



Cambridge City Council East Area Committee

Date: Thursday, 24 June 2021

Time: 6.30 pm

Venue: Virtually via Microsoft Teams

Contact: democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk, tel:01223 457000

Agenda

- 1 Welcome, Introduction and Apologies for Absence
- 2 Declarations of Interest
- 3 Minutes (Pages 3 - 8)
- 4 Matters and Actions Arising from the Minutes (Pages 9 - 10)
- 5 Policing and Safer Neighbourhoods (Pages 11 - 16)
- 6 Open Forum
- 7 Outside Body Appointment: Cambridge Airport Consultative Committee
*Officers seek nominations to this Outside Body Appointment.
The Committee is to note the appointment by Officers after this meeting.*
- 8 Outside Body Appointment: East Barnwell Community Centre
*Officers seek nominations to this Outside Body Appointment.
The Committee is to note the appointment by Officers after this meeting.*

City Councillors: D. Baigent, Bennett, Copley, Davey, H. Davies, Healy, Herbert, Moore (Vice-Chair), Pounds, Robertson, A. Smith and Thornburrow

County Councillors: Bulat, Shailer and Howitt

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- Email: democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk
- Phone: 01223 457000

EAST AREA COMMITTEE

18 March 2021

6.30 - 7.42 pm

Present

Area Committee Members: Councillors Barnett (Chair), Moore (Vice-Chair), Baigent, Davies, Davey, Hadley, Herbert, Johnson, Massey, Robertson, Smith, Jones, Kavanagh, Taylor and Whitehead

Officers:

Head of Corporate Strategy: Andrew Limb

Community Funding & Development Manager: Jackie Hanson

Environmental Health Manager: Yvonne O' Donnell

Committee Manager: Claire Tunncliffe

Meeting Producer: Liam Martin

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL**21/30/EAC Welcome, Introduction and Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Councillor Green.

21/31/EAC Declarations of Interest

Item	Name	Reason:
All	Councillor Baigent	Personal: Cycle Campaign
	Councillor Massey	Personal: Trustee of Abbey People
All	Councillor Smith	Personal: Cambridge Cycle Campaign
	Councillor Moore	Personal: Member of the Street Party organised by St Martin
All	Councillor Davey	Personal: Cambridge Cycle Campaign
All	County Councillor Kavanagh	Personal: Cambridge Cycle Campaign
All	County Councillor Taylor	Personal: Cambridge Cycle Campaign
All	Councillor Barnett	Personal: Cambridge Cycle Campaign

21/32/EAC Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 December 2020 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

21/33/EAC Matters and Actions Arising from the Minutes

Councillor Massey advised that she had written to the Acting Police and Crime Commissioner highlighting the Committee's concern regarding any loss of PCSOs in the area.

Councillor Davies informed the Committee a second meeting of the McDonalds Newmarket Road working party had met. The main action was that the Police and County Council Officers would be working together to monitor the dangerous driving as soon as it was deemed safe to do so.

The City Council had been tasked to look at solutions on how to assist the garage owners on Wadloes Road regarding the parking issues caused by members of the public visiting McDonalds.

New bins would be installed in the area to help with the litter problem in the area. Residents would be asked for their views on the suggestion of installing electrical charging point(s) in McDonald carpark and the impact that this would have.

21/34/EAC Open Forum

MOP: Would like to ask the Committee about the persistent anti-social behaviour at the park/play area at the junction of Ravensworth Gardens and Tenison Road. What has the Council done to help tackle this problem, and what further action could be taken; how should this problem be addressed.

Councillor Robertson acknowledged there had been a recurrence of anti-social behaviour. The Management company had asked on behalf of the residents if they could install gates and fencing with a commitment that the gates would be unlocked from dawn to dusk so that the play area could be open to the public. This had not been done for a period and locks had been broken. The fencing was also easy to climb over.

A recent issue of groups of teenagers and anti-social behaviour had been reported. Therefore, it was vital that any issues of anti-social behaviour should

be reported and any breaches of lockdown such as groups gathering should also be report to 101. The City Council's anti-social behaviour team could also be contacted as well as Environmental Health.

The anti-social behaviour team had advised that only one complaint had been received but had contacted residents in the last few days to gather information to take to the problem solving group (this includes the Police and other outside agencies). Council Officers had also been instructed to contact the management company to discuss the newly upgraded CCTV.

As no other questions had been received the following issues were raised by the Committee:

With two new residential sites being built in the Romsey area (timberworks), residents were concerned if there would there be enough school places, particularly for primary school age children and what effect this would have on local children. Occupancy in Petersfield had started, with Romsey expected in the next three months.

What contingencies did the County Council have in place to use the money that had been allocated from these sites to assist with primary education and what they were. Suggested that St Philips School should be extended to meet this need.

Councillor Whitehead advised the County Council would have planning in place to ensure there were enough primary school places when the new housing was completed. However, could not specifically advise what those plans were without talking to the relevant officers responsible for school place planning. Could advise that it was not possible to extend St Philips as this had been discussed and investigated recently.

The County Council had recently decided to remove a planned nursery space in the East Barnwell Community Centre. The decision was made without consultation with residents. Would it be possible to write to the County Council to express their concerns at the removal of such a crucial service on this decision on behalf of East Area residents.

The Committee agreed that a letter should be written by Councillor Barnett.

Councillor Massey advised of the following:

Abbey Councillors had successfully persuaded Marshalls to relocate their mast away from the residential area.

Had been working with the Police who recently were taking enforcement of 20pmh as a priority; future planning with the County Council and the Police to look at the highway designs. A special camera would be brought in specially for this enforcement issue to be used across the city.

Highlighted a Facebook page called Cambridgeshire and Peterborough says No to Harassment of Women and Girls.

21/35/EAC EAC Area Committee Grants 2021-22

The Committee received a report from the Senior Grants Officer regarding Area Committee Community Grants.

The report detailed applications received to date for 2021-22 funding for projects in the East area and made recommendations for awards. It also provided information on the eligibility and funding criteria.

In response to a question from Councillor Baigent concerning the Romsey Music Project, the Senior Grants Officer advised the application had not targeted the aims of the funding stream sufficiently, and had provided little evidence of need or of targeting the disadvantaged. However, officers would work with the organisation to look at other potential funding streams and future applications.

All other applicants had received funding. If there were unsuccessful applications these would have been recorded with the £0 awarded.

Following discussion, Members **resolved (unanimously):**

To agree the proposed awards detailed in Appendix 1 of the officer's report and as summarised in the table below.

Ref	Organisation	Purpose	Award £
E1	Bird Box Gallery (via Birdwood Area Res Assoc)	Month-long visual arts festival	£1,405

E2	Birdwood Area Residents' Association (BARA)	Autumn day trip for residents	£180
E3	Cambridge Community Arts	Two 8-week creative art courses	£3,500
E4	Friends of Mill Road Cemetery	Running costs of the Friends	£192
E5	Groundwork East	Green Skills employment programme	£4500
E6	Kings Hedges Family Support Project (The)	2 weekly drop-ins at Fields Children Centre x 50	£5000
E7	Mill Road Winter Fair Association	Running costs associated with putting on the Fair	£2,500
E8	Oblique Arts	6 weekly art workshops and exhibition for 13-17year olds	£1500
E9	Petersfield Area Community Trust (PACT)	Christmas event, coffee mornings. 2 opening events and ideas survey for new Community Centre	£1096
E10	Romsey Music Project (The)	Programme of art music events and activities	£400
E11	St Martin's Church	Summer community street party for local residents	£860

21/36/EAC EAC - Environmental Report

The Environmental Health Manager introduced the report and made the following comments in response to the Committee's questions:

- i. Noted the request for additional dog bins in the Abbey ward and would investigate the matter further and if funding permitted this.
- ii. Acknowledged the request to make those areas highlighted in Abbey ward concerning fly tipping was made a priority for the community clean-up day when this was permitted.
- iii. The City Homes team was looking to appoint a Community Enforcement Officer for council residents.
- iv. Abandoned cycles were taken to the Cowley Road depot where they were distributed to various charities. Would enquire which charities they were and if the OWL Bikes were one of them.
- v. Noted the comment that only a third of pruning of the trees along the avenue next to Mill Road Cemetery had been completed.
- vi. Noted the request for additional signage concerning safe dog walking in open spaces.

- vii. Due to COVID restrictions there was limited pest control (rats). Discussion would be held on how this could be opened back to significant pests (mice, cockroaches, pharaoh ants and bed bugs) in line with the Government roadmap.
- viii. Working with Marshalls and residents regarding noise complaints from Marshalls

The Chair of the Committee thanked the Environmental Health Manager for their report and for the hard work of all the officers that had been undertaken since the last report.

21/37/EAC East Area Committee Dates 2021/22

The following dates were agreed unanimously:

Thursday 24 June 2021
Thursday 16th September 2021
Thursday 2nd December 2021
Thursday 17th March 2022

The meeting ended at 7.42 pm

CHAIR

ACTION	LEAD OFFICER/ MEMBER	DATE OF ACTION	PROGRESS
To write to the Acting Police and Crime Commissioner highlighting the Committee's concern regarding any loss of PCSO's in the area.	Councillors Barnett and Massey	08/04/21	Letter sent to the office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. CLOSE
East Barnwell Community Centre: Early Years Provision. To express concerns raised by members regarding the recent decision of the Children and Young People Committee to remove Early Years Provision from the plans for the East Barnwell Community Centre.	Councillor Barnett	02/05/21	Letter sent to Cambridgeshire County Councillor Bywater – CLOSE

Neighbourhood Profile

Cambridge City East – June 2021

Wards: Abbey, Coleridge, Petersfield and Romsey



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Produced by:

Cambridgeshire Constabulary:

- Inspector Edward McNeill
- Sergeant Jim Stevenson

Community Safety Team, Cambridge City Council:

- Lynda Kilkelly, Community Safety Manager
- Rachel Fairhead, Anti-Social Behaviour Officer



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1. Introduction

Aim

The aim of the Neighbourhood profile update is to provide an overview of action taken since the last reporting period, identify on-going and emerging crime and disorder issues, and provide recommendations for future areas of concern and activity in order to facilitate effective policing and partnership working in the area.

The document should be used to inform multi-agency neighbourhood panel meetings and neighbourhood policing teams, so that issues can be identified, effectively prioritised and partnership problem solving activity undertaken.

Methodology

This document was produced using data received from the following sources:

- The Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team for the area;
- The City Council's Community Safety Team;
- The general public, via online and telephone crime and intelligence reporting; and
- Consultation with elected Ward and County members.

2. Current Areas of Concern

At the East Area Committee meeting of 3 December 2020, the committee recommended addressing the following local areas of concern:

- Anti-social Driving;
- Cycle theft; and
- Drug dealing and the protection of local young people – child criminal exploitation.

Lead officers and actions to be taken were agreed following the committee meeting. The work undertaken and current situation is detailed below.

Anti-social Driving

Objective: To mitigate the impact of anti-social driving on residents in the East of the City, and to identify and act against repeat anti-social drivers.

Action Taken: The joint work across three of the four local area committee areas is now managed under a single city-wide policing enforcement operation. The most recent tactical activity included speed enforcement on Long Road and Barwell Road where 15 traffic offence reports were issued to speeding motorists. The highest recorded speed was 42mph in a 30mph zone. The most recent road safety activity, again targeting the roads above, resulted in dozens of informal warnings where poor road user behaviour did not reach the standard for criminal justice enforcement and ten traffic offence reports were

made to drivers for using their mobile phone whilst driving. Previous days of action included those areas highlighted by the committee in their previous meeting, specifically Whitehill Road, Wadloes Road and Peverel Road, and resulted in three traffic offence reports for driving without insurance, driving whilst disqualified and failing to wear a seat belt. Two vehicles were seized; a stolen motor vehicle was recovered, and a driver arrested for driving whilst over the proscribed limit for alcohol.

Current Situation: Neighbourhood Officers continue to scan their own areas of responsibility for reports from concerned residents about poor road user behaviour as well as using police systems to identify areas where traffic incidents are high to ensure that enforcement behaviour is effectively targeted. The unsafe use of the highway by all road users remains our primary focus with education and then enforcement being our primary tactics. A police representative attended the second meeting of the McDonald's Working Group and a third meeting is planned the middle of July.

Lead Officers: PS453 Jim Stevenson and PC2324 Kaci Ibeggazene

Cycle theft

Objective: To reduce the impact of cycle theft on those living, working, and parking their bicycles in the East area of the City.

Action Taken: Police activity around this area of concern remains part of a city-wide operation targeting cycle thieves. Due to the national lockdown that ran for most of the first three months of this year, cycle theft was suppressed along with other forms of street crime, and as such the figures for cycle theft in January and February were very similar to the first national lockdown last year. Cycle theft for the whole city for a month was reduced by 75% compared to the same time in 2019. Since March, the figures have started a steady climb back towards the levels seen in 2019, although they still sit at about 50% of the recorded crime that we had for the same months in 2019. Several criminal investigations into known cycle thieves are progressing well and alternative prosecution tactics to the traditional ones employed against prolific thieves are being used.

Current Situation: Although Sgt Stevenson took over the East Area of Cambridge from Sgt Mazur at the start of the year, Sgt Mazur retains investigative control of the city-wide operation targeting cycle crime. The Constabulary maintains its membership of the multi-agency cycle crime task group. Continuous scanning of cycle crime reports to identify hot spots and trends occurs in order that days of action can be effectively targeted at the most impactful locations to catch prolific offenders. Crime prevention activity, including mass cycle marking and registration events, are now possible due to the relaxation of Coronavirus restrictions and some events are already in the planning stages.

Lead Officer: PS2393 Kiri Mazur

Drug dealing and the protection of local young people – child criminal exploitation

Objective: To identify and disrupt the perpetrators of organised drug dealing, and to safeguard and divert young people at risk of becoming victims of criminal exploitation linked to drug dealing and County Lines.

Action Taken: The Neighbourhood Support Team retains primacy for the tactical activity targeting County Lines and they spend significant amounts of time carrying out patrols and enforcement activity in the East of Cambridge; making arrests and seizing significant amounts of criminal property in the form of drugs and cash. Support activity from staff assigned to the East Area Team has included the dismantling of a cannabis factory in the Dennis Road area; and three closure orders targeting addresses used for drug dealing in the East of the City. Two of these closure orders were “soft closures” designed to safeguard vulnerable residents being exploited at these locations, whilst the third was a “hard closure” to remove the use of the premises by organised drugs gangs and the resident who was complicit in supporting their activity. Preventative work in schools, helping to raise awareness in young people about the dangers of County Lines activity and the risk of falling victim to their exploitative tactics, has begun again with the relaxation of Coronavirus restrictions with seven inputs to children in key age groups being delivered since the start of the summer term. More of these prevention tactics are planned for the remaining school time before the summer recess. Patrols in the green spaces, especially the Coleridge and Romsey recreation grounds, in response to reports from residents about drug dealing in these areas have been carried out. Other areas targeted include Whitehill Road, Fairfax Road, Mill Road and Vinery Road.

Current Situation: Activity targeting County Lines, both preventative and enforcement, is and has been part of standard policing business for a considerable time. Information supplied by residents, either directly or via a third party, such as Crime Stoppers, or their locally-elected representatives, is an integral part of the intelligence gathering process. An accurate picture of what is happening in communities is essential to ensure that police resources are directed in the most effective manner.

Lead Officer: PS453 Jim Stevenson

3. *Proactive Work and Emerging Issues*

Cambridgeshire Constabulary

Our proactive work will continue to focus on the areas of concern identified at the last area committee meeting.

Cambridge City Council

The Community Safety Team is currently working in partnership with the police and other agencies to investigate concerns about drug-related activity in and around the Hilderstone House location. Residents have reported people congregating in the stairwell and suspicious or drug-related activity. Letter drops have been carried out to encourage residents to report issues and an application for temporary CCTV has been submitted for approval.

We are working in partnership with the police and support agencies in relation to reports of a group of rough sleepers in various locations in the Newmarket Road area. Individuals have been identified, support has been offered and we continue to monitor these locations.

Working in partnership with the police and other agencies in relation to drug-related activity in the Ashbury Close area, we supported the police in a closure order and arranged

support workers for the tenant. We have also sent a warning letter regarding another property in Petersfield which has had a positive outcome with no further complaints.

We are also liaising with support agencies in a case involving domestic abuse in the Abbey area.

The Community Safety Team is leading on a [Cambridge Community Safety Partnership](#) (CSP) project, funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner, to raise awareness about County Lines and Criminal Exploitation in the City, both for school aged children, professionals, and adults. Leading a multi-agency task group as part of this project, a survey was conducted which received over 1,000 responses from residents in the City. Using information from the survey and knowledge from colleagues in other agencies, a film was commissioned which will highlight issues around County Lines, grooming and criminal exploitation from a safeguarding perspective. It is expected that the film will be available for use in schools and community settings in the summer months and beyond.

Linked to the CSP, the multi-agency Cambridge Cycle Crime Prevention Task Group is chaired by Cambridge City Council. The Task Group, which includes Camcycle, businesses, the two universities and the police, has launched a [Save Our Cycles](#) campaign for the public to encourage locking and registering cycles.

4. Additional Information

At the neighbourhood level, the [POLICE.UK](#) website allows for swift access to local crime and anti-social behaviour data at street level. The website can display crimes on a map as well as in chart format, along with trend lines. The three most important sections within this website are: 'overview'; 'crime map'; and 'statistics'. This gives a good overview of issues within the local area. To access the local area's relevant data, type "Cambridge" into the search engine on the homepage and then select the relevant area (Cambridge City Centre policing team, Cambridge – North policing team, or Cambridge – South policing team).

5. Recommendations

None are advised. We seek views from this committee on those local areas of concern that the police and partner agencies can work together to action and report on at the next reporting committee meeting.