



Cambridge City Council

West Central Area Committee

Date: Thursday, 25 November 2021

Time: 6.30 pm

Venue: Virtual via Microsoft Teams

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

Agenda

- 1 Welcome, Introduction and Apologies for Absence (Pages 3 - 4)
- 2 Declarations of Interest
- 3 Notes of last meeting (Pages 5 - 14)
- 4 Matters and Actions Arising From the Notes

Items for Discussion

- 5 Open Forum
- 6 Policing and Safer Neighbourhoods (Pages 15 - 22)
- 7 Making Connections: Have Your Say on Greener Travel in Greater Cambridge Consultation - WCAC
To receive a presentation on the Greater Cambridge Partnership's consultation on Making Connections. There will follow a Q&A.
- 8 Greater Cambridge Local Plan – consultation
To welcome officers from the Greater Cambridge Planning Service who will provide a broad outline of the Greater Cambridge Plan and the formal consultation; how to signpost on how residents and businesses can comment.

This will be followed by a question and answer session.

The Greater Cambridge Local Plan First Proposals consultation can be found on the Greater Cambridge Planning website:
<https://www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/localplan>

- 9 Oral update on City Centre Recovery-Head of Environmental Services (Pages 23 - 24)

City Councillors: Gehring (Chair), Porrer (Vice-Chair), S. Baigent, Bick, Gilderdale, Nethsingha, Payne, S. Smith and Sweeney

County Councillors: Gay, Nethsingha and Rae

Information for the public

Details how to observe the Committee meeting will be published no later than 24 hours before the meeting.

Members of the public are welcome to view the live stream of this meeting, except during the consideration of exempt or confidential items, by following the link to be published on the Council's website.

Any person who participates in the meeting in accordance with the Council's public speaking time, is deemed to have consented to being recorded and to the use of those images (where participating via video conference) and/or sound recordings for webcast purposes. When speaking, members of the public should not disclose any personal information of any individual as this might infringe the rights of that individual and breach the Data Protection Act.

If members of the public wish to address the committee please contact Democratic Services by 12 noon two working days before the meeting.

Questions can be submitted throughout the meeting to Democratic.Services@cambridge.gov.uk and we will endeavour to respond to questions during the discussion on the relevant agenda item. If we run out of time a response will be provided to members of the public outside of the meeting and published on the relevant Area Committee meeting webpage.

For full information about committee meetings, committee reports, councillors and the democratic process:

- Guidance for how to join virtual committees run via Microsoft Teams: <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/have-your-say-at-committee-meetings>
- Website: <http://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk>
- Email: democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk
- Phone: 01223 457000

Information relating to Area Committee meetings

Council agreed on 27 May 2021:

“That Area Committees continue to be run virtually up to 31 December 2021 initially, with a review by Civic Affairs Committee in the autumn on a more permanent change and to request that the Monitoring Officer make necessary immediate amendments to the Council’s Constitution to give effect to this change.”

As Councillors will be aware, the Government did not extend the provisions in the Coronavirus Act 2020 beyond 7 May 2021 to enable councillor decision making to take place virtually.

Area Committees, by being virtual and not in person, will therefore not be able to make any decisions either independently or that have been delegated by the Executive (eg area committee grants-which are not scheduled to be considered until spring 2022).

Civic Affairs Committee will consider the pros and cons of continuing with virtual Area Committees in the autumn. At Council on 27 May, Members asked that other considerations are also included in the review (eg the boundaries of the current Area Committees, the format). Councillors views will be canvassed as part of the review.

The Constitution needs to be amended to reflect that Area Committees will be non-decision making **for as long as they are held virtually**.

The changes to the Constitution are as follows:

Article 8

8.2.5 Area committees have these principal purposes:

- ~~To make decisions concerning executive and regulatory functions of the Council which have been delegated to them;~~

Deleted as Area Committees cannot make decisions whilst being held virtually.

Part 3 Section 11

This section describes the Council functions for which area committees are to be responsible for.

This will not apply in so far as Area Committees operating as virtual meetings cannot be decision making. Area Committees can advise and decisions will be taken subsequently by the relevant person or body empowered to do so taking into account the views of the Area Committee.

County Councillors present at Area Committee

Members are reminded that County Councillors are co-opted to the area committee where the clear majority of the County Council Division is within the area committee. [When making decisions as an Area Committee County Councillors may vote on all matters except for any decision relating to city council funding and the election of the Chair and Vice Chair].

Note-some county councillors have chosen to also attend area committees where less than the majority of a Division is in that area.

WEST CENTRAL AREA COMMITTEE

9 September 2021

6.30 - 8.50 pm

Present

Area Committee Members: Councillors Gehring (Chair), Porrer (Vice-Chair), S. Baigent, Bick, Gilderdale, Nethsingha, Payne, S. Smith, Sweeney and Rae

Officers:

Head of of Environmental Services: Joel Carré

Community Engagement and Enforcement Manager: Wendy Johnston

Committee Manager: James Goddard

Other Officers in Attendance:

Greater Cambridge Partnership: Jo Baker

Domus Bursar of King's College: Philip Isaac

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL**21/17/WAC Welcome, Introduction and Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from County Councillor Gay. Councillor Sweeney would join at the start of the Open Forum.

21/18/WAC Declarations of Interest

Name	Item	Interest
Councillor Gehring	21/23/WAC	Personal: Works for University of Cambridge.
Councillor Gehring	21/23/WAC	Personal: Would speak as Ward Councillor. Vice Chair to take over as Vice Chair-in-the-Chair for this item.

21/19/WAC Minutes

The notes of the meeting held on 17 June 2021 were noted.

21/20/WAC Matters and Actions Arising From the Minutes

The committee action sheet was noted. Councillors would send any updates to the Committee Manager outside of the meeting.

Minute reference: 21/14/WAC Open Forum

- Action: Councillor Porrer raised an item on funding for insurance from the Council for Residents Associations and volunteer groups. Councillor Porrer to investigate with officers.
- Progress:
 - Councillor Porrer had begun work but few people were around to contact over the summer so action to be carried over to next WCAC.

Agenda item: Castle Mound // Minute reference: 20/5/WAC

- Action: Councillor Chadwick to monitor Suffolk County Council progress on determining rights of way and town green status.
- Progress:
 - Councillor Payne said the Development and Regulation Committee at Suffolk County Council had agreed a permanent public footpath/right of way up Castle Mound.

21/21/WAC Open Forum

Members of the public asked a number of questions, as set out below.

1. A member of the public raised the following issues (via written statement read by Committee Manager):
 - i. Would the council be offering any alternative cycle parking while Park Street car park is demolished and rebuilt?
 - ii. Was there any information about what the 'limited works on the ground floor' planned for this October will involve?

Councillor Porrer said:

- i. During demolition there would be rejigging of ground floor parking arrangements. Would forward on details to the member of the public.
- ii. The new development had replacement cycle parking facilities although there was no planning requirement for an interim solution

Action Point: Councillor Porrer to liaise with Fiona Bryant in response to public question: "Will the council be offering any alternative cycle parking while Park

Street car park is demolished and rebuilt?" Councillor Porrer understood that there was no planning obligation to provide parking during demolition, but would follow up with Fiona Bryant to see if any provision could be made.

2. A member of the public raised the following issues (via written statement read by Committee Manager):
 - i. I am the secretary of Cambridge Riverside (Midsummer Common) Residents' Association.
 - ii. At a residents' meeting on 2 September 2021, significant concerns were expressed about the impact of both the Voi scheme and the increased use of electrical cycles and powered scooters on common areas around the city generally and specifically on Midsummer Common where it is becoming seriously dangerous to walk. There are issues citywide, but on Midsummer Common, which is a key cycle route into the city, there are particular pressures due to narrow paths, specific pinch points and high usage for leisure. This will be heightened by the opening of the Chisholm Trail. The Common is a much-loved recreational venue used by large numbers of people of different ages for many different purposes. The relatively narrow pathways are well used by pedestrians, joggers, cyclists and mobility scooters as well as large family groups including toddlers on micro scooters and strider bikes.
 - iii. It is very noticeable that there has been a marked rise in powered vehicles on common areas over the past 18 months; fast food orders now seem to be routinely delivered by mopeds or electric bicycles and this, combined with the Voi Scheme on our roads, puts pedestrians increasingly in a vulnerable position. Whilst we applaud and encourage the use of alternative more environmentally friendly forms of transport across the City, we do fear that there currently appears to be a lack of regulation and that before long there could be a serious accident.
 - iv. We would therefore like to ask you to clarify the Council's current policy and future intentions in managing and regulating this matter and how it will balance the needs of pedestrians with making provision for these new initiatives?

Councillor Nethsingha said there was a blurring between powered and non-powered cycles and scooters. The use of scooters and bicycles on commons was encouraged, but not powered ones. The City Council and County Council could not take action at present, Central Government would have to be lobbied to develop a policy first.

The Head of Environmental Services said:

- i. The City Council were responsible for parks, but these had public rights of way.
- ii. One way to manage powered bikes/scooters was to put in physical barriers, but these would negatively impact legitimate users.
- iii. E-scooters were prohibited from parks but people still used them there. The City Council and Police were working together to address issues.
- iv. The City Council and Voi were working on a public trial of e-scooters that would last until October 2021. Voi had signed up to a code of conduct as scheme operator to use e-scooters legitimately. There were no reported problem in the city centre. Voi scooters were speed restricted.
- v. The City Council supported travel that did not negatively impact on other users.

Councillors Gehring and Porrer asked to be involved in a meeting between Head of Environmental Services and Cambridge Riverside (Midsummer Common) Residents' Association to discuss concerns including riding of small motor bikes on commons. It was suggested that Lammas Land and Queen's Green Resident Associations could also be invited.

Action Point: Councillor Nethsingha to start process of County Council lobbying Central Government to address issue.

3. A member of the public raised the following issues:

- i. The Histon Road Area Residents' Association wished to present a copy of their book to the West Central Area Committee. This was given to Councillor Payne.
- ii. A copy was also given to North Area Committee as a thank you for Area Committee support of the community group through community grants.
- iii. The book was on sale if people wished to buy it, free copies had been given to schools and community groups.

21/22/WAC Cambourne to Cambridge (C2C)-presentation from Greater Cambridge Partnership

The Committee received a presentation from the Greater Cambridge Partnership on the Cambourne to Cambridge Better Transport Project.

Members of the public and committee raised the following issues:

- i. Impact of route on traffic flow.
- ii. Could the route be controlled to control where buses went and stop them turning left at Grange Road junction?
- iii. Concern over environmental impact of scheme.
- iv. Queried if narrow streets could accommodate the proposed 10 buses per hour?
- v. Requested restricting busway to be used solely by electric vehicles.
- vi. It was desirable that people had space to bring bikes on buses.

The Greater Cambridge Partnership representative said the following in response to questions from members of the public and committee:

- i. Paul van de Bulk (Greater Cambridge Partnership) had begun a dialogue with officers to establish a permanent traffic regulation order for 20mph on Histon Road from Akeman Street to Victoria Junction.
- ii. Junction concerns (eg Grange Road) would be covered by a road safety audit.
- iii. The intention of the city access scheme was to reduce traffic and congestion in the area.
- iv. No fly over was proposed. A bridge and earth embankment would be used.
- v. Greater Cambridge Partnership would apply for a Transport and Works Act order so they could control who used the busway. The intention was that only electric vehicles could use the route. At present a suitable vehicle is not yet on the market but it was expected that such vehicles would be available by opening. As a minimum a Euro VI type low emission vehicle may be used as a short term alternative.
- vi. Only a modest number of vehicles driven by professional drivers would use the route instead of lots of vehicles driven by possibly less skilled drivers.
- vii. Wheelchairs needed to be given priority over bikes for space on buses.

21/23/WAC Access to Grantchester Meadows-discussion following actions taken over the summer

Councillor Porrer took the Chair so Councillor Gehring could participate as a Ward Councillor. Councillor Porrer would act as a neutral party as Vice-Chair-in-the-Chair as she did not represent Newnham Ward.

The Committee noted a 'statement on access at Grantchester Meadows' on the agenda.

Members of the public asked a number of questions, as set out below.

1. Made the following points:
 - i. Referring to the previous discussion of the public footpath adjacent to Skaters' Meadow.
 - ii. The area being discussed is a footpath, not a car park, and has been so for over 200 years.
 - iii. Keeping vehicles out of this area would not restrict access to the Meadows at all -- Council officers visiting the site recognised that vehicles driving and parking there are a danger to pedestrians and cyclists, and the proposed bollards to protect them would greatly improve the access to the Meadows for the vast majority of users. It is policy for both the City and County Councils to support active travel and give priority to people walking and cycling.
 - iv. This whole matter has nothing to do with the restrictions on swimming etc. in the Meadows that were introduced by King's College that will be discussed later. It was simply an accident of timing that they both arose at the same point this year.
 - v. People who genuinely must drive can park in nearby streets; recent detailed counts confirm that there are always numerous places free. There are restrictions for only 3 hours in the middle of the day, and Blue Badge holders can park anywhere without restriction. Councillors may wish to support a few tweaks to the RP rules, which would create even more local parking for those who really must drive between 11 and 2pm: add 2 disabled bays on the road right by the entrance, add 2 pay & display spots in nearby streets; issue parking permits to the Swimming Club by deeming it a local business in the same way that our local shops are issued such permits. These changes would of course require local consultation.
 - vi. With these changes, I think Councillors will agree that any objections to making this area vehicle-free are met.
2. Made the following points:
 - i. Queried who owned the Meadows Car Park.
 - ii. Supported rewilding in the area.
 - iii. Wanted a data driven discussion on how to make best use of the space based on peoples' needs/wants. Expressed concern over a lack of consultation but welcomed that the City Council was trying to seek residents' views.
 - iv. The Meadows were treated as a free facility for outdoor swimming, walking and cycling. People would have to pay to use other facilities

such as Jesus Green so could not visit them as often. They would also have parking restrictions which the Meadows did not.

The Head of Environmental Services said:

- i. The City Council does not own the land, they were trying to ascertain who did. The land is not registered to with any title or owner.
- ii. The City Council could not effect any changes on the land until ownership was established.
- iii. Undertook to liaise with speaker about any title document information she may have.
- iv. The City Council recognised that residents felt the land was important and there was a public right of way over it.
- v. If there were any changes to vehicle parking facilities then the impact of the Equality Act would have to be considered as the Council were obliged to ensure disabled bays were provided in carparks.

Councillor Nethsingha said

- i. The City Council and County Council agreed there was no clear land owner.
- ii. The lack of community consensus on how to use the land meant there was no clear way forward until land ownership was clarified.
- iii. Grantchester Meadows and Skaters Meadow issues were related:
 - a. People had changed how they used the land and car park over the summer.
 - b. It would take time to get community consensus on how to use the land.

3. Councillor Gehring made the following points:

- i. Referred to a survey undertaken by a resident:
 - a. Resident had undertaken a survey regarding Skaters' Meadow footpath parking and footpath use Sat/Sun 24/25 July and Sat/Sun 31 July/1 Aug.
 - b. Parking on the path was a threat to walkers, cyclists, trees and verges.
 - c. The footpath was used by builders, all day commuters and overnight campervans as free of charge parking in Cambridge
- ii. Jesus Green was a better site for cold water swimming. Acknowledged there was a fee for this and people went to the Meadows as they could (river) swim for free.
- iii. A regulated car park was required. The current parking arrangements were dangerous for cyclists and pedestrians who were at risk from collisions with cars.

The Committee commented that the Meadows were treated as an unofficial car park when they were a footpath and a bit of waste land. The City Council prioritised pedestrians then bikes then cars. The majority of people who used the space were from outside of Newnham Ward who travelled in by car. If the City Council wanted people to use its open spaces, something had to be done to ensure there was sufficient parking.

21/24/WAC Environmental Report-look back at six monthly data on the work by the city council

The Committee received a report from the Community Engagement and Enforcement Manager.

The report outlined an overview of the council's Streets and Open Spaces, Environmental Health and Shared Waste service activity in the Area Committee area over the past six months.

The Committee discussed the following issues:

- i. Fly tipping near Adam & Eve Recycling Centre because the Centre always seemed full.
- ii. Local businesses seemed to dump commercial waste in Adam & Eve Recycling Centre which should be used by residents.

Action: Community Engagement and Enforcement Manager to seek update from Shared Waste Service concerning rumors that Adam & Eve Recycling Centre would close.

Action: Community Engagement and Enforcement Manager to seek response from Streets and Open Spaces Operations Service about report that 'black bin' and 'recycling' items were being removed from Jesus Green bins in same bag ie waste streams were being mixed instead of separated.

21/25/WAC City Centre Recovery - Oral Update by Head of Environmental Services

The update outlined:

- i. Officers had developed good relationships with partners around the table.
- ii. Visitors welcomed infrastructure improvement work such as benches around the city. There was also a website where people could book punt

tours, sign up to visitor attractions and receive event promotional information. These were implemented using funding from the Combined Authority.

- iii. An electric bus and lighting projects were also in development. The environmental impact was reviewed as part of the projects. The intention was to use low emission LED lighting and a low emission electric vehicle as a mobile tourist centre.
- iv. £110,000 of Central Government funding had been received for activities and events to improve the city centre visitor offer.
- v. Community art could be located in some empty shops.
- vi. Details would come to 7 October 2021 Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee regarding the Destination Management Organisation to replace Visit Cambridge.
- vii. Consultation had been undertaken on the market square project over the summer. Responses were being analysed. Best use of space and demountable stall designs were being reviewed. Details would come to 24 March 2022 Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee.

The meeting ended at 8.50 pm

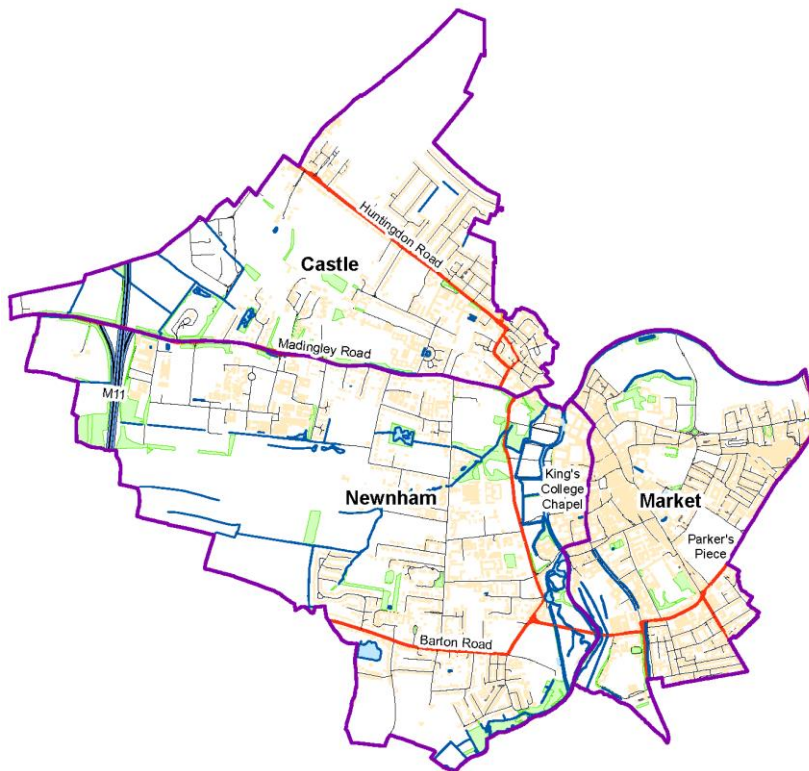
CHAIR

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Neighbourhood Profile

Cambridge City West/Central – November 2021

Wards: Castle, Market and Newnham



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Produced by:

Cambridgeshire Constabulary:

- Inspector Edward McNeill
- Sergeant Kevin Misik

Community Safety Team, Cambridge City Council:

- Lynda Kilkelly, Community Safety Manager
- Sarah Steggles, Senior 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 West/Central Area Committee meeting of 17 June 2021, the committee recommended addressing the following local areas of concern:

- Anti-social behaviour in King Street/Willow Walk;
- Anti-social behaviour in open and green spaces; and
- Night time economy/alcohol related disorder.

However, following discussions at that meeting, the police took away the following local areas of concern on which it will be reporting on in this profile and at the meeting:

- Road safety, focussing on pedal cycles/scooters going the wrong way and other road safety issues in the area;
- Begging, focussing on aggressive begging and working with the City Council on injunction work around passive begging; and
- Policing of the green spaces and the night time economy, working on the safeguarding of the people who are using these spaces.

Lead officers and actions to be taken were agreed following the committee meeting. The work undertaken and current situation relating to the revised local areas on concern is detailed below.

Road safety, focussing on pedal cycles/scooters going the wrong way and other road safety issues in the area

Objective: To promote road safety and deal effectively with breaches of the law.

Action Taken: There are a number of different interrelated issues that are addressed under this issue. We receive significant support in dealing with these issues from the Special Constabulary, with particular thanks to SSgt Chris PALMIUS. This work continues to address the issues which are caused by the many delivery vehicles and, more recently, electrically assisted cycles which are effectively considered in law to be the same as pedal cycles.

We are also looking into ways to deal with the issues caused by loud and inappropriately driven mopeds and smaller motorcycles. At this time, we are working with the CCTV operators to obtain evidence and are looking at the best way to progress this. One of the major issues is the noise that these adapted vehicles make and clearly CCTV does not record this evidence. A [scheme](#) to tackle loud cars has been identified that has been successfully run in Kensington and Chelsea, and this has been highlighted to members of the public as a potential option to tackle this antisocial behaviour (ASB). This scheme could also be used against motorbikes and mopeds, and does not necessarily require police input as it uses static cameras, meaning that it does not rely on vehicles to actually be stopped or drivers spoken to as tickets are issued by the local authority.

The team has also been spending considerable time stopping and educating cyclists within the pedestrianised area about the right way to cycle, most notably along Sidney Street outside Sidney Sussex college. The team could spend almost all day every day speaking with cyclists in this area, which leads us to wonder if the signage is effective enough if so many people are not noticing it.

Also, PC LEY on the team has continued to run her operation around the use of electric scooters, which seeks to address the issues that are associated with these. A number of scooters have been seized for inappropriate use. In addition, we are making use of a scheme to feed back to Voi Scooters when their scooters are being inappropriately used, and this has led to users having their accounts suspended where their use, whilst not crossing the threshold into a traffic offence, has breached the terms and conditions of use.

Current Situation: These issues are still taking place, and the actions taken to address them will continue to be part of the team's core activities.

Lead Officer: PS 686 MISIK

Begging, focussing on aggressive begging and working with the City Council on injunction work around passive begging

Objective: To address issues of begging within the City Centre, both in terms of aggressive and passive begging.

Action Taken: This area of work is one where the Police Team and the City Council's Community Safety Team have a long history of successfully working in partnership to deal with. The Police Team has reviewed the evidence from reports and identified the most

problematic individuals. We use an agreed scoring system to ensure a consistent approach in identification of risk and targeting enforcement action. These reviews have identified an individual whose behaviour is the most problematic within the City Centre and the Team has gathered the relevant evidence and completed an application to the courts for a Criminal Behaviour Order which will be used to address their behaviour. As well as this enforcement action, we have worked with a wide range of support agencies to ensure that they have the relevant help that they need to address any underlying reasons for their offending. At this time, we are waiting for this matter be heard by the courts.

As well as this work the Police has supported the City Council in applying for an injunction, ensuring that all relevant evidence and information is available to make the best decisions and present best evidence.

As well as this proactive application for criminal orders, we have also been carrying out target patrol work to prevent and deal with any offences that are discovered.

Current Situation (Police): These matters are being progressed to court and the work continues to be part of the core role of the City Centre team, working in partnership with the City Council.

Current Situation (City Council): The Community Safety Team is currently leading on a number of injunctions against a group of persistently problematic street individuals in the City Centre. The individuals identified for injunctions are reported to be harassing members of the public on a daily basis for money, often targeting vulnerable individuals and leading them to cashpoints to withdraw money.

Others are setting up their sleep sites or begging sites in high footfall locations claiming to be homeless and in need of spare change when they are refusing support from the agencies who are trying to assist them with support and accommodation.

These injunctions have not been taken lightly and have been considered necessary, not only to safeguard the wider community, but also the individuals who are putting themselves at risk of harm. Injunctive action has only been taken following careful consideration and persistent offers of support and alternative options for the people involved.

The street life community working group had taken preventative measures to address the behaviours, but these actions have not been successful, and the working group has therefore agreed to take action against the most persistently problematic people. Those involved in enforcement action have been known to services for a considerable length of time and most of them have accommodation available to them. Those that do not have accommodation have lost such because of behaviour or through not using it. The options and support offers remain in place and can be taken up at any time.

Lead Officers: PS 686 MISIK and Sarah Steggles (City Council)

Policing of the green spaces and the night-time economy, working on the safeguarding of the people who are using these spaces

Objective: To ensure that both the night-time economy (NTE) and the green spaces within the City are safe for people to use.

Action Taken: The policing of the green spaces within the City Centre and the NTE is a regular and significant part of the activity of the wider policing team within the City. As well as the active patrol work that the team carries out, we are also responsible for the longer term planning and management of the safeguarding work.

Our response to this is called Operation CONNECT. This has a number of major parts both involving targeted and high visibility police patrol work, as well as a large amount of partnership work with a number of different agencies ranging from the Constabulary's and City Council's licencing departments to Cambridge Business Against Crime (CAMBAC), and various charities and venues in the City. This work is driven by the desire to provide a safe NTE for everyone who comes to Cambridge and there are a number of things that the various partners do to make sure this happens. During Freshers' Week each year, the City Centre Team provides talks of various types, both in person and virtually, to the two Universities to provide new students with advice on a safe night out.

On Fridays and Saturdays each week the Street Pastors are out in the NTE and provide not only the Night Safe Venue, where people can go to obtain low level help and support, but also mobile safeguarding patrols as well.

There have been a number of joint licensing visits completed to review the venues, to ensure that they are working towards their licensing objectives and safeguarding the people that are using their venues. There have been examples where staff at the venues visited had acted swiftly and appropriately to safeguard their clients and help the police deal robustly with offenders. The venues have access to CAMBAC radios which give them a direct link with each other as well as the police and the CCTV operators, to ensure that they can quickly and effectively communicate issues as they occur.

As well as this proactive work, we also conduct targeted patrol work within the NTE. Each year the data is reviewed, the weekends are graded in terms of the risk of disorder, and a bespoke policing operation is put in place to deal with the issues expected. Officers who are committed on this operation are briefed around previous issues and provided relevant feedback to ensure that any issues from the previous week are able to influence the following week's patrols as well and to take any slow time licensing enforcement or advice that is required.

CAMBAC is currently in the process of organising safeguarding and vulnerability training for various people who work in this environment, which is being supported by the police and the City Council.

CAMBAC also provides Taxi Marshalls to manage the queues at the taxi ranks which can often be a flash point for disorder. The feedback on this system is very positive.

The safe management of the NTE has wide and varied group of people working within it, all of whom are committed to making Cambridge a safe city

Current Situation: This continues to be a key work for the team and continues to be the core work of the team and our partners.

Lead Officer: PS MISIK

3. *Proactive Work and Emerging Issues*

Cambridgeshire Constabulary

Nothing further to report.

Cambridge City Council

Rough sleeping and drug use in car parks are increasing and we are working with partner agencies to ensure individuals are safeguarded and any risks to the rough sleeper, staff or member of public are minimised.

We are also working with partner agencies to deal with reports of street drinking and antisocial behaviour associated with the street community in Sidney Street. This work is ongoing. Some of those involved are included in the injunction application and this may have a positive impact on reducing the issues in the area.

Cambridge Street Aid week was held In October with a number of awareness raising stalls across the City, including in the Market Square and Grand Arcade. Due to the Coronavirus pandemic we were unable to hold the major fundraising event of the week and therefore focussed on awareness raising.

4. *Additional Information*

At the neighbourhood level, the [POLICE.UK](https://www.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.

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To: North, South, East and West Central Area Committees

From: Joel Carré, Head of Environmental Services

Date: 8th November 2021

Subject: **City centre COVID recovery project update**

Introduction

1. The purpose of this briefing paper is to update each of the Council's Area Committee on progress with various Council led strategic projects to support city centre economic recovery following the pandemic.

Cambridge Visitor Welcome 2021

2. In November 2020, the Council, in partnership with Cambridgeshire County Council, Cambridge BID and Fitzwilliam Museum Enterprises Ltd, secured a £710K capital grant from the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority. The purpose of the grant award is to invest in a proposed programme of city centre measures to improve the city's visitor offer and thereby support its economic recovery following the pandemic.

3. Under the title 'Cambridge Visitor Welcome 2021', the grant funding is being used to deliver a range of city centre focused infrastructure improvements to be completed by spring 2022, including the following:

- Outdoor seating including tables, chairs and awnings
- Cambridge mobile visitor information centre
- Cambridge visitor website with bookable product functionality
- Cambridge visitor app and associated digital wayfinding tool; and
- Enhanced public realm architectural and decorative lighting

4. To date, the Council and its partners has delivered a range of new city centre picnic tables, modular benches and decorative lighting across the city centre, including the Market Square and Peas Hill, which have been well received.

Welcome Back Fund

5. In July 2021, the Council was awarded £110K from the Government's Welcome Back Fund to invest in a programme of measures to support the city centre and neighbourhood shopping areas following the pandemic, to be completed by March 2022.

6. The focus of this programme will be to invest in a programme of 'seasonal' events and activities, which attract visitor footfall and spend and thereby help to support economic economy recovery, especially in the retail, hospitality and cultural sectors. The programme will include the following elements:

- Major city centre lighting-based arts projection event and associated outreach arts projection events at neighbourhood shopping areas in February 2022
- 'Meanwhile use' programme that enables local artist and community groups to re-animate vacant retail space in city centre and neighbourhood shopping areas for cultural visitor experiences; and
- Seasonal outdoor lighting at neighbourhood shopping areas

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