Funding For Low Emission Buses

We supported Stagecoach in a bid for funding to transform its double decker fleet to low emission vehicles. They have now submitted a £5 million bid to the Office of Low Emission Vehicles for support to back its own planned investment of over £17 million in an ambitious programme to replace its existing double decker fleet with new low emission hybrid buses. The bid would see its double decker Citi, Park and Ride and sightseeing buses passing through the City Centre replaced with 89 modern Euro VI flywheel equipped vehicles. These have been trialed in London and elsewhere in the UK with impressive results for fuel savings and emissions reductions. The outcome of the bid should be known in Spring 2016.

Contact: Shelley Mason – Funding Bid Manager
shelley.mason@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Connecting Wisbech to the Wider Rail Network

The March to Wisbech Rail outline business case and stage 2 work (feasibility study) for the GRIP process (Governance for Railway Investment Projects) has just been published and is available on the County Councils website:
http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/info/20006/travel_roads_and_parking/68/transport_funding_bids_and_studies/3

Network Rail will now undertake a further piece of work investigating the level crossings on the March to Wisbech line in more detail. This work includes preparations for the carrying out of stage 3 (options selection) of the GRIP process, and will be completed by April 2016.

Contact: Jack Eagle, Lead Transport and Infrastructure Officer
jack.eagle@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Enterprise Partnership (GCGP) Growth Deal Round 3

The Comprehensive Spending Review Autumn Statement has confirmed the Government is still committed to £12 Billion Growth Deal investments. The next round of Growth Deal funding, potentially worth £5 billion across England, is set to be launched this month.

A Senior Sponsor Group made up of all GCGP partners of Local Authority (LA) officers has met to consider the potential ‘ask and offer’ for this area, ahead of details and bidding guidance from the Government. It is anticipated that the focus will be on direct contribution to growth and deliverability within the Growth Deal by March 2021. The GCGP Local Transport Panel (previously Local Transport Body) has agreed, in November 2015, for officers to draft a Growth Deal Round 3 programme of transport proposals for the Panel Members to consider subject to further detailed guidance.

Contact: Elsa Evans, Funding and Innovation Programme Manager
elsa.evans@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Connecting Cambridgeshire projects

Connecting Cambridgeshire superfast roll-out

The Connecting Cambridgeshire partnership is celebrating bringing access to superfast broadband to over 97,000 homes and businesses during the first phase of the roll-out with one of the highest take-ups of fibre broadband in the country at 28% and rising. The rural village of Whaddon recently recorded the county’s fastest take-up with over half of households upgrading within a month of the new fibre cabinet going live to get the benefits of faster Internet access.

Connecting Cambridgeshire is now using additional Government funding to extend the roll-out to improve broadband coverage and speeds during follow-on phases in 2016-2017. The programme is working with BT and Openreach to find the best solutions to connect as many places as possible with fibre. Other technologies such as satellite, mobile and wireless may be used, where appropriate, to close the gaps. For more information visit www.connectingcambridgeshire.co.uk

Women and Broadband roadshow

A Women and Broadband roadshow is touring the county over the coming months to help women in business grow or start up their own businesses by gaining digital skills and taking up faster broadband. Connecting Cambridgeshire is working with The Bratton Group to offer free workshops and one-to-one sessions with funding from The Government Equalities Office. Events will be held at venues in Peterborough, Huntingdon, Littleport, Chatteris, Cambourne, Cambridge, Godmanchester, Ely and Wisbech between January 2016 and March 2016. For more details and to reserve free places visit www.thebrattongroup.co.uk/dd

Smart Cambridge workshop

Connecting Cambridgeshire is running a Smart Cambridge workshop prior to the meeting of the City Deal Joint Assembly and Executive Board in February 2016 to showcase some of the smart works packages being undertaken to support the City Deal programme and highlight future opportunities for smart working in Greater Cambridgeshire and beyond

Contact: Noelle Godfrey – Programme Director, Connecting Cambridgeshire
noelle.godfrey@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Street Lighting

The street lighting replacement programme remains on target. By the end of November 2015 47,606 street lights had been upgraded, which represents 86% of the programme.

This month Balfour Beatty will be undertaking works across the County, including works in Ely, Soham and Hartford. The replacement programme in Cambridge’s historic core will recommence in January 2016 also following the stoppage over the Christmas period.

Contact: Emily Coombes – Commission Monitoring Manager
emily.coombes@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Making Assets Count

The One Public Estate programme (OPE) is led by the Local Government Association (LGA) and the Cabinet Office (Government Property Unit). It supports local authorities to use public sector land and property to deliver new homes, jobs, and economic regeneration, plus major
service integration and transformation, at scale and pace. On the 3 December 2016 Making Assets Count (MAC) was notified that it had been successfully awarded £280,000 to help deliver services in a more integrated way and ultimately benefit communities. Making Assets Count was instrumental in co-ordinating and writing the bid, working with partners across the partnership and liaising with the Local Government Association and the Government Property Unit to deliver a robust, cohesive bid within a very tight timescale. The funding will help accelerate public service co-location and shared service delivery, bring health services into joint working with other public sector organisations, maximize the use of key sites, support the delivery of new homes and enable the creation of health and social care facilities/service provision.

Contact: David Bethell - Programme Manager, Making Assets Count david.bethell@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Major Infrastructure Delivery projects

Bus Way Lighting Extension

The County Council is awaiting final programme dates for the implementation of the Addenbrookes lighting spur. It is intended to start on site early in 2016.

A428/A1303 Corridor City Deal Project

A consultation ran to 23 November 2015 for this City Deal scheme. Over 2200 responses were received. The County Council is now pulling together a report on the consultation and the next steps which will be presented to the City Deal Executive Board and Assembly in February 2016 and March 2016.

Western Orbital Corridor City Deal Project

The City Deal Executive Board has agreed that consultation on high level concepts will be undertaken from 8 February 2016 for six weeks. Officers are currently developing the consultation material setting out ideas for improved bus links to the west of Cambridge and potential options for new Park & Ride sites.

Cambridge North Railway Station – cycling links

Network Rail have agreed to transfer (subject to their internal approvals) land to the County Council for the construction of a new off road cycling track from Milton Road to the new station. As soon as the formalities are agreed, the County Council will start the design and construction of the scheme prior to the station opening.

Contact: Ashley Heller, Team Leader - Public Transport Infrastructure Team ashley.heller@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Waste Electrical and Electronic funding success

A joint funding application between Cambridgeshire County Council, Hertfordshire County Council and Peterborough City Council for £92K has been successful to help improve the reuse, repair and recycling of Waste Electrical and Electronic (WEEE) equipment. The funding, which was award through the Department of Business Innovation and Skills, will be used to carry out events in each District between April 2016 to September 2016. These will
prioritise the repair and reuse of any WEEE items which are thought to still work, but are no longer required by the owner.

The regional approach will ensure that events can be provided cost effectively, significantly helping raise resident’s awareness in separating WEEE for repair or reuse, instead of discarding items in their kerbside collection systems which would end up in landfill.

Contact: Maggie Pratt, Lead Officer for Policy and Communications, Supporting Business and Communities
maggie.pratt@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Greater Cambridge City Deal

The tackling congestion call for evidence that was carried out on 30 November 2016 received 73 written responses, with 21 presentations made by experts and interested local residents at the hearing sessions. The responses received have been reported to the Joint Assembly on 17 December 2015 and the Executive Board on 15 January 2016. The Executive Board agreed criteria for assessment of the ideas and proposals submitted, including an additional criterion that was added following the Joint Assembly’s recommendation to assess environmental impact and design.

In June 2016 both the Joint Assembly and Executive Board are due to decide on next steps for tackling congestion and access in Cambridge, following further work being carried out on the proposals received and on the Cambridge Access and Capacity Study. At both the Joint Assembly and Executive Board meetings, a presentation was received on opportunities for public realm and green landscaping enhancement within City Deal delivery. The Executive Board also supported the production of an Environmental Design Guide to be used as a statement of environmental principles that should apply to City Deal transport infrastructure schemes.

The next meeting cycle sees the joint Assembly and Executive Board meet on 12 February 2016 and 3 March 2016 respectively. This is due to consider the following items:

- Consultation results for schemes along the A428 corridor and coming in to western Cambridge.
- Chisholm Trail – consultation results and approval to progress detailed design of selected route.
- A1307 corridor to include bus priority – options and approval to consult.
- Smarter Cambridge investment business case.
- 2016/17 budget setting and 2015/16 Quarter 3 financial monitoring report.

Further information is available on the City Deal website: www.greatercambridgecitydeal.co.uk.

Contact: Aaron Blowers – City Deal Project Manager
aaron.blowers@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Cambridgeshire Future Transport (CFT)

The CFT Member Steering Group is holding monthly meetings to take forward work on improving commissioning and integration, as part of the Total Transport approach. From January 2016 the Group will be renamed to the Total Transport Member Steering Group. The next meeting will consider papers on In-house fleet, Integrated Local Transport Solutions, update on total transport pilot area and Business Planning.

Contact: Paul Nelson – Head of Service, Passenger Transport paul.nelson@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Matrix Reaccreditation

The Adult Learning and Skills (AL&S) service is pleased to have been awarded accreditation against the MATRIX standard for effective delivery of advice and guidance on learning and work. The standard assesses the leadership and management, resources, service delivery and quality improvement of an organisation. The feedback from the assessor was full of praise for the way in which the Adult Learning and Skills service works and the quality of the service it delivers to the community and partners. The full report can be made available on request.

Contact: Lynsi Hayward-Smith – Head of Service, Adult Learning & Skills lynsi.hayward-smith@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Road Safety Partnership Strategic Declaration

The County Council as part of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough road Safety partnership has been working with Peterborough City Council, Police, Fire and Rescue, Public Health, East of England Regional Trauma Centre, and the office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to develop a joint Road Safety Partnership Strategic Declaration. The official launch event for the declaration and the improved Partnership website will be on 26th February 2016 at Police Headquarters.

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Road Safety Partnership Strategic Declaration

"Every death and life changing injury which happens as a result of a road collision on a Cambridgeshire road is one too many."

We want to reduce the number of collisions on our roads and therefore the number of people killed or seriously injured as a result and the subsequent impact on individuals, their families and the community.

We will take an evidence-based approach through:

- effective and sustainable prevention and early intervention – by influencing the way people behave when they drive, cycle on or walk near roads
- working together in partnership to influence environmental factors such as speed limits and road layout
- providing a swift and joined-up response to road collisions which gives people the best chance of recovery
- supporting the victims of road collisions and their families to enable them to cope and recover from their experience
- timely information sharing and resources
- ensuring all sectors (voluntary, community and private) are able to play their part and understand the value they can add.

We acknowledge that the social and economic cost of road collisions is felt by a wide range of statutory and non-statutory agencies – not just those emergency services immediately involved – but those who are responsible for providing support through recovery in particular the health-care system.

We, as partner organisations, accept our joint responsibility to deliver against our declaration and the principles of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Road Safety Strategy (2015-20) and reduce the likelihood of further harm to the public on our roads.

Contact: Richard Lumley – Head of Local Infrastructure and Street Management
richard.Lumley@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

A10 Harston to Foxton cycleway

The construction of a new 2.5m wide shared-use foot/cycle path on the A10 between Harston Mill and Barrington Road has progressed quickly, and is now largely completed. The pinch point at Hoffers Brook has been eased by relocating a section of crash barrier closer to the carriageway so there is now room for a 2.2m wide shared-use path behind. Work should begin in early 2016 on the Phase 2 section between Foxton and Shepreth Lakes, with a further length planned later in 2016 when level crossing interface issues are resolved.

Contact: Mike Davies – Team Leader (Cycling Projects)
mike.davies@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
The Tins cycle route improvements

Renovation work has been completed on The Tins cycle route which runs along the northern side of the chalk pit lakes between Cherry Hinton High Street and Mill Road in Cambridge. It was officially reopened on 11 December 2015. Previously the shared-use path was only 1.5m wide, poorly surfaced and over-grown. It is now up to 4.5m wide, with a 2.7m wide lane for cyclists and a 1.8m wide section for pedestrians, and has new surfacing, fencing and lighting. The 2011 census revealed that residents of Cherry Hinton cycle less than those in other parts of Cambridge - it is hoped the improved infrastructure will encourage more people to use their bikes instead of the car. £180,000 of S106 developer contribution monies funded the scheme.

Contact: Mike Davies – Team Leader (Cycling Projects)  
mike.davies@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Home from Home – Chatteris Young Creatives Film Launch

A film project looking at the impact of WWII on young people has been launched in Chatteris. Home from Home is a Heritage Lottery funded film project and provides an insight in to the experiences of children who were evacuated to Chatteris during World War II.

Inspired by the Councils ‘Home Front’ commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the end of WWII, the project emanated from the Young Fenland Cultural Consortium and the young people involved are studying for a national Arts Award qualification through their involvement. The film was produced by 20Twenty Productions (a Fenland based Arts organization) with research support provided by Age UK Cambridgeshire, the Chatteris Community Archive and Chatteris Museum.

The film will be screened three times – first at The Light Cinema in Wisbech on 11 January, then at the King Edward Centre in Chatteris on 12 February 2016 at 6pm and 24 February 2016 at March town hall showing at 2pm. For more information visit http://www.mycreative.academy/

Contact: Joanne Gray, Lead Officer for Community Participation, Supporting Businesses and Communities (SBC)  
joanne.gray@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Illegally imported puppies quarantined

Trading Standards Officers were called out twice in December 2015 to quarantine puppies that have been illegally imported into the UK from Hungary. On both occasions the puppies were too young to comply with the pet passport scheme despite having paperwork to suggest that they were compliant. In such circumstances our officers must act quickly as these rules are in place to keep the UK rabies free. The dogs were advertised for sale on the internet and subsequent enquiries have identified the sellers. We are now investigating further with colleagues in Peterborough.

Contact: Doug Barnes - Trading Standards Operations Manager, Supporting Businesses and Communities (SBC)  
doug.barnes@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Protecting consumers from unsafe goods

“Hover boards” were the must-have “toy” on Christmas lists last year but a large number across the country, including some found within Cambridgeshire, were found to be unsafe and were putting people and homes at risk.

Cambridgeshire Trading Standards officers responded to intelligence and investigated a number of hover boards, or self-balancing scooters, on sale via a website operated by a Cambridgeshire based importer. Once tested the boards were found to be unsafe with non UK plugs without fuses, insufficient insulation on cabling, electrically unsafe chargers, battery or the cut-off switch within the board, which often failed and increased the risk of the device overheating, exploding or catching fire.

We have agreed a course of action and the trader is recalling any already supplied items and refunding the consumers accordingly.

Contact: Emma Butterfield, Lead Officer for Market Integrity, Supporting Businesses and Communities (SBC) emma.butterfield@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Library Service Transformation – Public Consultation

The Library Service is consulting the public on specific proposals relating to the Library Service Transformation in 2016/17. The Service is proposing a combination of reducing opening hours at larger libraries, reducing management and professional staff, reducing the mobile library service, and spending less on new library stock. The consultation will run until February and a link to the survey can be accessed at the Library website homepage – www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library.

Contact: Jill Terrell – Acting Head of Service (Community and Cultural Services) – Libraries & Archives jill.terrell@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Library and Archive Service Transformation – Staff Consultation

The Library and Archive Service formal staff consultation was launched on the 4 January 2016 and closes on 15 February 2016. The consultation refers to the total number of potential redundancies that may have to be made within the service and proposes new management structures as part of the Service Transformation. This consultation should be read in conjunction with Supporting Businesses and Communities and can be accessed at the following link: http://camweb2/Document%20Library/LGSS/hrandod/Community%20and%20Cultural%20Services%20Consultation%20and%20Cultural%20Services%20%20FINAL%204.1.16.pdf

Contact: Jill Terrell – Acting Head of Service (Community and Cultural Services) – Libraries and Archives jill.terrell@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Ely Archives Accommodation Update

Planning permission for the proposed new home for Cambridgeshire Archives in Ely was granted by Cambridgeshire County Council’s Planning Committee on 10 December 2015. Completion of the purchase of the Strikes Bowling Alley building will be completed within 28 days. The new home for the Archives was confirmed in 2015.

Contact: Alan Akeroyd - Archives and Local Studies Manager
alan.akeroyd@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Library Service Transformation – Income Generation update

The Income Generation Review Group, chaired by Cllr Barbara Ashwood, provided an update on recent work at the Highways and Community Infrastructure Committee (1 December 2015), with three priority income generation streams identified in the report. They are improving the income of the Café at Central Library (and possibly retendering), sponsorship and advertising and improving/modifying the 3rd floor at Central Library for chargeable events. Officers will continue to provide monthly progress updates at each Highways and Community Infrastructure Spokes meeting until a final paper is discussed at Committee.

Contact: Jill Terrell – Acting Head of Service (Community and Cultural Services) – Libraries and Archives
jill.terrell@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Cromwell Museum Trust Update

Former Prime Minister, Sir John Major, was announced as a Patron for the Cromwell Museum at the end of November 2015, ahead of its handover to a charitable trust later this year. An independent charitable trust is being set up to run the museum and is already actively working to build its volunteer base.

Contact: Alan Akeroyd - Archives and Local Studies Manager
alan.akeroyd@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Library improvement works - update

Bar Hill and Yaxley libraries reopened in November 2015 following a short closure for minor improvement works. Both libraries now offer more flexible spaces for events and activities. The programme of minor improvement works will continue until the end of March 2016. Work is also underway to replace the roof at Whittlesey Library. Until this work is complete (end of February 2016), a reduced service will operate from the front of the building which is unaffected by the roof replacement.

Contact: Sally Brown, Property Manager
sally.brown@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Department of Community and Local Government Designation (DCLG) Update

Evidence was submitted to DCLG on 19 November 2015 to provide a strong justification of why we should not be designated under section 62A of the Town and Country Planning Act at the end of 2015 for ‘county matter’ planning applications (so effectively Mineral and Waste applications only) in an attempt to avoid any Mineral and Waste applications being made directly to the Secretary of State, which could effectively bypass the local planning authority (LPA). We have heard back from DCLG to say that they intend to make their decision in early 2016. This is so that the new performance data released in December 2015 can be taken into account. Once we know the outcome of the designation we will update Members accordingly.

**Contact:** Emma Fitch, Business Manager - County Planning, Minerals and Waste  
emma.fitch@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Cross Boundary Planning Application – Horsey Toll Farm

The applicant formally withdrew this planning application on Thursday 14 January 2016 and resubmitted a new application, which included an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), on Friday 15 January 2016. Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council planning officers are in the process of checking the submitted information to see if the application can be validated.

An update on whether the application is valid and details of the consultation arrangements will be provided as part of the next key issues update.

**Contact:** Emma Fitch, Business Manager - County Planning, Minerals and Waste  
emma.fitch@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND ADULTS SERVICES

Information and advice for the public

The Children, Families and Adults directorate continues to work with colleagues across the Council, particularly in Public Health to develop information content that supports families and individuals in making decisions. Subjects covered are based on what the public are interested in (based on research with them), as well as meeting statutory responsibilities (eg through the Care Act, Children and Families Act) and seek to get messages out that our services need to promote. The content is written with the intention of helping people to find out more about a topic, to be able to do things for themselves as well as helping them understand when and how they can get in contact with services to help them. The content also supports people working with the public by providing a consistent, accessible source of information that makes use of available resources from others such as the NHS, specialist charities, local voluntary sector.

Information is available online, through County Council website primarily in the ‘adults and older people’ and ‘children and families’ channels, supported by Libraries and Children’s Centres and the Customer Services helplines. The online directory now receives an average of 25,000 unique page views a month. Recently, hard copy materials have been developed on: Equipment and Devices – helping people know where to go to get things to help them stay independent; as well as posters and flyers to publicise how people can access information and advice. The 2016 Care and Support Services Guide (produced with and funded by Care Choices) will be available in January. If Councillors would like copies of materials to use in their work, please contact us.

Contact: fis@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Local Safeguarding Children Board

Chaired by Sarah-Jane Smedmor, Head of Safeguarding and Standards, the first joint meeting of the Quality and Effectiveness Sub-Groups for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough was held in January 2016. This is one of a number of initiatives, including joint training, Conferences and Tasking Groups, being undertaken to increase the efficiency and impact of the LSCBs. It is intended to have a shared performance framework, joint audits and a coordinated approach to support agencies in providing assurance about the quality of the services they deliver. Working in this way will allow us to meet the needs of agencies that deliver services across both authorities whilst recognising the very real differences there are in context and priorities.

Contact: Andy Jarvis, LSCB Business Manager
andy.jarvis@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Post 16 Accommodations Forum

A post 16 provider forum took place on the 2 December 2015 to explain the tendering and application process to potential providers of accommodation and support services.
Presentations were made by representatives of the leaving care team and Youth Offending Service to provide potential providers with an understanding of the needs of children and young people leaving care.

The deadline for applications from providers will be 25 January 2016. Assessments of their applications will be evaluated from the 1-22 February 2016 and a final moderation will take place by the 29 February 2016. The successful suppliers will be awarded and notices given to them from mid to late March 2016. There will be a two month implementation process with a view that contracts will be live from 1 July 2016.

**Contact:** Tracy Collins, Head of Looked After Children  
tracy.collins@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

**Leaving Social Care – Social Finance**

Social Care representatives are meeting to explore whether CCC will become involved in a forum to develop tools and share best practice regarding leaving care services.

This initiative has been informed as a result of the National Audit Office (NAO) report which was published in July 2015 in which representatives from Cambridgeshire were interviewed. The NAO report highlighted a variance of support around the country, a top level drive to improve outcomes for care leavers, as well as discussions with leaving care services and care leavers.

Social Finance have been tasked with recruiting LA’s to develop tools to support informed commissioning decisions, develop feedback loops with care leavers which could help deliver sustainable change. This initiative complements the priorities of Department for Education (DfE) and OFSTED.

The plan is for the care leavers tool to support:

a) Local Authorities to better understand your data and what it means for your services  
b) The sharing of best practice between Local Authorities through the use of Case Studies and forums to enable learning and informed value-for-money commissioning  
c) Collect and benchmark Local Authority performance

**Contact:** Tracy Collins, Head of Looked After Children  
tracy.collins@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

**Cambridgeshire Education Organisation Plan 2015/16**

Cambridgeshire is one of the fastest growing counties in the country, and faces significant pressures on education places in many parts of the county as a result of both significant new housing development and demographic change resulting from increased birth rates.

One of our absolute priorities is that children and young people achieve the best outcomes possible and go on to succeed in further learning and in work. Crucial to this is the way that we work with schools and partners to plan and deliver good quality places in learning. The Council has a proven track record of working with a wide range of education providers to
commission sufficient places to meet the needs of Cambridgeshire’s residents and is committed to continuing this approach into the future.

The Education Organisation Plan sets out in the Council’s duty with regard to the planning and provision of education across the 0 – 19 age range. It also provides further detail in terms of the local policy and processes that have been adopted by the Council to enable it to meet its responsibilities. The final part of the plan demonstrates how the Council plans to respond to the various place pressures that have been identified across the whole county.

The 2015/16 Plan can be found online at http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/downloads/file/520/education_organisation_plan

**Contact:** Clare Buckingham, Strategic Policy and Place Planning Manager clare.buckingham@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

**Brunswick and Colleges Nursery School Federation**

Brunswick Nursery School and Colleges Nursery and Family Centre have worked together on an informal basis over many years. Most recently this partnership working has included the headteacher of Brunswick Nursery School supporting Colleges Nursery School and Family Centre following the resignation of the headteacher at the end of April 2015. During this period of support the governing bodies of both schools identified the benefits of turning this informal partnership into a formal federation of the two schools.

A consultation document was published jointly by the schools on 28 September 2015 seeking views on a proposal that the schools should federate effective from 1 January 2016.

On conclusion of the consultation period the governing bodies met on 9 November 2015 to consider the responses received online and on paper to the proposal. Both were unanimous in their decision that the federation of the two schools was in the best interest of the children and families of the communities they served and that the federation would be formally ratified to commence on 1 January 2016.

**Contact:** Sam Surtees, Strategic Policy and Early Years Operations Manager sam.surtees@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Participation and Feedback – Partners in Commissioning Group. Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)

Working Together with Cambridgeshire County Council sets out the Council’s commitment to supporting the voice of local people to be heard, written jointly by the Council, members of the public and representatives from local voluntary organisations.

The Partners in Commissioning (SEND) Group fulfils the role of the county network for parents of children with special educational needs, a disability or additional need, including health needs featured in Cambridgeshire’s model for involving parents and carers in strategic decision-making. Membership includes the Children Families and Adults directorate, the Cambridgeshire Commissioning Group, Pinpoint and other parent led organisations with whom pinpoint is working.

Contact: Richard Holland, Head of Children’s Disability richard.holland@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Children's First Response Team

The First Response and Emergency Duty Team (FREDt) are the children’s safeguarding team which provides first contact for children’s safeguarding concerns. The First Response team 8am-8pm rota which started on the 1 September 2015 has had positive feedback from staff and we will undertake a review in February 2016 as planned.

We now have three dedicated Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Child (UASC) workers within the unit who will focus on the demand and ensure that we are providing a timely and proportionate response. The funding has been agreed for this going forward.

Contact: Cathy Smith, Head of First Response and Emergency Duty Team cathy.smith@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Christmas Donations

Children Social Care Access in Buttsgrove have worked hard with some partners around Christmas Donations this year.

There were around £10,000 worth of donations, from Urban and Civic PLC. We have received colouring pads/pencils, puzzles, board games, toys, dolls, books, bedding, baby/cot bits, basic underwear etc. In addition, we collected 500 presents from CRC. This is for the children and families we are working with.

Urban & Civic held a press and photo gathering on 14 December 2015. This has been a very positive piece of work and thanks is extended to Unit Co-ordinator, Robert Billinghamurst for his work on this.

Contact: Rebecca Wilshire, Head of Children’s Access rebecca.wilshire@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Children and Young People participation

The Child Protection consultation group project continues and we have received new referrals from social workers for the group. The ‘Just us’ Christmas activities were held at the Snow Dome on 5 December 2015 for the juniors and 12 December for the seniors. For both groups we have received new referrals and these young people will be attending the activities and with the hope of participating in the groups in 2016. (All Christmas activities and the presents have been funded by the charity the ‘Outlook’ Fund.)

We recently presented at the Princes Trust conference in London for the National care leavers week. Two care leavers who were involved in the making of the animation film ‘Finding My Way’ showed the film at the conference and participated in the discussions and workshops.

The preparation for the annual ‘Young People Outstanding Awards Evening’ has started and letters and nominations were sent out to all relevant parties. The awards are being held on the evening of Friday the 19 February 2016. (The awards’ evening has also been funded by the Outlook fund.)

The next quarterly newsletter has been sent out to professionals, carers and young people with the details of the forthcoming activities and consultations. 2016 starts with skills to foster training with young people, training with Anglian Ruskin University (ARU) on the Step Up programme and an ‘Arts’ discovery day’ with the Fitzwilliam Museum. ‘Voices Matter’ panel will meet in February 2016 before the awards evening.

Contact: Michelle Dean, Children’s Participation Manager
michelle.dean@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Young Carers Contract

The new contract for working with young carers came into force on the 1 December. Centre 33 is now the single provider across the County for the support of young carers. Much of the access to young carers will be via schools and support will be offered in school based groups, via social media and by some external group settings as well. Carers Trust will continue to support schools organisationally to be prepared for carer related issues across the age range.

The new contract reflects the changes brought in 2016 for the statutory assessment of young carers. To fulfil this requirement two new posts are being created to undertake assessments and to act as a lead professional in cases of higher need. The new posts will also work alongside the new contract.

Contact: Tom Jefford, Head of Participation and Services for Young People
Tom.jefford@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Multi-agency protocol to support responses to people who hoard

Following concerns raised by Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire and Rescue Service, regarding the risk of death by fire for people who hoard, particularly if they are over 65 years old, the Council set up three workshops to complete a local multi-agency protocol. The
workshops were well attended and included housing officers, district council representatives and environmental health officers, clinical psychologists, safeguarding advisors, commissioners and voluntary and community sector. One of the most powerful and useful presentations was from a person who was managing their hoarding impulses and overcoming several years of hoarding that they had felt was out of control.

The protocol was originally based on an example of multi-agency working in Merton, but has now been developed to reflect local services and partnerships. It is expected that a final draft will be taken to the Adult Safeguarding Board in early 2016.

Contact: Ivan Molyneux, Safeguarding and Workforce Development Manager ivan.molyneux@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Integrated Advocacy Project Update

The advocacy project is committed to genuine participation and its second phase of public consultation launched on the 24 November 2015 for a period of 90 days (ending 20 February 2016). This phase of consultation is to specifically seek views on the draft integrated advocacy service specification. A survey is currently live on the County Council website seeking views from existing service users, potential service users, friends or carers of existing or potential service users, professionals and the wider public on the content of this draft specification. A consultation findings report from the initial phase is also available alongside the survey. The survey can be found here:


Feedback gathered from the initial consultation phase that closed in early October 2015 has been taken into account when producing the draft spec. During the initial consultation period it was agreed that Cambridgeshire and Peterborough will work together to take forward a joint commissioning approach to advocacy services. The process will culminate in two separate contracts so that financial arrangements and budgets remain clearly defined within each area. However, we will take forward a single tender process and agree on joint monitoring processes.

Contact: Clare Rose, Project Manager, Business Improvement and Development Team clare.rose@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Adult safeguarding and Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)

The purpose of this project is to develop and implement the safeguarding elements of the Care Act 2015 and to develop and implement adults safeguarding into the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH). This includes review and amendment of relevant processes, protocols and guidance.

The overall status of the project has been changed to amber. The reasons for this are delays caused by recruitment issues to the post for the MASH and re-working the approach to safeguarding including Making Safeguarding Personal in the context of the development of the MASH. The launch of the MASH and the new approach will take place over the next few months with the aim the project will close in April 2016.

Contact: Jane Heath, Project Manager, Business Improvement and Development Team
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CQC Thematic Review of Integrated Care for Older People

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) undertook fieldwork between 23 November 2015 and 27 November 2015 in Cambridgeshire Health and Wellbeing Board Area for their thematic review focused on integrated care for older people.

We have now received more formal feedback from the CQC on their findings in Cambridgeshire. These will not be published widely, but will inform the national report. The review investigated services for older people over the age of 75 who had suffered a stroke or fractured neck of femur (commonly associated with a fall) in the past 12 months.

Three key learning points were highlighted by the CQC in their feedback, which were:

- Care co-ordination - People did not know who to contact for specific needs, or who might have an overall picture of their health and care.
- Care Plans – People said that they were involved in discussions and decisions with services, about how their needs would be met and individual care plans were developed. However, care plans were not always shared with other services resulting in people having different care plans for different needs.
- Exchange of Information – People said that they had to repeat their story and share information over and over again to different services. Professionals reported that it was difficult to share information effectively between services.

The final report from this thematic review is due to be published in Spring 2016 and will include findings from eight different health and well-being board areas from across the country.

Contact: Geoff Hinkins, Senior Integration Manager, Service Development, Older People
Geoff.Hinkins@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Social Media Campaigns – Loneliness; Winter Warmth and Preventing Falls

Work is underway between Public Health, Children, Families and Adults services and the corporate communications team to help reduce falls and social isolation of adults and older people by getting messages out to the community, to explain the importance of these areas and promote simple actions that individuals, carers and the general public can take. The initial plan has focused on getting messages out to staff and through a Facebook campaign through the Council site, which partner agencies have supported by sharing links and messages. The messages around loneliness reached over 5,600 people (including 300 on Christmas day). The work will continue to develop over coming months.

Contact: Mary Whitehand, Information Team Manager
Mary.whitehand@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTORATE

Health Harms’- January Smoking Cessation campaign

This campaign forms part of the National NHS led ‘Health Harms’ three year strategy and aims to increase the number of people who are accessing the smoking cessation services. It focuses upon exposing the negative health outcomes of smoking by highlighting the “Toxic Cycle”. Smoking cigarettes causes poisons to be accumulated in the blood which can damage the lungs, the heart and the brain. Camquit has produced a campaign marketing plan and it has in preparation distributed campaign packs to all GP practices, Community Pharmacies and Children’s centres and will be delivering information sessions within workplaces, hospitals and both county council & district council offices.

For further information please contact CAMQUIT on 0800 018 4304 and CAPCCG.CAMQUIT@nhs.net.

Contact Source: Claire Mead, Camquit Co-Ordinator claire.mead@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Change for Life – Healthy Eating

Change4Life launched its Sugar Smart campaign on 4 January 2016. The campaign encourages parents to take control of their children’s sugar intake by revealing the surprising sugar content of everyday food and drinks. The campaign will support parents to find healthier alternatives by using a free Sugar Smart app that can scan over 74,000 products to show how much sugar they contain. Reducing sugar intake will help towards achieving the new government recommendations on the maximum amount of sugar we should be having each day. Children in England consume three times more sugar than the maximum recommended amount of 5%. The national Sugar Smart campaign will be supported locally through social media and distribution of campaign resources.

Contact: Helen Reed, Health improvement Specialist, Public Health Nutrition helen.reed@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Dry January

Cambridgeshire County Council is again supporting dry January http://www.dryjanuary.org.uk/. The campaign targets anyone who typically drinks regularly and would not usually have a whole month alcohol free. The campaign is not suitable for dependent drinkers. This year’s campaign has involved recruiting Dry January Champions who will agree to take part and encourage others to do the same. So far around 20 people have been recruited as champions working within the County Council and its partner organisations. The campaign is also being promoted on Facebook and Twitter. The benefits of Dry January are that you can save money, lose weight and have more energy. Dry January has been promoted throughout December particularly in Fenland where during a series of public engagement events in Wisbech over 400 people were given information promoting the campaign.

Contact: Joseph Keegan, Alcohol Strategic Lead – Drug and Alcohol Action Team joseph.keegan@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Healthy Fenland Fund

The establishment of Healthy Fenland Fund was approved by the Health Committee as a means of engaging communities in addressing their health needs. The initiative enables them to access low level funding for projects that they want to take forward to improve the health of their members. A procurement exercise was completed in December 2015 that resulted in a contract being awarded to Care Network to coordinate and deliver the Programme. Care Network is collaborating with Cambridgeshire Community Foundation to administer the grant which is scheduled to run over five years. It will also employ two community workers whose work is to identify community leaders and assets, supporting them to access the funding and deliver community health projects.

Contact: Val Thomas, Consultant in Public Health
val.thomas@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Health system prevention workstream

It is well understood that significant proportions of ill health and health service activity are potentially preventable through behaviour change, early intervention and better management of long term conditions. The public health team have produced a Health System Prevention Strategy which estimates the contribution that prevention in its widest sense can make to close the financial gap across the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough health system. This strategy builds on current local authority-based public health transformation programmes and estimates the NHS savings which can be achieved, as well as considering where additional prevention work across the NHS would enable a higher level of savings with additional NHS investment. Overall it finds that prevention initiatives could potentially save the NHS over £8m over the next three years beyond the investment needed to generate these savings.

A final version of the health system prevention strategy was presented to the Cambridgeshire Health and Wellbeing Board on 14 January 2016 and will be presented to the System Transformation Programme board on 18 January 2016 and Peterborough Health and Wellbeing Board on 24 March 2016.

Contact: Emma De Zoete, Consultant in Public Health
emma.dezoete@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Public Health Grant

Work is ongoing to identify an additional £2.2M savings proposals for public health grant funded services following the Comprehensive Spending Review announcement of ongoing reductions in the public health grant to local authorities, and that the grant would remain ring-fenced. An initial outline of savings proposals was taken to Health Committee in December 2015, and a full discussion with community impact assessments available will take place at Health Committee at its meeting on 21 January 2016, following which recommendations will be made to General Purposes Committee.

Contact: Dr Liz Robin, Director of Public Health
liz.robin@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Scrutiny of the Older People’s and Adult Community Services Contract

The contract between Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Uniting Care Partnership for delivery of NHS Older People’s and Adult Community Services was terminated early in December 2015. Representatives from the CCG attended Health Committee in December for scrutiny of the immediate impact of the
termination of the contract on patient care and plans for maintaining continuity of services. At Health Committee on 21 January 2016 a more comprehensive scrutiny will be carried out querying the reasons behind the termination of the contract as well as plans for the future. Representatives will be invited from a wider range of NHS organisations involved in the contract and its termination.

Contact Source: Kate Parker, Head of Public Health Programmes kate.parker@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
CUSTOMER SERVICES AND TRANSFORMATION DIRECTORATE

Councillors as Community Connectors – Register now for next cohort

The purpose of this programme is for pro-active Members to work together to mutually improve knowledge of how to build capacity within the communities in their divisions. The first cohort of this programme took place between September 2015 and January 2016, and enabled those involved to:

- Learn new methods and tools for engaging communities
- Share best practice
- Have discussions with officers about how they can work with councillors to build strong communities

Following the success of the first group, we are now planning to run two further cohorts between February and April 2016. There will be two half day sessions. It is our aim that all Councillors who would like to take up this opportunity will have participated in the programme by April 2016. To join the next cohort please contact Wendy Lansdown.

Contact: Wendy Lansdown, Community Engagement Team
wendy.Lansdown@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Devolution – Decentralisation of powers to Local Government

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough’s Local Authorities, Police, Fire and Health organisations and the Local Enterprise Partnership are opening negotiations with central government around a potential Devolution Deal for the area. This is based upon work that has been conducted to develop a more detailed set of proposals for devolution of powers and budgets around housing, transport, health and social care, community safety and skills and employment over the last few months. Leaders of these organisations have begun to engage their members to raise awareness and generate further ideas. The negotiations will be an ongoing process over coming months before any decisions about agreeing such a deal can be reached.

Contact: Kevin Hoctor, Policy and Project Officer
kevin.Hoctor@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

CamWeb Redevelopment Project

The Corporate Information Management team, in conjunction with the Digital Strategy Team and Local Government Shared Service (LGSS) IT have recently launched a new Cambridgeshire County Council intranet (CamWeb) and phonebook. The new CamWeb is based on the design and structure of the previous site but the new site will make it easier for staff to find the key information they need – and ensure it is relevant and up to date. The new CamWeb should be a lot more stable than the previous CamWeb and phonebook, both of these systems were volatile and no longer supported by the software providers. It also contained a lot of out of date information that was not being properly maintained by services and updating both was very time consuming to staff due to both systems no longer being fit for purpose.

The project team worked closely with directorate representatives to ensure all key information was migrated across to the new site successfully, with content updated as
required. This has reduced the number of pages from 1,340 to 240 reducing costs associated with the storage and maintenance of content.

All LGSS content now sits on a separate intranet (LGSS Direct), with a link to their homepage from our site. There is a joint search engine, which enables staff to search both sites so they do not have to think about which site they need to use. The search will shortly be extended to Northamptonshire’s intranet site.

The new phonebook is a simplified version, containing only essential employee data. Data from the Active Directory, Avaya and Oracle, all key County Council IT systems, were used to populate the new phonebook as the three sources together were deemed to give the most comprehensive and up to date data. Since going live, staff have queried the accuracy of some of the data and the team are making changes as quickly as possible. The joint search engine covers the new phonebook as well, simplifying the search process for staff.

Contact: Dan Horrex, Corporate Information Manager
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