

Councillor Peter McDonald Duxford Division & Ward:
District Councillor for Parishes of Duxford, Hinxton, Ickleton, Babraham, Pampisford.
County Councillor also for Foxton, Fowlmere, Shepreth, Thriplow, Heathfield, Heydon, Chishills,
Whittlesford

Report for Parish Councils – June 2022.

South Cambs District Council

Elections & New S Cambs Cabinet

I am very honoured to have been re-elected. The new Cabinet was announced at the Full Council. I have been asked again to become Cabinet Member for business.

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/new-council-cabinet-and-appointments-confirmed/>

Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme: Visa data by country, upper and lower tier local authority DLUHC has today (1 June), published visa data received from the Home Office by local authority in separate tables for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland as of 30 May 2022. Tables also include data relating to visas sponsored by the Scottish Government and Welsh Government. This is an ad-hoc release of management information and does not constitute an Official Statistics or National Statistics release. It relates to Ukraine Family Scheme and Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme: visa data published by the Home Office.

Guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/ukraine-sponsorship-scheme-visa-data-by-country-upper-and-lower-tier-local-authority>

In S Cambs we have c.50 officers working on this as we currently have the highest number of Ukrainian sponsored families in UK.

Homes for Ukraine: Updated guidance for councils

DLUHC has written to all Local Authority Chief Executives in England about a cohort of applicants whose sponsors have been unsuitable, and how they will support them to find new sponsors. They have also updated the guidance for councils to include some more detailed information on sponsor suitability. The guidance has also been updated for sponsors with regard to eligibility, additional information you should know about being an approved sponsor and adapting to life in the UK.

Council guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/homes-for-ukraine-guidance-for-councils>

Sponsor guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/homes-for-ukraine-sponsor-guidance>

Launch of our Markets Toolkit

As part of our commitment to grow the local economy, support businesses and ensure a rich and diverse choice of products is widely available to our residents, our Business Support Team has launched an online Markets Toolkit with two directories to encourage and support local communities in setting up their own markets. Markets are often community cornerstones, enabling social experiences and sitting at the heart of local commerce, helping emerging businesses whilst feeding money back into our communities. We already have a number of successful local markets, but we believe there is scope for many more. The online toolkit gives lots of useful information on how to go about setting up a market, while the directories detail local markets and local stallholders. We hope both directories will grow quickly.

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More information is available here Council launches online toolkit to help local villages and towns set up markets.

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/council-launches-online-toolkit-to-help-local-villages-and-towns-set-up-markets/>

Planning Update from Chief Planner

The Government writes to Heads of Planning from time to time. Here is the latest missive especially on permitted development rights:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1080291/Chief_Planners_Newsletter_May_2022_2_.pdf

30days30waysUK' resilience preparedness campaign

Councils and their local resilience partners are being encouraged to sign up to participate in the 2022 round of the '30days30waysUK' resilience preparedness campaign. Many councils and local resilience forums (LRFs) have previously participated in the campaign, and all areas are being encouraged to take part this year. The 2022 draft programme has just been released and final programme will be published on 1 August. 30days30waysUK is open and free to join.

More information: <https://www.30days30waysuk.org.uk/partners/>

Sign-up: <https://www.30days30waysuk.org.uk/join/>

Draft programme: https://30days30waysuk.org.uk/docs/2022Programme_draft.pdf

Local resilience forums: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-role-of-local-resilience-forums-a-reference-document>

The Birmingham 2022 Queen's Baton Relay is confirmed to visit the Wellcome Genome Campus during its final journey through England this summer, as the full route is revealed.

The Queen's Baton Relay is set to travel the length and breadth of England for a total of 29 days, before culminating at the Opening Ceremony for Birmingham 2022 on 28 July 2022. Kicking off on Thursday 2 June, the Baton will spend four days in London, coinciding with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Weekend. The Baton will then resume the international journey and return to England on Monday 4 July to commence a 25-day tour of the regions.

On 9 July 2022, the Wellcome Genome Campus in Hinxton, will officially welcome the Baton. Later that day, the relay will continue on to the city of Cambridge.

During its time in South Cambridgeshire, the Baton will first pass through the Wellcome Genome Campus, where an event will be held to bring together local communities to celebrate the Baton relay, science and sport. The Wellcome Genome Campus is home to multiple institutes and companies, including the Wellcome Sanger Institute and EMBL's European Bioinformatics Institute (EMBL-EBI), which champion genome and biodata

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research. The Campus is a hub of research and industry, translating science into tangible societal benefits.

The ticketed free event, a collaboration between the Wellcome Genome Campus and South Cambridgeshire District Council, will bring together local communities, school children and Campus staff, and will have a range of entertainment, locally sourced food vendors, plus science and sporting activities. There will be a range of activities for children and families to explore areas of the genetic research that takes place on the Campus. As well as this, there will be a variety of sports games, a family fun run, and local talent providing entertainment, including performances from nearby sports groups.

Representatives from various local groups and communities will be invited to attend the free ticketed event at the Wellcome Genome Campus and more information will be provided in the coming months.

Cambridgeshire County Report

Useful NHS video on the new Integrated Care Services

The NHS is in the process of enormous transformation which will require it to work closely with local authorities and the voluntary sector from 1st July 2022 when it will become statutory. This is in recognition that services are very fragmented and confusing and that change is needed to improve outcomes for people. To explain a little more about these changes please follow the link <https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/audio-video/how-does-nhs-in-england-work>

The Community Ownership Fund updated prospectus and webinars

DLUHC has published a new prospectus for the Community Ownership Fund ahead of round 2 of the fund opening in June. The £150m Fund helps communities across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland to take ownership of assets and amenities at risk of closure. From July 2021, community groups have been able to bid for up to £250k matched-funding to help them buy or take over local community assets at risk of being lost, to run as community-owned businesses. In exceptional cases, up to £1m matched-funding is available to help establish a community-owned sports club or help buy a sports ground at risk of being lost without community intervention. DLUHC has today published an updated prospectus ahead of the fund opening for Expression of Interest (EOI) applications to round 2 on 10 June. DLUHC has made some changes to the eligibility requirements and application process for the fund having learnt lessons from the review of the first bidding round. These changes will be explained in the updated Community Ownership Fund prospectus. Further supporting guidance will be published once the fund has opened for full applications later in June. In order to promote the fund and to explain to any prospective applicants what is required in order to submit a strong bid, DLUHC officials will be hosting webinars on 8 and 16 June. Councils are encouraged to promote these events with any groups who would be interested in attending and share the link to the form below so that DLUHC can forward on an invite.

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DLUHC will also be making a recording of the event for those unable to attend a webinar,
which can be sent on request using the same form.

Announcement:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/eligibility-for-community-ownership-fund-expanded>

Prospectus:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/community-ownership-fund-prospectus>

Guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/new-levelling-up-and-community-investments#the-community-ownership-fund>

Webinar Registration Form:

<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=EGg0v32c3kOociSi7zmVqLXwFDTckQdPuyZtS-INwH5UMFRUNTIMWEcyQzBNNUxRNkpSMVZONEIOOC4u>

Cost of Living Payment guidance

On 26 May the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) published guidance on getting an extra payment to help with the cost of living for those entitled to certain benefits or tax credits. Individuals do not need to apply, if they're eligible, they'll be paid automatically. The payments are not taxable and will not affect the benefits or tax credits you get. Councils are encouraged to share this information as appropriate.

Guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/cost-of-living-payment>

Announcement:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/millions-of-most-vulnerable-households-will-receive-1200-of-help-with-cost-of-living>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cost-of-living-payment>

Statement:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/cost-of-living-support>

Factsheet:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cost-of-living-support/cost-of-living-support-factsheet-26-may-2022>

Super market Vouchers

Over 20,000 supermarket vouchers have been sent to families in Cambridgeshire affected by the pandemic and the rising cost of living. The vouchers were automatically sent to eligible families on 27th May in time for the May half term next week.

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The County Council's Joint Administration agreed to finance the vouchers regardless of Government funding until the February 2023 half term.

A total of 21,322 vouchers – each valued at £15 for the week - were distributed to eligible children and young people across the county who met agreed criteria. The voucher does not need to be used in a single shopping trip and once claimed will last for at least a year.

Peter McDonald

June 5th 2022