

# South Cambridgeshire District Council – Caldecote Ward

(comprises the Parishes of Caldecote, Childerley, Kingston, Bourn, Longstowe & Little Gransden)

## Councillor's Monthly Report – September 2023

This report of previous month events is for all the Ward, so please be aware that some of the content may not be relevant to your particular Parish.

---

### General

Please contact me with comments, questions, problems, reports, suggestions or complaints to do with SCDC services. These are housing need, housing repairs for council tenants, planning, benefits, council tax, bin collection, environmental health issues etc. Don't fight on your own. I am available to help you to get the best outcome possible for your situation.

Check out articles on my facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/itsCouncillorTumi> and my blog <http://www.TumiHawkins.org.uk>. What I post on there is my view and not LibDem or South Cambs official policy unless I state that it is.

### Reminders

#### Luton Airport Flight Path and Airspace Deployment (AD6) change

This is the last 3 weeks of the Post Implementation Review (PIR) period which ends 23:59 on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023. I urge those affected to keep reporting to Luton at using [noise@ltn.aero](mailto:noise@ltn.aero) or [noise.enquiries@ltn.aero](mailto:noise.enquiries@ltn.aero).

### Planning Updates

#### Cambridge 2040 and building 250,000 homes in “Cambridge”

The Housing Secretary Michael Gove announced end of July the Government intention to turn Cambridge into the Silicon Valley of the UK. The plan includes building millions of square feet of lab space and 250,000 more new homes to be supported by new rail line (we think EWR) and other infrastructure projects. The government claimed it would send in a “super squad” team of planners to unblock the bottlenecks in the planning system to enable this “super-charging” of the proposed plans.

The full Gove speech is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/long-term-plan-for-housing-secretary-of-states-speech> and scroll down to the section titled “**Supercharging Europe's science capital**”

The initial discussions have taken place between our Councils and Peter Freeman who Gove appointed to lead the work, to explain just what is going on in Greater Cambridge in real life. He needs to know this before Gove's plans can begin to be considered.

### Housing

#### Funding for New Council Homes

The Council has been awarded significant funding to provide 13 additional homes from phase 2 of the Local Authority Housing Fund for refugees. This is in addition to the funding for 40 homes that we received for in phase 1. In total the council has been granted just over £2.4m. The latest award, together with Council borrowing, will be used to provide 10 homes for refugee families from Afghanistan, plus 3 additional properties which we can use for temporary accommodation to reduce the use of bed and breakfast type accommodation. Under the terms of the funding when the properties are no longer needed for either refugee or temporary housing they will be treated as normal council stock. The longer-term legacy for this project will be an increase in social housing

within the District. The housing team will work with the Strategic Migration Partnership (linked to EELGA) to understand the housing needs of refugees. This is a testament to the trust the government have in the council’s ability to deliver.

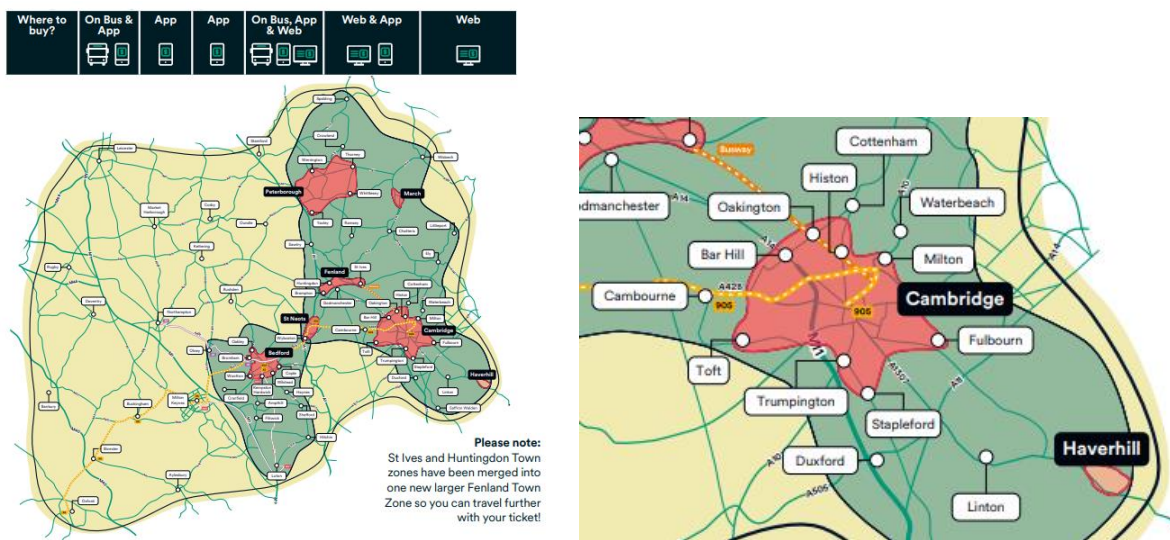
## Transport

### Stagecoach East Network Bus fare changes

The bus company has announced increases in fares from 17<sup>th</sup> September 2023. It claims the reasons are to cover the rising costs of providing service as well as making important investments to give a better experience when travelling on the bus network. Stagecoach claims the new ticket prices will add on average just 43p onto the cost of daily adult bus travel in the “Town zone” (Red). You can find details of new fares and zones (Green=Plus, Yellow = East) in the booklet at

<https://tiscon-maps-stagecoachbus.s3.amazonaws.com/Miscellaneous/East/CustomerFareGuideBooklet-SEP23.pdf>

For our ward, the Citi4 timetable is the same, and No.18 route is run by Whippet.



## GCP – Making Connections

Again, I remind everyone of the original proposal for transport improvement which is to first improve bus services, then to improve active travel infrastructure (cycling and walking), funded initially by GCP, then introduction of the Sustainable Travel Zone with the charge to car users to be ringfenced to maintain the bus/active travel network & services.

### The proposals

This consultation follows last year’s Making Connections consultation, when people living and travelling in the area shared their preferred ways to transform the bus network and reduce traffic in the city, while raising money to pay for transport improvements. We have used those views to develop a proposed package of measures to change how we travel in Greater Cambridge and the wider area. We want to hear your thoughts on the three parts of the proposal:

#### 1 Transforming the bus network

From mid-2023, we are proposing to transform the bus network through new routes, additional services, cheaper fares and longer operating hours.

#### 2 Investing in other sustainable travel schemes

Alongside the bus network, we are proposing to invest in new sustainable travel schemes, such as better walking and cycling links.

#### 3 Creating a Sustainable Travel Zone

We are proposing the introduction of a Sustainable Travel Zone in the form of a road user charge. Vehicles would be charged for driving within the zone between 7am and 7pm on weekdays, and money raised would fund improvements to the bus network and other sustainable travel schemes. The Zone would be fully operational in 2027/28, with a gradual introduction starting in 2025, but only once the first bus improvements are introduced.

living and climate crises for a better, cleaner and safer future.

The proposals will see:

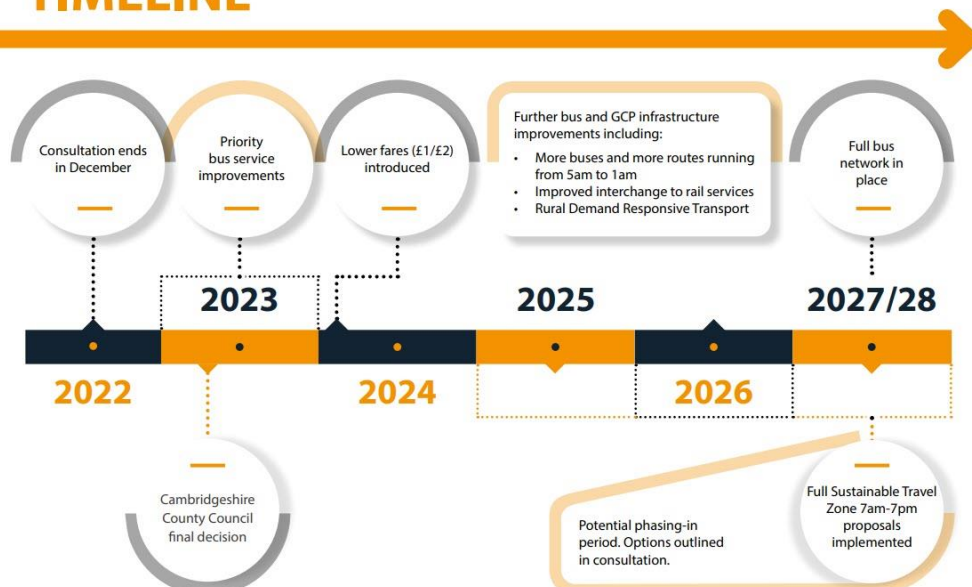
**Double** the hours of service and miles covered of the pre-Covid Greater Cambridge bus network

**£1** flat fare for single journeys in the Cambridge bus zone, and £2 fares in the wider area

**50%** expected reduction of traffic in Cambridge

And the proposed timeline

## TIMELINE



The documentation is all at <https://consultcambs.uk.engagementhq.com/making-connections-2022>

The GCP used the feedback from the 2022 consultation to produce a **revised Making Connections proposal**. The main revisions are as follows:

1. Weekday peak hour charging 0700-1000 and 1500-1800
2. Charges £5 for cars, £10 for vans, £50 for HGCs and coaches. No charge for motorbikes
3. Low income discounts of 50%
4. 50 free days for account holders
5. Local SME/businesses discount 50%

These revised proposals are now being discussed by all the GCP partners – Cambridge City Council, Cambridgeshire County Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council. The Mayor of the Combined Authority who is the responsible Transport Authority and working on bus franchising is also taking part in the discussions on how to move forward. Will provide further updates when available.

## Environmental Services

### Bin Collections

From week beginning 18 September many residents will have a change to their bin collections. For some this will be changing to a different bin day, for others the sequence of their collections will change, so when the change is made they may have the same bins emptied two weeks in a row, before they alternate between green/blue and black again. All residents need to be aware that because new bin collection routes are being created from scratch the time that their bin is emptied may be different from now, so bins need to be ready for collection by 6am. You can check the new bin collection schedules at [www.scams.gov.uk/binchanges](http://www.scams.gov.uk/binchanges) and compare with the current schedule at [Find your household bin collection day - South Cambs District Council \(scams.gov.uk\)](http://www.scams.gov.uk) to see if your sequence is changing. Letters will be sent to all addresses which will have a change. But do check the timetable so you are aware. If there is a bigger gap inbetween collections due to the change, additional bag of side waste will be accepted for both blue and green bin collections, so please follow the normal guidance and put the extra in clear bags beside the bins.

For Caldecote, Kingston, Longstowe and Little Gransden the bin dates move from Wednesdays to Thursdays. For Bourn, it remains on Thursdays – lucky you.

---

The bin collection service has had another lorry fire caused by batteries. Please do not put batteries in any of the bins. Put them in transparent bag and tie to the handle of the blue bin. Or take to recycling centre.

### **Flood Action Conference – 21<sup>st</sup> September 2023**

Community groups and residents are invited to a [Flood Action Conference](#) on Thursday 21st September 2023 at Burgess Hall in St Ives from 10:15 to 16:30. It is organised by the Community Flood Action Programme team (part of the Flood Risk team) and is open to any residents and community groups with an interest in learning more about flood resilience or establishing their own flood group. It includes talks and workshops by Cambridgeshire County Council, the Environment Agency, Anglian Water, Internal Drainage Boards and industry leading experts. There will also be the ‘Floodmobile’ at the event, a vehicle demonstrating over 50 examples of flood resilience measures that householders and businesses can install. Tickets can be booked here [Flood Action Conference 2023 Tickets, Thu 21 Sep 2023 at 10:15 | Eventbrite](#)

## **Community and Wellbeing**

### **Action for Happiness**

The Action for Happiness theme for July at <https://www.actionforhappiness.org/calendar> is **Self Care September**. This month’s focus is “*Self-care isn't selfish. It's essential*”

### **#FreeToFeedCP Breastfeeding Campaign celebrates first year**

Last year August, South Cambs District Council worked with the NHS Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Infant Feeding Team and ‘Best Start in Life’ partnership to introduce and support venues across the district to become more welcoming to families who breastfeed and/or pump in public. Businesses, organisations and community venues were encouraged to sign up and displaying the sticker and promotional material in their premises. The campaign has just celebrated a very successful first year in August 2023. You can read more about two mums who are happy to talk about their experiences of breast feeding and how much they love the #FreeToFeedCP at <https://www.scams.gov.uk/mums-welcome-freetofeedcp-anniversary-which-empowers-parents-to-breastfeed-and-pump-in-public/>

Since launching, more than 70 venues across the district have pledged their support and now, based on the learnings, Peterborough City and East Cambs District Councils are following the lead by rolling out the scheme in their areas.

### **Grants for purchase of defibrillators**

Organisations in England are being invited to bid for a share of £1 million of government funding to buy defibrillators for community spaces like town halls, local parks or post offices. The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) is [inviting interested organisations to register expressions of interest for its Community Automated External Defibrillators \(AED\) Fund](#), aimed at increasing the number of AEDs in public places. An estimated 1,000 new defibrillators are to be provided by the fund. As part of the grant award, applicants will be asked to demonstrate that defibrillators will be placed in areas where they are most needed. Examples could include town halls, community centres, local shops, post offices and local parks, to ensure that defibrillators are evenly spread throughout communities.

If interested, [submit expression of interest form here](#).

### **Grant for EV chargers at community buildings**



---

If so, then South Cambridgeshire District Council's Electric Vehicle Charge Point Grant may be of interest to you. Up to £5,000 per project is available, towards the capital costs of purchasing and installing public EV chargers at community buildings and village halls. Applications will be appraised for their deliverability and positive impact with funding allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis. To be eligible for funding, EV chargers must be publicly accessible, and projects should demonstrate that there is likely demand for an EV charger at the chosen location.

More information, guidance, and the application form can be found on the [grant's webpage](#). If you have any questions, please email [evcp.grant@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:evcp.grant@scambs.gov.uk).

## Cambridgeshire Priorities Capital Fund

Is there an organisation looking to upgrade its community building? If so, the project could receive up to £40,000 from the Cambridgeshire Priorities Capital Fund (CPCF), which has £1,000,000 earmarked to improve community buildings and assets to better suit their users. The fund is open to community/voluntary organisations, public sector bodies including parish councils and schools, and to businesses whose project would offer clear public benefit.

Funds could be awarded to:

- Improve a community building's carbon footprint, sustainability and accessibility by installing heat source pumps, solar panels etc.
- Amend, convert or upgrade a building to reach a new sector of the community. This could be in the form of a Men's Shed, Food bank, etc.
- Purchase equipment to engage additional members of the community. This capital equipment could make the building more accessible, buying much needed equipment for residents to use.
- Create a community allotment / garden to improve wellbeing and mental health of residents in an area that may lack green space / accessible parks.

Visit the [County Council's website](#) to find out more and submit an expression of interest. Submissions close 24 September 2023.

## Casework

Please do feel free to contact me with comments, questions, problems, reports, suggestions or complaints to do with SCDC services. I will help as best I can

You will find the current and past reports on my blog at <https://tumihawkins.org.uk/caldecote-ward/reports/monthly-reports/2022-23-monthly-reports/>. Feel free to read, share and/or download.

*Tumi*

Tumi Hawkins  
3 September 2023

<b>Email me @:</b>	<a href="mailto:tumi@tumihawkins.org.uk">tumi@tumihawkins.org.uk</a>
<b>Read my blog at:</b>	<a href="http://www.TumiHawkins.org.uk">http://www.TumiHawkins.org.uk</a>
<b>Twitter:</b>	<a href="#">@CouncillorTumi</a>
<b>Facebook</b>	<a href="#">@itsCouncillorTumi</a>
<b>LinkedIn</b>	<a href="#">TumiHawkins</a>
<b>Call me on:</b>	07802 323269