
07710 531280
baiju.thittalavarkey@cambridge.gov.uk

King's Hedges


 **Martin Smart** Labour ●
07842 205226
martin.smart@cambridge.gov.uk


 **Jenny Gawthrop Wood (Mayor)** Labour ●
jenny.gawthropwood@cambridge.gov.uk

 **Delowar Hossain** Conservative ●
delowar.hossain@cambridge.gov.uk

West Chesterton

 **Sam Carling** Labour ●
sam.carling@cambridge.gov.uk

 **Richard Swift** Labour ●
07599 629770
richard.swift@cambridge.gov.uk


 **Rachel Wade** Labour ●
rachel.wade@cambridge.gov.uk

South Area

Wards: Trumpington, Cherry Hinton & Queen Edith's


Cherry Hinton


 **Mark Ashton** Labour & Co-operative ●
07774 570976
mark.ashton@cambridge.gov.uk

 **Robert Dryden** Labour & Co-operative ●
01223 457246
robert.dryden@cambridge.gov.uk

 **Russ McPherson** Labour ●
07733 365725
russ.mcpherson@cambridge.gov.uk


Queen Edith's


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