



Cambridge City Council  
**Environment and Community Scrutiny**  
**Committee**

**Date:** Thursday, 23 March 2023

**Time:** 5.30 pm

**Venue:** Council Chamber, The Guildhall, Market Square, Cambridge, CB2 3QJ [access the building via Peashill entrance]

**Contact:** [democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk), tel:01223 457000

**Agenda**

- 1 Apologies for Absence
- 2 Declarations of Interest
- 3 Minutes (Pages 3 - 14)
- 4 Public Questions

**Decisions for the Executive Councillor for Open Spaces, Food Justice and Community Development**

- 5 Update on the Herbicide Reduction Plan (Pages 15 - 36)

**Decisions for the Executive Councillor for Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity**

- 6 Litter Strategy (Pages 37 - 114)
- 7 Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service Collection changes (Pages 115 - 118)

**Decisions for the Executive Councillor for Recovery, Employment and Community Safety**

- 8 Review of Alcohol Public Spaces Protection Order 2015 (Pages 119 - 150)

**Decisions for the Executive Councillor for Equalities, Anti-Poverty and Wellbeing**

- 9 Update on the Work of Health Partnerships (Pages 151 - 166)

**Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee Members:** Pounds (Chair), Carling (Vice-Chair), Copley, Divkovic, Hauk, Holloway, Payne, Sweeney and Swift

**Alternates:** S. Baigent, Howard, Lee, Levien and Todd-Jones

**Executive Councillors:** Collis (Executive Councillor for Open Spaces, Food Justice and Community Development), Gilderdale (Executive Councillor for Recovery, Employment and Community Safety), Healy (Executive Councillor for Equalities, Anti-Poverty and Wellbeing) and Moore (Executive Councillor for Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity)

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**ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** 19 January 2023  
5.30 - 7.40 pm

**Present:** Councillors Pounds (Chair), Carling (Vice-Chair), Copley, Hauk, Holloway, Payne and Swift

Executive Councillors: Collis (Executive Councillor for Open Spaces, Food Justice and Community Development), Healy (Executive Councillor for Equalities, Anti-Poverty and Wellbeing) and Moore (Executive Councillor for Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity)

**Officers:**

Assistant Chief Executive: Andrew Limb

Director of Neighbourhoods and Communities: Jane Wilson

Head of Community Services: Debbie Kaye

Community Engagement and Enforcement Manager: Wendy Johnston

Community Funding and Voluntary Sector Manager: Julie Cornwell

Environmental Health Manager: Yvonne O'Donnell

Strategic Project Manager: Allison Conder

Climate Change Officer: Catherine Stewart

Committee Manager: James Goddard

Meeting Producer: Boris Herzog

**FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL**

**23/1/EnC Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Councillors Divkovic and Sweeney.

**23/2/EnC Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were made.

**23/3/EnC Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 October 2022 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**23/4/EnC Public Questions**

Councillor Swift asked a question between items 4 and 7 on behalf of a resident.

He asked for a written response after the meeting:

- i. How to report cockerel noise?
- ii. What can residents do, what can the City Council do?

### **Re-Ordering Agenda**

Under paragraph 4.2.1 of the Council Procedure Rules, the Chair used her discretion to alter the order of the agenda items. However, for ease of the reader, these minutes will follow the order of the published agenda.

### **23/5/EnC Community Grants 2023-24**

#### **Matter for Decision**

The Committee received the annual report for the Community Grants fund for voluntary, community, and not for profit organisations. It provided an overview of the process, eligibility criteria, budget and applications received with recommendations for 2023-24 awards.

#### **Decision of Executive Councillor for Equalities, Anti-Poverty and Wellbeing**

Approved the Community Grants to voluntary and community organisations for 2023-24, as set out in Appendix 1 and 2 of the Officer's report, subject to the budget approval in February 2023 and any further satisfactory information required of applicant organisations.

#### **Reason for the Decision**

As set out in the Officer's report.

#### **Any Alternative Options Considered and Rejected**

Not applicable.

#### **Scrutiny Considerations**

The Committee received a report from the Community Funding and Voluntary Sector Manager.

The Community Funding and Voluntary Sector Manager said the following in response to Members' questions:

- i. Evaluation of recent grant rounds had been omitted due to Covid lockdown pressures. Details about the 2021-22 Annual Report were included in the Officer's report. Councillors were invited to give feedback on information they would find helpful to include in future Annual Reports.



- ii. Applications were judged on their own merits. Funding was not issued to applicants who did not meet criteria or provided insufficient information.
- iii. Small grant funding was piloted as an initiative to support small groups who were new to the funding bidding process.
- iv. The City Council were keen to explore how they could support charities and small groups in the long term but were limited by (available) City Council finances. Community Services were looking at options such as multiple bidding windows for funding instead of an annual one.
- v. A number of stakeholder groups were involved in the small grant application question design to ensure they were fit for purpose and understandable for Applicants. The funding scheme was widely promoted to encourage take up. Officers were investigating alternative/additional ways in future. Officers used their knowledge to signpost Applicants to alternative funding sources if they did not meet City Council criteria.

The Committee unanimously resolved to endorse the recommendation.

The Executive Councillor approved the recommendation.

### **Conflicts of Interest Declared by the Executive Councillor (and any Dispensations Granted)**

No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.

### **23/6/EnC Complaint Upheld by the LGO Service Relating to a Complaint About Noise**

#### **Matter for Decision**

The Local Government & Social Care Ombudsman (LGO) found there was fault by the Council “but not causing injustice”, in relation to how the Council investigated a noise complaint from a large item of commercial equipment within the city.

The LGO found the Council at fault for how it initially investigated the noise complaint, which it determined to not be a statutory nuisance. However, this did not cause the complainant a personal injustice, as the Council subsequently acted without fault in its further noise investigation work relating to the commercial equipment; and which came to the same conclusion, ie it was not a statutory noise nuisance.

There was no legal definition of a statutory noise nuisance, but further general information on this subject matter may be found in the footnote below.

The LGO also formally accepted that all the identified service improvement actions, offered by the Council to the complainant, had been fully actioned by the Council.

### **Decision of Executive Councillor for Climate Change, Environment & City Centre**

Noted the findings of the Local Government & Social Care Ombudsman in respect of this case and the actions taken by the Council in response to these findings.

### **Reason for the Decision**

As set out in the Officer's report.

### **Any Alternative Options Considered and Rejected**

Not applicable.

### **Scrutiny Considerations**

The Committee received a report from the Environmental Health Manager.

The Environmental Health Manager said the following in response to Members' questions:

- i. This was the first complaint against the Noise Complaint Service referred to the LGO, or upheld by LGO.
- ii. The Noise Complaint Service received several complaints which officers triaged to ascertain if they were statutory noise issues that the Council could take action against. The Council were unable to take action against other noise types.
- iii. The complaints received by Environmental Service were generally because people were unhappy about something affecting them, not because they were unhappy with the Noise Complaint Service.
- iv. Officers usually visited on their own noise sources that were the subject of a complaint. A colleague was taken if the situation became more serious and a second opinion was required. A second officer was not requested by the (lone) officer investigating the noise in this complaint.
- v. It was down to an Officer's professional opinion if noise was designated as a statutory nuisance or not.

The Committee unanimously resolved to endorse the recommendation.

The Executive Councillor approved the recommendation.

**Conflicts of Interest Declared by the Executive Councillor (and any Dispensations Granted)**

No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.

**23/7/EnC Review of Public Spaces Protection Order for Dog Control****Matter for Decision**

The Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control) 2017 (“Order”) is due to expire on the 19 October 2023, having been successfully reviewed and extended for three years in 2020. At any point before expiry of the Order, the Council can vary or extend it by up to three years if they consider it is necessary to prevent the original behaviour (for which it was introduced) from occurring or recurring.

The Officer’s report revisited the terms of the current Order (Appendix A), and asked the Executive Councillor to approve, in principle, the proposal to extend and vary the Order in respect of dog control (including dog fouling, dog exclusion, seasonal dog on leads requirements, means to pick up faeces, dogs on leads and restriction on number of dogs requirements) within Cambridge, in the form set out at Appendix B and the locations set out in Appendix C; and to authorise officers to publicise the proposed orders and to consult, as required by the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (“The Act”).

**Decision of Executive Councillor for Open Spaces, Food Justice and Community Development**

- i. Approved the proposal to extend and vary the Order for dog control within Cambridge in the form set out at Appendix B and the locations set out in Appendix C; and
- ii. Authorised officers to publicise the proposed Order, as set out in Appendix B and C of the Officer’s report, and to carry out consultation as required by the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.

**Reason for the Decision**

As set out in the Officer’s report.

**Any Alternative Options Considered and Rejected**

Not applicable.

**Scrutiny Considerations**

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

The Community Engagement and Enforcement Manager said the following in response to Members' questions:

- i. A Public Spaces Protection Order would only be implemented after consultation to ascertain what the public wanted. Details on the consultation process were set out on P66-67 of the Officer's report.
- ii. A Public Spaces Protection Order would be in place for up to 3 years. It could be reviewed or renewed any time. Officers tended to review how a Public Spaces Protection Order was working in order to recommend amendments for the next one.
- iii. Public Spaces Protection Orders were considered for all City Council owned open spaces. If one was considered necessary Officers would observe an area, then write reports using public comments as evidence to ensure recommendations reflected how people wanted the area to be used.
- iv. People could report issues to the Police or City Council via its webform. Noted Councillor suggestion to list website details as posters in areas covered by Public Spaces Protection Orders so people could see the areas affected.
- v. The Community Engagement and Enforcement Manager did not recommend implementing a Public Spaces Protection Order or 'dogs on lead restriction' for unfenced open areas as there was no clear barrier to enforce/separate where a dog should not go.
- vi. There had been no complaints about dogs in Lammas Land since 2017 so the Public Spaces Protection Order had been removed from play areas in this location.

The Committee unanimously resolved to endorse the recommendations.

The Executive Councillor approved the recommendations.

### **Conflicts of Interest Declared by the Executive Councillor (and any Dispensations Granted)**

No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.

### **23/8/EnC Extension to Storeys Field Community Centre**

#### **Matter for Decision**

The Storey's Field Centre (SFC) on the Eddington Development in the Northwest of the City, opened to the public in February 2018 and has been managed and operated by the City Council under a contract for services with the Storey's Field Centre Trust (SFCT) since June 2016.

At some point the intended model for operating the new centre was changed from direct management by the Trust, to a contract for services. It was agreed that the Council would, in the first instance, enter a five-year services contract to operate the centre, partly to contribute community centre management expertise, but also to support establishment of the new centre to be able to meet the needs of a new community in a key city growth area. It was always the Council's intention for this to be a medium-term arrangement, to support the newly formed Trust until a centre manager and team had been recruited, trained and a centre programme had been established.

At the request of SFCT the council's contract for services has been extended twice, to give the Trust time to review the future direction of the centre, and to complete a procurement process to appoint a new operator. The current contract for services is due to end 31st March 2023.

SFCT undertook an open procurement process in July 2022 to seek a new operator, however, this was unsuccessful.

The recommendation made in the Officer's report was for the council to make a further extension to its contract for services with SFCT for 12 months until 31st March 2024, for the following reasons:

- a. For SFCT to assess the first procurement process and have sufficient time to complete a second tender process if required.
- b. For SFCT to review and agree the future direction for the centre.
- c. To give the SFCT staff team greater certainty regarding their ongoing employment.

At the end of the contract term on 31st March 2024, the Council Community Services team would focus on working collaboratively with SFCT and The University to ensure a joined-up programme across community facilities in the local area and that requirements in the Section 106 agreement were met.

### **Decision of Executive Councillor for Open Spaces, Food Justice and Community Development**

- i. Agreed to extend the councils contract for management services if required by Storey's Field Centre Trust (SFCT), until 31 March 2024.
- ii. Noted that the council's management and operation of Storey's Field Centre will end 31 March 2024 and that eight Council employed posts may then transfer under a TUPE arrangement, to a new operator.

### **Reason for the Decision**

As set out in the Officer's report.

### **Any Alternative Options Considered and Rejected**

Not applicable.

### **Scrutiny Considerations**

The Committee received a report from the Strategic Project Manager.

The Strategic Project Manager said the following in response to Members' questions:

- i. The City Council were working closely with Cambridge University to reach a sustainable future for the Storey's Field Centre.
- ii. The City Council were working with Storey's Field Centre Trust due to s106 obligations. No details had been given about a new contract operator.

The Committee unanimously resolved to endorse the recommendations.

The Executive Councillor approved the recommendations.

### **Conflicts of Interest Declared by the Executive Councillor (and any Dispensations Granted)**

No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.

### **23/9/EnC Plant-Based Catering Options for Civic Events**

#### **Matter for Decision**

The plant-based food motion passed at full Council in May 2022, required officers to:

- i. Explore a wide variety of catering options for civic events (including consideration of social enterprises) and bring a costed report of fully plant-based catering options for civic events to a future Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee.
- ii. Investigate the practicalities of using civic events to promote and showcase plant-based food options, alongside displayed information about the climate benefits and relative cost of different protein/food sources.

Following the motion, the Officer's report provided a detailed, costed assessment of fully plant-based catering options and part plant-based options which could be served at future civic events.

## **Decision of Executive Councillor for Open Spaces, Food Justice and Community Development**

Agreed:

- i. All future civic events will promote plant-based food by always providing some plant-based food options and plant-based milks as standard (where reasonably possible).
- ii. 'Catering at Annual Full Council meeting in 2023 will consist of 75% plant-based options. This will increase to 100% plant-based in 2024, providing that the majority of plant-based choices are consumed at events and that suppliers can fulfil this requirement and at the same cost as non-plant based foods.'
- iii. Catering at all other civic events in 2023 (apart from the Annual Full Council meeting) will consist of 25% plant-based options with the remaining 75% made up of vegetarian and meat and dairy options. This will increase to 50% plant-based options in 2024, 75% in 2025, and 100% in 2026, providing that the majority of plant-based choices are consumed at events and that suppliers can fulfil this requirement and at the same cost as non-plant based foods.
- iv. The Council will no longer procure and serve beef and lamb at civic events due to their reported impact on greenhouse gas emissions and will reduce the amount of pork procured for civic events.
- v. The Council will endeavour to procure services from social enterprises for civic events, providing that they are available and can offer the services required.
- vi. The Council will use the Plant-Based Foods Association definition of plant-based food: foods made from plants that contain no animal derived ingredients.

### **Reason for the Decision**

As set out in the Officer's report.

### **Any Alternative Options Considered and Rejected**

Not applicable.

### **Scrutiny Considerations**

The Committee received a report from the Climate Change Officer.

The Climate Change Officer said the following in response to Members' questions:

- i. The Council would keep advertising/promoting the reasons why it would provide plant based food at events ie trying to lower the Council's carbon footprint.
- ii. Officers would monitor the amount of food eaten at events to ascertain the take up of plant based food (compared to other types) and seek comments from delegates.
- iii. Plant based food would be introduced in a phased approach so people could become used to it. The Council did not want to contribute to food waste by providing food event delegates did not wish to eat.
- iv. Food providers were legally obliged to clearly label food, be mindful of food allergies and avoid contamination of food. Therefore it was not practicable to mix plant based food in with other types so people would eat it without noticing it was plant based food instead of meat/dairy etc.

Councillors requested a change to the recommendation in the Officer's report (amendment shown as bold text):

Proposer: Councillor Holloway  
Secunder: Councillor Pounds

'Catering at Annual Full Council meeting in 2023 will consist of **75%** ~~50%~~ plant-based options. This will increase to **100%** ~~75%~~ plant-based in 2024, and ~~100% plant-based in 2025~~, providing that the majority of plant-based choices are consumed at events and that suppliers can fulfil this requirement and at the same cost as non-plant based foods.'

The Committee unanimously approved this amended recommendation.

Councillors requested a change to the recommendation in the Officer's report (amendment shown as bold text):

Proposer: Councillor Copley  
Secunder: Councillor Hauk

'Catering at Annual Full Council meeting in 2023 will consist of **100%** ~~75%~~ ~~50%~~ plant-based options. This will increase to ~~100%~~ ~~75%~~ plant-based in 2024, and ~~100% plant-based in 2025~~, providing that the majority of plant-based choices are consumed at events and that suppliers can fulfil this requirement and at the same cost as non-plant based foods.'



The amendment was lost by 4 votes to 3.

The Committee unanimously resolved to endorse the recommendation as originally amended.

The Executive Councillor approved the recommendations.

**Conflicts of Interest Declared by the Executive Councillor (and any Dispensations Granted)**

No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.

**23/10/EnC To Note Record of Urgent Decision Taken by the Executive Councillor for Open Spaces, Food Justice and Community Development**

**23/10a/EnC** RoD - Environmental Improvement Programme Project Submission Summary Report (2023) for Discussion

The decision was noted.

The meeting ended at 7.40 pm

**CHAIR**

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## An Update on the Herbicide Reduction Plan

**To:** Councillor Alex Collis, Executive Councillor  
for Open Spaces, Food Justice & Community Development

Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2023

**Report by:** Alistair Wilson, Streets and Open Spaces – Development  
Manager

Tel: 01223 458514.

Email: [alistair.wilson@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:alistair.wilson@cambridge.gov.uk)

**Wards affected:**

ALL

### 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 On the 27<sup>th</sup> January 2022, the Executive Councillor for Open Spaces, Sustainable Food & Community Wellbeing, after scrutiny, approved a Herbicide Reduction Plan (HRP), which included Newnham and Arbury as the two herbicide free wards and the introduction of up to 12 herbicide free streets.
- 1.2 The Council's declaration of a Biodiversity Emergency (18<sup>th</sup> July 2019) included a commitment to reducing and removing the need to use herbicides on highway verges, roads, and pavements, and to find viable and effective alternatives, and this was reflected in the development and application of the HRP.
- 1.3 The Council's passing of a Herbicide Motion (ref. 21/32/CN1c (22<sup>nd</sup> July 2021)), included a commitment to undertake a range of tasks and actions

to reduce the reliance on herbicide, as a means of managing unwanted vegetation on public property asset within the city.

- 1.4 This report updates on the work completed on the HRP to date, including an evaluation of the two herbicide free wards and the herbicide free street scheme; and makes recommendations on the further reduction in the use of herbicides in the city's public realm.

## **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 The Executive Councillor is asked to consider and endorse the following recommendations
  - a) To approve the expansion of the Herbicide Reduction Plan to include two additional herbicide free wards for 2023 - West Chesterton and Trumpington, (and continuation with Newnham and Arbury herbicide free wards from 2022).
  - b) To approve the continuation and further development of the 'Happy Bee Street Scheme'.
  - c) To note the decision of the County Council on their use of herbicides in the city and to assist them with their new approach (paragraphs 3.2 to 3.4).
  - d) To note the decision of the County Council to change the grass cutting specifications in the city (paragraphs 3.5 to 3.7).
  - e) To support the development of a collaborative communication plan as detailed in Section 5.

## **3. Background**

- 3.1 The Council unanimously voted in favour of declaring a Biodiversity Emergency on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2019; and this included a commitment to reducing and removing the need to use herbicides on highway verges, roads, and pavements, and to find viable and effective unwanted vegetation control alternatives. The highway verges, roads and pavements in Cambridge are the responsibility of Cambridgeshire County Council, as the local Highway Authority. This commitment was further reinforced and developed in the Herbicide Motion, which was agreed on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2021 and is included in Appendix A.

- 3.2 On the 27<sup>th</sup> January 2022, the Executive Councillor for Open Spaces, Sustainable Food & Community Wellbeing, after scrutiny, approved a Herbicide Reduction Plan (HRP), which had been developed in partnership with the County Council, and included Newnham and Arbury as the two herbicide free wards and the introduction of up to 12 herbicide free streets. Over the past year, the two councils have worked together to implement the approved HRP and review and evaluate its impacts.
- 3.3 With collaborative working, the Council and its Highway Authority partner, Cambridgeshire County Council, have now identified the opportunity to consider a range of options to stop day to day herbicide use for vegetation management across the city. The Highways and Transport Committee considered a report on the 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023 and approved the recommendation to move **from a County road network wide chemical weedkilling to priority based weed removal by non-chemical means**.<sup>1</sup> This change broadly aligns to the ambitions of the HRP and will mean that no herbicides will be used on County highway assets.
- 3.3 The two Councils also recognised that unwanted vegetation growing on hard surfaces associated with the city's streets and open spaces can compromise the structural integrity of these assets and create a public health and safety risk, including slips, trips, and falls. Weed growth can also present accessibility issues with narrowing of footpaths, wet growth overhanging pavements and injuries from thorned and stinging plants.
- 3.4 In response, the two Council's will continue to develop and advance the HRP in 2023/24 but with recognition of the need to seek residents' views and have assurances that alternatives are sustainable and effective.
- 3.5 Both Councils agree that the city's outdoor public realm, including our Council's parks and open spaces, and the County Highway estate, provide significant opportunities for biodiversity. This includes helping to buffer and connect the existing network of natural green spaces already designated and managed for their biodiversity value, for example Local Nature Reserves and County Wildlife Sites.

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<sup>1</sup> This is a significant change to the [Highway Operational Standards 2023-2033](#) changing the specification from *within 'built up' village/town areas within 40mph limits or below only (excluding central islands) per annum to a targeted approach at agreed locations identified on risk based approach*

- 3.6 The HRP has also presented opportunities for the two Councils to review the current highway grounds maintenance specification in the city, to deliver improvements in biodiversity, habitat creation and green infrastructure networks to support ecosystem services. The County Highways Operational Standards 2023-2033 requires highway verge grass to be cut 3 times per annum which, in the city, is a significant reduction on the current 16 times per annum cutting frequency. Given the impact of the scale of reduction in cutting frequency on the current appearance of the city's highway verges, the City Council is proposing to adopt a specification of 6 cuts per annum (with the exception of the agreed nature conservation verges, which are managed using a single late cut and collect regime); and to manage highway safety at road junctions, to create a vision splay by maintaining the vegetation to a height of no more than 15cm.
- 3.7 The proposed change in standard, will also address the current variance between what the County Council pays the City Council to maintain the highway vegetation in the city (which is based on the County Highway Operational Standard of 3 cuts per annum and 2 city-wide herbicide applications per annum; and the actual specification cost the City Council currently maintains the highway vegetation to (16 cuts per annum and 2 city-wide herbicide applications (excluding the two herbicide free wards)).
- 3.8 The two councils will develop a supporting communications plan to aid, support, and communicate the proposed changes in standard, as detailed above; and how the public can report any streets and open spaces ground maintenance concerns, issues and service requests.

### **The lesson learned from the HRP**

- 3.9 In 2020<sup>2</sup>, a revised National Action Plan for the Sustainable Use of Pesticides (NAP) was drafted. The revised NAP is intended to supersede the 2013 UK National Action Plan (2013 NAP), laying out a 5-year strategy to increase the sustainability of pesticide use in the UK.
- 3.10 The high-level aim of the revised NAP is to minimise the risks and impacts of pesticides to human health and the environment, while ensuring pests and pesticide resistance are managed effectively.

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<sup>2</sup> Defra, the Scottish Government, the Welsh Government and the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) Northern Ireland ('the four Administrations')

- 3.11 In order to meet this aim, the draft revised NAP consulted<sup>3</sup> on five key goals, to:
- a) Ensure continued robust regulation to protect our health and environment
  - b) Support the development and uptake of Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
  - c) Ensure those that use pesticides do so safely and sustainably
  - d) Support in the reduction of the risks associated with pesticides by setting clear targets by the end of 2022, and improving metrics and indicators
  - e) Ensure that we work effectively with others to deliver the NAP goals
- 3.12 The NAP is delayed<sup>4</sup>, but during the HRP we have been able to achieve some of the NAP ambition relating to IPM, safe and sustainable use of pesticides, a reduction in use and working with others.
- 3.13 The Herbicide Motion agreed in July 2021 set a requirement *to explore the potential for making two wards completely herbicide-free at the earliest available opportunity on a trial basis*. The preparatory work for the HRP considered the ward composition with regards property types and where herbicides have previously been used and for what purpose. Both Newnham and Arbury were selected for the HRP as they afforded the opportunity to consider the effect of the HRP on a range of road types, including terraced residential streets and private gardens, as well as state layout properties with communal gardens.
- 3.14 The Summer of 2022 was exceptionally hot and arid and therefore the levels of subsequent weed growth in the HRP areas have made it difficult to determine the impact of not treating annual and perennial weeds and woody shrubs. There was no notable or significant weed growth on most paths in Newnham, whereas some footpaths in Arbury had high levels of growth of woody species such as Buddleia. There were also notable differences in weed growth where street cleaning takes place on a more frequent schedule.

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<sup>3</sup> The consultation ran for 12 weeks between 4 December 2020 and 26 February 2021. 1,564 responses were received through Citizen Space, and 7 email campaigns organised by NGOs with a combined total of just under 37,000 emails.

<sup>4</sup> It was to be published in Spring 2022, but no recent updates have been given.

- 3.15 The non-HRP areas had limited or no weed growth in most scenarios, because of the use of herbicide (ie. two treatments over the growing season) and this as expected.
- 3.16 We received ~10 complaints in respect of weeds or weed growth from the HRP areas.
- 3.17 A combination of all these aforementioned factors have impacted our ability to be able to fully appraise and assess the impacts of the HRP (positive and negative) and so to fully understand the feasibility, and associated resource implications, of making Cambridge herbicide free, in terms of its outdoor public realm maintenance.
- 3.18 The HRP has not been able to fully appraise the impact of non-use of herbicide in communal housing areas, with some concerns remaining regarding slips, trips, and falls and accessibility in general, as set out in 3.3. It is important that Officers in Streets and Open Space work with Housing Officers' during 2023 to garner feedback and views from residents before considering a decision to stop the use of herbicides in these areas. It is therefore recommended that from 2023, the HRP is continued in the two existing herbicide free wards – Newnham and Arbury - and extended to include two further wards - West Chesterton and Trumpington<sup>5</sup> - and that further research and evaluation work is undertaken to ascertain the impacts and associated community views and consider the case for further reductions or a complete end to herbicide use in the Council's maintenance of the city's outdoor public realm.
- 3.19 As part of the HRP we considered and evaluated a range of non-herbicide management options, in terms of financial and operational management implications and vegetation management cost-effectiveness. This work is set out in Appendix B.

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<sup>5</sup> These two wards are suggested as they have a mix of surfaces, a mix of new and old developments and give further comparisons in addition to those of Arbury and Newnham.<sup>6</sup> a broad-based approach that integrates both [chemical](#) and [non-chemical](#) practices for economic [control of pests](#).



3.20 We also researched and considered Integrated Pesticide Management<sup>6</sup>, and this is summarised as follows:

- a) Careful consideration of all available methods,
- b) Ecologically and economically justified and
- c) Minimises risks to human health and the environment.

Diagram 1 below summaries the key steps of an IPM.

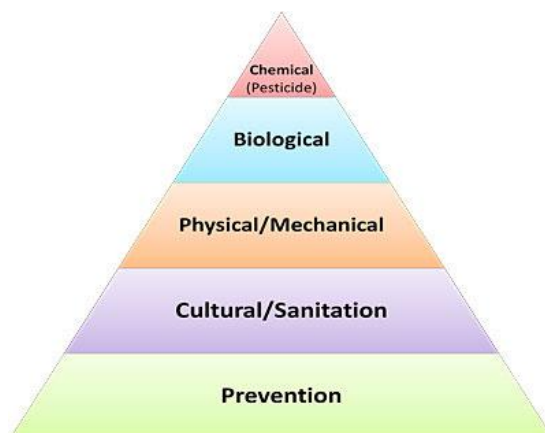


Diagram 1 – Step used in an IPM approach

3.21 The principles of an IPM approach influence the HRP and have resulted in a reduction of applications of herbicide in the city from 3 in 2021 to 2 in 2022.

3.22 The HRP has also created opportunities for contributions, collaborative working and involvement and feedback and learning from a wide range of stakeholders, including Councillors, Pesticide Free Cambridge, On the Verge, residents, volunteers, and community groups.

3.23 Pesticide-Free Cambridge is launching a new campaign<sup>7</sup> to raise awareness about the health and environmental impacts of herbicides and

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<sup>6</sup> a broad-based approach that integrates both [chemical](#) and [non-chemical](#) practices for economic [control of pests](#).

<sup>7</sup> A draft letter and guidance document - initially to be sent to schools and colleges, with a planned rollout to private residents and a range of service providers in later months - has been endorsed by Cambridgeshire County Council, and will shortly be shared with Cambridge City Council's Herbicide Reduction Working Group in the hope that they will also come on board as a supporting stakeholder

insecticides in schools and colleges in order to compliment the Council's move to the herbicide-free management of streets and green spaces.

- 3.24 A University College London Pesticides and Urban Nature project<sup>8</sup> draws in part on the HRP and its impact on environmental attitudes and practices surrounding urban pesticide-use has been launched, with a series of online questionnaires aimed at residents, schools, university colleges, and other service providers. The results of the study will assist the HRP by evaluating the broader societal and environmental impacts of community campaigns and related changes in council policy surrounding urban nature, pest-control, and landscaping practices.
- 3.25 We also conducted 'ward walkabouts' in the Arbury and Newnham Wards, where a range of items, concerns and improvements were identified. These ward walkabouts proved to be a highly effective way to discuss localised service needs and not exclusively relating to the HRP. These ward walkabouts will continue for Arbury and Newnham and be extended to include West Chesterton and Trumpington.
- 3.26 The herbicide free street scheme, which was managed under the title '[Happy Bee Street](#)', was a good example of where the HRP allowed us to introduce new approaches and create opportunities to explore new ideas and to innovate. The uptake and interest in this scheme were encouraging at the start, however some groups found the sign-up process difficult to navigate and feedback was that it was overly complicated<sup>9</sup>. During 2022, we revised the website content, clarified the scheme criteria, and simplified the registration process<sup>10</sup>.
- 3.27 As a consequence of the HRP and the Happy Bee Street scheme we created and managed 14 volunteers across 2 Streets through the Streets and Open Space volunteering scheme, from the 6 that expressed an interest. At the time of drafting this report we also have a further 3 new applications for 2023.

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<sup>8</sup> Project website - <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/anthropocene/projects-and-seminars/projects/pesticides-urban-nature-and-ecological-public-health>

<sup>9</sup> We have a legal duty to check right of work status, ensure that those carrying out tasks for us are given a health and safety briefing so that they are covered by our public liability insurance whilst they undertake their volunteering role.

<sup>10</sup> If a resident expresses an interest in their street becoming a Happy Bee Street, a Community Engagement officer will come and do a site visit and give them some guidance around how many volunteers might be needed to manage the growth on pavements by hand. They can also help with a survey to gain the support of households in the street and to help set up those who want to take part

- 3.28 The Happy Bee Street scheme shows great merit in principle, purpose, and aligns to the IPM methodology of cultural change. It is recommended that the Happy Bee Scheme is continued, developed, has its awareness increased and extended so that individuals can sign up from across the City and not just limited to the street they live in (much like the [Streets and Open Spaces Volunteers](#)) We are committed to making this scheme work for residents, we have to listen to learn from their experiences and we will make changes to the scheme where we can.
- 3.29 As part of the HRP in 2022, we also published our herbicide spraying schedules as we completed street rounds; and now that this routing has been created, it is possible to give some advance notice accuracy to future round schedules, subject to changes in weather than can impact on our planned work.
- 3.30 The use of herbicide spraying warning signs was found to be cost prohibitive, and we have not been able to achieve this requirement of the agreed Motion.
- 3.31 In 2020, the Council agreed with the County Council the following annual grounds maintenance ‘specification’ to control unwanted vegetation on the adopted public highway, this specification was used in the HRP in 2022.
- Only treating weeds in the channel<sup>11</sup>, and the kerb line.
  - Only treat the footway in tarmacked or paved areas.
  - Only treat weeds at the rear of the footway where they abut buildings and hard surfaces.
  - Only treat visible weeds.
  - Do not carry out any weed treatment adjacent to or on grass verges.
- 3.32 This specification has been followed to date, with the exception, in 2022, of the two-HRP herbicide free wards of Arbury and Newnham and any registered Happy Bee Street.

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<sup>11</sup> a concrete or stone structure typically located at the edge of a road designed to provide road drainage, and as a barrier to prevent vehicles from leaving the road carriageway.

## 4. Implications

### a) Financial Implications

A revenue budget pressure was calculated and is summarised in the HRP for 22/23. This revenue budget pressure was the subject of the published BSR bid B4861 and funded staff resources, media and information, specialist reports and a range of assets to support the delivery of the aims and objectives of the HRP. Further details are available from the [General Fund Budget Setting Report 2022/23 to 2026/27](#), on page 55 and 77, to be considered by Strategy and Resources Committee on the 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022. There are NO financial implications identified in the reporting period 2023/24.

### b) Staffing Implications

The recently completed review of Streets and Open Spaces Development team has created a new post. The Biodiversity Project Officer will add resource to the HRP to achieve the recommendations set out in section 2.

### c) Equality and Poverty Implications

The EQIA has identified a potential negative impact relating to Age, Disability, Pregnancy and Maternity. An increase of weeds in pavements and footpaths does create a higher risk of slips, trips and falls. This risk needs to be monitored during the HRP extension and any webpage resource created to support the HRP must have a reporting tool so that the Council can respond to concerns raised.

### d) Net Zero Carbon, Climate Change and Environmental Implications

The Plan is currently overall rated as Low Positive. The HRP has medium positive impacts on biodiversity. It has low negative ratings in respect of energy use for alternative weed control items such as hot water and foam, and a low negative rating where extensive weed growth must be cleared, collected, and processed.

### e) Procurement Implications

None identified.

### f) Community Safety Implications

None identified.

## 5. Consultation and communication considerations

In the scoping and preparation of the HRP extension a range of consultation and communication tasks have been identified. In summary, these tasks will form an overall Project Communication Plan, to include:

-

- A further review of current website content
- Preparation of new website content
- Creation of press and news articles
- Supporting social media campaigns agreed with Partners
- Feedback from residents in communal housing areas
- Feedback on the County Councils specification changes
- Joint communications with Pesticide Free Cambridge
- Research updates and
- Responding to reactive items or new enquiries

## 6. Background papers

Background papers used in the preparation of this report:

- a) [21/32/CNLC Pesticide-free Motion](#)
- b) Herbicide Reduction Plan
- c) [Best Practice Guidance Notes for Integrated and Non-chemical Amenity Hard Surface Weed Control](#)
- d) EQIA for the Herbicide Reduction Plan
- e) Cardiff City Council Weed Control Trial from 2021 Findings

## 7. Appendices

Appendix A – Herbicide Motion detail

Appendix B – Non-herbicide treatment options assessment

## 8. Inspection of papers

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report, please contact Mr Alistair Wilson, Development Manager, 01223458514, [alistair.wilson@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:alistair.wilson@cambridge.gov.uk)

## **Appendix A – The Council Herbicide Motion agreed on the 22nd July 2021 resolved**

- *To explore the potential for making two wards completely herbicide-free at the earliest available opportunity on a trial basis, including:*
- *Carrying out a full assessment of the resources needed for any trial (which may include additional signage).*
- *Working with local communities in the wards identified to raise awareness of the trial and encourage participation / feedback, which may include the need for additional signage alongside other digital methods such as social media/ council website.*
- *In order to do this, to continue our assessment of the full range of alternative weed control options available (including but not limited to brush cleaning equipment) to use in the herbicide free wards (and others where possible).*
- *To assess alternative options with active involvement of Pesticide Free Cambridge representatives and frontline council staff to select the product, prior to the next planned round of treatments in 2021. This now 2022.*
- *To report back to the Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee on the differences between the herbicide-free wards and those wards that are not pesticide-free in any identified trial, and on the use of identified alternatives before the start of the 2022 cycle of treatments. This would include information about operative time and savings, or costs made, feedback from residents and operatives, and the level of any complaints or compliments.*
- *To explore the most effective methods of communicating with residents (and any additional resource implications) about any necessary herbicide applications, which may include the following commitments (both existing and additional):*
  - *publishing the planned dates of herbicide treatments by road/ward for the remainder of 2021 and thereafter on the council's website, allowing residents to find out when a treatment is planned. This is because it can take several days before it is clear that a pesticide treatment has been applied and residents need to be informed so that they can choose to*

*avoid the area and to keep children and animals in particular away from the treatment sites.*

- *displaying signage in situ on the relevant roads and pavements with dates of any herbicide treatments from 2022 onwards.*
- *publishing the amount of herbicide used each month and the cost to the council.*
- *To commit officer time to working with community groups who may wish to volunteer to clear their street spaces to avoid herbicide use.*
- *To complete a comprehensive assessment of the resources needed to ensure we can make Cambridge City Council herbicide free by the end of 2022.*
- *To publish a regular six-monthly update to be included in the environmental reports already made to Area Committees on any exceptional usage of herbicide (for example for Japanese Knotweed) and to establish a clear protocol for any such usage, ensuring that the least harmful options are selected, including sign off by a senior manager before any use is permitted.*

**Appendix B – An assessment of alternative vegetation treatment methods to herbicide to be used in the HRP is included in the Table below.**

Table 1 - assessment of alternative vegetation treatment methods to herbicide to be used in the HRP

<b>Method</b>	<b>Use</b>	<b>Advantages</b>	<b>Disadvantages</b>
Hot Foam	Weeds in hard surfaces, Moss on hard surfaces and play area safety surfacing, Grass growth around trees, Non-chemical graffiti removal	Foam holds hot water against plants Pesticide free Can be used in all weather. Kills 85% of targeted weeds	New technology needs refinement. Expensive to purchase Additional cost of fuel, diesel consumption and pollution
Hot water / steam	Weeds in hard surfaces, Moss on hard surfaces and play area safety surfacing, Grass growth around trees, Non-chemical graffiti removal	Lower initial purchase cost	Requires more treatments as heat is not held onto plant. Diesel consumption and pollution
Propane / Flame gun	Weeds on hard surfaces	Relatively cheap to purchase	Health and Safety risk Not particularly effective and very unlikely to be used.
Manual weeding	Weeds in general	Very effective if done well.	Very time consuming Requires large amounts of labour, which add to cost



<b>Method</b>	<b>Use</b>	<b>Advantages</b>	<b>Disadvantages</b>
		Low set up costs (excluding labour)	
Mulching – bark and or membrane	Weed control within shrub borders, under trees etc.	Improves appearance of the site and retains moisture in the soil to aid plant growth	Can be labour intensive, may be expensive depending on supply of material
Vinegar based solutions	Weeds in hard surfaces	No licence required for application	Has been trialled but not has not been effective, Strong smell can give operator headache
Volunteer programmes	Weed control and championing of principles of herbicide free	Residents and Groups may have other priorities and wish to manage weeds in different ways and with alternative methods	Some Groups may not be able to resource this approach in the medium to long term.

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## Cambridge City Council Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

This tool helps the Council ensure that we fulfil legal obligations of the [Public Sector Equality Duty](#) to have due regard to the need to –

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

Guidance on how to complete this tool can be found on the Cambridge City Council intranet. For specific questions on the tool email Helen Crowther, Equality and Anti-Poverty Officer at [equalities@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:equalities@cambridge.gov.uk) or phone 01223 457046.

Once you have drafted the EqIA please send this to [equalities@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:equalities@cambridge.gov.uk) for checking. For advice on consulting on equality impacts, please contact Graham Saint, Strategy Officer, ([graham.saint@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:graham.saint@cambridge.gov.uk) or 01223 457044).

<b>1. Title of strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service</b>
Herbicide Reduction Plan and extension
<b>2. Webpage link to full details of the strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service (if available)</b>
<a href="#">Environment and Community Services Scrutiny Committee 27<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and Environment and Community Services Scrutiny Committee 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2023</a>
<b>3. What is the objective or purpose of your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service?</b>
<p>The Council unanimously voted in favour of declaring a Biodiversity Emergency on 18th July 2019; and this included a commitment to reducing and removing the need to use herbicides on highway verges, roads and pavements, and to find viable and effective unwanted vegetation control alternatives.</p> <p>Through collaborative working, the Council and its Highway Authority partner, Cambridgeshire County Council, have identified the opportunity to consider a range of options to stop day to day herbicide use for vegetation management across the city within the next year (2023)</p>

Both Councils recognise that the city's parks, open spaces, and highway estate provides significant opportunities for habitat enhancement to help buffer and connect the existing network of natural green spaces already designated and managed for their biodiversity value, for example Local Nature Reserves and County Wildlife Sites. The two Councils also recognise that unwanted vegetation growing on hard surfaces associated with this public realm estate can compromise the structural integrity of these assets and create a public health and safety risk, including slips, trips and falls

**4. Responsible service**

Environment Service – Streets and Open Space

**5. Who will be affected by this strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service?**

**(Please tick all that apply)**

- Residents
- Visitors
- Staff

Please state any specific client group or groups (e.g. City Council tenants, tourists, people who work in the city but do not live here):

The presence or absence of unwanted vegetation is an important element of an accepted public realm environmental quality standard. If a public road or street has lots of unwanted vegetation, it looks rundown and uncared for, and can attract environmental crime such as littering and fly-tipping. If vegetation is left to grow unchecked, its roots can cause damage to road surfaces, pavements, and adjoining property walls. Roads/ streets that are free from unwanted vegetation, on the other hand, look cleaner, tidier, and more welcoming, all residents, visitors and staff will be impacted by this change in policy to support the trial however some groups of residents may have other priorities and wish to manage weeds in different ways and with alternative methods. This Plan aims to support these different approaches and MAY have a positive impact.

**6. What type of strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service is this?**

- New
- Major change
- Minor change

**7. Are other departments or partners involved in delivering this strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service? (Please tick)**

- Yes
- No

If 'Yes' please provide details below:

**Cambridgeshire County Council – Highways team and City Homes.**

**8. Has the report on your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service gone to Committee? If so, which one?**

Environment and Community Services Scrutiny Committee 27th January 2022

**9. What research methods/ evidence have you used in order to identify equality impacts of your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service?**

Desk based research, sharing of information with other local authorities and training courses

Best Practice Guidance Notes for Integrated and Non-chemical Amenity Hard Surface Weed Control

<https://beta.lambeth.gov.uk/parks-sports-and-leisure/parks/integrated-pest-management-policy>

[https://www.apse.org.uk/apse/assets/File/John%20Moverley%20presentation\(1\).pdf](https://www.apse.org.uk/apse/assets/File/John%20Moverley%20presentation(1).pdf)

[https://www.apse.org.uk/apse/assets/File/Debbie%20Sutton%20-%20Glyphosate%20presentation%2030\\_10\\_19.pdf](https://www.apse.org.uk/apse/assets/File/Debbie%20Sutton%20-%20Glyphosate%20presentation%2030_10_19.pdf)

[https://www.pan-uk.org/resources/#pesticide\\_alternatives](https://www.pan-uk.org/resources/#pesticide_alternatives)

**10. Potential impacts**

For each category below, please explain if the strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service could have a positive/ negative impact or no impact. Where an impact has been identified, please explain what it is. Consider impacts on service users, visitors and staff members separately.

**(a) Age - Please also consider any safeguarding issues for children and adults at risk**

There is a potential negative impact when linked with age related to mobility. An increase of weeds in pavements and footpaths does create a higher risk of slips trips and falls. This risk needs to be monitored during the trial and any webpage resource created to support the Trial must have a reporting tool so that the Council can respond to concerns raised.

**(b) Disability**

There might be a potential negative impact for disabled people with mobility or sight impairments relating to reducing the use of herbicides. If rights of way are not maintained to reduce weed growth, regrowth can cause obstacles that reduces accessibility and increases risk of trips and falls. On the other hand, reducing the use of herbicides is reducing the use of chemicals in the environment, which might have a positive impact on people's health.

**(c) Gender reassignment**

None identified

**(d) Marriage and civil partnership**

None identified

**(e) Pregnancy and maternity**

There is a potential negative impact especially when linked with mobility. An increase of weeds in pavements and footpaths does create a higher risk of slips trips and falls. This risk needs to be monitored during the trial and any webpage resource created to support the Trial must have a reporting tool so that the Council can respond to concerns raised.

There might be a potential negative impacts to reducing the use of herbicides if rights of way are not maintained to reduce weed growth. This might impact on people using pushchairs and buggies if regrowth causes obstacles that reduces their accessibility in these spaces.

**(f) Race – Note that the protected characteristic 'race' refers to a group of people defined by their race, colour, and nationality (including citizenship) ethnic or national origins.**

None identified

**(g) Religion or belief**

None identified

**(h) Sex**

None identified

**(i) Sexual orientation**

None identified

**(j) Other factors that may lead to inequality – in particular, please consider the impact of any changes on:**

- **Low-income groups or those experiencing the impacts of poverty**
- **Groups who have more than one protected characteristic that taken together create overlapping and interdependent systems of discrimination or disadvantage. (Here you are being asked to consider intersectionality, and for more information see: [https://media.ed.ac.uk/media/1\\_159kt25q](https://media.ed.ac.uk/media/1_159kt25q)).**

None identified

**11. Action plan – New equality impacts will be identified in different stages throughout the planning and implementation stages of changes to your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service. How will you monitor these going forward? Also, how will you ensure that any potential negative impacts of the changes will be mitigated? (Please include dates where possible for when you will update this EqIA accordingly.)**

This EQIA should be updated at least once a month during the Trial and must consider any comments or feedback where the Trial is having an impact. The webpage resource to support the Trial with a reporting tool is a good mitigation but there are other means of communicating change and this will be considered in the Communication Plan that will support the Trial. For example, the use of Cambridge Matters as part of wider article about Biodiversity strategy and the use of Twitter and nearby community notice boards.

**12. Do you have any additional comments?**

None

### 13. Sign off

Name and job title of lead officer for this equality impact assessment: Alistair Wilson

Names and job titles of other assessment team members and people consulted: HRP Project Team

Date of EqIA sign off: 8th March 2023

Date of next review of the equalities impact assessment: March 2024

Date to be published on Cambridge City Council website: [Click here to enter text.](#)

**All EqIAs need to be sent to Helen Crowther, Equality and Anti-Poverty Officer at [helen.crowther@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:helen.crowther@cambridge.gov.uk).**



## A Litter Strategy for Cambridge

**To:**

Councillor Rosy Moore,  
Executive Councillor for Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity  
Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee 23/03/2022

**Report by:**

Alistair Wilson, Development Manager, Streets & Open Spaces  
Tel: (01223) 458514 Email: alistair.wilson@cambridge.gov.uk

**Wards affected:**

All

### Key Decision

#### 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report considers and makes recommendations on the approval and adoption of a litter strategy (Strategy) for Cambridge City (set out in detail at Appendix A).
- 1.2 The proposed Strategy is comprised of:
  - I. A strategic vision.
  - II. A schedule of policies to support and achieve the vision; and
  - III. An action plan which sets out key tasks, timescales, and responsibilities for the strategy's implementation (this is set out in Appendix B).
- 1.3 The Strategy is recommended for approval and adoption following extensive research and stakeholder engagement, including a public survey, focus group and series of officer task and finish groups.
- 1.4 The proposed Strategy's vision is: **"For Cambridge to be a city which is free of litter, fly-tipping, and dog waste"**
- 1.5 The Strategy reflects the public consultation results and identifies areas for strategic action which include:

- Effective litter disposal infrastructure provision
- Awareness raising and education
- Enforcement
- Collaboration and partnership working
- Civic pride and social responsibility

- 1.6 The Action Plan sets out a range of issues and concerns that have emerged from the research and consultation. These issues and concerns are reflected in the Strategy's proposed strategic aims and supporting policies.
- 1.7 The Strategy is intended to support positive change in behaviours, make it easy to dispose of litter, continue with our enforcement activity, when it is proportionate and reasonable to do so, maximise the productivity of our streets and open spaces waste management service and minimise the volume of litter.

## **2. Recommendations**

The Executive Councillor is recommended to

- Approve the adoption and use of the proposed 'Litter Strategy for Cambridge' (ref. Appendix A).
- Instruct Officers to format the Strategy for publication and to prepare a Communication Plan to support its adoption and implementation.

## **3. Background and context to the Strategy**

- 3.1 Cambridge City Council (Council) has a statutory duty to keep land and highways clear of litter and refuse as far as is practicable (ref. Section 39 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990).
- 3.2 Under section 5 of the Litter Act 1983, the Council also has powers to provide and maintain, in any street or public place, receptacles for refuse or litter. The Highways Act 1980 provides a similar power to install refuse or litter bins in streets. Once a bin has been installed, the Council has a legal duty to plan for the regular emptying and cleansing of that bin.
- 3.3 There are some additional Regulations<sup>1</sup> which relate to the management of recycling-on-the-go bins. Councils which provide recycling bins for

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<sup>1</sup> Paragraph 13 of the Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011 (as amended)

materials, such as wastepaper, metal, plastic or glass, are required to manage them by way of separate collection, where this is necessary to ensure that waste undergoes recovery; or to facilitate, or improve, recovery, and where it is technically, environmentally and economically practicable.

- 3.4 The Council also has powers to prosecute those who drop litter, or to issue fixed penalties in lieu of prosecution under the Environmental Protection Act 1990.
- 3.5 The Council's street cleansing service is responsible for servicing 1,300 street and 540 open space litter bins: and undertaking litter picking, highway sweeping, 'rapid response' 'deep clean' and graffiti/ fly tip removal. The service also provides public realm community engagement and enforcement, including for dog control offences, fly tipping, littering, unauthorised camping, abandoned vehicles, waste management offences and education campaigns.
- 3.6 The Council's street cleansing and litter management service employs 55 staff (which equates to ~88000 hours per annum operational capacity) and currently costs the Council ~£2.7m per annum.

#### **4 How we developed the Strategy**

4.1 The Strategy was developed using the following terms of reference, as agreed at Environment and Community Services Committee in January 2021:

*a) To investigate how street and outdoor public space litter is managed in Cambridge.*

*b) Review the statutory and non-statutory obligations that the Council has. This will include consideration of key areas such as:*

- Dog fouling*
- General street litter (including cigarettes, gum, street flyers, fast food litter)*
- Roadside litter (including litter from cars, gulleys and weeds, fly tipping)*
- Litter in green spaces (focusing on litter in parks and other green spaces).*

- c) *To consider how other authorities, in the UK and abroad, manage the issue of litter and identify and evaluate examples of best practice and their potential application in Cambridge.*
- d) *To raise community awareness of litter in Cambridge and investigate how it can become a cleaner city.*
- e) *To review the Council's performance in terms of managing litter, including benchmarking against comparator authorities.*

4.2 As part the requirements to achieve the terms of reference and to help inform the Council's Operational Hub <sup>2</sup> development plan, Plan B Management Solutions was commissioned to complete a comprehensive assessment of our streets and open spaces waste management service provision. The results of the assessment were used to inform the Strategy's development and in particular the supporting Action Plan in Appendix B.

4.3 As part of the Strategy development phase, we completed a benchmarking exercise with Bristol, Oxford, and Canterbury City Council's. This research has highlighted that there is no one solution to the provision of streets and open space waste management services, rather several basic approaches that are modified to suit local circumstances driven by specific local goals.

4.4 The public consultation which we undertook to support the Strategy's development ran for 6 weeks (1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 to 15<sup>th</sup> August 2021) yielded 454 responses. The full findings are available at Appendix C.

4.5 This public consultation gives recommendations on raising awareness, working with businesses and education establishments, enforcement and civic pride and social responsibilities. These requirements are reflected in the strategic policies and aims and resulting action plan

4.6 The consultation results also gave us good data to allow:

- an analysis of current litter 'hot spots'.
- a comparison of current service provision against 'hot spots' to identify service pressure areas.

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<sup>2</sup> Cambridge City Council must relocate its Streets and Open Spaces depot facility and waste transfer operation from its current site at Cowley Road. The Council has identified a site also located in the Cowley Road industrial area.

- an outline of the causes of the identified litter issues, based on best available information, and the ways in which the Council can contribute to improving the situation.
- An assessment of current and future behavioural change activities, including awareness raising, education and enforcement, to help deliver the Strategy.

4.7 The Strategy focus group had 23 attendees and contributed to a discussion on how a Strategy can help the service. This piece of work presented additional actions (from the public consultation) for the Strategy to consider around learning from others, reporting and servicing of bins, and continued community engagement. The full focus group results report is available as at Appendix D.

4.8 Strategy Task and Finish Groups were established to work on current service provision, alternative approaches and partnership working and bin types, locations, and ways of working.

4.9 The Task and Finish Groups identified issues and concerns for the Strategy to consider and respond relating to

- Working with others
- Sharing best practice
- Benchmarking
- Campaigns and communication
- Deposit Reward Schemes
- Investment need
- Enforcement
- Volunteering opportunities
- Number of bins/ their locations
- Review collection methods
- Design of bins
- Volumes of litter
- Education

These are all considered and reflected in the proposed Strategy.

## **5 Summary of Research Findings**

5.1 Research conducted during the Strategy has highlighted that littering is fundamentally a behavioural problem and the Strategy states that good litter disposal infrastructure and clear expectations, supported by

proportionate enforcement, helps reinforce social pressure to do the right thing.

- 5.2. It is evident from the research that people need to both understand what they ought to be doing and be motivated to do the right thing. It also suggests that they must have the opportunity to do so, and that is where the provision of necessary infrastructure, based on the recommended national guidance produced by WRAP (Waste Resources Action Programme), with regard to the design, number and location of public litter bins and other items of street furniture designed to capture litter, and the associated supporting principle of 'Right Bin, Right Location and Right Reason', comes in.
- 5.3. Research suggests that litter management infrastructure alone is not enough to solve the problem; information is required to build capability to properly use different types of bins, and campaigns and/or enforcement activity are required to create the motivation for people to use them and dispose of their waste responsibly.
- 5.4 The proposed Litter Strategy includes policies for waste reduction and recycling and in general seeks solutions so that recycling is made clearer and easier, so that people understand which is the correct bin for disposing of different waste items. This also applies to infrastructure where a simpler system is expected to help cut littering by making the expected behaviour clearer for users.
- 5.5 Effective local infrastructure is not just having the right number and type of bins but also siting them in appropriate locations and using visual cues to maximise the chances of them being used properly.

## **6. Implications**

### **6.1 Financial implications:**

- a. There are no financial implications identified at this time, though it should be noted that the Strategy Action Plan (ref. Appendix B), includes actions to review the design, location, and number of bins in the city; maximise the use of mechanical handling and minimise the associated vehicle movements, which will have both capital and revenue budget implications associated.

- b. These implications will be addressed through the consideration of business cases and associated budget proposals, as part of the Council's annual Budget Setting Report process for 2024/25.

## 6.2 **Staffing implications:**

The management and implementation of the Strategy will be resourced from within existing staffing resources. Any staffing implications associated with implementing the Strategy Action Plan (ref. Appendix B) will be managed in accordance with the Council's Organisational Change policy.

## 6.3 **Equality and poverty implications:**

An EQIA was developed to support the consultation associated with the development of the Strategy. The Strategy EQIA has identified no significant impact on those with protected characteristics.

## 6.4 **Other implications:**

There are no other implications identified

# 7. **Consultation and communication considerations**

7.1 The development of the strategy was informed by a public survey, this sought views on the issue of littering in Cambridge and effectiveness of the Council's current streets and open spaces management service, including.

- Determining what respondents think about the various types of litter in Cambridge.
- Understanding levels of awareness of existing regulations and penalties relating to these issues and views on the effectiveness of its enforcement and,
- Seeking comments and suggestions on what else could be done to reduce litter in Cambridge.

In addition to the survey, the Strategy development phase also included public focus group on how a strategy can help the service to tackle known litter 'hot spots', and

7.2 No further consultation is required, and participants of the survey will be updated on the development of the Strategy.

7.3 As part of the Action Plan to support the Strategy a Communication Plan is to be developed. This will help support the strategic ambitions of the Strategy, including the policies and associated actions.

## 8. Background papers

The following background papers used in the preparation of this report:

- WRAP<sup>3</sup> (2020) 'The Right Bin in the Right Place'
- StreetScene Services Baseline Benchmarking Summer 2022
- Task and Finish Group outputs
- Plan B – Baseline Assessment

## 9. Appendices

Appendix A - 'A Litter Strategy for Cambridge'  
Appendix B - 'A Litter Strategy for Cambridge – Action Plan'  
Appendix C - 'Litter Strategy Consultation Public Survey Report'  
Appendix D - 'Litter Strategy Consultation Focus Group Discussion'  
27th July 2021

## 10. Inspection of papers

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact:

Alistair Wilson, Development Manager, Streets & Open Spaces,  
(Tel: 01223-458514, email: [alistair.wilson@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:alistair.wilson@cambridge.gov.uk))

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<sup>3</sup> WRAP is a not-for-profit organisation working with governments, businesses, and citizens to create a world in which we use resources sustainably.



# A Litter Strategy for Cambridge

March 2023



**Forward by**

*To be completed after Environment and Community Service Scrutiny Committee and Executive Councillor decision.*

Councillor Rosy Moore,  
Executive Councillor for Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity

## A Litter Strategy for Cambridge

### Introduction

The Council's corporate [vision](#) is *to lead a united city, 'One Cambridge - Fair for All', in which economic dynamism and prosperity are combined with social equality and environmental justice. An international, entrepreneurial, diverse, and welcoming city, which is a great place to live, work and learn and which protects its most vulnerable.*

The following [corporate priorities](#)<sup>1</sup> are directly relevant to our Litter Strategy for the city: -

- *“Leading Cambridge's response to the climate and biodiversity emergencies and creating a net zero council by 2030*
- *Modernising the council to lead a greener city that is fair for all”*

Our Strategy is informed by and accords with the Government's [Litter Strategy for England, published in 2017 and associated](#) guidance issued by the UK charity, [WRAP \(Waste Resources Action Programme\)](#) - [“Binrastructure – The right bin in the right place”](#)<sup>2</sup>.

In implementing our Strategy, we intend to apply best practice in litter<sup>3</sup> management education, enforcement, and infrastructure to deliver a substantial reduction in litter and littering behaviour.

Industry research shows that good infrastructure (bins and containers) and clear expectations, supported by proportionate enforcement, helps reinforce social pressure to do the right thing.

The cost of managing litter, including fly tipping places a significant burden on the Council, at a time of unprecedented budget pressures and associated service demands.

Litter is also a cost to public health, with published [research](#)<sup>4</sup> evidencing that living in a littered environment makes people feel less safe in their communities, and less likely to venture out, which, in turn can impact their mental and physical health. It also makes an area look untidy and uncared for, which in turn, contributes to a cycle of decline

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<sup>1</sup> Corporate plan 2022-27: our priorities for Cambridge

<sup>2</sup> <https://wrap.org.uk/resources/guide/binrastructure-right-bin-right-place>

<sup>3</sup> There is no official statutory definition of litter, but it is most commonly assumed to include materials that are improperly discarded; for Cambridge this includes dog waste and fly tipping

<sup>4</sup> Journal of Litter and Environmental Quality June 2017

deterioration in social, economic, and environmental community outcomes, e.g., 'the broken window' concept.

An environment that looks cared for encourages a sense of civic pride and encourages local investment.

Our Strategy is formed of four parts as follows:

- Part One sets out the background to the strategy, in terms of the Council's powers, duties and current service
- Part Two sets out the strategic vision and aims
- Part Three sets out the supporting policies
- Part Four is an action plan which sets out actions, timescales, and responsibilities to implementing the Strategy.

## **Part 1 - Background**

Cambridge City Council has a statutory duty to keep land and highways clear of litter and refuse as far as is practicable (ref. Section 39 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990).

Under section 5 of the Litter Act 1983, the Council also has powers to provide and maintain in any street, or public place, receptacles for refuse or litter. The Highways Act 1980 also provides a similar power to install refuse or litter bins in streets. Once a bin has been installed, the Council has a legal duty to plan for the regular emptying and cleansing of that bin.

There are some additional Regulations which relate to the management of recycling-on-the-go bins<sup>5</sup>. There is also anticipated Regulations with regards to the introduction of deposit return schemes to be introduced by October 2025.

The Council also has powers to prosecute those who drop litter, or to issue fixed penalties, in lieu of prosecution, under the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

The Council's Street cleansing service is responsible for servicing 1300 street and 540 open space litter bins and associated litter picking; highway sweeping; 'rapid response' <sup>6</sup>'deep clean' and graffiti/ fly tip removal. The service also provides a public realm engagement and enforcement service, which covers dog control offences, fly tipping, littering, unauthorised camping, abandoned vehicles, waste management offences and education campaigns.

Street cleansing, including associated street and open space bin emptying and litter management, currently costs the Council ~£2.7m per annum; and is delivered by a workforce of 55 operatives, who provide a 7 day a week service, which equates to ~88000 hours per annum.

The Council's existing bin stock encompasses 1300 street and 540 open space bins and over 10 different bin design types; and has evolved over time and not been strategically reviewed until now. This Strategy provides a valuable opportunity to review the current bin stock against the recommended national guidance produced by WRAP, with regard to the design, number and location of public litter bins and other

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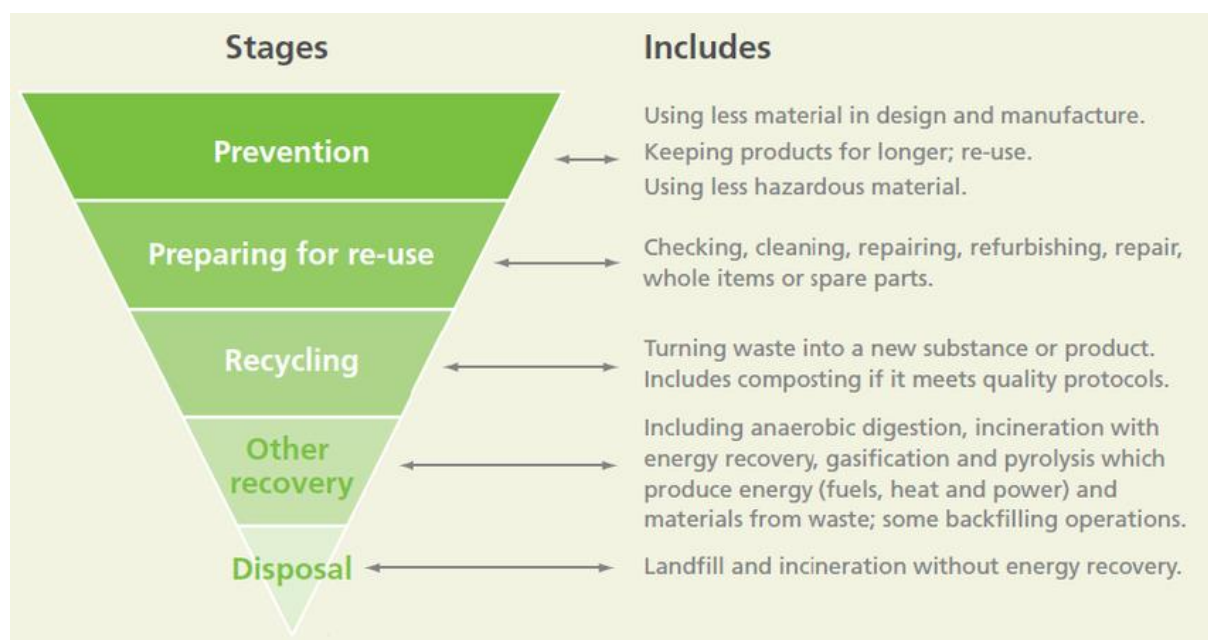
<sup>5</sup> Councils which provide recycling bins for materials are required to manage them by way of separate collection to ensure that waste undergoes recovery or to facilitate or improve recovery, and where it is technically, environmentally, and economically practicable.

<sup>6</sup> A service that can clean and remove items once they have been reported. They are City Centre based in the mornings and cover the remainder of the city for the remainder of the day.

items of street furniture designed to capture litter, and the associated supporting principle of 'Right Bin, Right Location and Right Reason'.

Effective local litter disposal infrastructure is not just about having the right number and type of bins, but also siting them in appropriate locations and using visual cues to maximise their appropriate use.

Research conducted to inform the Strategy has highlighted that littering is fundamentally a behavioural problem and that effective infrastructure and clear expectations, supported by proportionate enforcement, helps reinforce social pressure for people to do the right thing. The Strategy is underpinned by the universally adopted waste management hierarchy<sup>7</sup>, as follows:



To achieve our vision, we want to create a culture where it is unacceptable to drop litter, fly tip or not pick up after your dog. This means generating strong and lasting civic pride and social pressures, making such acts socially unacceptable.

In developing the Strategy, it is evident that people need to both understand what they ought to be doing and be motivated to do the right thing. It also suggests that they must have the opportunity to do so, and that is where the provision of effective litter disposal infrastructure comes in.

<sup>7</sup> [Guidance on applying the waste hierarchy - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

Research suggests that infrastructure alone is not enough to solve the problem; information is required to build capability to properly use different types of bins, and positive campaigns to create the necessary motivation for people to use them.

Our [Climate Change Strategy \(2021-2026\)](#) shares a vision for Cambridge to be net zero carbon by 2030, subject to Government, industry and regulators implementing the necessary changes to enable the city and the rest of the UK to achieve this. The Climate Change Strategy sets out a number of strategic objectives, of which the following are directly relevant to our Litter Strategy:

- *“Reducing carbon emissions from city council buildings, land, vehicles, and services*
- *Reducing consumption of resources, reducing waste, and increasing recycling in Cambridge”*

## **Part 2 - Strategic vision and aims**

Our Litter Strategy's vision is:

***For Cambridge to be a city which is free of litter, fly-tipping, and dog waste.***

Through the Strategy, we aim to:

- Maximise the number of people who dispose of their litter responsibly by providing appropriate facilities in the right places and collecting litter in a timely fashion.
- Minimise the proportion of people who feel it is acceptable to litter, fly tip and not pick up after their dog
- Minimise the environmental impact and maximise the productivity of the Council's streets and open spaces waste management service.
- Minimise the volume of streets and open spaces derived waste going to landfill.
- Apply an evidence based, data led approach to monitoring and reviewing the Strategy's effectiveness; and informing any required changes to it.



## Part 3 - Policies

### Policy LS1

**To continue to manage our services to ensure that litter problems do not build up and develop a city-wide culture where it is unacceptable to drop or leave litter lying in the environment.**

We will:

- Periodically review and allocate our work-based area teams to monitor and manage known or new litter hotspots.
- Create and continue to provide an easy system for the public to report instances of littering.
- Use targeted awareness campaigns to address known littering problems, including litter item types and hot spots.
- Include dog-fouling in our definition of litter and promote ways of dealing with it.

<sup>8</sup>

### Policy LS2

**To continue to build a knowledge base and understanding around litter and sources of litter to inform, direct, and drive all service activity and maximise our effectiveness.**

We will:

- Continue our work with Greater Cambridge Shared Waste service to examine the causes of littering, including fly tipping, and so help us find solutions to deal with problems at source.
- Create campaigns and encourage businesses to design their products and packaging in ways which will reduce public waste, including recyclable by default and stating clear methods of disposal.
- Ensure and support more recycling with media campaigns.
- Work with partners in the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning service to design bin infrastructure on new development sites.

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<sup>8</sup> Dog waste can be bagged and deposited in dog bins or in litter bins

### Policy LS3

**To continue and establish partnership working with organisations, communities, schools, and businesses, to extend the capacity for action to address the problems of litter, fly tipping and dog waste**

We will:

- With partners run anti-litter campaigns and take part in national campaigns (i.e. Great British Spring Clean)
- With our Streets and Open Spaces Volunteer scheme help people to clear up litter in their local areas
- Work with litter-picking volunteers and help them with equipment.
  - Initiatives include setting up community litter groups with their own social media and communication groups to keep an eye on their local patch
- Visit and make sure that we support schools and other organisations and groups in teaching about litter through use of the Eco-Schools program.
- Assist and encourage businesses to work with others to deal with local litter problems
  - It is in the interests of businesses to keep places free of litter; this applies especially with takeaway outlets. We will consider what powers we can use to ensure that businesses take responsibility for resulting litter and will campaign for greater powers if needed
- Making it easy to dispose of litter, with appropriate bins, in the right locations for the right reasons.

### Policy LS4

**To establish a system of ongoing audit and review to ensure our streets and open spaces waste management service, including its associated bin infrastructure, cleaning systems and community engagement and enforcement activity is continuously improving, in terms of its efficiency and effectiveness.**

Around a third of people will be deterred from using a litter bin if it is dirty or damaged. Moreover, if a bin is overfull, people cannot use it, and litter from the bin can start to fall and litter the streets. People may also be tempted to place their litter besides, rather than into, a bin which is full, dirty, or damaged.

Waste management can have a significant impact on litter and fly-tipping. If waste is left out for collection for long periods of time, especially in plastic sacks rather than bins, it can inadvertently lead to an increase in litter, e.g., sacks may be broken into

by animals; people may start to leave their litter amongst the waste awaiting collection; a perception that the street is already affected by litter and waste may lead to an increase in littering behaviour.

We will:

- Keep updated our baseline assessment of our infrastructure, including bins, litter types/ locations, disposal behaviour and public perception.
- Apply WRAP's 'Right Bin: Right Location: Right Reason' principle and associated national guidance in continuously reviewing the city's litter disposal infrastructure and determining required changes to the design, location and number of public litter bins
- Maximise the use of mechanical litter and waste management handling/ collection
- Monitor the placement effectiveness and condition of bins.
- Repair/ refurbish bins in a timely manner.
- Review schedules for emptying bins and ensure means of adapting where extra or fewer collections are needed
- The emptying of litter and recycling bins must be sufficiently frequent to ensure that no litter bin or its contents becomes a nuisance or gives reasonable grounds for complaint
  - create a public realm which looks cared for, with well-maintained street furniture, clear informative anti-litter signage, landscaping features in good condition, and bins where they are needed, properly oriented, clean, and easily accessible to all users
- Make it as easy as possible for people to dispose of their rubbish properly
- Undertake performance benchmarking against comparator authorities

#### Policy LS5

**To expand the concept of recycling beyond the domestic collection with greater provision for recycling 'on the go' and preparing for future deposit return schemes**

We will:

- Review recycling receptacles in public spaces - we want to support people being able to recycle more and to encourage people to recycle 'on the go'. Standard litter bins often do not provide people with the opportunity to separate different types of waste materials for recycling, nor to easily understand what waste goes in what bin, something which is already done as part of the kerbside recycling service.

There are many things to consider when designing the options for a Recycle on the Go (RotG) solution, e.g., locating units in areas of highest footfall, where most waste is likely to occur.

- The types of litter commonly dropped will vary depending on the area involved and so receptacles may have to be tailored to the needs of the location.
- Encourage business support for recycling; this could include promotion, or sponsorship of bins.

### Policy LS6

**To practically engage with local businesses, organisations, and residents to empower and support them in positive partnership action to address litter, fly tipping and dog waste problems.**

We will:

- work with businesses and organisations to ensure they have the right facilities to get rid of waste on their premises
  - Businesses have a key role to play in helping to tackle the problem and we want to work with them to do so. We would encourage businesses to recognise the benefits to their own business, and to the economic health of the area, of helping to ensure that the streets remain clean and attractive to customers, and the potential negative impact on their business of litter outside their premises.
  - Studies have found that about half of smokers would not walk more than 10 paces to use a bin, but also that many smokers did not notice bins that had been placed in convenient locations for their use.
- We will consider all relevant guidance when taking decisions on the type and position of litter bins.

Bin technology now makes it possible to install bins that have sensors which inform the cleansing service when they are full/ nearly full. Trials conducted by Cambridge City Council and other evidence of their use indicates that they can lead to a 50% reduction in collections, and sometimes more, because the sensor removes the need to check on a bin to see whether it needs emptying.

## Policy LS7

**To build a strong sense of civic pride where people care about the environment of where they live and the outdoor locations, including streets and open spaces, they visit.**

We will:

- support and encourage people sharing their experience of what works to reduce littering
  - We understand from our public consultation that community priorities and expectations vary, and that different communities face different challenges in developing their own solutions to local litter problems. A range of different tools and approaches will be needed to tap into their enthusiasm and energy, and help willing volunteers access opportunities to get involved
- Focus on what works
  - We spend thousands of pounds per year on tackling litter and fly tipping, and we need to choose the most cost-effective combination of approaches to tackle the litter problems facing our communities. That means that we need to make continuous improvements in our understanding of 'what works'. We need to try out and evaluate new ways of doing things, and we also need to test and refine existing approaches. Even where we do know for sure that certain approaches do work in a particular context, we still need to consider whether they are cost-effective, or practical, for widespread or long-term implementation.
- create roles that can be undertaken by community organisations and individuals

## Policy LS8

**To continue our zero-tolerance approach to littering, fly tipping and dog fouling, using our enforcement capability to issue on the spot fixed penalty notice (FPN) fines<sup>9</sup> and to undertake targeted investigations and enforcement action, including prosecution, in accordance with our corporate Enforcement Policy.**

We will:

- take appropriate enforcement action<sup>10</sup> when we have evidence to suggest an offence has been committed this may lead to the issuing of a fine or prosecution (not in all circumstances)
- issue fixed penalties for littering and small-scale fly-tipping offences
  - There may be a fine line between littering and small-scale fly-tipping, although fly-tipping is often associated with a desire to avoid the legitimate costs of waste-disposal. The deposit of a single black plastic sack of rubbish should usually be considered a littering offence, rather than fly tipping.
  - A fixed penalty notice will not be an appropriate sanction for operators in the waste management industry, repeat offenders or those responsible for large scale fly-tipping or the fly-tipping of hazardous waste. We will continue to use existing prosecution powers, which may lead to unlimited fines or imprisonment
- promote transparency and accurate reporting of enforcement action against littering, so that offenders know they will be punished if they are caught
  - Research has found that “people who have seen or heard about fixed penalty notices being issued via local media are significantly more likely to think they are effective” and that “attitudes to enforcement are greatly shaped by the degree to which an individual sees them as a threat – and many do not think it is likely they will be fined for environmental offences”
- public awareness of responsible enforcement activity and the seriousness with which these offences are viewed may also help to reinforce the social norm against littering and other environmental ‘incivilities’
- acknowledge people who are doing the right thing  
continue working with stakeholders to tackle fly-tipping and litter hotspots, including through use of re-deployable CCTV cameras to capture evidence and serve as a deterrent.

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<sup>9</sup> Fixed penalties for flytipping are only applicable to ‘small-scale’ incidents

<sup>10</sup> Corporate Enforcement Policy – October 2022

<https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/3837/corporate-enforcement-policy.pdf>

## Policy LS9

### **To continue our work to ensure the Litter Strategy contributes to achieving the Council's target of achieving Net Zero Carbon by 2030**

We will

- Achieve accreditation of ISO14001 <sup>11</sup>to ensure we assess the performance standards to achieve net zero carbon for any service configuration.
- Review our bin designs and associated emptying schedules and routes to minimise vehicle movements and miles travelled.
- Review our fleet requirements to find a 'best fit' to achieve the Strategy vision, including use of ultra-low emission/ electric vehicles and bikes/ cargo bikes, where operationally viable

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<sup>11</sup> Part of the ISO 14000 family of international standards which provide guidelines for organisations looking to manage their environmental impact, ISO 14001 is the accreditation that helps you design and implement an EMS. The framework is designed to measure and improve the way organisations use and dispose of natural resources as well as reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

## **Part 4:**

### **Action Plan**

The following action plan captures all the stakeholder concerns and issues identified during the development phase of the Strategy. The action plan further shows how the research recommendations have influenced the Strategy policies and finally what key actions are required to achieve the Strategy<sup>12</sup>.

Refer to Appendix B of the Scrutiny Report

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<sup>12</sup> It is expected that the Action will be continually updated and is a 'working document'. It is our intention to seek input from lead organisations such as Keep Britain Tidy to aide and assist with identifying and designing appropriate actions and advising on best practice.



# Litter Strategy Action Plan



#	Issue Type	Issue identified during development	Research Solution/ Tasks identified	Evidenced from	Research Recommendations	Policy to support recommendation	Key actions to achieve Strategy vision	Timescales	Lead Officer
1	Awareness	Uncertainty on correct disposal methods	Programme of publicity and campaigns	Public Consultation	Working with the Communication and Community Engagement Teams, to raise awareness of the correct methods for litter and waste disposal	<b>LS3</b> To continue and establish partnership working with organisations, communities, schools, and businesses, to extend the capacity for action to address the problems of litter, fly tipping and dog waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help communities to clear up litter in their local areas</li> <li>• Continue with education support to schools and other organisations on responsible waste management.</li> <li>• Assist an encourage businesses to work with others to deal with local litter problems</li> </ul>	This is an ongoing requirement	Community Engagement and Enforcement Manager
2	Awareness	Dog waste bins and whether we need separate bin offers for general waste	To educate dog walkers that dog waste can be disposed of in general litter bins.	Public Consultation & TFG	To review all bin types, their locations and intended purpose	<b>LS3</b> To continue and extend partnership working with all sections of the community, including residents, businesses, and education establishments, to extend the capacity for action to address the problems of litter, fly tipping and dog waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the level of knowledge around being able to use litter bins for dog waste, including review of signage needs on litter bins to inform that dog waste and general litter can be disposed of in those bins</li> </ul>	Item for 2023/24 then ongoing	Community Engagement and Enforcement Manager
3	Awareness	Cross contamination of waste streams	Signage at the point of disposal along with regular promotion (quarterly) on the correct ways to recycle and dispose of waste	Public Consultation & TFG	Working with the Communication and Community Engagement Teams, to raise awareness of the correct methods for litter and waste disposal	<b>LS5</b> To expand the concept of recycling beyond the domestic collection with greater provision for recycling 'on the go' and preparing for future deposit return schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review recycling receptacles in public spaces - we want to support people being able to recycle more and to encourage people to recycle 'on the go'. Standard litter bins often do not provide people with the opportunity to separate different types of waste materials for recycling, nor to easily understand what waste goes in what bin, something which is already done as part of the kerbside recycling service.</li> <li>• The types of litter commonly dropped will vary depending on the area involved and so receptacles may have to be tailored to the needs of the location</li> <li>• Encourage business support for recycling; this could include promotion, or sponsorship of bins.</li> </ul>	Item for 2023 then an ongoing need	Litter Strategy Project Team and Shared Waste Service

#	Issue Type	Issue identified during development	Research Solution/ Tasks identified	Evidenced from	Research Recommendations	Policy to support recommendation	Key actions to achieve Strategy vision	Timescales	Lead Officer
4	Awareness	Low levels of awareness of online reporting	Promotion on social media/ newspapers and newsletter	Public Consultation	Working with the Communication and Customers Services teams to encourage online reporting of litter, littering and hotspots	<b>LS1</b> To continue to manage our services to ensure that litter problems do not build up and develop a city-wide culture where it is unacceptable to drop or leave litter lying in the environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide an easy system for the public to report instances of littering</li> <li>• Initiate targeted awareness campaigns to address know littering problems</li> <li>• Include dog-fouling in our definition of litter and promote ways of dealing with it</li> </ul>	A campaign item for 23/24 then review.	Communications Team and Community Engagement Lead
5	Awareness	Reporting of overflowing bins	Use of QR codes and online reporting	Public Consultation	Working with the Communication and Community Engagement Teams, to raise awareness of the correct methods for litter and waste disposal	<b>LS1</b> To continue to manage our services to ensure that litter problems do not build up and develop a city-wide culture where it is unacceptable to drop or leave litter lying in the environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate cause of overflowing bins and implement required remedial action, such as increased size of bin/ frequency of emptying</li> <li>• Continue to provide an easy system for the public to report instances of littering</li> <li>• Initiate targeted awareness campaigns to address know littering problems</li> <li>• Include dog-fouling in our definition of litter and promote ways of dealing with it.</li> </ul>	A campaign item for 23/24 then review.	Litter Strategy Project Team
6	Awareness	General lack of awareness of littering issues	Reduce the proportion of people who drop litter	Public Consultation	Develop an awareness campaign linked to National Initiatives	<b>LS7</b> To build a strong sense of community pride where people care about the environment of where they live and the outdoor locations, including streets and open spaces, they visit..	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support and encourage people sharing their experience of what works to reduce littering</li> <li>• An annual campaign to raise awareness of litter issues linked to The Great British Spring Clean national campaign.</li> <li>• Create roles that can be undertaken by community organisations and individuals</li> </ul>	This is an ongoing requirement	Communications Team and Community Engagement and Enforcement Manager
6a	Awareness	General lack of awareness of littering issues	Reduce the proportion of people who drop litter	Public Consultation	Develop an awareness campaign linked to National Initiatives	<b>LS3</b> To continue and establish partnership working with organisations, communities, schools, and businesses, to extend the capacity for action to address the problems of litter, fly tipping and dog waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with partners to run anti-litter campaigns</li> <li>• Help communities to clear up litter in their local areas</li> <li>• Continue to recruit and manage litter-picking volunteers.</li> <li>• Make sure that we support schools and other organisations in teaching about litter</li> <li>• Making it easy to dispose of litter</li> </ul>	This is an ongoing requirement	Communications Team and Community Engagement and Enforcement Manager

#	Issue Type	Issue identified during development	Research Solution/ Tasks identified	Evidenced from	Research Recommendations	Policy to support recommendation	Key actions to achieve Strategy vision	Timescales	Lead Officer
6b	Awareness	General lack of awareness of littering issues	Reduce the proportion of people who drop litter	Public Consultation	Develop an awareness campaign linked to National Initiatives	<b>LS5</b> To expand the concept of recycling beyond the domestic collection with greater provision for recycling 'on the go' and preparing for future deposit return schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review recycling receptacles in public spaces</li> <li>Encourage business support for recycling; this could include promotion, or sponsorship of bins</li> </ul>	Review in 2024 and then an ongoing requirement	Operations Manager And Litter Strategy Project Team
7	Awareness	Establish University/ College contacts	Develop and discuss a joint approach to tackling litter and waste	Public Consultation	To work with the University to find collaborative solutions to reduce litter and waste	<b>LS3</b> To continue and establish partnership working with organisations, communities, schools, and businesses, to extend the capacity for action to address the problems of litter, fly tipping and dog waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assist and encourage Universities and Colleges to work with others to deal with local litter problems</li> </ul>	Item for 2023 then an ongoing need	Community Engagement and Enforcement Manager
8	Awareness	General lack of awareness of littering issues	Poster campaigns and use of social media	Public Consultation	Working with the Communication and Community Engagement Teams, to raise awareness of the correct methods for litter and waste disposal	<b>LS3</b> To continue and establish partnership working with organisations, communities, schools, and businesses, to extend the capacity for action to address the problems of litter, fly tipping and dog waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>With partners run anti-litter campaigns and take part in national campaigns (i.e., Great British Spring Clean)</li> <li>Devise and operate poster and social media campaigns</li> </ul>	Item for 2023 then an ongoing need	Communications Team and Litter Strategy Project Team
9	Enforcement	Circumstances where enforcement is required and warranted	To review and establish a range of enforcement options to be included in the Strategy to include court fines, on the spot fines, and communal litter picks	Public Consultation	To maintain an enforcement policy for tackling litter and waste	<b>LS8</b> To continue our zero-tolerance approach to littering, fly tipping and dog fouling, using our enforcement capability to issue on the spot fixed penalty notice (FPN) fines and to undertake targeted investigations and enforcement action, including	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>take appropriate enforcement action when we have evidence to suggest an offence has been committed this may lead to the issuing of a fine or prosecution (not in all circumstances)</li> <li>issue fixed penalties for littering and small-scale fly-tipping offences</li> <li>promote transparency and accurate reporting of enforcement action against littering, so that offenders know they will be punished if they are caught</li> <li>public awareness of responsible enforcement activity and the seriousness with which these offences are viewed may</li> </ul>	An ongoing item	Community Engagement and Enforcement Manager

#	Issue Type	Issue identified during development	Research Solution/ Tasks identified	Evidenced from	Research Recommendations	Policy to support recommendation	Key actions to achieve Strategy vision	Timescales	Lead Officer
						prosecution, in accordance with our corporate Enforcement Policy	<p>also help to reinforce the social norm against littering and other environmental 'incivilities'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• acknowledge people who are doing the right thing</li> <li>• continue working with stakeholders to tackle fly-tipping and litter hotspots, including through use of re-deployable CCTV cameras to capture evidence and serve as a deterrent</li> <li>• Have a PSPO in place to deal with dog fouling (among other dog control offences) and review it as required by law</li> <li>• Increase fixed penalty levels to the maximum as and when available (subject to scrutiny committee sign off)</li> <li>• Consider PSPOs for wider offences that link to littering behaviour (i.e., barbecues on open spaces) as appropriate</li> </ul>		
10	Operational	Multiple bin types, poor design, difficult to service and often in wrong locations	Review of bin type and locations to ensure right bin, right location	Task and Finish Groups (TFG)	To review all bin types, their locations and intended purpose	<b>LS4</b> To establish a system of ongoing audit and review to ensure our streets and open spaces waste management service, including its associated bin infrastructure, cleansing systems and community engagement and enforcement activity is continuously improving, in terms of its efficiency and effectiveness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertake a baseline assessment of our public space bins in terms of design and location with recommendations on those to be removed, retained and/ or replaced bins, litter, disposal behaviour and public perception.</li> <li>• Monitor the placement, design effectiveness and condition of bins.</li> <li>• Remove, replace, and refurbish bins as informed by baseline assessment and monitoring findings.</li> <li>• Review schedules for emptying bins and ensure means of adapting where extra or fewer collections are needed.</li> </ul>	Item for 2023 then a periodic review	<p>Litter Strategy Project Team includes</p> <p>Operations Manager, Commercial Manager, Community Engagement and Enforcement Manager, Development Manager, Asset Manager and Technical Support Officer</p>
10a	Operational	Multiple bin types, poor design, difficult to service and often in wrong locations	Review of bin type and locations to ensure right bin, right location	Task and Finish Groups (TFG)	To review all bin types, their locations and intended purpose	<b>LS5</b> To expand the concept of recycling beyond the domestic collection with greater provision for recycling 'on the go' and preparing for future deposit return schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review recycling receptacles in public spaces</li> <li>• Locating units in areas of highest footfall, where most waste is likely to occur</li> <li>• Encourage business support for recycling</li> </ul>	Item for 2023 then a periodic review	Litter Strategy Project Team

#	Issue Type	Issue identified during development	Research Solution/ Tasks identified	Evidenced from	Research Recommendations	Policy to support recommendation	Key actions to achieve Strategy vision	Timescales	Lead Officer
11	Operational	A range of 'hot spot' sites where littering has been identified as a strategic issue	Monitor and review known litter hotspots	Public Consultation & TFG	Work with stakeholders to find solutions achievable through the proposed Strategy	<b>LS1</b> To continue to manage our services to ensure that litter problems do not build up and develop a city-wide culture where it is unacceptable to drop or leave litter lying in the environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake targeted operations, including cleansing, engagement and enforcement supported by communications campaign to target 'hot spots'</li> <li>Continue to provide an easy system for the public to report instances of littering.</li> <li>Review and maintain the long list of 'hot spots' where issues have been identified and operations targeted</li> </ul>	Item for 2023 then a periodic review	Operations Manager/ Team Leaders and Community Engagement and Enforcement Manager
12	Operational	Service alignment to new Vision/ Policies	Review service standards to ensure a) they meet the needs of the community and b) whether they are deliverable	Research	To review and set new service standards aligned to the Service Vision	<b>LS2</b> To continue to build a knowledge base and understanding around litter and sources of litter to inform, direct, and drive all service activity and maximise our effectiveness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue our work with Greater Cambridge Shared Waste service to examine the causes of littering, and so help us find solutions to deal with littering problems at source.</li> </ul>	Item for 2023 then a periodic review	Litter Strategy Project Team and Shared Waste Service
12a	Operational	Service alignment to new Vision/ Policies	Review service standards to ensure a) they meet the needs of the community and b) whether they are deliverable	Research	To set new service standards aligned to the Service Vision	<b>LS4</b> To establish a system of ongoing audit and review to ensure our streets and open spaces waste management service, including its associated infrastructure, systems and engagement and enforcement activity is continuously improving, in terms of its efficiency and effectiveness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure we monitor the placement effectiveness and condition of bins.</li> <li>Review schedules for emptying bins and ensure means of adapting where extra or fewer collections are needed</li> <li>The emptying of litter and recycling bins must be sufficiently frequent to ensure that no litter bin or its contents becomes a nuisance or gives reasonable grounds for complaint</li> <li>Make it as easy as possible for people to dispose of their rubbish properly</li> <li>Undertake performance benchmarking against comparator authorities</li> </ul>	Item for 2023 then a periodic review	Litter Strategy Project Team
13	Operational	Levels of administrative support for the Service	Consider the formal allocation of an administrative post to support the streets and open spaces service.	Research and TFG	To ensure the Litter Strategy is resourced and achievable	<b>LS4</b> To establish a system of ongoing audit and review to ensure our streets and open spaces waste management service, including its associated infrastructure, systems and engagement and enforcement activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use of the Technical Support Officer role created in the 2022 review of Streets and Open Space Development Team</li> </ul>	Item for 2023 then a periodic review	Litter Strategy Project Team



#	Issue Type	Issue identified during development	Research Solution/ Tasks identified	Evidenced from	Research Recommendations	Policy to support recommendation	Key actions to achieve Strategy vision	Timescales	Lead Officer
						is continuously improving, in terms of its efficiency and effectiveness.			
14	Operational	Various bin types, poor design, difficult to service and often in wrong locations	Additional containers, if required, should be appropriately labelled and be in keeping with the local environment	Research	Implement new methods of working to include bin locations, bin types and frequency of visits	<b>LS4</b> To establish a system of ongoing audit and review to ensure our streets and open spaces waste management service, including its associated infrastructure, systems and engagement and enforcement activity is continuously improving, in terms of its efficiency and effectiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review bins, location and serviceability and create recommendations on a new suite of bins.</li> <li>• Review schedules for emptying bins and ensure means of adapting where extra or fewer collections are needed</li> </ul>	Item for 2023 then a periodic review	Litter Strategy Project Team
15	Operational	Various bin types, poor design, difficult to service and often in wrong locations	Consider the emptying frequency and methodology for litter bin emptying in the city centre. The Litter press collects c.200t per year on average and tips generally only every 3-4 days which makes the vehicle size excessive from a capacity perspective. Consideration should be given to a smaller vehicle with sufficient capacity that can more easily	Research	Implement new methods of working to include bin locations, bin types and frequency of visits	<b>LS4</b> To establish a system of ongoing audit and review to ensure our streets and open spaces waste management service, including its associated infrastructure, systems and engagement and enforcement activity is continuously improving, in terms of its efficiency and effectiveness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review routes and rounds for our equipment, the fleet used and appropriateness for the locations it visits.</li> <li>• Ensure we monitor the placement effectiveness and condition of bins.</li> <li>• Review schedules for emptying bins and ensure means of adapting where extra or fewer collections are needed</li> <li>• The emptying of litter and recycling bins must be sufficiently frequent to ensure that no litter bin or its contents becomes a nuisance or gives reasonable grounds for complaint</li> </ul>	Item for 2023 then a periodic review	Litter Strategy Project Team

#	Issue Type	Issue identified during development	Research Solution/ Tasks identified	Evidenced from	Research Recommendations	Policy to support recommendation	Key actions to achieve Strategy vision	Timescales	Lead Officer
			access all areas.						
16	Operational	Various bin types, poor design, difficult to service and often in wrong locations	Consider methodologies for improved separation in the caged tippers to minimise the requirement for manual handling of recyclables	Research	Implement new methods of working to include bin locations, bin types and frequency of visits	<b>LS4</b> To establish a system of ongoing audit and review to ensure our streets and open spaces waste management service, including its associated infrastructure, systems and engagement and enforcement activity is continuously improving, in terms of its efficiency and effectiveness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review our collection methods to avoid double handling of recyclables.</li> </ul>	Item for 2023/24 then a periodic review	Operations Manager
16a	Operational	Various bin types, poor design, difficult to service and often in wrong locations	Consider methodologies for improved separation in the caged tippers to minimise the requirement for manual handling of recyclables	Research	Implement new methods of working to include bin locations, bin types and frequency of visits	<b>LS9</b> Continue our work to ensure the Litter Strategy contributes to achieving the vision to achieve Net Zero Carbon by 2030	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review our fleet requirements to find a 'best fit' to achieve the Strategy vision, including use of ultra-low emission/ electric vehicles and bikes/ cargo bikes, where operationally viable</li> </ul>	Item for 2023/24 then a periodic review	Litter Strategy Project Team
17	Operational	Commercial/ domestic waste sacks being put out at wrong time/ place in city centre	Consideration should be given to the implementation of time-banding for commercial (and domestic) waste in parts of the city centre. This means that commercial and domestic properties within a	Research	Work with stakeholders to find solutions achievable through the proposed Strategy	<b>LS8</b> To continue our zero-tolerance approach to littering, fly tipping and dog fouling, using our enforcement capability to issue on the spot fixed penalty notice (FPN) fines and to undertake targeted investigations and enforcement action, including prosecution, in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate and make recommendations on the implementation of time banding.</li> <li>Introducing unique referencing system on city centre waste sacks, so can identify to who the sack belongs</li> <li>Introducing an additional commercial waste sack collection service in early evening</li> <li>Review 'on street' commercial bin storage in city centre and identify suitable alternative management arrangements</li> <li>Incorporate commercial waste disposal needs as part of any new strategic bin/ waste management system in city centre</li> </ul>	Item for 2023/24 then a periodic review	Operations Manager and Community Engagement and Enforcement Manager and Shared Waste Team



#	Issue Type	Issue identified during development	Research Solution/ Tasks identified	Evidenced from	Research Recommendations	Policy to support recommendation	Key actions to achieve Strategy vision	Timescales	Lead Officer
			prescribed zone are limited to presenting their waste to agreed collection days and time-windows			accordance with our corporate Enforcement Policy			
18	Operational	Service performance, monitoring and reporting	To make best use of the technology available and work with the supplier to develop routes/ rounds and reporting tools	Research	To set new service standards aligned to the Service Vision	<b>LS1</b> To continue to manage our services to ensure that litter problems do not build up and develop a city-wide culture where it is unacceptable to drop or leave litter lying in the environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate and make recommendations on IT investments to achieve the Strategy vision, including an appraisal of the current IT Systems and fitness for purpose</li> </ul>	Item for 2023 then an ongoing need	Litter Strategy Project Team
19	Operational	Reporting of overflowing bins	Review the process mapping to understand the reporting a litter or waste issue to ensure it is simple and straightforward for all audiences. This could be done working with residents who have participated in the focus group and want to take an active role.	Public Consultation	Working with the Communication and Customers Services teams to encourage online reporting	<b>LS1</b> To continue to manage our services to ensure that litter problems do not build up and develop a city-wide culture where it is unacceptable to drop or leave litter lying in the environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create and continue to provide an easy system for the public to report instances of littering</li> </ul>	2023 and annual review	Litter Strategy Project Team And Customer Access Centre

#	Issue Type	Issue identified during development	Research Solution/ Tasks identified	Evidenced from	Research Recommendations	Policy to support recommendation	Key actions to achieve Strategy vision	Timescales	Lead Officer
20	Operational	Breakdowns and fleet management	Consider an alternative approach to the provision of the mechanical sweeping equipment to minimise downtime and improve the robustness of the service because of mechanical failure.	Research and TFG	To review fleet to improve service reliability and provide flexibility in terms of more sustainable, zero emission equipment type moving forwards	<b>LS9</b> Continue our work to ensure the Litter Strategy contributes to achieving the vision to achieve Net Zero Carbon by 2030	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review our fleet, its age, appropriateness for the intend use.</li> <li>Review our servicing arrangements and availability of parts and service items</li> </ul>	Item for 2023 then an ongoing need	Operations Manager
21	Operational	Vehicle movements in the city	Consider the methodology for litter bin emptying in the city centre.	Research	To review collection methodologies	<b>LS9</b> Continue our work to ensure the Litter Strategy contributes to achieving the vision to achieve Net Zero Carbon by 2030	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Achieve accreditation of ISO14001 to ensure we assess the performance standards to achieve net zero carbon for any service configuration.</li> <li>Review our bin designs and associated emptying schedules and routes to minimise vehicle movements and miles travelled.</li> <li>Review our fleet requirements to find a 'best fit' to achieve the Strategy vision, including use of ultra-low emission/ electric vehicles and bikes/ cargo bikes, where operationally viable</li> </ul>	Item for 2023 then an ongoing need	Litter Strategy Project Team
22	Operational	Servicing of the Market Square	Review along with the long list of hotspots where issues have been identified	Research	Work with stakeholders to find solutions achievable through the proposed Strategy	<b>LS6</b> To practically engage with local businesses, organisations, and residents to empower, support and them in positive partnership action to address litter, fly tipping and dog waste problems.	<p>Continue to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with the market traders</li> <li>work with communities to decide where bins should be placed, what types to use and how many are needed.</li> <li>We will consider all relevant guidance when taking decisions on the type and position of litter bins.</li> </ul>	Item for 2023/24 then an ongoing need	Litter Strategy Project Team and Markets Manager

#	Issue Type	Issue identified during development	Research Solution/ Tasks identified	Evidenced from	Research Recommendations	Policy to support recommendation	Key actions to achieve Strategy vision	Timescales	Lead Officer
23	Operational	Various bin types, poor design, difficult to service and often in wrong locations	Consistent approach to container type in the city centre and suburban areas. These need to be of sufficient capacity to cope with peaks in litter production with additional containment required in exceptional circumstances. Fewer larger containers, require fewer 'lifts' in terms of emptying thus reducing vehicle movements and associated financial and environmental costs	Research ad TFG	Implement new methods of working to include bin locations, bin types and frequency of visits	<b>LS4</b> To establish a system of ongoing audit and review to ensure our streets and open spaces waste management service, including its associated infrastructure, systems and engagement and enforcement activity is continuously improving, in terms of its efficiency and effectiveness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure we monitor the placement effectiveness and condition of bins.</li> <li>• Review schedules for emptying bins and ensure means of adapting where extra or fewer collections are needed</li> <li>• The emptying of litter and recycling bins must be sufficiently frequent to ensure that no litter bin or its contents becomes a nuisance or gives reasonable grounds for complaint</li> <li>• Make it as easy as possible for people to dispose of their rubbish properly</li> <li>• Undertake performance benchmarking against comparator authorities</li> <li>• Undertake internal surveying of street cleansing and utilise results to identify areas of improvement and best practice</li> </ul>	Item for 2023 then an ongoing need	Litter Strategy Project Team
24	Operational	Fly tipping of commercial waste	Consideration should be given to the implementation of time-banding for commercial (and domestic) waste in parts of the city centre. This means that commercial and domestic properties within a prescribed zone are limited to presenting	Research	Work with stakeholders to find solutions achievable through the proposed Strategy	<b>LS8</b> To continue our zero-tolerance approach to littering, fly tipping and dog fouling, using our enforcement capability to issue on the spot fixed penalty notice (FPN) fines and to undertake targeted investigations and enforcement action, including prosecution, in accordance with our corporate Enforcement Policy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate and make recommendations on the implementation of time banding.</li> </ul>	Item for 2023/24 then an ongoing need	Operations Manager and Community Engagement and Enforcement Manager

#	Issue Type	Issue identified during development	Research Solution/ Tasks identified	Evidenced from	Research Recommendations	Policy to support recommendation	Key actions to achieve Strategy vision	Timescales	Lead Officer
			their waste to agreed collection days and time-windows						
25	Volunteering	Co-ordinate volunteer help and their activities	Create a Litter Volunteer Group Stakeholder Directory and Network, contacting all existing groups that have been identified in this survey to understand how they work and where they work.	Public Consultation	Develop and promote the volunteering opportunities	<b>LS3</b> To continue and establish partnership working with organisations, communities, schools, and businesses, to extend the capacity for action to address the problems of litter, fly tipping and dog waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep an up-to-date stakeholder directory to communicate with volunteers</li> <li>• Invest in volunteer management software to increase recruitment, retention, and management of volunteers</li> </ul>	Ongoing work	Community Engagement and Enforcement Manager
26	Working with others	Business partners should be identified to discuss and test ways of working together to reduce litter and waste	Identify potential partners to take the work forward such as Cambridge BID	Public Consultation	To work with local business to find collaborative solutions to reduce litter and waste	<b>LS6</b> To practically engage with local businesses, organisations, and residents to empower and support them in positive partnership action to address litter, fly tipping and dog waste problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with businesses to ensure they have the right facilities and support to manage waste on their premises</li> </ul>	Item for 2023 then an ongoing need	Litter Strategy Project Team
27	Working with others	Make lasting connections with schools	Develop an education package that schools can use with pupils to raise awareness of and educate on the issues of litter	Public Consultation	Work with schools to encourage schools and their pupils to take part in community clean-up days <sup>1</sup> , and provide an education package resource	<b>LS3</b> To continue and establish partnership working with organisations, communities, schools, and businesses, to extend the capacity for action to address the problems of litter, fly tipping and dog waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education support to schools and other organisations on responsible waste management</li> <li>• Visit and make sure that we support schools and other organisations and groups in teaching about litter through use of the Eco-Schools program.</li> </ul>	Ongoing work	Community Engagement and Enforcement Manager

<sup>1</sup> Subject to BST item that ends in 2024

#	Issue Type	Issue identified during development	Research Solution/ Tasks identified	Evidenced from	Research Recommendations	Policy to support recommendation	Key actions to achieve Strategy vision	Timescales	Lead Officer
28	Working with others	A range of sites where littering and waste are a known problem	Identify the main contributors of litter in the City and bring together for a focussed discussion on options to address litter issues, working together more closely with the council and communities	Public Consultation	To work with local business to find collaborative solutions to reduce litter and waste	<b>LS4</b> To establish a system of ongoing audit and review to ensure our streets and open spaces waste management service, including its associated infrastructure, systems and engagement and enforcement activity is continuously improving, in terms of its efficiency and effectiveness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure we monitor the placement effectiveness and condition of bins.</li> <li>• Review schedules for emptying bins and ensure means of adapting where extra or fewer collections are needed</li> <li>• The emptying of litter and recycling bins must be sufficiently frequent to ensure that no litter bin or its contents becomes a nuisance or gives reasonable grounds for complaint</li> <li>• Make it as easy as possible for people to dispose of their rubbish properly</li> <li>• Undertake performance benchmarking against comparator authorities.</li> </ul>	Ongoing work	Litter Strategy Project Team
29	Working with others	Learning from best practice	To review and follow up good practice generated from this research work	Public Consultation	To develop new ways of working, innovation, and collaboration	<b>LS4</b> To establish a system of ongoing audit and review to ensure our streets and open spaces waste management service, including its associated infrastructure, systems and engagement and enforcement activity is continuously improving, in terms of its efficiency and effectiveness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertake performance benchmarking against comparator authorities</li> <li>• Collaborate with Keep Britain Tidy to review this action plan</li> </ul>	Annual ongoing work	Litter Strategy Project Team
30	Working with others	Stakeholder and resident engagement	The possibility of a Citizens Panel or use of Area Committees to report on service performance	Public Consultation	To develop new ways of working, innovation, and collaboration	<b>LS4</b> To establish a system of ongoing audit and review to ensure our streets and open spaces waste management service, including its associated infrastructure, systems and engagement and enforcement activity is continuously improving, in terms of its efficiency and effectiveness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• produce Environmental Reports for Area Committee after a review of content, frequency and information required and whether there is a need for any decision-making requirements.</li> </ul>	Item for 2023 then an ongoing need	Litter Strategy Project Team

#	Issue Type	Issue identified during development	Research Solution/ Tasks identified	Evidenced from	Research Recommendations	Policy to support recommendation	Key actions to achieve Strategy vision	Timescales	Lead Officer
31	Strategic and Operational	Need to review and understand lessons learned	Annual review	Good Practice	Review with Peers such as Keep Britain Tidy or others	For Cambridge to be a city which is free of litter, fly-tipping, and dog waste.	Review and updated of the Action Plan	Ongoing work	Litter Strategy Project Team

## Appendix C



# Cambridge City Litter Strategy Consultation Public Survey Report





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## INTRODUCTION

Cambridge City Council is developing a Litter Strategy and Action Plan which will be informed by the staff and public consultation that ran from March to August 2021.

The consultation used a mixed methodology to engage with stakeholders including:

- A workshop with staff and contractors to understand operational needs and issues and develop options for future delivery.
- **A city-wide survey to understand behaviours and opinions, and test options.**
- A stakeholder focus group using the survey to generate interest and identify participants.

Survey questions were informed and developed using information generated from project team discussions, the staff and contractor workshop, research, and feedback from a number of local authorities that have developed their own litter strategy. Draft questions were then tested on the following audiences:

- Community and Voluntary Sector representative.
- Minority Ethnic representative.
- Lay person.
- Waste Management/Street Cleansing Senior Manager (London).
- Falkirk Waste Management Officer (recently conducted their own litter survey).
- Huntingdonshire Litter Officer.

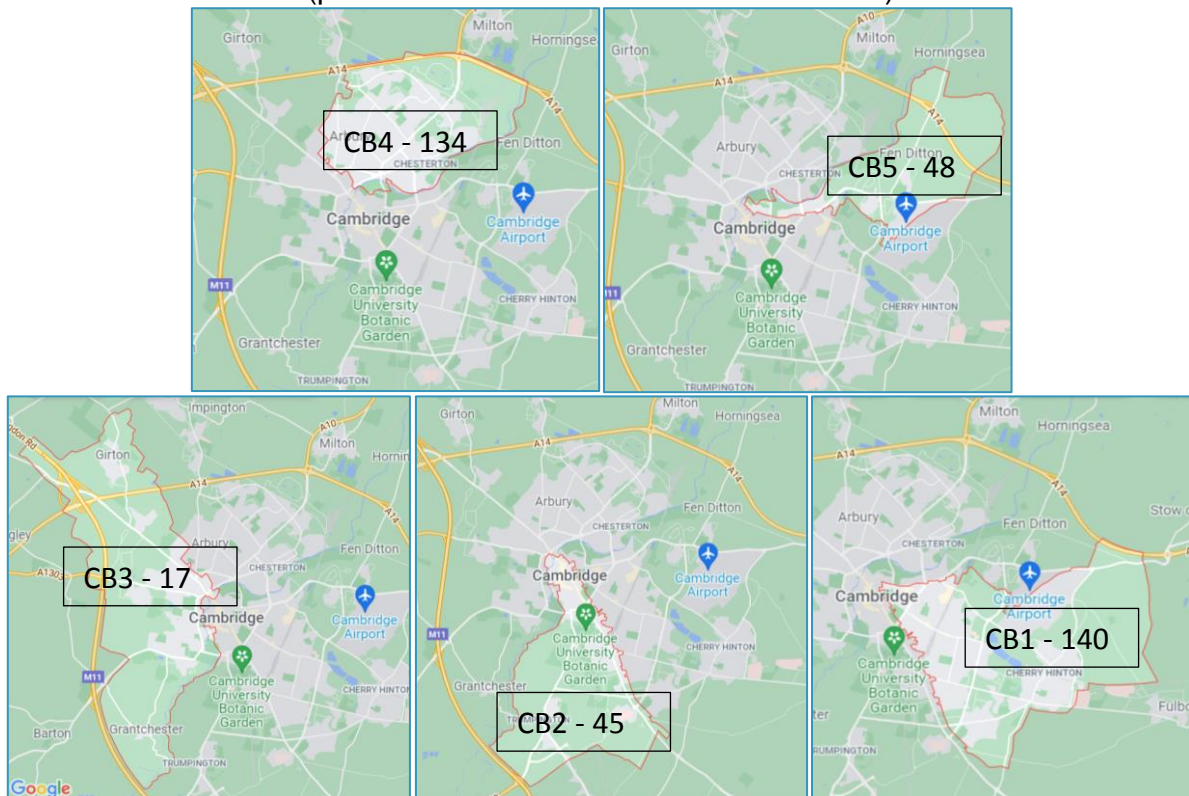
A Communication Plan was developed to promote the consultation and publicise the survey to ensure full saturation across the City. The survey ran for six weeks from 1<sup>st</sup> July to 15<sup>th</sup> August, with a £100 voucher offered to all residents who completed the survey, as an incentive.

This report provides a summary of the findings from the survey responses, with suggested actions to take forward. A Supplementary Document provides the full detail for survey responses.

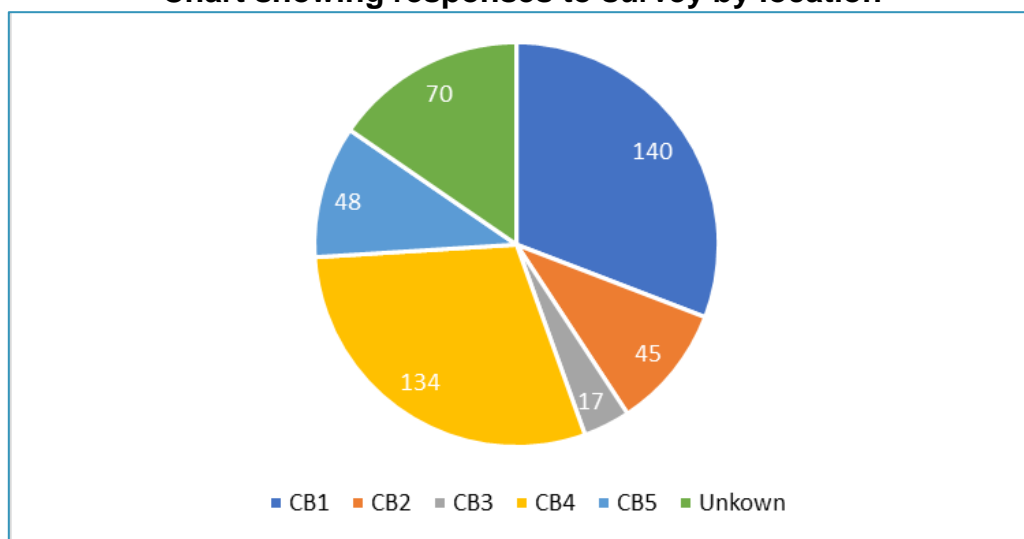
## SURVEY FINDINGS

In order to analyse the data, responses were categorised using the first three characters of each participants' postcode – CB1 (140 responses), CB2 (45 responses), CB3 (17 responses), CB4 (134 responses), CB5 (48 responses). In addition 70 responses did not identify a postcode and have been categorised as 'unknown'. Alongside these categories the data has been analysed in total and categorised as 'overall' (454 responses).

### Maps identifying geographical location of respondents (postcode catchment area outlines in red)



### Chart showing responses to survey by location



## DEMOGRAPHICS

The majority of respondents were residents, with some areas having responses from students, businesses, and 'other'. The 'unknown' category had the widest variation due to the lack of data from 57% of responses to this question.

**Table showing classification of respondent by postcode category and overall**

	<b>CB1</b>	<b>CB2</b>	<b>CB3</b>	<b>CB4</b>	<b>CB5</b>	<b>Unknown</b>	<b>Overall</b>
<b>Resident</b>	99%	89%	82%	99%	100%	40%	88%
<b>Student</b>	1%	0%	6%	0%	0%	1%	1%
<b>Tourist / Visitor</b>	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%
<b>Business</b>	0%	2%	12%	0%	0%	0%	1%
<b>Other</b>	1%	7%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%
<b>No response</b>	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	57%	9%

Responses were received from all **age ranges** with most responses received from 31-64 age range, then 65 and over age range. Residents with a **disability** ranged from 6% to 13 %, with CB3 and CB5 recording the highest levels – 13%.

## LITTER

When asked about **levels of concern about litter in the City** the majority response was 'very concerned' ranging between 60% for the unknown category to 76% in CB2, and 67% overall. The remainder were a little concerned ranging from 24% in CB2 to 36% in the unknown category, and 31% overall.

When respondents were asked about litter issues for specific areas, the majority of respondents felt that litter was 'an issue' rather than 'a serious issue' with some pockets where the majority felt it was 'a serious issue' – CB5 (local area), CB1/CB4/CB5 (parks and open spaces).

**Table showing levels of issue with litter for local areas, parks and open spaces, and City Centre, by postcode category and overall**

	Local Area	Parks and Open Spaces	City Centre
<b>CB1</b>	An issue (55%)	An issue (47%) A serious issue (45%)	An issue (54%)
<b>CB2</b>	An issue (58%)	An issue (58%)	An issue (51%)
<b>CB3</b>	An issue (59%)	An issue (65%)	An issue (65%)
<b>CB4</b>	An issue (56%)	A serious issue (51%) An issue (43%)	An issue (57%)
<b>CB5</b>	A serious issue (54%)	An issue (50%) A serious issue (46%)	An issue (60%)
<b>Unknown</b>	An issue (57%)	An issue (49%)	An issue (56%)
<b>Overall</b>	An issue (54%)	An issue (48%) A serious issue (45%)	An issue (56%)

For City Centre 26% of respondents overall felt that litter was not an issue. This was higher in CB2 respondents, with 40% reporting that litter was not an issue in the City Centre. In local areas on average 11% thought that litter was not an issue, and in parks and open spaces this dropped to 3% overall.

**Tables showing % response where litter is not an issue**

	Local Area	Parks and Open Spaces	City Centre
<b>CB1</b>	11%	2%	<b>23%</b>
<b>CB2</b>	13%	2%	<b>40%</b>
<b>CB3</b>	12%	6%	<b>24%</b>
<b>CB4</b>	13%	4%	<b>25%</b>
<b>CB5</b>	6%	2%	<b>23%</b>
<b>Unknown</b>	13%	4%	<b>29%</b>
<b>Overall</b>	11%	3%	<b>26%</b>

When asked about **types of litter** all types of litter were reported, with COVID-19 face masks and general litter being the most reported items across all areas, along with drinks cans and bottles in parks and open spaces. The least reported litter type in local areas and parks and open spaces was chewing gum, with fly tipping then dog mess being the least reported item in the City Centre.

**Table showing % of litter reported by type, with most reported items in bold**

	Local	Parks/Open Spaces	City Centre
Chewing Gum	17%	18%	43%
Cigarette Butts	50%	49%	52%
COVID-19 Facemasks	<b>78%</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>62%</b>
Takeaway Trays/Cutlery	55%	66%	54%
General Litter	<b>76%</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>63%</b>
Dog Mess	45%	46%	11%
Fly Tipping	47%	25%	6%
Pizza Boxes	35%	45%	30%
Drink Cans	69%	<b>78%</b>	52%
Drink Bottles	66%	<b>77%</b>	51%

When asked about **disposing of litter and the types of bins** used there was a wide range of responses (see table on page 9).

- Chewing gum and cigarette butts were disposed of in litter bins in greater numbers than recycling bins, with 25% (chewing gum) and 13% (cigarette butts) reporting that they take this litter home.
- Cigarette butts were disposed of in low levels for any bin (ranging from 1%-9%), with low levels reporting taking this litter home.
- Fast food trays/cutlery were disposed of in more equal numbers across litter and recycling bins (20-27%), with 35% taking this litter home.
- Drinks cans and bottles were disposed of in recycling bins in much greater numbers than in litter bins, with over 40% taking this litter home.
- Dog mess was disposed of in litter bins in greater numbers than recycling bins, with parks and open spaces litter bins being used the most. 16% reported to taking this litter home.
- Pizza boxes were disposed of in parks and open space recycling bins at greater levels than any other bins (26%).
- The majority of newspapers (40%) were taken home, with higher levels disposed of in recycling bins than litter bins.

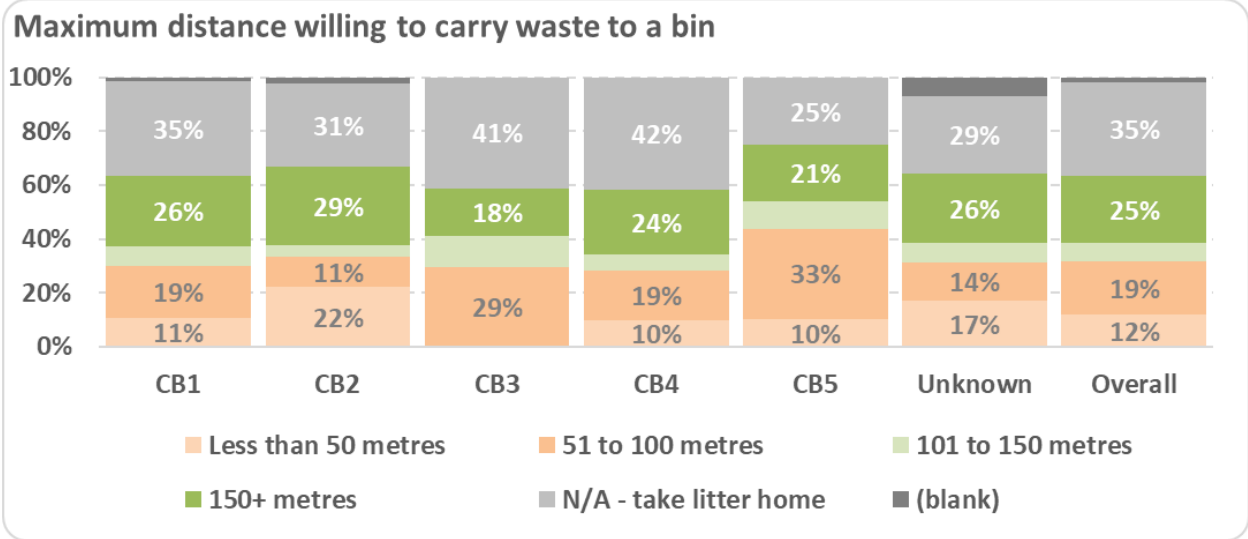
**Table showing types of bins used to dispose of litter, by location.**

	On Street		In Parks/Open Spaces		
	Litter Bins	Recycling Bins	Litter Bins	Recycling Bins	Take litter home
Chewing Gum	22%	6%	12%	5%	25%
Cigarette Butts	9%	1%	5%	1%	13%
Fast food trays/cutlery	27%	23%	20%	20%	35%
Drink Cans	15%	41%	13%	33%	42%
Drink Bottles	14%	40%	13%	30%	47%
Dog Mess	16%	2%	20%	4%	16%
Pizza Boxes	11%	7%	8%	26%	4%
Newspapers	4%	15%	3%	10%	40%

When asked about **distance willing to carry waste to a bin** there was a very mixed response, with the highest response rate stating that they were prepared to take their litter home (29%-42%).

Less than 50% of respondents knew they could put **dog waste and litter into the same bin**, with the exception of CB5 where 60% of respondents knew they could put both in the same bin.

**Graph showing maximum distance willing to travel to dispose of waste in a bin**



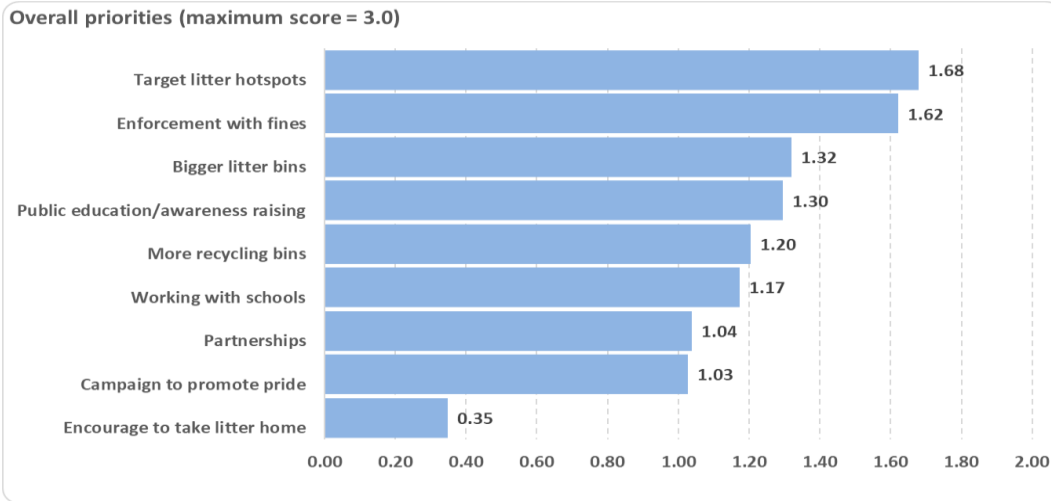
**Responding to Litter**

When asked about **actions to take against those who litter**, all actions were popular, with *community litter pick as an alternative to a fine* being the top option (93%), then *fixed penalty* (90%), *verbal warning/education* (86%), *court fine up to £2,500* (71%). *Taking no action* was not popular, only generating a 1% response.

When looking at **options for Reducing Litter** the top three choices were *targetting litter hotspots* (1.68 out of 3.00), *enforcement with fines* (1.62 out of 3.00), and *bigger litter bins* (1.32 out of 3.00). *Encouraging people to take their litter home* was ranked lowest (0.35 out of 3.00).

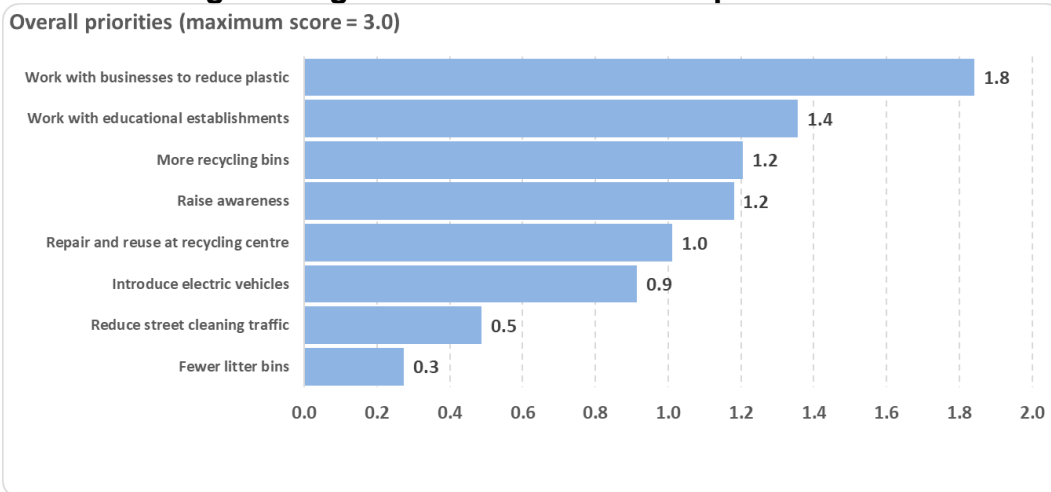
**Chart showing ranking scores for reducing litter options**





Ranking options for **working towards Zero Waste** identified *working with businesses to reduce plastic* (1.8 out of 3.0), *working with education establishments* (1.4 out of 3.0), *more recycling bins* (1.2 out of 3.0), and *raise awareness* (1.2 out of 3.0) as the top options. And *fewer litter bins* (0.3 out of 3.0) as the least popular.

### Chart showing rankings score for zero waste options



## STREET CLEANSING

When asked how often **streets were swept and cleaned of litter**, the majority of respondents did not know the detail but responded on whether they needed more attention or not. The data for the question **'is this enough'** also generally reflected these responses.

**Table showing responses by category on the need for more street cleansing**

	Don't know – needs more	Don't know – doesn't need more
<b>CB1</b>	<b>55%</b>	37%
<b>CB2</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>49%</b>
<b>CB3</b>	18%	<b>65%</b>
<b>CB4</b>	37%	<b>47%</b>
<b>CB5</b>	<b>58%</b>	31%
<b>Unknown</b>	21%	26%
<b>Overall</b>	<b>43%</b>	40%

When asked to **rate Street Cleansing Service performance** (see table on page 12), the responses for Excellent, Very Good and Good were combined and added to the number of OK responses to give a total figure for each area.

- Local Shopping Area – CB3 scored highest (82%) and CB4 lowest (63%).
- City Centre – CB3 and CB5 scored highest (83%) and CB4 lowest (71%).
- Parks and Open Spaces – CB1 scored highest (73%) and CB4 and CB5 lowest (64%).
- Residential Areas/Streets – CB3 scored highest (76%) and CB2 lowest (64%).
- Near Schools – CB2 scored highest (67%) and CB3 lowest (59%), and on average, areas near schools were reported to be of a lower standard than other locations.

[continued on next page]

**Table showing Street Cleansing Service performance rating (%) by postcode category and location**

		Local Shopping Area	City Centre	Parks and Open Spaces	Residential Areas/Streets	Near Schools
<b>CB1</b>	Good/Very Good/Excellent	30	41	38	26	20
	OK	44	35	35	42	44

	<b>Total</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>CB2</b>	Good/Very Good/Excellent	47	42	44	35	31
	OK	33	31	24	29	36
	<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>CB3</b>	Good/Very Good/Excellent	53	42	36	41	35
	OK	29	41	35	35	24
	<b>Total</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>CB4</b>	Good/Very Good/Excellent	27	34	33	32	24
	OK	36	37	31	38	39
	<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>CB5</b>	Good/Very Good/Excellent	38	50	29	35	31
	OK	46	33	35	31	35
	<b>Total</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>66</b>

Respondents were given free text capacity when responding to the question ‘**what could we do better**’. There were 230 responses to this question which were sorted into a number of categories summarised below, with the full text contained in the Supplementary Document.

1. Observations on current service – see Supplementary Document.
2. Bins – a variety of responses were received on frequency of emptying, specific areas, sizes, numbers, and types of bins – see Supplementary Document.
3. Requests for more of – staff, routes, collections, budgets – see Supplementary Document.
4. Education and Enforcement:
  - Establish which schools are high litter risk/hotspots and target those.
  - Use TV and campaigns to educate on bin use and encourage people to use the bins provided or take their litter home.
  - Use add Campaigns for dog mess and litter - ugly, disgusting, dangerous – why do you leave it? You pick it up.
  - Fines can generate an income for the council to use. Fine offenders amounts sufficient to pay for the removal of litter divided by the probability of them being caught.
  - Enforcement of local businesses to maintain the area around their properties to keep clean. Fine large takeaway companies and use money to clear the litter.
  - Something needs to be done about litter being thrown from cars roadside enforcement with on the fines, cameras, notices.
  - Signs to say you will be fined, use a penalty system, and publicise this to act as a deterrent along with on the spot fines.
  - Have undercover officers watching for litter offenders and issue on the spot fines.
5. Volunteering and Wardens:

- Encourage volunteers to litter pick in their residential areas - offer incentives; more community litter picks and not just at weekends, involving schools.
  - Green space litter wardens/marshals in parks and hotspots spots to enforce law on littering through fines, deal with antisocial behaviour and encourage people to take litter home. Have more input and patrolling at busier (seasonal) times, plus out of hours (e.g. summer evenings).
6. Suggestions on areas of improvement – see below.

### **Responses to ‘Areas for Improvement’**

- Aggressive clean-ups after known ‘problem’ periods; experiment with ways to target hot spots.
- Put pressure on local retailers to use fewer plastic containers; work with local fast food outlets to ensure patrons dispose of litter appropriately; identify hotspots for the dumping of take-away litter and work with vendors to reduce littering and clean regularly.
- Have a street cleaning service with a barrow and broom as in London; have flexible mobile litter picking rather than fixed days.
- Have more specialist collection points for electrical waste, clothes, etc. within walking distance of every house rather than requiring people to drive to Milton; make an area for people to put larger waste like furniture fridges, sofas, etc. who cannot drive to the recycling centres; restore the recycling centres that have been closed; Community Days for large items and local skips.
- Provide a facility whereby plastic bottles could be collected for money – to charity? Incentivise the public to do it themselves, or actually enforce the rules if they don’t.
- Make it easier to report fly tipping, and educate people on the use of the Clear Waste app.

### **HOTSPOTS**

When asked about Hot Spots in Local Areas and the City Centre, a large number of streets and locations were identified as single entry responses. The sites where multiple responses were recorded have been listed below with the Supplementary Document containing the detail for all responses. Jesus Green received the highest number of recorded responses in total.

**City Centre:** Market Area/Market Square – 56 responses; Jesus Green – 51 responses; Parkers Piece – 27 responses.

**CB1:** Cherry Hinton area – 23 responses; Coldhams Lane and Common – 8 responses.

**CB2:** There were no sites that ranked highly as hotspots; however, the following were identified in more than one response – Hill Road, High Street, Red Cross Lane, Addenbrookes Road, Trumpington Road, Clay Farm.

**CB3:** There were no sites that ranked highly as hotspots; however, the following were identified in more than one response – Grantchester Meadows, Lamma Land, Girton Road and Recreation Ground.

**CB4:** Jesus Green/Midsummer Common – 51 responses; Chesterton Street (shops and recreation ground) – 22 responses.

**CB5:** Newmarket Road/Barnwell Road/Wadloes (McDonalds and shops) – 26 responses; Fen Ditton, Ditton Fields, Ditton Lane, Ditton Meadows, Ditton Walk – 10 responses.

## RAISING AND RESPONDING TO ISSUES

Less than 40% of respondents were aware that litter and street cleansing issues can be raised using an online form (37% overall response rate).

When asked about using the online form, over 50% responded positively overall to their experience, with a rating as satisfied or very satisfied.

**Table showing % responding as satisfied or very satisfied with the online form**

	CB1	CB2	CB3*	CB4	CB5	Unknown	Overall
Ease of finding online form	59%	60%	-	41%	50%	50%	51%
Ease of use of online form	75%	60%	-	50%	46%	63%	57%
Amount of information required for online form	70%	60%	-	33%	64%	78%	57%
Relevance of questions for online form	73%	60%	-	50%	57%	63%	61%

*\*Only 2 responses were received from the CB3 area which did not allow for this category to be included in calculations. First response answered dissatisfied to the first question and neither satisfied or dissatisfied to the rest. The second response answered very dissatisfied to all questions.*

Respondents were asked to provide **suggestions for improving** the way issues are reported, using free text in the survey. There were 50 responses which included comments about response times and using the current form as well as suggestions for improvement. The full text is included in the Supplementary Document with **suggestions for improvement** detailed below.

### Suggestions for Improvement

- A number of responses stated that they could not find the form, were not aware of it, and so advertising more widely was needed.
- Make it streamlined, simpler – “take a photo, drop a pin on the map, use a couple drop down selections, and that's it – 20 seconds max”.
- The map for identifying problem areas, etc. should be updated more often to avoid dozens of overlying pin drops.
- A separate form or section should be provided for reporting drop off places for volunteer litter collections.
- A notification of expected clean up time, showing where the job is in a queue of cleaning jobs. This would be reassuring for issues of drug litter, or dangerous items like glass, etc.
- Additional comment boxes to allow comments for different topics.
- QR codes to scan where littering is common to report location, add an issue and include a photo of the issue.
- The "already reported incidents" should be upfront and made easier to see what's already been reported. Include a progress update for when the job is completed, and who to contact if not.
- Could Twitter also be used instead?
- Do you need equalities monitoring for litter?

When asked if respondents would like to be part of a **litter volunteer group**, a positive response was received ranging from 40% in CB2 to 48% in CB1. When

asked if they would like to set up a group CB3 had the highest number of positive responses at 24%. A number of existing groups were also identified, with the detail contained in the Supplementary Document.

**Table showing numbers wanting to volunteer.**

	<b>CB1</b>	<b>CB2</b>	<b>CB3</b>	<b>CB4</b>	<b>CB5</b>	<b>Unknown</b>	<b>Overall</b>
Part of a local litter volunteering group	48%	40%	41%	40%	44%	1%	38%
Like support to set up a local litter volunteering group	9%	13%	24%	14%	13%	7%	11%
Aware of existing groups	31%	22%	18%	22%	17%	9%	22%

## **DISCUSSION**

Respondents appear to be very concerned about litter in the City, however when asked about it as an issue in specific areas – local, parks and open spaces, City Centre – more see it as ‘an issue’ rather than ‘a serious issue’. It is not clear why this changes, however combining numbers responding with ‘an issue’ and with ‘a serious issue’ results in a majority response and so the change could be due to the variation in terminology across questions.

In terms of specific areas, litter was regarded as more of ‘a serious issue’ in parks and open spaces. Residents of local area CB5 regarded litter as ‘a serious issue’ compared to other local areas where it was seen as ‘an issue’. The City Centre was seen as not having a litter issue at all by around 25% of respondents, and also scored positively for Street Cleansing Service performance. Near Schools were seen as areas where Street Cleansing Service performed less well, however still scored between 59% and 67% when rating performance.

In terms of types of litter, COVID-19 facemasks and general litter were the most reported, along with drinks cans and bottles in parks and open spaces which had the highest levels of general litter reported overall. City Centre areas had lower reported levels of each. When disposing of litter, the distance people would walk to a bin varied and ranged from less than 50 metres to over 150 metres with no clear precedent. Interestingly, around 35% of respondents stated that they would take their litter home and this was reflected in the responses to types of bins used for the disposal of litter.

When looking at the bins used for disposing of different types of litter, generally the correct bins were used except for takeaway trays/cutlery (and pizza boxes in parks and open spaces) which are put in recycling bins as much as they are put into litter bins. Low levels of cigarette butt disposal were reported across all bin types and locations, which could indicate that these are thrown on the ground rather than being disposed of in a bin.

To reduce litter, and work towards zero waste, tackling hotspots, working with businesses and schools were seen as top priorities along with enforcement, bigger litter bins and more recycling bins. Respondents felt that action rather than no action should be taken against offenders, with all options ranging from education and community service to court fines being popular.

When asked about street cleansing in their local areas, respondents weren’t sure on the days this was done, or the frequency. There was a mixed response as to whether this needed to be more frequent, with areas CB1, CB2 (split) and CB5 stating that it should be done more often and CB2 (split), CB3 and CB5 stating that this was not needed.

Only 37% of respondents were aware of the online form to report issues. For those who had used it over 50% gave a positive response on their experience. Additional free text provided detail on use and areas for improvement.

There was a positive response in wanting to take part in litter volunteering groups with 38% response rate overall, along with 11% who would like to set up groups in



their local areas. This provides the Street and Open Spaces Team with great opportunity to develop the SOS litter picking offer across the City. A number of existing litter groups have also been identified in each postcode area which could be used to create a stakeholder directory, and also to identify areas where there is a deficit in volunteering provision.

## **ACTIONS TO TAKE FORWARD**

### **Reflection and Review of Findings**

The survey results have identified a number of areas for potential action for the Street Cleansing Service. This includes areas with lower scores for performance and where litter is seen as more of a serious issue, in particular for parks and open spaces. Respondents have also identified a long list of hotspots, with some areas in particular – Jesus Green for example – reported by many.

Discussions should take place between the Streets and Open Spaces Team (the Team) and Street Cleansing Contractor to review the findings of the survey and general public focus group and agree a set of actions to take forward. This could include:

- Review of long list of hotspots along with joint site inspection of areas where issues have been reported. This would support the development of a set of actions and objectives to take forward address issues raised.
- Establish a working group/project to address Jesus Green litter issues as a hotspot test site.
- Review of bin type and location to ensure that there is the 'right bin at the right location' across the City.

### **Raising Awareness**

From the survey results it can be seen that, for a number of litter types, respondents are not clear on correct disposal methods. The Team should consider a rolling programme of publicity and campaigns, working with the Comms and Community Engagement Teams, to raise awareness of the correct methods for litter and waste disposal. These should include the following:

- As COVID-19 restrictions lift, the issue of facemasks as litter is likely to be reduced. However, a large number of the general public are still wearing them along workers in particular industries most notably the health and care sectors. Correct disposal of these items should be promoted using social media, newspaper articles and working with health and care partners to promote using their existing information channels.
- To increase the level of knowledge around being able to use litter bins for dog waste, signage should be considered on litter bins to inform that dog waste and general litter can be disposed of in those bins. This should be accompanied by a campaign aligned to a national campaign to provide greater impact – e.g. National Dog Week (September 19-25).
- To reduce the likelihood of contamination in street and park recycling bins, consideration should be given to signage at the point of disposal along with regular promotion (quarterly) on the correct ways to recycle and dispose of waste. Addressing the issue of contamination in recycling bins is the subject of much discussion and research nationally and internationally and the Team should consider a review of best practice and successful models that could be trialled and tested locally.

- Less than 40% of respondents were aware of the online form for reporting issues. This could be (re)launched through promotion on social media and in newspapers and newsletters, along with a tab on the front page of the Council's website to make the form more accessible. This could also be promoted using signage on the sides of street cleansing vehicles. It is important to note that online forms are not accessible to everyone for a number of reasons, and discussions should take place to provide an accessible alternative. User journey mapping should be considered, to review the process and include suggestions for improvement identified through this survey.
- Consider including messaging on bins including how to report overflowing bins using QR Codes, along with text messaging and/or automated phonelines if resources allow.
- An annual campaign should be introduced to raise awareness of litter issues which should be linked to The Great British Spring Clean national campaign.

### **Working with Businesses and Education Establishments**

- As recommended following focus group discussions, business partners should be identified to discuss and test ways of working together to reduce litter and waste. This could be initiated through discussions with Chamber of Commerce and other business networks, to introduce the objectives and identify potential partners to take the work forward.
- Re-establish connections with schools and develop an education package that schools can use with pupils to raise awareness of and educate on the issues of litter. Work with schools to encourage them to take part in community clean up days.

### **Enforcement**

- Establish a range of enforcement options to be included in the Strategy to include court fines, on the spot fines, verbal warnings, and communal litter picks.
- Research and review Litter Warden models with a view to developing options to take forward, including options to incorporate volunteer wardens. Link into existing enforcement structure and resource.

### **Community Pride and Social Responsibility**

- Contact respondents who want to take part in or form a litter volunteering group to support and signpost them. Improve publicity and promotion of council litter picking volunteering opportunities – SOS Volunteers – with a view to introducing across the City. Work with community groups and CVS infrastructure organisations to promote this offer.
- Create a Litter Volunteer Group Stakeholder Directory and Network, contacting all existing groups that have been identified in this survey to understand how they work and where they work. This coordinated approach can complement the work of the Street Cleansing Service and provide a valuable 'on the ground' resource to raise awareness and take action locally.

### **NEXT STEPS**

The findings of this survey, along with the report from the focus group are being used to prepare the Litter Strategy and Operation Plan which will be presented to Committee in late autumn for approval.

**END**

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## Appendix D



# Cambridge City Litter Strategy Consultation Focus Group Discussion 27th July 2021

## INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Cambridge City Council is developing a Litter Strategy and Action Plan which will be informed by the staff and public consultation that ran from March to August 2021.

The consultation used a mixed methodology to engage with stakeholders including:

- A workshop with staff and contractors to understand operational needs and issues and develop options for future delivery.
- A city-wide survey to understand behaviours and opinions, and test options.
- **A stakeholder focus group using the survey to generate interest and identify participants.**

## METHODOLOGY

Sixty six people responded positively to taking part in the focus group discussion which was conducted virtually via Zoom. The session took place on a weekday from 6pm to 7.30pm to accommodate people who had to work. Of those who showed an interest, 23 attended on the day representing the following areas:

- Cherry Hinton and Friends of Cherry Hinton Brook
- NW Cambridge (Eddington)
- Central Cambridge, Mawson Road
- St Ives Road
- Victoria Road
- Luard Road
- Central Cambridge
- Trumpington (personal) City Centre (for work)
- Queen Edith's
- North Newtown in a block of council flats off Hills Road
- 2 x Cambridge City Council staff
- 2 x Cambridge City Councillors

## Introduction and Quiz

The Streets and Open Spaces Development Manager opened the discussion presenting a slide pack to set the scene and introduce the topics for discussion. As part of this an icebreaker quiz was used asking participants '*how a Strategy can help the service?*' which generated the following responses:

- Focus
- Concrete ideas
- A decent framework and taskforce
- Measurable gains
- An aim
- Objectives
- Consistency
- A joined up approach
- Research
- Provide direction on priorities - useful if there is lack of funding
- Action
- Identify resource
- Education
- Develop Policy

Following this, the main session was introduced using slide images of litter at Laundress Green and presenting three related topics for discussion:

- *What are the issues and reasons why this is a hotspot (using Laundress Green as an example)?*
- *What can the Council do to deal with these issues?*
- *What can we all do together to support this?*

This generated positive and balanced discussion and participation from all attendees both vocally and in the Chat function of Zoom. These have been sorted and captured as **themes** in the following section.

## **THEMES EMERGING FROM GROUP DISCUSSION**

### **1. Working with Businesses**

This came through strongly during the discussion as participants felt that commercial premises should take responsibility for the waste they produce through their outlets.

- Work with businesses about being a good citizen and steward of the town.
- Commercial outlets should be responsible for what they are producing in the first place.
- Work with shops and takeaways because this is a big part of the problem - consumerism and disposable culture.
- Can food outlets encourage their customers to recycle their waste?

**Branded waste** was seen as an option for identifying where waste had originated, then charging the business for the waste that is picked up and disposed of. The group felt that the council needs to 'be stronger with companies'.

- Can levies be raised on shops with branded disposable waste? Charge all local businesses a litter tax if their packaging is found discarded.
- How much can we enforce this; how can we follow the waste back to the supplier/business and where we can attribute waste to a premises we can enforce that. This is potentially a good initiative in terms of identifying where the waste comes from and has been successful with McDonalds.
- The University Arms on Parkers Piece have branded waste and clear it all away.
- Branded waste could also be used to reward a business where we don't find any of their branded items on the floor? "Name and Praise".

Businesses should **take ownership** and do more to clear up their own waste.

- I do think we need to do more with shops/supermarkets. Sainsbury's is a big source of litter on Cherry Hinton Brook but we have had great difficulty getting them to take real responsibility – even showing them that it is their stuff.
- Commercial premises are making money out of these sales, they should go round and make an effort to clear up. They should be seen to be proactive.
- Positive messaging is really good. Businesses should have signs up telling people to dispose of their litter properly – address at the point of sale.
- Corporations, institutions should do their own litter picking, should also come all the way up from hospitals, offices, schools. Contractors working on roads leave their rubbish and cones. Everyone should pick it up.
- Different companies can form groups to have different days, can decide when and what. All companies are expected to do something in the City because they are a company from that City – the city works together.
- I saw someone from McDonalds on Market Road doing a litter collection. Not sure how often this happens.
- Bruce Crescent bins have been removed because of the volume of waste from the shops and premises, but people are not paying attention, staff from some of the establishments are still dumping their cardboard on the pavement.

- We donated litter pick equipment to Coldham's Lane Sainsburys and they used them for a few months while there was an enthusiastic staff member - then it all stopped and the litter picks can't even be found.

And **disposable BBQ's** were seen as big issues due to the damage they do to grassy areas.

- Shops selling disposable BBQs should have a warning or reminder up not to use on grass/green spaces. The damage from BBQs is awful and takes many years to repair the grass. It takes 5 years for grass to repair.
- Ban the sale of disposable BBQ's.
- Barbeques need better enforcement - the grass is continuously vandalised. Please can we have a warden with the authority to issue fines on the spot on warm sunny days?

## 2. Education and Raising Awareness

Along with the working with businesses, the other main theme that emerged during the discussion was around raising awareness of the issues of littering and its impact. Educating at an early age was seen as important, working with schools, but also educating all residents, using campaigns and ongoing messaging.

- Agree that education and awareness raising is going to be vital – a lot of people seem to have lost that understanding. It's frustrating to see empty bins and litter on the floor – we need education, awareness raising, sensitisation to the environment. A lot of work needs to be done, people don't understand what it means and the impact. And it's depressing to see.
- It comes down to education, it's not the what but the why – if you can't bin it take it home. I trained my kids to take it home, you can 't just throw it on the ground. Take it back in the bag you brought it in.

Understanding the **impact** that litter has was seen as a useful tool in raising awareness and educating.

- Positive impact that the David Attenborough film has had on reducing plastic waste. If people saw the impact that litter was having on animals, with different messages for different audiences, the impact litter has on wildlife, people would take more responsibility if they saw and understood the impact.
- Consequences of littering especially on animals, wildlife and the environment, especially around children, as they can be more sensitive and aware around images. It doesn't have to be too graphic, but targetted imagery can have big impact.
- Face masks are a particular problem at the moment – had to rescue a swan with a face mask around its neck. A cow died from eating a plastic bag – cow's dying from litter on a poster/sign could bring it to people's attention.
- Jesus Green ditch is swamped with litter all the time and the moorhen chicks are suffocating in plastic bags.

**Campaigns** were seen as a critical component in education and raising awareness. Participants felt that big impact campaigns were needed but that ongoing messaging was also important to keep reminding people of the issues and how to address them.

- The Council could start with a really big publicity campaign – making bins really obvious (the next generation of cows could perhaps all be litter bins?!) and lots of



notices and publicity. Make it fun – choose a weekend when lots of people are going to be out and about. Some nice catchy slogans like ‘pick up after a picnic’, use the bin, make it simple.

- What would work for me is seeing the impact of what the clean area would be like – makes people feel happy and safe gives them pride in where they live so that they look after it. And the impact of lots of litter, its dirty, unhealthy, it's a danger for humans and animals. Good and the bad side by side. Seeing animals in pain from eating bad litter or stuck in litter. These images say it without using words. Cambridge loves its cows don't kill them off, use the plastic cows to tell people about other types of plastic.
- Have big impact signs and publicity at entrances to spaces like Laundress Green. Use big screens to raise awareness (young people notice screens more than static signage), show images of impact and damage, and what it looks like with no litter to show the difference.
- Any campaign needs to target all demographics using different styles of communication to reach everyone. We all learn and communicate in different ways. Work with an advertising agency to come up with something compelling and engaging.
- Big events are good but everyday reminders are key to changing habits.
- Have something different and noticeable – a mobile litter bus; an info kiosk in town at the weekend or pop up kiosks at different places; a litter bus on tour..... Wombles on wheels; branded litter picker cargo bikes.
- Install bags to put things in and take it away – information, education and aiding. Also put some pride into it all. Get a slogan. Nicer to live in a litter free place – be upbeat and not too finger wagging.
- There are seasonal issues around litter especially in the summer, so targeted messages should be used at the start of the summer. Litter is worse this year as more people are using the spaces. It would be really sensible to launch something quickly, now during the summer while it is all happening.
- Use national campaigns to piggyback onto like Keep Britain Tidy, Love Parks Week 23 July - 1 August, and World Rivers day in September.

Participants thought that **signage** was important, but that people ignore it after a while so it needs to be creative and impactful.

- As a simple fix quick big stickers on each of the bins in town and posters in town. THINK don't litter.....Please .....a picture of animal.
- Have QR Codes for information, give positive messages about the area and also mention litter. Can also provide a way of feeding back.
- Friends of Cherry Hinton Brook have put signs along Cherry Hinton Brook (funding from Cam Water and the River Care project); they don't have a huge effect but I think it would be worse without them. We made them fun, with a cartoon of a water vole and catchy slightly rude slogans about cigarette butts.

Working with **schools and universities** and educating young people was seen as a critical factor, so that good behaviour and habits are established early on and messages can be taken back to the home to instil in others.

- Are we teaching about litter in schools and taking the children on litter picks? I think it should be on the curriculum and have school litter pick days. Introduce school educational campaigns and measure the impact. In Japan they clean their own classrooms.

- Go into schools to have greatest impact, especially at junior level – they go home and tell the family what they did in school and can reinforce how bad dropping litter is. Since COVID link with schools has stopped but there is strength in getting a range of messages into schools. I agree totally about the importance of young children – they are the most enthusiastic on our litter picks and we have been into the primary school at Cherry Hinton and they were great. I'm sure I learnt to pick up litter when I was that age!
- Educational institutes have to take responsibility – the leisure centre area of Queen Edith at lunchtime is a problem – there are 4 or 5 bins not used and litter everywhere from Hills Road 6<sup>th</sup> form students. We have written to the Head to complain. Publicising could bring a sense of shame, put up photos on 5 consecutive days where litter has been left.
- University lawns are immaculate, they are looking after their own! Universities are often keen volunteers and are keen on being responsible. We need to get the establishment to help the community. Cambridge conservationists in the David Attenborough building, have a big push to play a more active role – there will be people who want to get in touch.
- Kings College allow people to sit on the lawn and every morning its strewn with litter even though there is a 1100l bin plus street bins. Needs a lot of education and get people to take pride about their area.
- Young people are concerned about the climate so use this message and get them to take responsibility this way.

### 3. Enforcement

The idea of having **litter wardens** came through strongly and was a popular option with participants.

- In some towns and cities they have litter wardens for dropping cigarettes and chewing gum – we don't need to be draconian but we do need to show people that we do mean business. I believe there are a few wardens – I've seen one on Jesus Green, but only once! I visited Stratford and they had two people permanently picking up litter.
- Litter wardens who are confident enough to ask people why they are dropping litter, reminding people to use the bins, raising awareness as well as enforcing? Could wear special tabards with a catchy slogan on the back to gain attention. Some people don't realise they are dropping litter or that it is an issue, just reminding them could have an effect. Penalties plus prompting. Educate people in hotspots, wardens could do this, come with a full bottle and leave with an empty bottle.
- We have parking enforcement why not litter enforcement officers, wardens could work in pairs if it's confrontational as challenging people about dropping litter can result in abuse. Often the reaction is that someone else is paid to do it.
- I would volunteer as a litter warden – to pick up litter but also to remind people where bins are and report once bins get full. You could also have a sign saying 'report this bin if its full' with text of phone number to inform the council that the bin is full.
- Barbeques need better enforcement – the grass is continuously vandalised. Please can we have a warden with the authority to issue fines on the spot on warm sunny days?

- We want to have fun but we also want to remind people of the consequences as well. Have a regular 'news item' of fines, how much people have been fined and why.
- Need a body of people to do enforcement. Employing people to do this adds to the costs. Voluntary wardens might need police protection.
- Response from staff – *currently we have 6 enforcement officers dealing with range from fly tipping to graffiti, littering and vehicle issues. Morning to afternoon and weekends in pairs. All monies collected can then be used on litter related campaigns.*

Some participants also thought that **CCTV** could play a part.

- CCTV can be used to identify littering.
- What about recording litter with mobile cameras like mobile speeding.

And one option for offenders was to make people who are caught littering do a litter pick for the day instead of receiving a fixed penalty notice.

#### **4. Community Pride and Social Responsibility**

Participants felt that everyone should contribute to addressing the issue of littering, with volunteering and community days seen as options and opportunities to encourage people to get involved.

- Instil community pride and respect – initiatives such as competitions, grassroots community pride projects and incentives such as best kept area, hanging baskets, competitions and challenges, etc.
- Some people feel it's not MY litter but they need to understand that it's OUR litter – we need to address it together.
- We should focus on what makes that area special to instil pride, and why we need to deal appropriately with the waste. We have a lot of history associated with most locations and some education about why they should protect the site may prove beneficial.
- Council does arrange community days for bulky waste in some areas which is very successful. Expand this, make it a fun day and community day with different services coming along.
- Volunteering is a good idea and there are already teams of volunteers in some areas which is good. Involve volunteers from colleges and schools. COVID-19 might have an impact on this. Council's website has a page for people who want to volunteer, and they get time credits back so get rewarded for volunteering. The council volunteers programme is organising an event for all the volunteer Friends Groups in early August – they might be able to discuss this issue and come up with more ideas?
- I pick up litter myself with my own bag and picker stick. Would be good to raise awareness of the Council scheme because people haven't heard of it. The Reeves Programme is great but this is not advertised enough.
- Can't rely on volunteers all the time, have to have infrastructure as well which is supplemented and complemented by volunteers.

#### **5. Learning From and Working with Others**

Participants were keen for the council to learn from other areas that had good examples of dealing with litter and waste. And also trial some of these in the City.

- We need to learn from others. Are there good examples of anti-litter campaigns from other councils with similar issues. I agree strongly that someone should look at good examples from other Councils, and other countries as suggested. Could the Council look into this?
- I believe that Monmouthshire Council has a good litter strategy.
- Japan is a great model – we can learn so much from them about this issue. They have zero litter.
- I worked in Canada and the premises were responsible for a litter pick on rota. All local businesses have a community day, devoted for different themes and issues, can we get that in the City? One of the themes could be litter and an organised litter pick.
- River Cam programme part of keep Britain Tidy does litter picks along all water courses as part of national great British Spring Clean plus autumn initiative. They have a Cambridge coordinator and can provide the equipment, would be good to make contact.
- Do we need to wait for the government before introducing a glass and plastic bottle recycling scheme? A trial scheme in the City would be great. Agree re. deposits on bottles/cans. They have this in NYC too, and it hugely reduces the number on the streets. Return initiatives are also useful as they have a monetary value, this can provide an incentive.
- Some of the conservation organisations based in the David Attenborough Building/Cambridge Conservation Institute in the centre of town work on plastics - could they be persuaded to help locally.
- Coop is recycling soft bags/plastics – could the council work with them?

## **6. Bins**

There was some discussion around bin size and type, however this did not dominate the session.

- People want to use the bins but they are too small so they put the rubbish next to bin as they think this is acceptable. Bins should be bigger as people tend not to take their rubbish home.
- On hot sunny days and at known hotspots the bins need to be emptied much more often (every 2-3 hours?).
- Put signs up to educate about taking waste home, where the next bin is, and how to report overflowing bins.
- There are some new style bins on trial in the city centre which compress waste.
- We need to educate to reduce the amount and prevent litter in the first place, bigger bins are the wrong way of looking at it.
- Can't really do any more than what we have regarding recycling and general waste bins.
- Something bright – this is a bin, bigger bin, more bins but then need more staff to empty them. Make it easy to get rid of your litter.

## **7. Reporting Issues/Service Issues**

Some participants reported difficulty in using the council reporting system and the complexity of the website. They had also observed issues with litter bin collections.

- There can be big delays in reporting litter that needs collecting and the actual collection. Street Clean largely do a really good job but I've often reported problems and then nothing has happened.
- Most of the information is on the Councils website but this is an impossible maze to find anything. One of our jobs is to report litter on Cherry Hinton Brooke and this is difficult to do. The other place of information is in the magazine 'Cambridge matters' but young people won't read that. It's important to make information more readily available.
- After the bins have been collected there is quite a lot of litter left around the bins. This litter is not picked up as 'it's not their job' they will empty the bin and leave the litter around it. This is disappointing and needs education of staff – the council needs to instil that they need to clear the area properly.
- Better reporting linked to ASB team and police which could build a picture of ASB and litter hotspots.

## **ACTIONS TO TAKE FORWARD**

Using ideas from each theme, the following actions are suggested to take forward.

### **Working with Businesses**

- Identify the main contributors of litter in the City and bring together for a focussed discussion on options to address litter issues, working together more closely with the council and communities. Areas for discussion should include:
  - Branded waste
  - Litter taxes and levies
  - Litter picks around business premises
  - Community clean up days – taking part and sponsoring
  - Point of sale education campaigns

### **Education and Raising Awareness**

- Develop a communication plan to support delivery of the Litter Strategy which includes a launch and identifying seasonal campaigns to raise awareness. Campaigns should consider:
  - Using images that have the most impact.
  - Develop messaging and imagery for a variety of target audiences.
  - Consider trialling using big screens to demonstrate the issues and impact of littering; pop up or permanent information kiosks at hotspot locations; litter bus that travels to different locations (including schools) raising awareness.
  - Aligning to national campaign days to have most impact.
- Re-establish connections with schools and develop an education package that schools can use with pupils. Engage schools to take part in community clean up days.
- Research and review effective signage campaigns that could be introduced in the City.

- Consider including messaging on bins including how to report overflowing bins – QR Codes, text messaging, automated phonenumber.
- Identify university contacts to discuss and develop a joint approach to tackling litter and waste.

### **Enforcement**

- Research and review Litter Warden models with a view to developing options to take forward, including options to incorporate volunteer wardens. Link into existing enforcement structure and resource.
- Establish a range of enforcement options to be included in the Strategy to include court fines, on the spot fines, verbal warnings and communal litter picks.
- Develop options for dealing with disposable BBQ issues, including enforcement and working with shops at the point of sale.

### **Community Pride and Social Responsibility**

- Work with local communities to introduce community clean up days, sponsored by the business sector.
- Improve publicity and promotion of council litter picking volunteering opportunities – SOS Volunteers – with a view to introducing across the City. Work with community groups and CVS infrastructure organisations to promote this offer.

### **Learning from and Working with Others**

- Review and follow up references of good practice generated during the focus group discussion.
- Develop pilot(s) to test new ways of working and collaboration.

### **Reporting, Servicing, Bins**

- Use journey mapping to understand the process for reporting a litter or waste issue to ensure it is simple and straightforward for all audiences. This could be done working with residents who have participated in the focus group and want to take an active role.
- Review litter bin collection processes with the contractor to understand why litter is not cleared as part of the bin emptying process – how can this be addressed?
- Consider bin size, location and emptying frequency as part of the operational plan development.

### **CONTINUED ENGAGEMENT**

Participants were keen to continue to be part of the development process and provided consent to be contacted for future correspondence and consultations. This could develop into a '**citizens panel**' for the Streets and Open Spaces department to support codesign and development in the future.

### **NEXT STEPS**

This report, along with the findings of the survey, are being used to prepare the Litter Strategy and Operation Plan which will be presented to Committee in late autumn for approval.

**END**



Author: Futurebright Solutions  
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## Cambridge City Council Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

This tool helps the Council ensure that we fulfil legal obligations of the [Public Sector Equality Duty](#) to have due regard to the need to –

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

Guidance on how to complete this tool can be found on the Cambridge City Council intranet. For specific questions on the tool email Helen Crowther, Equality and Anti-Poverty Officer at [equalities@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:equalities@cambridge.gov.uk) or phone 01223 457046.

Once you have drafted the EqIA please send this to [equalities@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:equalities@cambridge.gov.uk) for checking. For advice on consulting on equality impacts, please contact Graham Saint, Strategy Officer, ([graham.saint@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:graham.saint@cambridge.gov.uk) or 01223 457044).

<b>1. Title of strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service</b>
Litter Strategy

<b>2. Webpage link to full details of the strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service (if available)</b>
Will be published with committee papers for the 23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2023

<b>3. What is the objective or purpose of your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service?</b>
<i>For Cambridge to be a city which is free of litter, fly-tipping, and dog waste.</i>  Through the Strategy, we aim to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Maximise the number of people who dispose of their litter responsibly by providing appropriate facilities in the right places and collecting litter in a timely fashion.</li><li>• Minimise the proportion of people who feel it is acceptable to litter, fly tip and not pick up after their dog</li></ul>

- Minimise the environmental impact and maximise the productivity of the Council's streets and open spaces waste management service.
- Minimise the volume of streets and open spaces derived waste going to landfill.
- Apply an evidence based, data led approach to monitoring and reviewing the Strategy's effectiveness; and informing any required changes to it.

#### 4. Responsible service

Environment Services

#### 5. Who will be affected by this strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service?

(Please tick all that apply)

- Residents  
 Visitors  
 Staff

Please state any specific client group or groups (e.g. City Council tenants, tourists, people who work in the city but do not live here):

**Relevant to all residents and visitors to the City. No specific group affected**

#### 6. What type of strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service is this?

- New  
 Major change  
 Minor change

#### 7. Are other departments or partners involved in delivering this strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service? (Please tick)

- Yes  
 No

If 'Yes' please provide details below:

**Shared Waste Service**

#### 8. Has the report on your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service gone to Committee? If so, which one?

Environment and Community Scrutiny [Committee](#) for approval to adopt.

**9. What research methods/ evidence have you used in order to identify equality impacts of your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service?**

The Strategy was developed using the following terms of reference, as agreed at Environment and Community Services Committee in January 2021:

- a) To investigate how street and outdoor public space litter is managed in Cambridge.
- b) Review the statutory and non-statutory obligations that the Council has. This will include consideration of key areas such as:
  - Dog fouling
  - General street litter (including cigarettes, gum, street flyers, fast food litter)
  - Roadside litter (including litter from cars, gulleys and weeds, fly tipping)
  - Litter in green spaces (focusing on litter in parks and other green spaces).
- c) To consider how other authorities, in the UK and abroad, manage the issue of litter and identify and evaluate examples of best practice and their potential application in Cambridge.
- d) To raise community awareness of litter in Cambridge and investigate how it can become a cleaner city.
- e) To review the Council's performance in terms of managing litter, including benchmarking against comparator authorities.

The development of the strategy was informed by a public survey, this sought views on the issue of littering in Cambridge and effectiveness of the Council's current streets and open spaces management service, including.

- Determining what respondents think about the various types of litter in Cambridge.
- Understanding levels of awareness of existing regulations and penalties relating to these issues and views on the effectiveness of its enforcement and,
- Seeking comments and suggestions on what else could be done to reduce litter in Cambridge.

## 10. Potential impacts

For each category below, please explain if the strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service could have a positive/ negative impact or no impact. Where an impact has been identified, please explain what it is. Consider impacts on service users, visitors and staff members separately.

### (a) Age - Please also consider any safeguarding issues for children and adults at risk

There are no impacts specific to this protected characteristic group.

### (b) Disability

There are no impacts specific to this protected characteristic group.

### (c) Gender reassignment

There are no impacts specific to this protected characteristic group.

### (d) Marriage and civil partnership

There are no impacts specific to this protected characteristic group.

### (e) Pregnancy and maternity

There are no impacts specific to this protected characteristic group.

### (f) Race – Note that the protected characteristic ‘race’ refers to a group of people defined by their race, colour, and nationality (including citizenship) ethnic or national origins.

There are no impacts specific to this protected characteristic group.

**(g) Religion or belief**

There are no impacts specific to this protected characteristic group.

**(h) Sex**

There are no impacts specific to this protected characteristic group.

**(i) Sexual orientation**

There are no impacts specific to this protected characteristic group

**(j) Other factors that may lead to inequality – in particular, please consider the impact of any changes on low income groups or those experiencing the impacts of poverty**

Volunteering opportunities arising from the strategy are all free to access or be involved in through volunteering. Officers will explore alternative ways of promoting the sites and volunteer events to ensure broad engagement. We will work with existing community groups, including those working with people on low-incomes.

**11. Action plan – New equality impacts will be identified in different stages throughout the planning and implementation stages of changes to your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service. How will you monitor these going forward? Also, how will you ensure that any potential negative impacts of the changes will be mitigated? (Please include dates where possible for when you will update this EqIA accordingly.)**

Research conducted during the Strategy has highlighted that littering is fundamentally a behavioural problem and the Strategy states that good infrastructure and clear expectations, supported by proportionate enforcement, helps reinforce social pressure to do the right thing.

It is evident from the research that litterers need to both understand what they ought to be doing and be motivated to do the right thing. It also suggests that they must have the opportunity to do so, and that is where the provision of necessary infrastructure, based on the 'right bin – right place' principle, comes in.

Research suggests that infrastructure alone is not enough to solve the problem; information is required to build capability to properly use different types of bins, and campaigns and/or enforcement activity are required to create the motivation for people to use them.

This Strategy creates policies for waste reduction and recycling and in general seeks solutions so that recycling is made clearer and easier, so that people understand which is the correct bin for disposing of different waste items. This also applies to infrastructure where a simpler system is expected to help cut littering by making the expected behaviour clearer for users.

Effective local infrastructure is not just having the right number and type of bins but also siting them in appropriate locations and using visual cues to maximise the chances of them being used properly.

Infrastructure is just one part of a holistic approach to tackling littering behaviour that involves motivation and capability, as well as opportunity to behave correctly. The proposed Strategy reflects this. However, it is recognised that the procurement, siting, fixing, emptying and maintenance of new and improved litter bins carries a cost, so the Action Plan pays special attention to this aspect.

## 12. Do you have any additional comments?

[Click here to enter text.](#)

## 13. Sign off

Name and job title of lead officer for this equality impact assessment: Alistair Wilson, Streets and Open Space Development Manager.

Names and job titles of other assessment team members and people consulted: Heather Crowther, Equality and Anti-Poverty Officer

Date of EqIA sign off: 8th March 2023

Date of next review of the equalities impact assessment: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Date to be published on Cambridge City Council website: [Click here to enter text.](#)

**All EqIAs need to be sent to Helen Crowther, Equality and Anti-Poverty Officer. Ctrl + click on the button below to send this (you will need to attach the form to the email):**

**Send form**



## Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service collection changes 2023

**To:**

Councillor Rosy Moore, Executive Councillor for Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity  
Environment & Community Scrutiny Committee, 23/03/23.

**Report by:**

Dee Wood

Tel: 07590 827 283. Email: [Dee.wood@scams.gov.uk](mailto:Dee.wood@scams.gov.uk)

**Wards affected:**

All

Not a key decision

### 1. Executive Summary

Greater Cambridge Shared waste service is responsible for collecting domestic waste from 127,000 households and Commercial waste from 4,000 businesses across Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire.

Due to the extensive amount of growth across both Districts, collection rounds have expanded at a significant rate since they were last reviewed in 2017, resulting in the need for review and optimisation now. To address this, the service is conducting a routine routes optimisation exercise due for completion in Summer 2023.

### 2. Recommendations

The recommendation is for the Executive Councillor and wider Committee to note that the Shared Waste Service is working on a route optimisation exercise that will result in collection day changes for residents during the Summer.

Until the first phase of the exercise is complete the level of impact on residents is unknown, but It is anticipated that there may be a period of disruption to services whilst new rounds settle down and collection crews get to grips with changes.

### **3. Background**

The Shared Waste Service last conducted a full routes optimisation exercise in 2017. Since then both districts have experienced significant growth and it is therefore now time to do a new exercise to baseline existing routes for both domestic and commercial collections, whilst also taking the opportunity to understand the implications of introducing other services such as weekly food waste collections.

It is normal practice to revise routes every three to five years to maintain efficient services, re-balance rounds and take into account recent and upcoming growth areas. It is anticipated that new routes will go live in the Summer, subject to testing. The project does not include changes to Clinical or Bring Bank collections as these are contracted services.

Following a procurement exercise, a company called ISL have been appointed to establish new routes and demonstrate associated resource and cost implications of doing so. Existing domestic route changes are being prioritised, ahead of exercises to look at commercial collections, food waste, and three weekly refuse collections. Routes are being modelled using several variations to working patterns in terms of total hours / days worked, to understand how staff wellbeing can be balanced with business needs. To date ISL have almost completed the Phase 1 work which is to establish baselines for existing routes. Once baselines have been reviewed, next steps are to progress modelling on new routes, taking account of resources and costs etc.

The project is also working with Causeway (back-office software system provider) to understand requirements and costs for downloading new routes into Alloy (in-cab system) once they are complete.

### **4. Implications**

#### **a) Financial Implications**

*Page: 2*

The immediate costs for the project are for ISL to conduct route optimisation (£40,800). Costs to input new routes into Alloy will vary dependent on how many days of support is required. This is expected to be approximately £10,000.

Based on which scenarios are selected for new routes, there is likely to be cost implications in terms of additional vehicles and crew, however until Phase 1 of the exercise is complete it is not possible to establish this.

There may also be an opportunity to off-set costs against round efficiencies and reduced working days eg 4-day working week, should that scenario be chosen.



## **b) Staffing Implications**

Staffing implications will be established once the Phase 1 exercise is complete at the end of March / early April 2023.

## **c) Equality and Poverty Implications**

An EQIA will be completed once Phase 1 of the route optimisation exercise has been completed, reviewed and new routes chosen.

## **d) Net Zero Carbon, Climate Change and Environmental Implications**

Environmental implications will be determined once Phase 1 of the route optimisation exercise has been completed and new routes selected.

## **e) Procurement Implications**

A procurement exercise was conducted in December 2022 to appoint an organisation to provide route optimisation.

A variation will be required to the contract held with Causeway, the back-office software provider, to import the new rounds back into systems.

Once the Phase 1 exercise is complete vehicle procurement requirements will be understood.

## **f) Community Safety Implications**

N/A.

## **5. Consultation and communication considerations**

This is a routine operational exercise to make collections more efficient and therefore consultations are not required.

The project has worked with the District Communications teams to produce a draft Communications Plan for residents. Once the Phase 1 exercise is complete and the level of impact on residents understood, communications will be tailored accordingly.

All communication channels will be considered and utilised where deemed appropriate.

## **6. Background papers**

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report

## **7. Appendices**

N/A

## **8. Inspection of papers**

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on this report please contact;

Bode Esan, Head of Climate, Environment & Waste for South Cambridgeshire District Council, email: [bode.esan@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:bode.esan@scambs.gov.uk) Tel: 07510 382866.



## Public Space Protection Order: Mill Road Cemetery, Petersfield Green and the front garden of Ditchburn Place

**To:**

Executive Councillor for Recovery, Employment and Community Safety, Cllr Alice Gilderdale

Environment and Communities Scrutiny Committee, 23/03/2023

**Report by:**

Keryn Jalli, Community Safety Manager

Tel: 07562 308 141 Email: keryn.jalli@cambridge.gov.uk

**Wards affected:**

Petersfield

Not a key decision

### 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (“2014 Act”) gives local authorities the power to make Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs).
- 1.2 The Cambridge City Council Mill Road Cemetery, Petersfield Green and the front garden at Ditchburn Place, Cambridge Public Spaces Protection Order 2016 is due to lapse on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023. This PSPO prohibits consuming alcohol or having an open container of alcohol in possession within the areas shown shaded red on the Order (see Appendix A-C). At the time the PSPO was introduced, these areas were the focus of complaints for anti-social drinking of alcohol.
- 1.3 Before the orders lapse, Cambridge City Council must decide to either:
  - a) extend the period of the order for up to three years, b) vary the order or c) discharge the order.
- 1.4 As per legislation this decision should be informed by consultation with:

- The Police and Crime Commissioner,
- Cambridgeshire Constabulary (the local policing body),
- Relevant community representatives,
- Ward Councillors, and
- The owner/occupier of land the PSPO covers.

In addition to these groups, the Council sought the views of local people via the Council's Citizen Lab consultation platform. 61 people completed the consultation. The consultation questions can be found in Appendix D.

- 1.5 The council also collaborated with the University of Cambridge whose Geography students completed 300 in-person surveys with the public on ASB and public spaces.
- 1.6 The evidence and consultation results have been used to inform consideration about whether to a) renew the PSPO; b) vary it; or c) discharge it and adopt a new approach to addressing alcohol related ASB. The report highlights why options a) and b) are not recommended and how option c) is proposed to be implemented, as summarised in 3.18.

## **2. Recommendations**

The Executive Councillor is recommended to discharge the PSPO and adopt a new approach to addressing alcohol related ASB.

The new approach will involve:

- 2.1 A proactive and preventative council presence on the current PSPO sites through weekly patrols.
- 2.2 Better engagement and education with street drinkers, support services and local interest groups.
- 2.3 A greater ability to gather intelligence on alcohol related ASB, which will be used as evidence for enforcement action, such as Criminal Behaviour Orders.

Discharge is recommended on the grounds of:

- 2.4 A significant reduction in reports of anti-social drinking of alcohol on the sites covered by the PSPO. In 2022, the police and council received only 2 reports each.
- 2.5 Low frequency of incidents identified in the consultation. 36 consultation respondents had witnessed anti-social drinking in the past 12 months. Of these who had witnessed anti-social drinking, almost half witnessed this 10 times or less (an average of less than once per month).

- 2.6 65% (194 of 300) respondents to the University of Cambridge's in person surveys did not list alcohol as a core problem facing public spaces in Cambridge.
- 2.7 80% of consultation respondents (49 people) supported the Council and Police managing anti-social drinking of alcohol as outlined in 2.1 – 2.3.

### **3. Background**

- 3.1 PSPOs are intended to deal with nuisance or problem behaviours in a particular area that are detrimental to the local community's quality of life, by imposing conditions on the use of the area. Whilst PSPOs can be extended, they cannot be used indefinitely. Only local authorities can make PSPOs.
- 3.2 The Mill Road Cemetery, Petersfield Green and the front garden at Ditchburn Place PSPO commenced in 2016. It was renewed three times and lapses on 31 May 2023. It prohibits consuming alcohol or possessing an open container of alcohol within the area shown coloured red on the Order (see Appendix A-C).
- 3.3 At the time the PSPO was introduced, these areas were the focus of complaints for anti-social drinking of alcohol.
- 3.4 Petersfield Green is adjacent to Jimmy's which is a community-based charity providing both support and housing to people who are rough sleeping. Ditchburn Place is a supported living scheme operated by Cambridge City Council.
- 3.5 The Home Office guidance on PSPOs states: *"PSPOs should not be used to target people based solely on the fact that someone is homeless or rough sleeping, as this in itself is unlikely to mean that such behaviour is having an unreasonably detrimental effect on the community's quality of life which justifies the restrictions imposed. It suggests the council should consider whether the use of a PSPO is the appropriate response and if it will have a detrimental impact on homeless people and rough sleepers."*
- 3.6 There are a range of interventions available to the Council and Community Safety Partnership to address street drinking and alcohol related disorders other than using a PSPO.
- 3.7 The Street Life Working Group (SLWG) is a multi-agency group working focused on people difficult to engage and involved in street based ASB. The SLWG use customised action plans designed to address lifestyle

choices and behaviours and to deliver the intensive work required to achieve changes.

- 3.8 In 2022, a new role of Street Life Support Officer was created within the Community Safety Team. The purpose of this role is to engage with people with a street presence who cause anti-social behaviour (ASB), including street drinkers and link them in with appropriate support services where necessary. Whilst in the early stages of their work, the post holder has successfully engaged those with a street presence and has had a positive impact on street related ASB in the city centre. On 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023 the Street Life Support Officer started weekly patrols of the PSPO sites. These patrols act as a deterrent to ASB, create opportunities for the officer to safely engage with street drinkers and gather evidence on anti-social drinking in the areas. The evidence can be used as a basis for interventions or where necessary, enforcement. The Street Life Support Officer will also engage the nearby support services and local interest groups.
- 3.9 Community based solutions can also be used to manage ASB related to street drinking and support cohesion on public spaces.
- 3.10 Residents of Petersfield Green were awarded £2,200 from the Environmental Improvement Programme 2022 for two benches on the Green. Their application explains how currently those with a street presence, including those living at Jimmy's tend to drink on the steps of the Petersfield Mansions.
- 3.11 The application states residents *“fully acceptance that the area is there for all people to use but it would be much better if bench seating was provided to attract people to sit in on them rather than on residents’ steps and near Jimmy’s”* and that *“the provision of two benches would provide more facilities for the general public but would also help reduce the impact of those who congregate together during the day and in evenings.”*
- 3.12 Currently the PSPO would prohibit the benches being used for the purpose intended by the residents.
- 3.13 Where anti-social behaviour associated with alcohol persists despite education and engagement, the Police can issue Criminal Behaviour Orders on the individuals causing ASB.

- 3.14 The approaches outlined in 3.6 – 3.13 enables the council and police to address the problematic behaviours of specific individuals causing alcohol related ASB in public spaces without the PSPO.
- 3.15 Before considering discharge of the order the Council is required to consult with the Police and Crime Commissioner, the local policing body, relevant community representatives, ward councillors and the owner or occupier of land within the restricted area. The Council widened the scope of the PSPO consultation, by making it public. 61 people completed the consultation – this is 96% more than last year. The consultation questions can be found in Appendix D.
- 3.16 In addition, the council collaborated with the University of Cambridge who completed 300 in-person surveys with the public on ASB and public spaces. Of those surveyed 83% (248) were in the city either daily or multiple times per week. The places surveyed included the areas covered by the PSPO, and a full list can be found in Appendix E.
- 3.17 The results of key evidence and consultations are broken down below:
- Police and Council reports showed:
    - Few reports of anti-social drinking to both the police and Council. Only 2 reports to each organisation received in 2022.
  - Citizen Lab consultation showed:
    - 25 consultation respondents had not witnessed any anti-social drinking of alcohol on the PSPO sites in the last 12 months.
    - Of those who had witnessed anti-social drinking, almost half witnessed it less than once a month, on average.
    - 80% (49 people) supported the Council and Police managing anti-social drinking of alcohol as set out in 2.1 – 2.3.
  - University of Cambridge public surveys showed:
    - Alcohol was not a core problem facing public spaces in Cambridge for 65% of the public (194 of 300 people) who completed in person surveys.
    - 62% (186 of 300) of the public surveyed had never avoided public spaces in Cambridge due to experiences or perceptions of ASB.
  - Ward Councilors felt it was important that action is taken on anti-social drinking at the current PSPO sites.

- Police stated that anti-social drinking could be managed without the PSPO.

3.18 The evidence shows that the frequency in which the anti-social drinking occurs does not warrant blanket enforcement through a PSPO, either through renewal or variation. The City Council and Police are both confident that that anti-social drinking of alcohol on the sites covered by the PSPO can be managed through, education and engagement with street drinkers, support services and local interest groups. Where necessary enforcement of individuals causing ASB can be managed through Criminal Behaviour Orders.

3.19 To manage anti-social drinking, weekly patrols will take place on Mill Road Cemetery, Ditchburn Place and Petersfield Green, which will be closely reviewed and monitored. There will be a meeting with Petersfield ward councillors in 6-months, or sooner if needed, to review the findings of the patrols and other measures to manage anti-social drinking as set out in 3.6 – 3.13.

## **4. Implications**

### **a) Financial Implications**

If discharge is approved, it will be necessary to update the council's website, remove the signs on the sites and erect new signage. The new signage will inform people of how they can report any type of anti-social behaviour to either the Council or Police. The cost of the signage would be ~£700 - £900.

The new Street Life Support Officer's time can be used to monitor anti-social street drinking at Petersfield Green, Mill Road Cemetery and the front garden of Ditchburn Place at no additional cost.

If the discharge is not approved, it will be necessary to vary the order so that it is in line with the countywide Cambridgeshire Constabulary Memorandum of Understanding for PSPO enforcement.

To vary a PSPO, the Council requires sufficient evidence to show that the activities that are sought to be prohibited on the sites have a detrimental impact on the quality of life for those locally and that they are persisting in nature.

The evidence as demonstrated above shows that there has been a decrease the prohibited behaviour on the sites of the PSPO. The evidence also shows



that the majority of those surveyed by University of Cambridge did not avoid public spaces due to perceptions or experiences of ASB.

If the order was to be varied the validity of it could be challenged in the High Court. The cost of a High Court challenge would be ~£10,000 - £20,000 and the court could rule to suspend the order until the final determination of the proceedings.

#### **b) Staffing Implications**

Staff time would be required to remove the current signage and install new signage on the sites, at no additional cost.

The new Street Life Support Officer's time can be used to monitor street drinking at Petersfield Green, Mill Road Cemetery and the front garden of Ditchburn Place at no additional cost.

#### **c) Equality and Poverty Implications**

The impact on residents, visitors and businesses is expected to be positive overall, as the actions proposed in 3.6 – 3.13 will mitigate the impact of anti-social drinking in the areas currently covered by the PSPO. The proposal to manage anti-social drinking is expected to reduce anti-social behaviour and increase feelings of safety.

Equality impact assessments for the PSPO can be found Appendix F.

#### **d) Net Zero Carbon, Climate Change and Environmental Implications**

A climate change rating tool has been completed which shows no net impact on the council's net zero carbon target.

#### **e) Procurement Implications**

Costs are highly unlikely to fall within the procurement criteria.

#### **f) Community Safety Implications**

The actions proposed in 3.6 – 3.13 would address community concerns and mitigate the impact of anti-social drinking of alcohol.

When deciding whether to extend the period for which a PSPO has effect and if so for how long the Council must have particular regard to the rights of freedom of expression and freedom of assembly set out in articles 10 and 11 of the European Convention on Human Rights. The restrictions imposed by the PSPO are no longer considered proportionate.

## 5. Consultation and communication considerations

More in depth information about the consultation:

- a) Before considering discharge of the order the Council needs to consult with:
- Police and Crime Commissioner,
  - The local policing body,
  - Relevant community representatives,
  - Ward councillors, and
  - The owner or occupier of land within the restricted area

The Council widened the scope of the PSPO consultation, by making it public. 61 people completed the consultation – this is 96% more than last year. The consultation questions can be found in Appendix D.

- b) In addition, the council collaborated with the University of Cambridge who completed 300 in-person surveys with the public on ASB and public spaces. Of those surveyed 83% (248) were in the city either daily or multiple times per week. The places surveyed included the areas covered by the PSPO, and a full list can be found in Appendix E.
- c) The consultation responses and evidence for this PSPO showed:
- The Council and Police only received 2 reports of anti-social drinking of alcohol in 2022.
  - The table below shows how reports of anti-social drinking were lower in 2022 than the years which included Covid-19 lockdowns. 2022 reporting figures were also lower than pre-pandemic figures.

<b>Reports to Cambridgeshire Police on Antisocial Behaviour involving intoxication</b>					
<b>Year</b>	<b>Mill Road Cemetery</b>	<b>Petersfield Green</b>	<b>Ditchburn Place</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Average</b>
2017	1	2	0	3	1 report every 3 months
2018	0	4	2	6	1 report every 2 months
2019	1	9	1	11	1 report per month
2020	1	5	1	7	1 report every 2 months
2021	2	7	0	9	1 report every 1 ½ months
2022	1	1	0	2	1 report every 6 months

Citizen Lab consultation showed:

- 25 consultation respondents had not witnessed any anti-social drinking of alcohol on the sites covered by the PSPO in the last 12 months.
- Of the 36 respondents who had seen anti-social drinking, almost half witnessed it 10 times or less. On average this is less than one report per month.
- Of those who had seen anti-social drinking, 94% (34 people) did not report it to either the police or the council.
- Whilst 78% of consultation respondents (48 out of 61) wanted the PSPO to continue. 80% (49 of 61) supported the Council and Police managing anti-social drinking of alcohol as set out in 2.1 – 2.3.

University of Cambridge public survey showed:

- 65% (194 of 300) respondents to the University of Cambridge's in person surveys did not list alcohol as a core problem facing public spaces in Cambridge.
- 62% (186 of 300) respondents to the University of Cambridge's in person surveys had never avoided public spaces in Cambridge due to experiences or perceptions of ASB. Of those who did avoid public spaces, only 5 stated alcohol as a reason for avoiding the space, 3 locations were either outside a pub or nightclub.

d) The consultation responses show mixed views amongst residents about whether there is a continued need for the PSPO. A selection of responses are listed below:

- *Substance misuse should never be viewed as a criminal act, but rather a medical and social health issue.*
- *Every single street homeless and person in supported living with such issues, who I used to work with extensively, are suffering both life-long trauma and poverty. Criminalising these people exacerbates all issues in favour of keeping them out of sight for the wellbeing of other citizens. This is not the mark of a responsible society.*
- *It was useful back in 2015 when there was an established problem but there's no sign that it's still needed.*
- *Remove them [people drinking on the PSPO sites] permanently and ban from the city centre and all other locations. Including beggars.*

- *The PSPO has little negative consequence and provides a deterrent/easy enforcement route for anti-social drinking.*
- e) The responses show that those effected want to see the Council respond to anti-social drinking and that they are supportive in it being managed differently. Respondents were asked whether they that would support anti-social drinking being managed by *“engaging more with people street drinking to get them to stop and through more Criminal Behaviour Orders that put conditions on people such as staying away from a particular place and working to improve their behaviour by going to support services”*. 80% (49 of 61) supported the Council and Police managing anti-social drinking of alcohol in this way.
- f) In addition, the Council proposes that ant-social drinking can be managed through the measures outlined in 3.6 – 3.13. These include utilising:
- The Street Life Working Group
  - Weekly patrols by the Street Life Support Officer
  - Community initiatives and funding via the Environmental Improvement Programme
  - Criminal Behaviour Orders
- g) Cambridgeshire Constabulary stated *“It is the view of the neighbourhood policing team that ASB and nuisance related to alcohol is not a significant issue in either of the 3 locations covered by the PSPO. Any incidents that do occur can be easily managed using ordinary policing powers and tactics.”*

## **6. Background papers**

Background papers used in the preparation of this report:

- (a) Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014:  
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/12/contents/enacted/data.htm>
- (b) Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014: Anti-social behaviour powers, Statutory guidance for frontline professionals:  
[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/352562/ASB\\_Guidance\\_v8\\_July2014\\_final\\_2\\_.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/352562/ASB_Guidance_v8_July2014_final_2_.pdf)
- (c) Decision details: Public Spaces Protection Order, Mill Road Cemetery, Petersfield Green and the front garden of Ditchburn Place:  
<https://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?Id=4945>

(d) Public Spaces Protection Orders: Officers' review following Area Committee Meetings and Proposed Public Spaces Protection Order for Mill Road Cemetery and Petersfield Green and the front garden of Ditchburn Place, Cambridge:

<https://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk/documents/s27927/PSPO%20Report%20-%20SR%20Committee%20Feb%202015%20v5.pdf>

(e) PSPO - Mill Road cemetery, Petersfield Green and the front garden at Ditchburn Place – Sealed:

<https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/5485/mill-road-cemetery-petersfield-green-ditchburn-place-pspo-2016-with-stamp.pdf>

## **7. Appendices**

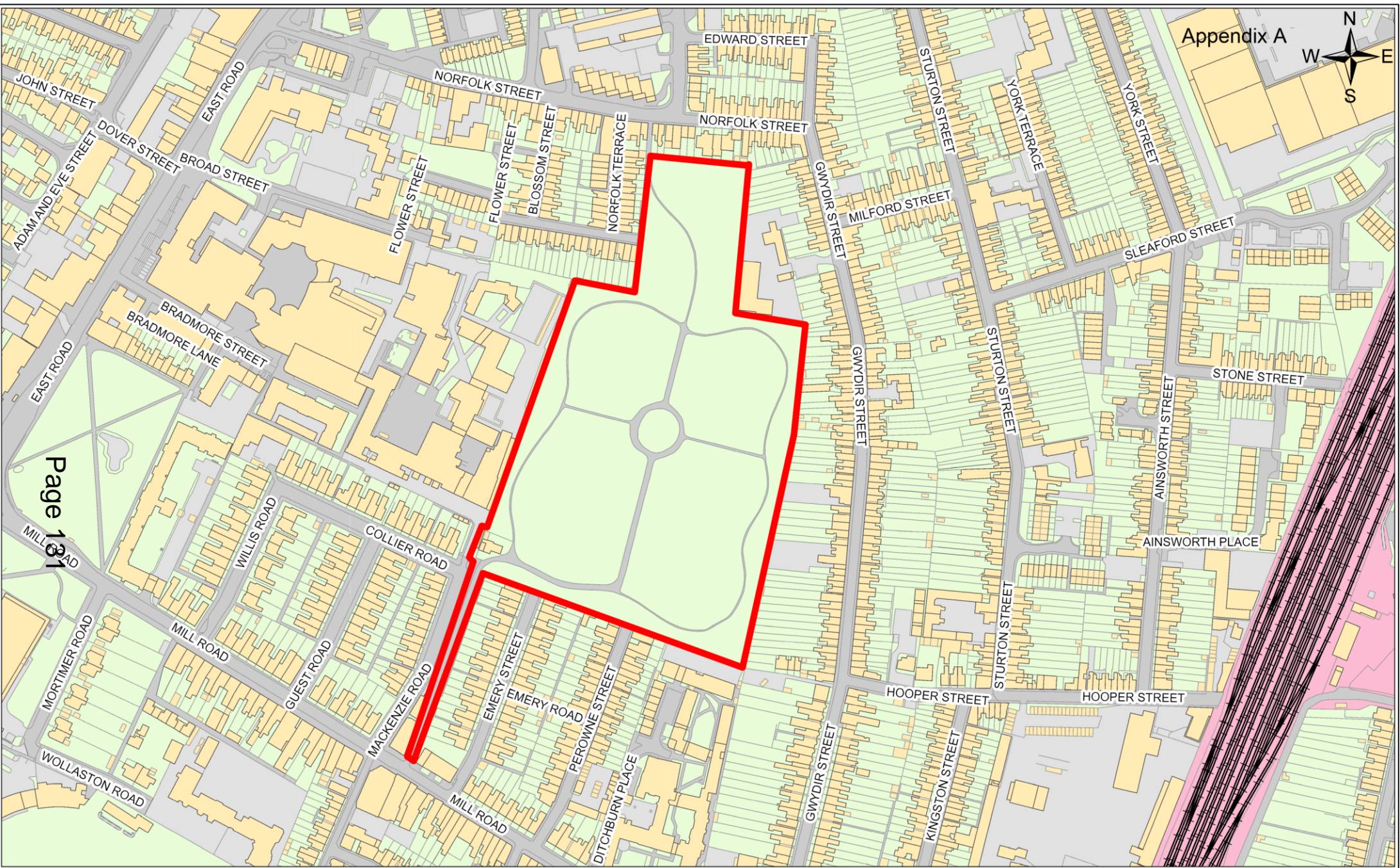
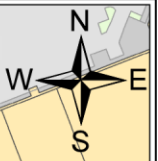
- A Mill Road Cemetery Map
- B Petersfield Green Map
- C Ditchburn Place Map
- D Consultation Questions
- E List of University of Cambridge Survey Areas
- F Equality Impact Assessment Mill Road Cemetery, Petersfield Green and Ditchburn Place

## **8. Inspection of papers**

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact Keryn Jalli, Community Safety Manager, tel: 07562 308 141, email: [keryn.jalli@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:keryn.jalli@cambridge.gov.uk)

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# Mill Road Cemetery



Date:	28 January 2015
Produced by:	Safer Communities
	from Intranet Mapping
Scale:	1:3,063 @ A4

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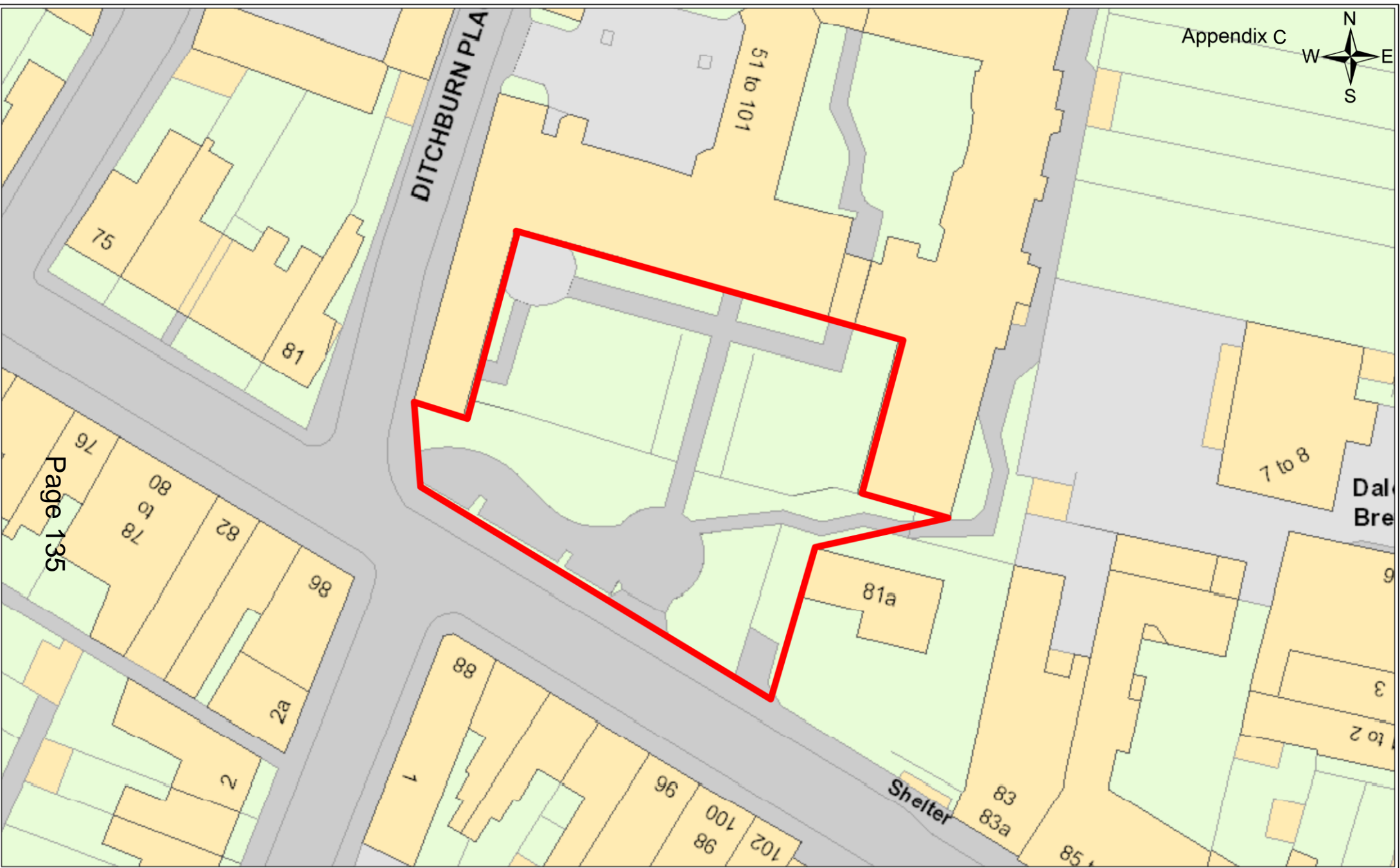
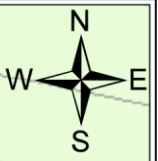
# Petersfield Green



(c) Crown copyright and database right 2015. Ordnance Survey Licence No. 100019730.

Date:	28 January 2015
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	from Intranet Mapping
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### Front Garden of Ditchburn Place



(c) Crown copyright and database right 2015. Ordnance Survey Licence No. 100019730.

Date:	02 March 2015
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	from Intranet Mapping
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## **Appendix D - Alcohol Public Spaces Protection Order Citizen Lab Consultation Questions**

1. In the last 12 months have you seen people drinking alcohol antisocially on Mill Road Cemetery, Petersfield Green or the front garden of Ditchburn Place?
2. How often did you see this in the last year?
3. Where did you see people drinking alcohol antisocially?
4. Did you report this to the council or police, or both?
5. If you did not report it, why not?
6. Do you think the PSPO should end?
8. What do you think should happen to the PSPO?
10. Would you support the Council or Police taking action on drinking alcohol anti-socially in public spaces in a different way?  
*For example, by engaging more with people street drinking to get them to stop and through more Criminal Behaviour Orders that put conditions on people such as staying away from a particular place and working to improve their behaviour by going to support services*

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## **Appendix E - List of University of Cambridge Survey Areas**

1. Parkers Piece
2. Behind Grand Arcade/Corn Exchange (Bene't Street)
3. Cambridge bus station area (Drummer Street/Christ's Lane)
4. Outside Lion's Yard (Petty Cury)
5. Petersfield Garden/Play Area (cnr of Mill Road & East Road)
6. Christ's Pieces
7. Kings Parade
8. Near Sainsbury's (Sidney Street)
9. New Square Park
10. Outside Grafton Centre (Fitzroy Street)
11. Ditchburn Place (garden area)/Mill Road
12. Mill Road Cemetery
13. Outside Grafton Centre (Burleigh Street)
14. Near Round Church (Bridge Street)
15. Coe Fen
16. Market Square
17. Near ARU/Tesco Express (East Road)
18. Midsummer Common
19. The Backs
20. Jesus Green
21. Lammas Land
22. Cambridge railway station (open area, Station Square)

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## Cambridge City Council Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

This tool helps the Council ensure that we fulfil legal obligations of the [Public Sector Equality Duty](#) to have due regard to the need to –

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

Guidance on how to complete this tool can be found on the Cambridge City Council intranet. For specific questions on the tool email Kate Yerbury, Equality and Anti-Poverty Officer at [equalities@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:equalities@cambridge.gov.uk) or phone 01223 457046.

Once you have drafted the EqIA please send this to [equalities@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:equalities@cambridge.gov.uk) for checking. For advice on consulting on equality impacts, please contact Graham Saint, Strategy Officer, ([graham.saint@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:graham.saint@cambridge.gov.uk) or 01223 457044).

<b>1. Title of strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service</b>
THE CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL Mill Road Cemetery, Petersfield Green and the front garden at Ditchburn Place, Cambridge PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER 2016 (“PSPO Alcohol”)
<b>2. Webpage link to full details of the strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service (if available)</b>
<a href="#">Public Spaces Protection Orders - Cambridge City Council</a>
<b>3. What is the objective or purpose of your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service?</b>
To discharge the PSPO Alcohol which is due to lapse on 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2023 and instead manage anti-social drinking of alcohol via: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Street Life Working Group (SLWG), a multi-agency group working with people difficult to engage and involved in street based ASB. The SLWG use customised action plans designed to address lifestyle choices and behaviours and to deliver the intensive work required to achieve changes.</li><li>• The Street Life Support Officer role. In 2022, a new role of Street Life Support Officer was created within the Community Safety Team. The purpose of this role is to engage with people with a street presence who cause anti-social behaviour (ASB), including street</li></ul>

drinkers and link them in with appropriate support services where necessary. Whilst in the early stages of their work, the post holder has successfully engaged those with a street presence and has had a positive impact on street related ASB in the city centre. On 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023 the Street Life Support Officer started weekly patrols of the PSPO sites. These patrols act as a deterrent to ASB, create opportunities for the officer to safely engage with street drinkers and gather evidence on anti-social drinking in the areas. The evidence can be used as a basis for interventions or where necessary, enforcement. The Street Life Support Officer will also engage the nearby support services and local interest groups.

- Community based solutions, such as the recent Environmental Improvement Programme award of £2,200 for benches at Petersfield Green - [\(3\) Two bench seats for Petersfield Green \(citizenlab.co\)](#)
- Use of Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBOs) by police to manage the behaviours of individuals causing persistent ASB. CBOs can include both prohibitive and positive conditions, such as conditions to engage in a substance abuse support service.

By virtue of Chapter 2 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, a local authority can make a PSPO if satisfied, on reasonable grounds that the following two conditions are met:

(1) that activities carried on in a public place within the authority's area have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, or it is likely that activities will be carried on in a public place within that area and that they will have such an effect.

(2) that the effect, or likely effect, of the activities is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature; is, or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable; and justifies the restrictions imposed by the notice.

Before considering discharge of the order the Council needs to consult with the Police and Crime Commissioner, the local policing body, relevant community representatives, ward councillors and the owner or occupier of land within the restricted area. The Council widened the scope of the PSPO consultation, by making it public. 61 people completed the consultation – this is 96% more than last year.

The consultation responses and evidence for this PSPO showed:

- The Council and Police only received 2 reports of anti-social drinking of alcohol in 2022.
- For the past 4 years the police have received less than 11 reports per year about ASB incidents involving alcohol on the PSPO sites. On average this is less than one report per month.
- 25 consultation respondents had not witnessed any anti-social drinking of alcohol on the sites covered by the PSPO in the last 12 months.
- Of the 36 respondents who had seen anti-social drinking, almost half witnessed it 10 times or less. On average this is less than one report per month.
- Of those who had seen anti-social drinking, 94% (34 people) did not report it to either the police or the council.

- Whilst 78% of consultation respondents (48 out of 61) wanted the PSPO to continue. 80% (49 of 61) supported the Council and Police managing anti-social drinking of alcohol in the ways set out in 2.4.
- 65% (194 of 300) respondents to the University of Cambridge’s in person surveys did not list alcohol as a core problem facing public spaces in Cambridge.
- 62% (186 of 300) respondents to the University of Cambridge’s in person surveys had never avoided public spaces in Cambridge due to experiences or perceptions of ASB. Of those who did avoid public spaces, only 5 stated alcohol as a reason for avoiding the space, 3 of those stated that areas they avoided were either outside a pub or nightclub.

The report presented to Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee on 27 March 2023 details the responses to consultation and the main substantive issues raised during the consultation process.

#### 4. Responsible service

Community Services – Community Safety Team

**5. Who will be affected by this strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service?**  
(Please tick all that apply)

- Residents
- Visitors
- Staff

Please state any specific client group or groups (e.g. City Council tenants, tourists, people who work in the city but do not live here):

- People drinking alcohol in the named places
- People in supported accommodation at Ditchburn Place and Jimmy’s
- Residents and businesses in the areas close to the current PSPO sites

**6. What type of strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service is this?**

- New
- Major change
- Minor change

**7. Are other departments or partners involved in delivering this strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service? (Please tick)**

- Yes  
 No

If 'Yes' please provide details below:

Cambridgeshire Constabulary and City Council's enforcement officers

**8. Has the report on your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service gone to Committee? If so, which one?**

The proposals will go to Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee on 27 March 2023.

**9. What research methods/ evidence have you used in order to identify equality impacts of your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service?**

Sources of data used to inform this EqIA include:

- [Cambridgeshire Insight](#)
- [Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014](#)
- [Anti-social behaviour powers - Statutory guidance for frontline professionals](#)
- [Living within a Public Spaces Protection Order: the impacts of policing anti-social behaviour on people experiencing street homelessness | Sheffield Hallam University \(shu.ac.uk\)](#)
- [Tackling Street Drinking Police and Crime Commissioner Guidance on Best Practice](#)
- [\(3\) Project • Alcohol Public Spaces Protection Order 2015 \(citizenlab.co\)](#)

The consultation responses and evidence for this PSPO showed:

- The Council and Police only received 2 reports of anti-social drinking of alcohol in 2022.
- For the past 4 years the police have received less than 11 reports per year about ASB incidents involving alcohol on the PSPO sites. On average this is less than one report per month.
- 25 consultation respondents had not witnessed any anti-social drinking of alcohol on the sites covered by the PSPO in the last 12 months.
- Of the 36 respondents who had seen anti-social drinking, almost half witnessed it 10 times or less. On average this is less than one report per month.
- Of those who had seen anti-social drinking, 94% (34 people) did not report it to either the police or the council.

- Whilst 78% of consultation respondents (48 out of 61) wanted the PSPO to continue. 80% (49 of 61) supported the Council and Police managing anti-social drinking of alcohol in the ways set out in 2.4.
- 65% (194 of 300) respondents to the University of Cambridge’s in person surveys did not list alcohol as a core problem facing public spaces in Cambridge.
- 62% (186 of 300) respondents to the University of Cambridge’s in person surveys had never avoided public spaces in Cambridge due to experiences or perceptions of ASB. Of those who did avoid public spaces, only 5 stated alcohol as a reason for avoiding the space, 3 of those stated that areas they avoided were either outside a pub or nightclub.

Petersfield Green is adjacent to Jimmy’s which is a community-based charity providing both support and housing to people who are rough sleeping. Ditchburn Place is a supported living scheme operated by Cambridge City Council.

The Home Office guidance on PSPOs states: “PSPOs should not be used to target people based solely on the fact that someone is homeless or rough sleeping, as this in itself is unlikely to mean that such behaviour is having an unreasonably detrimental effect on the community’s quality of life which justifies the restrictions imposed. It suggests the council should consider whether the use of a PSPO is the appropriate response and if it will have a detrimental impact on homeless people and rough sleepers.”

In 2022, Sheffield Hallam University and the Helena Kennedy Centre for International Justice completed a report on PSPOs. The report showed that they fail to adequately tackle anti-social behaviour and that those dispersed by PSPOs simply return back later.

## 10. Potential impacts

For each category below, please explain if the strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service could have a positive/ negative impact or no impact. Where an impact has been identified, please explain what it is. Consider impacts on service users, visitors and staff members separately.

### (a) Age - Please also consider any safeguarding issues for children and adults at risk

Ditchburn Place is a sheltered accommodation. Street drinking in the front garden of Ditchburn Place can still be managed by the combination of outreach, multi-agency partnership arrangements, community initiatives and criminal behaviour orders.

National best practice guidance shows that “older people are more likely to feel threatened by intoxicated individuals”. Anti-social drinking can still be managed by the combination of outreach, multi-agency partnership arrangements, community initiatives and criminal behaviour orders.

No age-related issues have been identified for those publicly consuming alcohol in these areas.

### **(b) Disability**

Ditchburn Place is a sheltered accommodation. Street drinking in the front garden of Ditchburn Place can still be managed by the combination of outreach, multi-agency partnership arrangements, community initiatives and criminal behaviour orders.

National best practice guidance shows that street drinkers may have mental health or chronic physical health problems and are resistant to change their drinking. The new proposal will allow for more targeting interventions as opposed to a blanket approach to street drinking,

### **(c) Gender reassignment**

No impact has been identified specific to this protected characteristic group.

### **(d) Marriage and civil partnership**

National data shows that street drinkers are more likely to live alone.

### **(e) Pregnancy and maternity**

No impact has been identified specific to this protected characteristic group

### **(f) Race – Note that the protected characteristic ‘race’ refers to a group of people defined by their race, colour, and nationality (including citizenship) ethnic or national origins.**

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Health Inequalities Strategy 2020 showed that “the rate of smoking and excessive alcohol consumption is higher among Eastern European communities” and that “1.9% of the population in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough have low English proficiency.” Whilst this data is not solely focused on the street drinking or alcohol dependent populations it gives insight into those who consume alcohol excessively.

The notice may not be understood by 1.9% of the population with low English proficiency this would be the same for any Council notice displayed solely in English.

### **(g) Religion or belief**

Mill Road Cemetery is a burial space for the city centre parishes. It is maintained as a churchyard and open space. Anti-social drinking of alcohol in Mill Road Cemetery can still be managed by the combination of outreach, multi-agency partnership arrangements, community initiatives and criminal behaviour orders.

### **(h) Sex**

National research indicates that street drinkers are more likely to be male. Street drinking on the sites of the PSPO can still be managed by the combination of outreach, multi-agency partnership arrangements, community initiatives and criminal behaviour orders. This will enable support to be provided to this cohort and where enforcement is necessary for it to target the specific behaviours which as anti-social.

National best practice guidance shows that women are more likely to feel threatened by intoxicated individuals. Street drinking on the sites of the PSPO can still be managed by the combination of outreach, multi-agency partnership arrangements, community initiatives and criminal behaviour orders. A reduction in street drinking would have a positive impact on women feeling safe in Cambridge.

### **(i) Sexual orientation**

No impact has been identified specific to this protected characteristic group.

### **(j) Other factors that may lead to inequality – in particular, please consider the impact of any changes on:**

- **Low-income groups or those experiencing the impacts of poverty**
- **Groups who have more than one protected characteristic that taken together create overlapping and interdependent systems of discrimination or disadvantage. (Here you are being asked to consider intersectionality, and for more information see: [https://media.ed.ac.uk/media/1\\_159kt25q](https://media.ed.ac.uk/media/1_159kt25q)).**

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Health Inequalities Strategy 2020 highlighted alcohol as one of the five conditions which contribute most to excess deaths due to socio-economic inequalities. National best practice guidance also shows that street drinkers spend a large proportion of their income on alcohol.

The £75 fixed penalty notice attached to PSPO breach would place further financial constraints on this group, which would exacerbate the pressure already experience through the Cost of Living Crisis.

Discharging the PSPO and managing anti-social drinking through a combination of outreach, multi-agency partnership arrangements, community initiatives and criminal behaviour orders would address the ASB but reduce the financial impact on low-income groups.

**11. Action plan – New equality impacts will be identified in different stages throughout the planning and implementation stages of changes to your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service. How will you monitor these going forward? Also, how will you ensure that any potential negative impacts of the changes will be mitigated? (Please include dates where possible for when you will update this EqIA accordingly.)**

To discharge the PSPO Alcohol which is due to lapse on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023 and instead manage anti-social drinking of alcohol via:

- The Street Life Working Group (SLWG) is a multi-agency group, members include Cambridge City Council and a range of support services in the city including drug and alcohol services. The group focuses on people difficult to engage and involved in street-based ASB. The SLWG use customised action plans designed to address lifestyle choices and behaviours and to deliver the intensive work required to achieve changes, rather than a PSPO. Action plans include, but are not limited to support with substance use, treatment, health services and accommodation. This would mitigate against negative impacts on health, disability and socio-economic factors. Support services also have access to interpreters for those who do not speak English. The group look into a range of flexible support options, bespoke to the individual being discussed i.e., those who are chronically excluded (resistant to engage with services). Enforcement options are used as a last resort by the group and can include positive requirements as well as prohibitive requirements
- The Street Life Support Officer role. The purpose of this role is to engage with people with a street presence who cause anti-social behaviour (ASB), including street drinkers and link them in with appropriate support services where necessary. Whilst in the early stages of their work, the post holder has successfully engaged those with a street presence and has had a positive impact on street related ASB in the city centre. On 2nd March 2023 the Street Life Support Officer started weekly patrols of the PSPO sites. These patrols act as a deterrent to ASB, create opportunities for the officer to safely engage with street drinkers and gather evidence on anti-social drinking in the areas. The evidence can be used as a basis for interventions or where necessary, enforcement. The Street Life Support Officer will also engage the nearby support services and local interest groups.
- Community based solutions, such as the recent Environmental Improvement Programme award of £2,200 for benches at Petersfield Green - [\(3\) Two bench seats for Petersfield Green \(citizenlab.co\)](#)



- Use of Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBOs) by police to manage the behaviours of individuals causing persistent ASB. CBOs can include both prohibitive and positive conditions, such as conditions to engage in a substance abuse support service.

This approach would also allow for it to be established whether the individual speaks or understands English and the signage on display. The negative impact in relation to race may be mitigated by being able to arrange for a translation of information, upon request in such circumstances before enforcement is used.

## 12. Do you have any additional comments?

[Click here to enter text.](#)

## 13. Sign off

Name and job title of lead officer for this equality impact assessment: Keryn Jalli,  
Community Safety Manager

Names and job titles of other assessment team members and people consulted: Tom  
Kingsley, Project Officer, Community Safety

Date of EqIA sign off: 03/03/2023

Date of next review of the equalities impact assessment: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Date to be published on Cambridge City Council website: 27 March 2023

**All EqIAs need to be sent to the Equality and Anti-Poverty Officer at [equalities@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:equalities@cambridge.gov.uk)**

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Item:

## **UPDATE ON THE WORK OF KEY EXTERNAL PARTNERSHIPS**

**To:**

Councillor Mairead Healy, Executive Councillor for Equalities, Anti-Poverty and Wellbeing,

Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee, 23 March 2023

**Report by:**

Graham Saint

Tel: 01223 - 457044

Email: [Graham.Saint@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:Graham.Saint@cambridge.gov.uk)

**Wards affected:**

Abbey, Arbury, Castle, Cherry Hinton, Coleridge, East Chesterton, King's Hedges, Market, Newnham, Petersfield, Queen Edith's, Romsey, Trumpington, West Chesterton

### **Not a Key Decision**

#### **1. Executive Summary**

- 1.1 This paper provides an update on the work of the Health and Wellbeing Board and Cambridge Community Safety as a part of the Council's commitment given in its "Principles of Partnership Working".
- 1.2 This paper shows some of the new partnership arrangements arising from the new Integrated Care Systems that have put in place as part of recent NHS reforms. The Health and Wellbeing Board now operates as a "committee in common" with the Integrated Care Partnership and is developing shared ways of working to improve health and care for all, through collaborative action. The paper also highlights the achievements of the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership during the year.

## **2. Recommendations**

2.1 The Executive Councillor is recommended to:

- a) Continue to work with the Health and Wellbeing Board and engage with the Integrated Care Partnership and its sub-system to ensure that public agencies and others can come together to address the strategic issues affecting Cambridge City and that the concerns of Cambridge citizens are heard, as the system is developed.
- b) Continue to work with partners within the framework of the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership, identifying local priorities and taking action that will make a positive difference to the safety of communities in the city.

## **3. Background**

3.1 The strategic partnerships that are covered in this paper include:

- Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) and the Integrated Care Partnership System (ICPS)
- Cambridge Community Safety Partnership

## **4. Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB)**

4.1 During the year Cambridgeshire and Peterborough's Health and Wellbeing Board and the Integrated Care Partnership Committee (ICPC) operated as a "committee in common" with aligned membership.

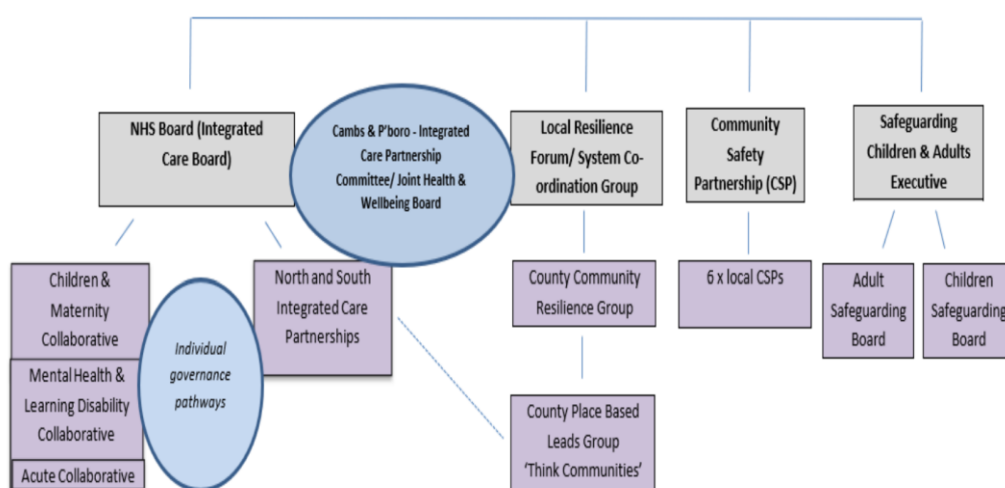
### Integrated Care Partnership Committee and the Health and Wellbeing Board

4.2 The ICPC is a statutory body that the Integrated Care Board (ICB) established jointly with Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council. The ICPC is responsible for the development of an Integrated Care Strategy. The ICPC has 3 local authority members: the Chair of Adults and Health Committee: Vice-

Chair of Adults and Health Committee (lead member for HWB), and; Cabinet Member for Children’s Services, Education, Skills and the University, Peterborough City Council. The remainder are officers from the various stakeholders.

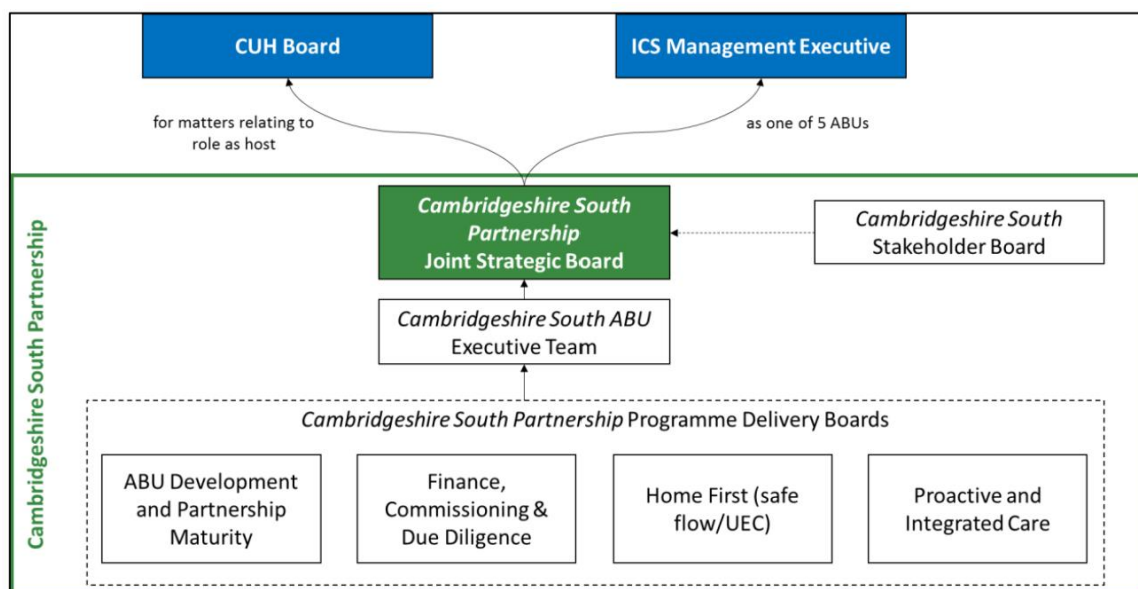
- 4.3 The ICB is a statutory board that oversees the day-to-day running of the NHS locally. It manages a single pot of NHS funding, for which it is directly accountable. There is also a Health and Care Partnership Board that oversees joint and integrated working.
- 4.4 The Health and Wellbeing Board remains responsible for producing a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and a joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The Health & Wellbeing Board and Integrated Care Partnership approved the Joint Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Health and Wellbeing Integrated Care Strategy, when it met on 20 December 2022, after consideration of a “Let’s Talk: Your Health and Care Campaign” consultation report.
- 4.5 The structure diagram below looks to describe how the new Integrated Care System governance interplays with other statutory boards across the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough footprint. This was provided to the county’s Adults and Health Policy and Service Committee in January 2022.

**Diagram 1:** Statutory Governance Structure across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough



- 4.6 There are two place-based alliances, called Integrated Care Partnerships (ICPs), covering the North and the South of Cambridgeshire. They are responsible for the development and delivery of integrated health and social care through effective partner collaboration to deliver better outcomes for people living in the place (Cambridge City, East Cambridgeshire and South Cambridgeshire).
- 4.7 The vision for the **Cambridgeshire South Care Partnership (CSCP)** is ‘for our citizens to enjoy healthy lives in strong, connected communities’, focused on delivering better, more equitable outcomes with: our people, family and carers; service providers, workforce and carers; our population, and; our Integrated Care System”.
- 4.8 The CSCP is overseen by a **Joint Strategic Board** that provides leadership of the partnership. This Board is jointly chaired by a council member. It is advised by a **Stakeholder Board**. A diagram of the CSCP’s governance is shown below. This was presented to the county’s Adults and Health Committee in December 2022.

**Diagram 2: Cambridgeshire South Care Partnership Governance Diagram**



4.9 There are currently 6 overarching workstreams being developed by the CSCP that are looking at:

- **Partnership engagement** - to ensure effective partnership working is in place to allow integrated neighbourhoods to thrive
- **An Operating Framework** - following the best available evidence, to drive for integrated care delivery and population health management
- **A two-year strategy** by March 2023 and a long-term strategy in 2023/24 that will set out implementation plans and a supporting investment and redesign plan
- A **'here and now' implementation plan** on priority improvement work for the next 6-12 months
- A **Cambridgeshire South Accountable Business Unit** to ensure it has the capacity and capability to be successful
- **Oversight** of the Cambridgeshire South health and care system and the sustainability of all partners, leading where required to address challenges faced

#### Integrated Neighbourhoods

4.10 The CSCP has an Integrated Neighbourhood team consisting of 8 Programme and Project Managers that are working closely with all system partners to help establish Integrated Neighbourhoods in each of the Neighbourhoods/Primary Care Networks that cover Cambridge City (and beyond) These are: Cantab (50,000 patients registered); Cam Medical (46,500 patients registered); Cambridge City (50,500 patients registered), and; Cambridge City 4 (56,400 patients registered)

4.11 The vision for Integrated Neighbourhoods is to bring together primary, secondary, community, and social care, housing, voluntary sector and other services to provide proactive and integrated care and improve quality, outcomes and value for money for local citizens.

## Partnership Working in Neighbourhoods

4.12 Early examples of partnership working in Neighbourhoods covering Cambridge City include:

- Winter Wellbeing projects to proactively support people who are older or housebound this winter, with all four PCNs working with Care Network Cambridgeshire, Age UK and Caring Together and Public Health
- Events such as a Diabetes Wellness Day held at Cambridge Central Mosque with partner organisations. With 400 attendees. And Healthy You now offering a Monthly Health Hub with health checks and lifestyle advice.
- Piloting single sessions of support with a therapist for children, young people and families with mild to moderate mental health issues within two weeks of referral. A second pilot is now taking place within Younited
- Health Champions recruited by Cambridge Ethnic Community Foundation to deliver health promotion messages and listen to people's experiences. Working in Cambridge Bangladeshi Health Fair
- Supported the City and County Council's Cost of Living Support Pop Ups - promoting events through patient text messaging
- Building relationships between PCN, Healthy You and the Traveller Health Nurse to better meet the needs of people living on Fen Road Travellers Site. Offering health checks and encouraging people to register their ethnicity with their GP surgery.

## Provider Collaboratives

4.13 There is also work underway to develop a number of 'Provider Collaboratives' in the area. This is a term that is being used in the NHS to describe the disaggregation of the CCG commissioning functions and work is underway to develop proposals for a Provider Collaborative for Children and Young People, Mental Health and Learning Disabilities.



## Health Scrutiny

- 4.14 Health Scrutiny at a county level forms part of the Adult Care and Health Scrutiny Committee, which is a merger to two previous committees, and is carried out in a defined Part 2 of the agenda, where local district council member representatives join the meeting. Health Scrutiny can request evidence of performance against the plans of the ICS focusing on the difference the ICS is making to the lives and outcomes of residents. Councillor Jenny Gawthrop Wood is the council's representative for Health Scrutiny.

## Public Health

- 4.15 The Public Health service for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough for this year is subject to a collaborative commissioning pilot operating a new service model that brings together services commissioned by Cambridgeshire County Council, Peterborough City Council, Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and NHS England into an integrated service. Public Health continue to commission a comprehensive lifestyle service that includes weight management services.

## **5. Cambridge Community Safety Partnership (“the CSP”)**

- 5.1 The Cambridge CSP continues to seek to understand the community safety issues residents, visitors and local businesses are experiencing and select issues where the CSP feels it can add value and take appropriate collective action to make a difference. It will then assess the effectiveness of its interventions.

## Strategic Assessment

- 5.2 At the start of the year (February 2022), following consideration of a Strategic Assessment prepared by the county council's Research Group looking at local trends in crime and disorder an in-depth analysis of progress against the priority areas of the CSP over the preceding year, it was decided by the CSP that the two existing broad priorities for the partnership from the previous year should be retained. These were:

- **Protecting young people against violence and exploitation** (led by Cambridgeshire County Council)

- **Listening to community needs and responding together to reduce harm** (led by Cambridgeshire Constabulary)

#### Priorities for the Community Safety Plan (2022/23)

5.3 The priorities identified in the Strategic Assessment were then incorporated into a Community Safety Plan for 2022/2023 where more specific actions and targets are applied. The plan is mindful of the Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner's Crime Plan and the requirement to 'have regard' to its priorities.

5.4 To help deliver the actions within the plan a multi-agency steering group oversaw "business as usual" operational groups in the year that looked at issues and covered the:

- **The City Centre** – through the City Centre Working Group chaired by the Police: working with stakeholders such as businesses and universities to discuss issues such as night time economy and retail crime
- **Domestic Abuse** - led by Cambridge City Council: raising awareness, co-ordinating training, and promoting the White Ribbon Campaign
- **Problem-solving** – through the Problem-Solving Working Group chaired by Cambridge City Council: Multi-Agency Partners discuss cases including hot spots to develop action plans
- **Street Community** - led by Cambridge City Council: discussing individual cases and developing action plans

5.5 For priority one, **safeguarding young people against violence and exploitation**, the aim is to add value to our city's safeguarding efforts by fully encouraging and supporting "contextual safeguarding" and "problem solving" as joint ways of working. This will be achieved by:

- Creating opportunities to support a contextual safeguarding approach.
- Mapping the service available to young people in the city that can prevent them being exploited into violence and criminality

5.6 A tactical action plan was developed to utilise the different expertise available in the city. This included:

- The creation of a multi-agency contextual safeguarding pilot – the Peer Groups and Places meeting, led by the City Council.
- The creation of contextual safeguarding training, led by the County Council.
- Reviewing and embedding work, such as the local Cambs. Against County Lines projects and Transforming Lives.

5.7 For priority two, **listening to community needs and responding together to reduce harm the aim** is to bring together community concerns on safeguarding the vulnerable, crime and antisocial behaviour and work alongside our communities to create solutions. This will be achieved by:

- Making more opportunities for communities to come together with CCSP partners to address the crime and safety issues that matter to them
- Better informing our communities of what the partnership is doing through a “you said we did” communications plan

5.8 A tactical action plan was developed with the CCSP members using the “Think Communities” approach across all partner agencies to deliver on this priority. Actions included:

- An updated Community Safety Partnership webpage, “Working Together to Keep Cambridge Safe” to make it clearer what the partnership does.
- Police led, resident engagement meetings throughout the year.
- A Residents Crime Survey, ran by the police, as part of a “You Said, We Did” communications approach.
- Door to door engagement with residents about crime and community safety issues.

- A funded (OPCC) Problem Solving Co-ordinator (based in the City Council) working with communities to deliver solutions. The Problem-Solving co-ordinator secured funding for cycle marking kits, rocket tower LED lights to enable winter youth provision, animated education videos on county lines, knife crime and healthy relationships, CCTV cameras, taxi marshals and youth activities.

### Annual Review of Work Programme 2022

5.9 Cambridge CSP published its **Annual Review 2022** in October as a public facing document, outlining the work that it has carried out during the year and to help outline actions for the year ahead.

5.10 Achievements in the year for the CSP include:

- **Continuation of the Cambs Against County Lines campaign** - this large-scale project funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) and coordinated by the City Council, provided a universal offer to raise awareness amongst young people and adults in Cambridge City and surrounding districts about the risks of County Lines drug dealing. Recently, a survey to find out about drugs, violence and gangs in Cambridge has been carried out.
- **Delivery of a film about County Lines** - supporting local schools to raise awareness of the dangers of county lines among pupils aged 11 to 18, in Year 7 to Year 13, creating a video to be shown in schools to support pupil workshops.
- **Running a 'Save Our Cycles' Campaign** - encouraging the public to record their bike's frame number with a description and then it on Bikeregister.com. This helps the Police trace and return stolen bikes, and bike owners to always lock their bike securely to a fixed object, even if it is only being left for a few minutes.
- **Investing in CCTV enhancements at cycle stands** – as part of the work that Greater Anglia is undertaking at the two city railway stations, following an audit of the cycle stands in the city, to bring about security improvements to strengthen user confidence and prevent cycle related crime.
- **Carrying out additional cycle crime enforcement work** - the Police continue their enforcement work and are using theft data

combined with the CCTV locations to make sure that they are correctly placed to capture incidents and respond where the cycle theft is more evident. For 2022-23, communication will be a focus with the recognition of the need for more promotion of the successes in cycle crime reduction with residents, as this does not currently match public perception.

- **Creation of a Peer Groups and Places pilot** - led by the City Council the Peer Group Meeting is a multi-agency meeting to discuss and explore issues within the local community where there are concerns about a particular group of young people, or a location where young people are known to congregate. The meeting allows for professionals to understand the risk levels young people are subject to and, as a result, appropriately safeguard them.
- **Putting in place local projects as a part of Safer Streets initiative** that aims make women and girls feel safer on our streets as part of the government's Safer Streets Fund. Project work in Cambridge included:
  - **Operation Armour**, that involved the targeting of individuals displaying predatory behaviour, to undertake early intervention to ensure the public were safeguarded and sexual offences were prevented from being committed.
  - **Carrying out training in spotting predatory behaviour** with Taxi Marshalls, CCTV operators, and Security Industry Authority (SIA) qualified door staff.
  - **Running a media campaign** on domestic violence and coercive controlling behaviour, which involved some local schools.
- **Continuing to support work in the City Centre**, including activities for the Purple Flag accreditation award with Cambridge Business Against Crime (CAMBAC), continuing training for staff at licensed premises to be able to identify and respond appropriately to crime and support for campaigns such as 'Ask For Angela', led by CAMBAC, which aims to keep people safe while dating – helping to prevent and reduce sexual violence and vulnerability within the night-time economy.

- 5.11 The council supports the local community and voluntary groups with community safety funding for projects that contribute to reducing crime, the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. Projects funded in the year include:
- A safe youth area, community and wellbeing area at Cambridge Pride 2022.
  - ASB posters in libraries as part of a multi-agency project to improve safety in libraries in the city.
  - Renewal of the previous 12-month fixed term role for a **Specialist Housing Worker**, who joined the Supported Housing team in January 2022. This role was developed to undertake work across all of Cambridge City Council's services from Domestic Abuse Act Safer Accommodation Funding, and there are sufficient funds for this post to continue until January 2024.
- 5.12 The council's Area Committees consider local areas of concern, highlighted in neighbourhood profiles compiled by the Police and the Council's Community Safety Team, which action and resources can be directed to, to help resolve.

### Governance

- 5.13 The Cambridge CSP brings together a number of agencies concerned with tackling and reducing crime and antisocial behaviour in Cambridge. It meets quarterly and its Board is currently chaired by a Head of Service from Cambridge City Council. Councillor Alice Gilderdale, Executive Councillor for Recovery, Employment and Community Safety, is a member of the CSP Board. Councillor Alice Gilderdale is also the Council's representative in the **Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Police and Crime Panel**, which oversees and scrutinises the work of the Police and Crime Commissioner.
- 5.14 The CSP, led by Cambridge City Council, is represented on the Cambridgeshire Countywide High Harms Board, which is chaired by the Police and Crime Commissioner. This Board replaced the County Community Strategic Board in October 2022. Senior leaders discuss governance arrangements, information sharing and strategy.

## **6. Implications**

### **(a) Financial Implications**

The partnerships will be responsible for putting in place new ways of working as part wider transformation plans. By working together with other public agencies the council may be able to achieve more than working on its own.

### **(b) Staffing Implications**

This will depend on how the development of joint working opportunities is taken forward within each partnership.

### **(c) Equality and Poverty Implications**

The partnerships will be looking to target services at those who are most vulnerable and to reduce inequalities, especially health inequalities as much as possible.

### **(d) Environmental Implications**

Systems that promote low carbon use and improve the sustainability of developments will be supported.

### **(e) Procurement**

The partnerships are likely to procure or commission some services to achieve their aims.

### **(f) Consultation and communication**

Where service delivery is modified, local communities and users will be consulted about changes. The HWB consultation is designed to be accessible to a wide range of people to help them understand the proposed priorities.

### **(g) Community Safety**

Vulnerable groups of people will form a large part of the target users of services and it will be important that their wellbeing is taken into account. This is part of the core work of the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership.

## **7. Appendices**

No Appendices are attached.

## **8. Consultation and communication considerations**

Individual funding streams and plans will specify the groups of people to be consulted, especially where targeted work is required.



## 9. Background papers

Background papers used in the preparation of this report:

Principles of Partnership Working

[The Council's Principles for Partnership Working \(cambridge.gov.uk\)](http://cambridge.gov.uk)

Cambridgeshire County Council's Adults and Health Committee Meetings

[Council and committee meetings - Cambridgeshire County Council > Committees > Adults and Health \(cmis.uk.com\)](http://cmis.uk.com)

Integrated Care System (ICS) - Cambridgeshire County Council position paper

[Document.ashx \(cmis.uk.com\)](http://cmis.uk.com)

Realising the potential of the Integration of Health and Social Care

[Document.ashx \(cmis.uk.com\)](http://cmis.uk.com)

Cambridgeshire South Care Partnership (ICP) Update

[Document.ashx \(cmis.uk.com\)](http://cmis.uk.com)

Joint Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Health and Wellbeing Board / Integrated Care Partnership meetings

[Joint Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Health & Wellbeing Board/ICP | CPICS Website](http://cpics.org.uk)

Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Health and Wellbeing and Integrated Care Strategy summary

[Joint Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Health & Wellbeing Board/ICP | CPICS Website](http://cpics.org.uk)

Let's Talk: Your Health and Care Final Report

[https://www.cpics.org.uk/hwb-icp-meetings?media\\_item=2276&media\\_type=10#file-viewer](https://www.cpics.org.uk/hwb-icp-meetings?media_item=2276&media_type=10#file-viewer)

Joint Strategic Needs Assessments

<http://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/jsna>

Annual Public Health Report

<http://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/health/aphr>

Public Health Profiles

[https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/health-profiles/area-search-results/E07000008?place\\_name=Cambridge&search\\_type=parent-area](https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/health-profiles/area-search-results/E07000008?place_name=Cambridge&search_type=parent-area)

Working together to keep Cambridge safe

[Cambridge Community Safety Partnership: Working together to keep Cambridge safe - Cambridge City Council](#)

Cambs Against County Lines

<https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/cambs-against-county-lines>

Save our Cycles campaign

<https://www.camcycle.org.uk/resources/cycletheft/>

Papers for Community Safety Partnership, including End of year Review, Strategic Assessments, Community Safety Plan 2020/21 and agenda and minutes:

<https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/cambridge-community-safety-partnership>

Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel

[Committee details - Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel | Peterborough City Council](#)

British Crime Survey Findings

<https://www.crimesurvey.co.uk/en/SurveyResults.html>

## **10. Inspection of papers**

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact GRAHAM SAINT, CORPORATE STRATEGY OFFICER, tel: 01223 - 457044, email: [graham.saint@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:graham.saint@cambridge.gov.uk).