

County Councillor report - Sawston & Shelford Division

(includes Sawston, Little and Great Shelfords, Stapleford, Babraham, South Trimpington, Hauxton, Harston, Newton and Haslingfield)

Brian Milnes & Maria King

July-August 2022 update

Census Data

The new census data showed that Cambridgeshire is already seeing a really high growth. The 9.2% rise is higher than the East of England average which in itself is growing faster than the rest of the country. In the last decade the county's population grew by 57,000 and this includes an 26% increase in people over the age of 65 against a national average rise of 18.6%. It is the rural areas that are seeing the greatest increase the percentage of older people. All of these people, young and old deserve a decent, affordable home close to where they work or learn or receive their support. We can only achieve that by meeting the housing need in our area and by ensuring that those homes are well connected, environmentally sustainable and as cheap to run as possible.

The figures confirm the County Council's contention that previous Office of National Statistics figures—on which the government bases its grant allocations—under-estimated the size of the county's population. Included within the Cambridgeshire Census figures is an overall 26% rise in the number of Cambridgeshire people aged 65+, against an 18.6 per cent national average rise—with a high percentage increase of people in the 70 to 74 age band in all districts.

While the more urban areas of the county like Cambridge have seen population growth across all age ranges, its more rural areas have seen small or no growth in the youngest age groups (0-19) but large increases in older populations. More at www.ons.gov.uk/census

Household Support Fund

The Government has confirmed that it is extending the Household Support Fund for six months of 2022/23 and has allocated £3.58M of grant funding to Cambridgeshire for this. The Fund is intended to provide support to households through free school meals for eligible children during school holidays, and for payments to people in need. In order to meet the Joint Administration's commitment to provide free school meals in the holidays throughout the year, and to have a direct support scheme that is comprehensive, the Strategy & Resources Committee has allocated a further £1.87M to supplement this locally.

Cambridgeshire pensioners struggling with the rising cost of living can apply for support from the Household Support Fund thanks to a partnership between Cambridgeshire County Council and Age UK Cambridgeshire and Peterborough (Age UK CAP). Anyone reaching pensionable age by 30 September 2022 who lives in Cambridgeshire can apply for support. Financial support can be provided within a few days as well as help to find longer-term support to maximise and manage their finances. Those seeking support should apply to Age UK CAP on 01223 221929 or email hsf@ageukcap.org.uk

Summer Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme

Cambridgeshire County Council is encouraging take-up of the summer holiday activities and food (HAF) programme funded by the Department for Education. There are nearly 3,000 free holiday scheme places available with over 130 providers across the county. Families in receipt of income-related free school meals can access up to 64 hours per child, and children will receive a meal as well. They have also opened their eligibility to Ukrainian and other refugee families.

Further details about the programme can be found here: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/communities-localism/support-with-the-cost-of-living/holiday-activities-and-food-programme>

Resourcing Net Zero

The Council's Environment & Green Investment Committee is moving ahead to implement its ambitious climate change strategy. On 7th July the Committee approved a business case for the first phase of a three-phase approach to getting Cambridgeshire to Net Zero Carbon by 2045. The first phase will use the £2.175M awarded by the Strategy & Resources Committee and will involve eight workstreams.

Nature & Climate Declaration and Climate & Ecology Bill

The County Council is supporting the Nature & Climate Declaration and endorsing the Climate & Ecology Bill. The Declaration asks the UK Government to deal with key climate risks by:

- Fulfilling the UK's fair share of emissions reductions to ensure that the average global temperature increase will not exceed 1.5 degrees Celsius
- Halting and reversing biodiversity decline by 2030, and
- Delivering a more ambitious and integrated environmental protection and decarbonisation plan.

The cross-party Climate & Ecology Bill is a plan for a new UK law that addresses the full extent of the climate change and nature crisis in line with the most up to date science.

Active Travel programme phases 1 & 2

A programme of Active Travel (Tranche 2) projects, to encourage walking and cycling across Cambridgeshire, is set to be delivered in the next few months. The delivery of the projects follows an earlier trial which led to a series of cycling and walking schemes being introduced during the pandemic. These were funded by the Government to encourage people to make more active travel choices (Tranche 1). The trial has enabled the county council to make a number of those schemes permanent with active travel at the heart of the Joint Administration's vision for Cambridgeshire.

The first part of the delivery programme, to be delivered between now and August, includes the following active travel schemes:

- Reduced traffic lanes and new protected cycle lanes at Trumpington Street/Lensfield Road/Fen Causeway mini-roundabouts
- A permanent change of priority in Silver Street/King's Parade to improve cycle and pedestrian safety
- New sections of protected cycle lanes on East Road and Cowley Road in Cambridge
- Restrictions to through-vehicles on Church Street, Chesterton
- Lower speed limits and traffic calming measures between Brook Road and High Street in Bassingbourn
- Introduce two-way cycling in Ambury Road, Huntingdon
- Secure cycle lockers at Wisbech Bus Station.

The second part of the delivery programme, to be published in July, will include further schemes – more information will be announced in due course.

Hauxton and Sawston 20Mph zone applications approved

Welldone to Hauxton and Sawston Parish Councils for securing funding to design and implement new 20mph zones in the villages. The design and consultation phase of the project will take place in July-December 2022 and provided there are no objections or issues, the schemes will be implemented in Q1 2023.

Cambridge South West Travel Hub update

The planning application for a new Travel Hub in Hauxton, to be located on the Hauxton side of M11 Junction 11 has been approved by the Cambridgeshire County Council Planning Committee on 15 June. The application has now been submitted for approval to the Secretary of State for Transport. The application was approved on two conditions:

1. Details of bus and coach service provision

Prior to the Travel Hub first being brought into public use, or occupation of any part of the development hereby permitted, whichever is the sooner, details of the bus and coach service provision, routes, to serve the site shall be submitted to, and approved in writing by, the County Planning Authority.

Officers suggested additional wording to guidance held in an informative that relates to the above condition and add how coaches travelling into Cambridge could be intercepted at the site. It was explained that the site would have provision for 12 coaches and a small building that provided toilet and waiting facilities was part of the proposals. However, owing to the site being located in the green belt, the applicant had sought to ensure the building was kept as small as possible in order to minimise the impact on the green belt. The Committee also noted that coach drivers could also use the public transport at the facility to access wider services within the city. The Committee accepted the additional wording by acclamation.

2. Detailed Highway Drawings

No development shall commence until a detailed technical design scheme (including for the provision of badger/otter tunnel(s) or underpass(es)) for the following has been submitted to, and approved in writing by, the County Planning Authority:

- The proposed non-motorised user path between the A10 and A1309 and the new bridge to be constructed over the M11;
- The proposed signalled vehicular access junction off the A10 to the new Travel Hub site;
- The proposed Public Transport Route between the new Travel Hub site and the A1309 Hauxton Road/Addenbrooke's Road signal junction, including the proposed improvement works to the existing accommodation bridge over the M11;
- The proposed highway improvement works on the A10, at the M11, Junction 11 and on the A1309 Hauxton Road; and
- The proposed improvement works at the A1309 Hauxton Road/Addenbrooke's Road signal junction.

The approved works shall be carried out in full accordance with the agreed scheme prior to the Travel Hub first being brought into public use or occupation of any part of the development hereby permitted, whichever is the sooner.

Haslingfield Greenway

The public engagement programme kicks off on 11th July with people encouraged to share their views on the options for the designs for the Haslingfield Greenway. The route will connect Haslingfield with the city via Cantelupe Farm, Grantchester and Barton Road, with an additional spur to Hauxton. A virtual event will be run on Monday 18th July. The engagement period closes on 5th August.

To find out more and share your views with us please [visit the Haslingfield Greenway webpage](https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/Haslingfield-GW-2022) or copy this link into your browser: <https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/Haslingfield-GW-2022>

Your feedback will be considered as part of further design and planning work and engagement with landowners along the route. The engagement we are launching today kicks off a rolling programme across the 12 Greenways routes in Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire. This will give communities an opportunity to shape how each link will look, aiming to provide better walking and cycling connections, and cater to equestrians where appropriate.

Engagement is also underway for the [Comberton Greenway](#) closing on Friday 29 July.

East West Rail Drop-in session

East West Rail Co. are holding a drop-in session from 2pm to 8pm at Haslingfield Village Hall, CB23 1JP on Tuesday 19th July 2022.

Streetworks:

- 25 July -5 August Cycle lane on Cambridge Road, Great Shelford as lies between Davey Crescent and Hobsons Acre will be suspended for carrying out water works
- 9-10 August 01:45 – 04:15am Hauxton/L Shelford level crossing closed for inspection
- 17 August 00:15-04:30 Harston/Newton (Newton Rd – Cambridge Rd – London Rd – A10 – Station Rd) closed to carry out work as per the 2021 LHI scheme
- 6-8 September Barton Road, Haslingfield footpath closed for electrical works
- 21-23 September 64-66 New Road, Sawston footpath closed for water supply works for newbuilds

Our next report will be issued in September. In the meantime please reach us on the email addresses below if you have any further questions and hope you have a lovely summer break! Maria & Brian

Maria.king@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Brian.Milnes@cambridgeshire.gov.uk