

County Councillor report October 2019

Rampton Road.

Street Works were requested to come out and inspect the Anglian Water road works currently on Rampton Road. The site foreman was contacted and the problems identified were discussed. The High Street end of the works seemed to be not too bad, but the main issues start on the approach to the old barracks.

1. Pipes being pulled in the highway, they need a banksman to ensure safety of road users.
2. At the moment they are using give and take for vehicles passing the works sites, an option would be to use traffic lights but I think this would be more disruptive bearing in mind the limited amount of vehicles using the road.
3. Where the footway is restricted to less than one metre the only real alternative is to put a pedestrian walkway in the road. This would mean the road would have to be closed which again would be more restrictive. The workers on site are keen to assist wherever a pedestrian needs assistance.
4. Damage to the verges and spoil. This will be cleared and landscaped when the works have finished. An inspection will be completed once this has taken place and Street Works will deal accordingly with Anglia Water if they are not happy.
5. The metal barriers on the bend are being replaced with proper reflective ones.
6. Where stones and mess on the road was identified, the foreman agreed to clear straight away.

It's quite a challenging location, but it will continue to be inspected.

LHI Bid

The feasibility report for next year's LHI bid has been distributed.

Northstowe Pedestrian warning signs

These have now been erected.

Historic Assembly

People from the county and beyond made history earlier this month as they took part in the UK's first Citizens' Assembly dedicated to tackling transport issues. A Citizens' Assembly brings together a randomly selected 'mini-public' to consider an issue: over the course of several days, they hear evidence, deliberate with each other and come up with recommendations. The Greater Cambridge Citizens' Assembly heard from experts in transport, economics, environmental issues and public health over two weekends before making recommendations to cut congestion, improve air quality and deliver better public transport in Greater Cambridge. The Greater Cambridge Partnership's Executive Board will consider these recommendations in December, alongside further technical work. The GCP was awarded £60,000 and expert support to run the Citizens' Assembly as part of the Government's Innovation in Democracy Programme, jointly delivered by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport and the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government. This included support from the public participation charity, Involve, who designed and ran the Assembly.

This was an exciting way to engage with people about some of the biggest issues facing local areas across the UK today.

The Assembly members got right into the challenges of tackling congestion and transforming public transport, asking some tricky questions of the experts and expressing their own views. They delivered their final recommendations with huge passion, setting out a positive vision for the area's future and how they thought the GCP could help people to get around more easily without having to use a car. Involve's support was fantastic and they helped to deliver a real example of democracy in action as people debated and decided on these difficult topics. More and more places are looking at the Citizens' Assembly model, and I hope our experience can help others in

the county and beyond to consider deliberative engagement in future.” The Assembly members were selected at random following invitations to 10,000 addresses across the travel to work area. For more information visit: <https://consultcambcs.uk.engagementhq.com/greater-cambridge-citizens-assembly>

New Family Safeguarding

Cambridgeshire County Council has secured a £4.15million investment from the Department for Education (DfE) for the implementation of Family Safeguarding which will be introduced in February 2020. The Strengthening Families, Protecting Children - Family Safeguarding approach improves outcomes for vulnerable children and young people by involving multi-disciplinary teams in children’s social care. Initially developed in Hertfordshire, the model has resulted in significantly better outcomes for some of the most vulnerable and at risk children. Most children who are facing the greatest risks to their wellbeing are those who live in families where at least one of the adults is struggling with mental or emotional health issues, substance or alcohol difficulties, or where there is domestic abuse. Under the Family Safeguarding approach, children’s social work teams are expanded to include adult practitioners who are experts at supporting parents to address these challenges. The County Council will soon be recruiting for these roles.

In Hertfordshire it has been reported, that Family Safeguarding saved an estimated £2.6m for Children’s Services in the first year. There were also additional estimated savings of £107,000 to the police, due primarily to a reduction in incidents of domestic abuse and £200,000 to the NHS due to a 53% reduction in emergency admissions.

More information at: family.safeguarding@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Innovation boost for Cambridgeshire

More great news is that Cambridgeshire County Council is one of 20 councils who will be working together to share ideas and best practice with each other and with innovation experts Nesta. The County Council’s participation will focus on their groundbreaking **Best Start in Life** work to bring together everyone who works with young children from pre-birth to five across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough to shape their development, educational attainment and life chances.

The Best Start in Life Strategy aims to improve the life chances of children (pre-birth to 5 years) in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. It is an integrated initiative - working across local authority children’s services in Cambridgeshire, health visiting services commissioned through the County Council’s public health teams and NHS maternity and community children’s health services.

The strategy works to achieve three key impacts:

- Children live healthy lives
- Children are safe from harm
- Children are confident and resilient with an aptitude and enthusiasm for learning

An intensive discovery phase has been undertaken since November 2018 to produce the strategy. This phase involved extensive engagement with both existing research, data and evidence, alongside local parents and communities.

Falls prevention

A falls prevention business case, seeking funding from ring-fenced public health grant reserves to enhance the existing integrated Falls Prevention programme for three years, was approved by the County Council’s Health Committee on 19 September. The programme proposes to continue universal provision of falls prevention services across the county, but with a particular emphasis on home hazard assessment and adaptations in areas where the rate of falls is highest. The aim is to demonstrate that an intensive local programme can prevent an increase in the rate of injuries / serious falls, which often lead to a hospital admission and increased requirements for social care. Within the existing programme, over 800 people received a multi-factorial falls risk assessment

and 344 people were set up with a home strength and balance exercise programme in the first quarter of the year.

£25k awarded to Trading Standards by the County's Public Health Dept. to tackle illicit tobacco and underage sales of tobacco and alcohol

Trading Standards is working in conjunction with the County Council's Public Health team to carry out two projects across Cambridgeshire to help protect the health of residents. One will focus on illicit tobacco, and the other underage sales of tobacco. In both cases, Trading Standards will use an intelligence led approach to maximise the impact of its enforcement interventions.

Cambs Drive iQ

Registration is now open for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough's online driving programme, set up to support young people as they prepare to get into the driving seat.

Cambs Drive iQ's online learning platform is designed for students aged 16 and above and aims to help reduce the number of young people involved in incidents and crashes on the roads.

Students who complete a minimum of 8 modules will automatically be entered in a lucky draw for either a free two-hour driving session or a chance to spend a day with the Fire and Police Service.

Delivered by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Road Safety Partnership in schools and colleges, it provides young people with a virtual experience of different driving situations they may find themselves in, preparing them to become better and safer drivers once they have passed their test. The virtual course uses examples of local roads so young people can experience specific challenges they might face around the county. Celebrating its second anniversary, Cambs Drive iQ was delivered to more than 3,300 students last year in 22 schools/colleges across Cambridgeshire. The Cambs Drive iQ course offers that extra bit of guidance to young people and aims to give them the skills they need to keep both themselves and others safe on the roads.

I am delighted see Cambs Drive iQ being so well received by young people across the county. This platform engages with young people from the start, preparing them for the potential challenges they may face whilst driving. It's a good way to influence attitudes towards driving in a classroom environment and should arm our young drivers with everything they need to know to stay safe on the roads."

For more information visit: <https://www.cambsdriveiq.co.uk/>

Peter Hudson
County Councillor

Longstanton, Northstowe, Oakington and Westwick, and Over