



Cambridge City Council
West Central Area Committee

Date: Thursday, 15 June 2023

Time: 6.30 pm

Venue: Virtually via Microsoft Teams

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

Agenda

- 1 Welcome, Introduction and Apologies for Absence
- 2 Declarations of Interest
- 3 Notes from Previous Meeting (Pages 3 - 10)
- 4 Matters and Actions Arising (Pages 11 - 14)
The matters arising that the Chair of the Committee will highlight will be:
 - E-bikes and e-mopeds
 - Engine idling
 - CCTV: An update on progress on East Road/Burleigh Street.
 - Rouse Ball pavilion toilets on Jesus Green.
 - Drug taking and street begging in the city centre.
- 5 Policing and Safer Neighbourhoods WCAC (Pages 15 - 22)
- 6 Open Forum

City Councillors: Porrer (Chair), Martinelli (Vice-Chair), Bick, Glasberg, Holloway, Nestor, Nethsingha, Payne and S. Smith

County Councillors: Black, Gay, Nethsingha and Rae

Information for the public

The public may record (e.g. film, audio, tweet, blog) meetings which are open to the public. For details go to:

www.cambridge.gov.uk/have-your-say-at-committee-meetings

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

- Website: <http://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk>
- Email: democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk
- Phone: 01223 457000

In line with wider council policies on waste reduction, we are trying to reduce our use of disposable cups at area committee. Please bring your own reusable mug if you can.

WEST CENTRAL AREA COMMITTEE

16 March 2023

6.30 - 7.40 pm

Present

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

Officers:

Community Engagement and Enforcement Manager: Wendy Johnston

Community Funding & Voluntary Sector Manager: Julie Cornwell

Committee Manager: Claire Tunnicliffe

Meeting Producer: Boris Herzog

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL

23/1/WAC Welcome, Introduction and Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Sweeny.

23/2/WAC Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made.

23/3/WAC Notes of the Previous Meeting

Councillor S Smith advised that he had not been recorded in the minutes as being present at the meeting on 24 November which was an error.

The Chair agreed that the notes would be updated

**Committee Manager note: The electronic version has been updated and Councillor S Smith recorded as present.*

[Agenda for West Central Area Committee on Thursday, 24th November, 2022, 6.30 pm - Cambridge Council](#)

23/4/WAC Matters and Actions Arising From the Minutes

Reference: 22/19/WCAC Open Forum: Councillor Porrer requested that Ward Councillors were updated on any actions / outcomes from the multi-agency officer meeting scheduled for 22 March.

ACTION: Head of Environmental Services

Members then noted the updated action sheet which could be found at the following link:

[Agenda for West Central Area Committee on Thursday, 16th March, 2023, 6.30 pm - Cambridge Council](#)

23/5/WAC Re-Ordering Agenda

Under paragraph 4.2.1 of the Council Procedure Rules, the Chair used their 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.

23/6/WAC Environmental Report - WCAC

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

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

In response to Member's comments the Community Engagement and Enforcement Manager said the following:

- i. Illegal camping referenced in the report referred to individual or groups who had erected tents to sleep overnight or to stay in a tent. This did not include rough sleepers or pop-up structures for children in the summer.
- ii. Acknowledged that Fitzroy Street and Burleigh Street were hotspots for littering; the number of fixed penalties for that area was increasing.
- iii. How often street cleaning occurred was very much dependent on the area. Parked cars did cause an obstruction, therefore main roads were swept more often than a side street with vehicles parked down.
- iv. The Government set a standard which the Street Cleaning Teams had to work towards. Officers aimed for a minimum of a B grade, minimal mulch, or detritus at the side of the road.
- v. Officers were currently working on a 'Bins on Street' Campaign across the city. The process was restricted as the power to deal with persistent

owners of bins (which caused an obstruction) had been decriminalised by the Government ten years ago. A civil notice could be issued to residents who persistently obstructed pathways (yet had an alternative location to store them), this could be followed by a civil penalty.

- vi. Noted the positive comments regarding the engagement with volunteers.
- vii. Would pass on the Committee's thanks and praise for their work; particularly highlighted in Market Ward and the ascension burial ground.

23/7/WAC Area Committee Grants 2023-24

The Committee received a report from the Community Funding & Voluntary Sector Manager regarding Community Grants.

Councillors were reminded that the Committee could not make decisions whilst the Area Committees were taking place virtually, but any discussion / debate would be taken into consideration by Officers when the delegated decisions were made.

In response to Members' questions officers said the following:

- i. Acknowledged that Christ Pieces Resident Association had been successful in the past but had not met the funding criteria on this occasion. The application had not demonstrated how they would evidence an impact around social and or economic deprivation or provided any evidence that the beneficiaries couldn't fund the activities themselves. Would be happy to support the Resident Association to seek alternative funding.
- ii. Friends of Midsummer Common would receive an increased award from the previous year although not the full amount Requested as they also receive support from another Council service
- iii. There had been unprecedented demand for funding, but bids had been given rigorous scrutiny from officers. Funding was allocated where the criteria were met.
- iv. Reasons why applications were not proposed to be awarded area committee grant funding included:
 - a. Significant funding had already been provided by the council through the main community grants fund.
 - b. Poor or insufficient detail regarding benefit to residents in the west area of Cambridge; where appropriate officers would liaise with applicants where their application would be better made to the main community grants fund.
 - c. Inclusion of inappropriate costs (e.g. equipment only requests).

- d. Financial need of applicant group not demonstrated or over reliance on Community Grants funding.
- v. Recommended that organisations read through the guidance and talked with Grant Officers before applying.
- vi. Money that had been underspent within West Central Area would be placed into a central 'pot' for funding.
- vii. Would like to carry out a review of how effective area committee grants were with only one funding window. A member briefing had been arranged in September to discuss this matter with all Councillors.
- viii. Officers would review the amount of detail included within the reports and would be happy to discuss any further detailed queries outside of the meeting.

23/8/WAC Open Forum

Members of the public put forward the following statement, as set out below.

1. A member of the public raised the following issues:
 - i. Jesus Green Association proposal some years ago was to refurbish the pavilion. After a professional survey it was found to be past renovation. The Association agreed with the Council that a new Rouse Ball building should be erected as a new entrance to the swimming pool and should contain a cafe/restaurant, new toilets, and dressing rooms for the pool and new up to date toilets for visitors including the disabled. It would also contain meeting rooms and details of the history of Jesus Green. The pavilion has now deteriorated markedly and is dangerous.
 - ii. The toilets whilst having a temporary refit are now hardly fit for purpose. Section 106 funds were proposed, and Trinity College had agreed a small donation in memory of Rouse Ball a member of the College and a City Councillor whose legacy included the pavilion.
 - iii. We think it's important for a Capital funding proposal to be initiated by the Council to ensure these most important improvements to Jesus Green are implemented as soon as possible.

Councillor Gilderdale provided the following response provided by Cambridge City Council Officers:

- i. Confirmed (as the member of the public had alluded to) there was a relationship between the Lido and the Pavilion created from the project planning.
- ii. Improvements to the Lido had been focussed on what is available via S106¹ Swimming Pool contributions² to include improvements to the pool tank with the S106 funding have been prioritised to address and improve accessibility and usability for users by
 - a. Profiling the pool tank to make it shallower throughout to create more shallow areas for children and less able swimmers, also to reduce unnecessary depth to promote natural warming of the water.
 - b. Inserting thermal insulation (retaining heat).
 - c. Creating a deck level pool (easier access/egress and offers a natural filtration of surface debris and leaves).
 - d. making upgrades and improvements to changing and toilet/showers to improve accessibility and better support year-round use.
- iii. Along with some capital funded improvements to the pool plantroom housing the filtration systems.
- iv. These improvements impact on when and what the Council could do at the Rouse Ball pavilion.
- v. The plans to relocate the Rouse Ball Pavilion to the pool, to create a community café & multi use space, toilets changing etc were unaffordable and undeliverable in the short - medium term in the current financial environment.
- vi. It was still the ambition to deliver these facilities as part of a future leisure offer for the Lido when the current Leisure Contract expired at the end of March 2026 and work is now commencing on what a new leisure contract can deliver for the City over the coming year.
- vii. Officers could start work with the Friends Groups on what a new facility may look like; where it could be sited and outline designs to proceed to a position where planning permissions for a building may be obtained, but delivery of the facility would be part of the new leisure provision after 2026.
- viii. In the short term, the Streets and Open Space team had considered options for both the Rouse Pavilion and its associated toilet provision and have made improvements to toilets and sublet part of the Pavilion to

¹ funding from developers to mitigate the demands arising from growth of the city which cannot be provided on site

² Around £350k available now

And a further £535k forthcoming in the next few years

support the punters on the river. The toilets were in good condition and serviced every day.

- ix. The Council also made periodic repairs and remove graffiti as it appears, and the building remains fit for purpose, and we accept this is a short-term solution.
- x. The Council would include Friends groups when discussing options for change medium to longer term.

Councillor Porrer respond with the following:

- i. The Council had been looking at this issue for several years and would want to be part of any work to bring the project to conclusion; was happy to meet with Jesus Green Association.
- ii. There had already been cuts to the public conveniences in the city, Midsummer Common toilets would only be open part of the year and those on Chesterton Road had been closed. This meant that the pressure on the public toilets on Jesus Green would increase.
- iii. Disappointed that the funding would not be looked at for three years due to the time the Council had been working on this project irrespective of the Lido.

Councillor Bick stated the following:

- i. The public toilets did not meet the public demand for Jesus Green. This was the case before the Council part closed Park Street and Midsummer Common public toilets and now having closed Chesterton Road signposting Jesus Green as an alternative increase demand for an inadequate out of date public conveniences.
- ii. Would query the maintenance costs of the Jesus Green was cost efficient as would assume the costs were high.
- iii. Savings had been made from the closure of public toilets in the city and yet there had been no provision for the investment in supplying sufficient facilities on Jesus Green.

The member of the public concluded with the following points:

- i. Did not agree with the Officers that the pavilion was fit for purpose, the roof was in bits and was leaked when rained. The survey carried out six or seven years stated the condition of the roof was in too bad of a state to repair and recommend the removal.
- ii. The toilets were not suitable for disabled use; being “spruced up” from time to time was not enough.
- iii. The project would be suitable to apply for heritage lottery funding and would ask if Officers had explored this route.

Councillor Gay suggested that Trinity College could also be contacted regarding the matter of funding.

Councillor Gilderdale thanked the member of the public for their time and hoped a meeting could be arranged with officers to discuss a way forward (**Action: Cllr Gilderdale**)

2. A member of the public sent in the following statement:

I live in Cambridge city centre, on City Road quite close to the Grafton Centre. My question relates to engine idling by cars and vans in this area.

At the end of City Road where it meets the Grafton St area, the rear of the Grafton Centre near the car park behind Next and Starbucks, and in fact anywhere a car can pull up to offload shoppers heading for the Grafton, there seems to be a complete lack of understanding by car drivers of the polluting effect of their idling engines on the air quality where we live. Sometimes I speak to them and politely request that they turn off their engines, and nearly always am met by bafflement as to why this is necessary.

My understanding is that an idling engine can emit twice as much pollution as a moving vehicle, and that there has been some discussion in Westminster about introducing on-the-spot fines for engine idling. At present I believe drivers can be issued a fine if they fail to turn off their engine within 60 seconds of being asked to do so.

Section 42 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 prohibits leaving your engine on when it is not needed. I believe we need to tackle engine idling as an important part of our efforts to reduce pollution in Cambridge. In the light of all this, would it be possible to have a number of anti-idling posters and signs put up in the area? Any other measures aimed at sorting out this problem would also be welcome

Councillor Porrer stated the following:

- i. Agreed with the points raised as experienced the same issues.
- ii. Had recently spoken with the traffic warden who were trying to enforce it but they were not there every minute of every day.
- iii. Would support a poster campaign designed by local school children on this subject matter and queried if this could be supported / arranged by

the City Council. Aware that in certain areas that could be heritage issues but would like Officers to explore the suggestion.

Councillor Gilderdale highlighted that the following points

- i. The Head of Environmental Services had provided an in the Matters and Action sheet concerning, reference 22/19/WAC Open Forum Q2, as the matter had been discussed at a previous meeting.
[Agenda for West Central Area Committee on Thursday, 16th March, 2023, 6.30 pm - Cambridge Council](#)
- ii. There were powers in the Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions)
- iii. (Fixed Penalty) (England) Regulations 2002, which, on application, would allow local authorities to enforce but the Council did not have the resource to actively police this matter.
- iv. Would go back to the Head of Environment Services with the suggestion of signage, highlighting the suggestion of the school children competition **(Action: Cllr Gilderdale)**.

The meeting ended at 7.40 pm

CHAIR

Committee Action Sheet - West/Central Area Committee

Meeting Date: 16/03/23

1. Minute reference: 22/19/WAC Open Forum Q1
 - Action: Head of Environmental Services to convene a multi-agency meeting to consider the issues being raised around use of e-scooters / e-bikes / e-mopeds on open spaces, with the aim of agreeing some deliverable management actions.
 - Progress: Head of Environmental Services has circulated an email and briefing note requesting initial meeting with representatives from City Council's Community Safety and Streets and Open Spaces services and Police, County Council and GCP. Meeting date being organised to take place between now and Christmas.
 - Progress: the initial multi-agency officer meeting to discuss issue of e-mopeds, e-scooters, e-bikes on open spaces is confirmed for 30th November.
 - Progress: This multi-agency officer meeting took place on 30th November and a note of meeting was shared with Market Ward Councillors Bick, Gilderdale and Porrer.
 - Progress 06/03/23: At the meeting, officers committed to gather further data/ evidence/ intelligence on the issue of irresponsible e-scooter/ e-moped/ e-cycle use in city centre, noting Midsummer Common as the main 'problem site'. Officers also supported proposed trial of behavioural change 'Respect' signage on Midsummer Common; and to pursue the development of a countywide targeted education/ awareness raising campaign, to be led by the Cambridgeshire Road Safety Partnership, as part of its 'Vision Zero' Plan.

A follow up multi-agency officer meeting has been scheduled for 22nd March to review progress on these commitments/ actions.

-
2. Minute reference: 22/19/WAC Open Forum Q2
 - Action: Head of Environmental Services to investigate the ability for the Council to acquire powers to enforce against engine idling. Would also look into what could be done regarding education about engine idling.
 - Progress: Still under investigation, nothing to report as yet
 - Progress: 06/03/23: Vehicle engine idling is illegal (Section 42 of the Road Traffic Act (1988)) but only enforceable by police officers whereby a £20 fixed penalty notice can be levied rising to £40 for late payment.

That said, there are powers in the Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) (Fixed Penalty) (England) Regulations 2002, which, on application, would allow local authorities to enforce idling. These regulations allow a local authority officer, or designated person by the local authority, in the area of that authority, to issue fixed penalty notices in relation to stationary idling in that area. These relate to idling offences in Section 42 of the Road Traffic Act (1988), which are prescribed as fixed penalty offences for the purposes of these regulations. Previously only the police had the power to enforce these offences under the Road Traffic Act. For statutory Idling offences the fixed penalty allowed under these regulations is £20. The authorised officer/ designated person has to ask the driver to comply with the law and, if they don't, can then issue the fine, via a fixed penalty notice.

The regulations do mention 'district authorities' as one of the bodies which can use these powers, but clearly for the City Council this would have significant resource implications, in terms of investing in the necessary staff capacity to be able to undertake meaningful enforcement; at a time when the Council is having to make significant financial savings to deliver a balanced budget. Also, the City Council does not currently collect or hold data relating to idling issues in the city, other than a very small number of individual complaints; and, in order to do so, once again, would require significant resource investment. Vehicle idling is also not likely to be considered a local policing priority for Cambridgeshire Police enforcement

Whilst any reduction in vehicle emissions is desirable, studies on idling impacts are thin on the ground and with mixed results. Whilst very local targeted action in areas of high exposure, such as a school might be significant, it is very unclear in terms of national objectives for regulated pollutants, that vehicle idling makes a measurable contribution. The idling issue is also diminishing as 'stop start' technology, hybrid and full electric vehicles (EVs) penetrate the fleet.

So, given the above, City Council officers have committed to investigate how we might publicise and promote better driver behaviour in collaboration with partner authorities, including the County Council and Police, through a coordinated programme of education and awareness raising. This builds on previous work undertaken jointly in the past, by the City and County Councils, on communication and education particularly around school zones, with at least one school in Cambridge adopting an anti-idling banner.

- Progress 16/03/23) Councillor Gilderdale advised she would speak with Joel Carre with the suggestion of signage, highlighting the suggestion of the school children competition.

.....

3. Minute reference: 22/21/WAC Update on City Centre Recovery

- Action: Head of Environmental Services to explore the potential for CCTV camera provision at the junction of Burleigh Street and East Road.
- Progress: Head of Environmental Services has asked the Council's CCTV and Community Safety service managers to consider the request. Both managers support the value of a CCTV camera at the location and have confirmed a pan/ tilt/ zoom camera supply and installation cost of c£12,000. They are now exploring potential funding sources; and/ or the opportunity to redeploy an existing public space CCTV camera from elsewhere in the city, where it may no longer be providing any real community safety management value, ie. it is a low crime/ ASB area.

.....

4. Minute reference: 23/8/WAC Open Forum Q1

Action: Councillor Gilderdale to speak with Officers regarding the improvements to Jesus Green and how this can be brought forward working with external groups.

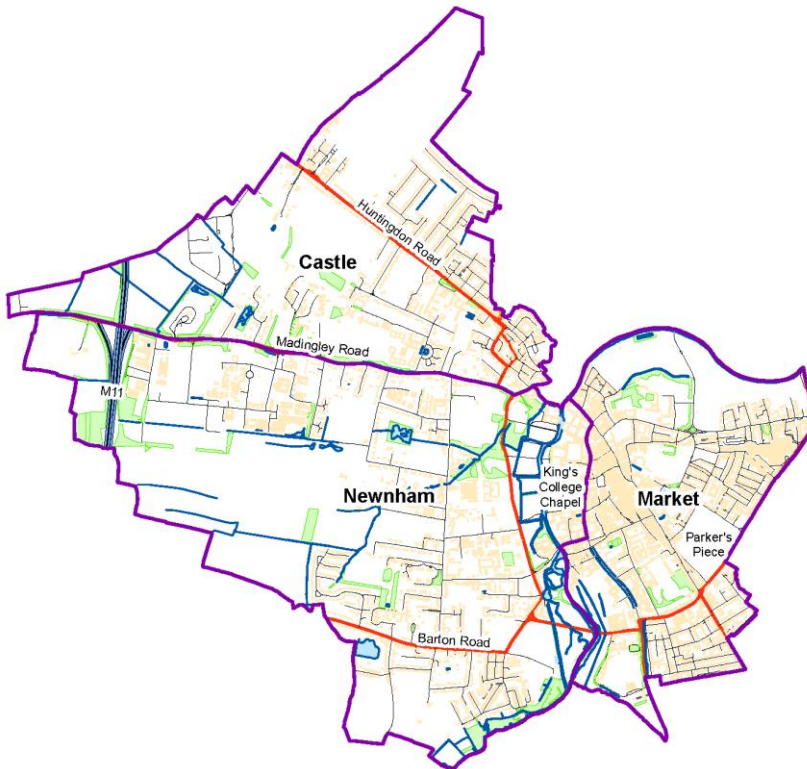
.....

This page is intentionally left blank

Neighbourhood Profile

Cambridge City West/Central – June 2023

Wards: Castle, Market and Newnham



© Crown copyright and database right 2021. Ordnance Survey Licence No. 100019730.

Produced by:

Cambridgeshire Constabulary:

- Inspector Edward McNeill
- Sergeant Kevin Misik

Community Safety Team, Cambridge City Council:

- Keryn Jalli, Community Safety Manager
- Sarah Steggles, Harm Reduction and ASB Manager



Contents

1. Introduction	3
Aim	3
Methodology	3
2. Current Areas of Concern	3
One	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Two	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Three	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3. Proactive Work and Emerging Issues	6
Cambridgeshire Constabulary	6
Cambridge City Council	6
4. Additional Information	7
5. Recommendations	8

1. Introduction

Aim

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

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

Methodology

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

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

2. Current Areas of Concern

At the West/Central Area Committee meeting of 24 November 2022, the committee recommended addressing the following local areas of concern:

- Drug dealing and associated anti-social behaviour, including threatening behaviour and safeguarding of young people;
- Road safety focussing on delivery mopeds and electric scooters illegally used on public highways, particularly those vehicles at night without lights;
- Street begging; and
- Supporting the new (police campaign) expected on drugs with focus on frequent users and the night time economy

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

Drug dealing and associated anti-social behaviour, including threatening behaviour and safeguarding of young people

Objective: To address county lines drug dealing and associated ASB and safeguarding concerns.

Action Taken: Dealing with county line drug dealing and the various issues that it causes is something that is not only carried out by the local team but also the wider policing team in the south of the county as well as other dedicated resources.

The work that the wider constabulary does is around arresting and disrupting county lines and, where appropriate, safeguarding people who have been drawn into this kind of activity. As well as dealing with the people who are selling the drugs, the team looks to understand and mitigate the harm which is caused by the use and purchase of the drugs themselves. This is done with target patrol work as well as less visible actions. Notably there has been an increase in drug related reports around the area of Maids Causeway and because of these arrests have been made and the activity disrupted.

The team works at both ends of this issue attempting to help people reduce their use and therefore reduce the demand from controlled drugs as well as obtaining and acting on community intelligence to target those who sell drugs or exploit others to do it for them.

We are also carrying out training with housing providers to help them understand the signs and what action they should take when they believe that drug dealing is taking place.

Current Situation: This work continues as part of daily business for the team.

Lead Officer: PS 686 Kevin Misik

Road safety focussing on delivery mopeds and electric scooters illegally used on public highways, particularly those vehicles at night without lights

Objective: To reduce the number of issues caused by delivery mopeds and illegal e-Scooters.

Action Taken: The work in this area takes a number of different forms. We are working with the city council to increase the education of users and to ensure that where people are using the vehicles that they are doing so legally and appropriately. We are also actively engaging with the venues which are serviced by these vehicles and checking that they are taking relevant steps to ensure that riders who are associated with their business are acting appropriately, for example one of the major takeaway venues, due to their location, only gives orders to riders on pedal cycles. The team also engage with the riders when they are waiting to collect their order to ensure that they are not causing ASB or obstructing pavements, this is most notable around the Market Square.

All this work is underpinned by enforcement action taken against riders who ride in a dangerous or anti-social manner. The team routinely challenge this behaviour when carrying out their patrols.

Current Situation: This continues to be an issue and this work will continue as business as usual for the West Central Team.

Lead Officer: Ps 686 Kevin Misik

Street begging

Objective: To address street begging.

Action Taken: We work closely in Partnership with the city council to deal with the issues of street begging, broadly speaking the city council leads on issues of passive begging and the Police take a lead with the more aggressive beggars. We work to ensure that people have access to the support and accommodation that they need, where there are continued concerns about the behaviour of individuals and the impact of this on people who live, work and visit the city centre then we take targeted and proportionate enforcement action. This ranges from informal words of advice, to progressing people to court and applying for Criminal Behaviour Orders to address their behaviour. There have been notable successes in this area including the arrest, imprisonment and criminal behaviour order for an individual who was repeatedly causing distress to the public – thanks to the work of PC Laura O’Flynn on this case.

As well as carrying out person centred work we also work to target patrols in hotspot areas, so as always reports of this kind of behaviour help the police to target the correct locations and relevant times, and more importantly document the effect that it has on the public.

Current Situation: This is core business for both the Police team and our many partners.

Lead Officer: PS 686 Kevin Misik

Supporting the new (police campaign) expected on drugs with focus on frequent users and the night time economy

Objective: To deal with drug use and sale within the Night time economy.

Action Taken: Again, the key theme in this area of work is the partners across the city. Our Night Time Economy is aimed at making the city centre welcoming and safe for people who want to use it. This partnership allows us to understand not only the who is at risk but what spaces within the city centre are more likely to be subjected to this kind of issue, which allows us to work with people to make sure that these areas are appropriately patrolled as well as knowing what steps can be taken to ensure that any physical features or CCTV issues can be addressed to make the area safer. The most notable of these recent areas was the Market square and thanks to a large amount of work from the Cambridge City Council’s Market team and CCTV team we were able to make the Market Square a much safer place to be during the NTE.

This coupled with target use of police search powers as well as robust search practices in venues ensure that people who use drugs are likely to be identified and dealt with appropriately.

Officers are also being upskilled as to what they need to look for when they are conducting NTE patrols not only to look for the usual alcohol related disorder but also to identify people at risk of predatory behaviour and those who could be involved in the use and sale of controlled drugs.

Current Situation: The original piece of work has now been embedded into the business as usual for the wider city policing team.

Lead Officer: PS 686 Kevin Misik

3. *Proactive Work and Emerging Issues*

Cambridgeshire Constabulary: As the summer months are coming up there will be an increase in the issues within the various green spaces within the area, most notably Jesus Green, and the work of the team will reflect these season changes. As well as this we will continue to work with our partners to deal with issues of street based ASB, Bike and retail theft and youth related ASB.

Cambridge City Council

On behalf of the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership Board, Cambridge City Council co-ordinates the Cambs Against County Lines Project, which delivers sessions in secondary schools, raising awareness of county lines to help prevent children being criminally exploited into the movement of drugs and money. Cambs Against County Lines sessions have been delivered to secondary school across the city. We're also in the process of expanding the project to make age-appropriate content for younger children.

The city council also co-ordinates the monthly Peer Groups and Places meeting. This is a multi-agency meeting to discuss areas in local community where there are concerns about young people in relation to anti-social behaviour and/or crime. The meeting is attended by Cambridgeshire County Council (Early Help, Social Care, Youth Offending Service), Cambridgeshire Police, Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service, local schools and colleges in the Cambridge City locality, local youth-based charities in the Cambridge City locality and registered housing providers. The purpose of the meeting is for agencies to share information about the concerning and risky behaviour by young people and agree actions that safeguard the young people whilst also reducing the impact of their behaviours on the community.

Recently we have created a poster raising awareness to parents about the signs County lines and what to do if they're worried about their child or a child they know.

With regards to wider City Centre issues, including street based ASB, begging and associated criminality, a problem-solving approach has also been adopted in the form of partnership meetings, between the Community Safety Team, Police colleagues and city centre stakeholders, including the retailers (Grand Arcade, Grafton Centre) and CamBac. This has allowed for a holistic agency approach and provides professionals the opportunity to work with and hear directly from those affected by the behaviour.

The City Councils Street Support Officer has been engaging with the street community to discuss behaviours and consequences but also in supporting them to access the services they need. There is ongoing work preparing a number of committal applications against two individuals who have a persistently problematic street presence and are continuing to breach injunction orders.

E-scooters

Micro-mobility offers great potential to enhance people's everyday travel choices in towns and cities and help tackle climate change, but irresponsible and unsafe use by some undermines public confidence and support.

In order to gain a better understanding of the potential benefits the Government has commissioned a number of e-scooter public hire trials across the UK, including here in Cambridge. The use of any other mechanically propelled scooters on public roads, cycle facilities and footways is, currently, against the law and can be reported to the Police. Whilst such machines can be purchased without difficulty, they should only be used on private land with the landowner's permission.

Addressing the issue of anti-social and unlawful use of various forms of micro-mobility is a complex matter that involves many organisations such as the City Council, County Council, Police, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, businesses and community interest groups – all with different roles and jurisdictions. In order to provide reassurance, in late 2022 the Council initiated and led a multi-partner stakeholder working group to review areas of current difficulty, and to seek to identify potential mitigations where practicable. To date this work has already secured:

- Public engagement over community policing priorities, including direct dialogue with fast-food delivery providers and targeted enforcement activity against persistent offenders at known 'hot-spots'
- Agreement and funding to trial signing promoting responsible behaviour on Midsummer Common – a multi-use green space with several paths crossing and an area of reported regular conflict between users
- Support for a countywide public information campaign focusing on the use of scooters and the law, similar to that undertaken elsewhere around the UK, and most likely to be led by the Cambridgeshire road safety Vision Zero Partnership, and Police
- Continuing liaison with and input to the national e-scooter trials being undertaken on behalf of the Department for Transport (DfT). Within Cambridgeshire and Peterborough this is being led by the Combined Authority and operator Voi.

4. Additional Information

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

5. Recommendations

The following local areas of concern are recommended for consideration:

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