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Cambridge City Council West Central Area Committee



Date: Thursday, 14 September 2023

Time: 6.30 pm

Venue: Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

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

Agenda

- 1 Welcome, Introduction and Apologies for Absence
- 2 Declarations of Interest
- Minutes (Pages 3 12)
 Matters and Actions Arising From the Minutes (Pages 13 18)
- 5 Open Forum
- 6 Update on Darwin Green Development Phase BDW2 (Pages 19 - 22)
- 7 Environmental Report WCAC

(Pages 23 - 44)

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

County Councillors: Gay, Nethsingha and Rae

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WEST CENTRAL AREA COMMITTEE

15 June 2023 6.30 - 8.40 pm

Present: Councillors Porrer (Chair), Martinelli (Vice-Chair), Bick, Glasberg, Holloway, Payne, S. Smith and Gay

Officers:

Head of Environmental Services: Joel Carre Harm reduction and Anti-Social Behaviour Manage: Sarah Steggles Committee Manager and Meeting Producer: Claire Tunnicliffe

Other Officers in Attendance:

Police Sergeant: Kevin Misik

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL

23/9/WAC Welcome, Introduction and Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Nestor, Nethsingha and Rae.

23/10/WAC Declarations of Interest

Name	ltem	Interest
Councillor Glasberg	All	Personal: Member of Cam Cycle and Cambridge Living Streets Group

23/11/WAC Notes from Previous Meeting

The Committee noted the notes of the meeting held on 16 March 2023.

23/12/WAC Matters and Actions Arising

Following a discussion on this agenda item the action sheet has been updated accordingly which can be viewed at the following link:

Agenda for West Central Area Committee on Thursday, 15th June, 2023, 6.30 pm - Cambridge Council.

This would be the last West Central Area Committee meeting for the Head of Environmental Services who would be leaving the Council in July. The Chair thanked Joel Carre for his support, hard work and ability to provide feedback and evidence with little notice.

Councillor Bick stated that Joel's leaving would not only be a loss to West Central Area Committee but also to Cambridge City Council.

23/13/WAC Policing and Safer Neighbourhoods WCAC

The Committee received a report regarding policing and safer neighbourhoods trends.

The report outlined actions taken since the last reporting period. The current emerging issues/neighbourhood trends for each ward were also highlighted (see report for full details). Previous local areas of concern and engagement activity noted in the report were:

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

A member of the public put forward the following questions:

Q1: Recently, a neighbour experienced someone attempting to break into her home late on a Saturday night. She was alone with two young children. Despite being on the phone with the police while the person was attempting to get into her front door and being around the corner from the Parkside Station, there was no attempt made by the police to attend to her house while it was happening, despite it going on for some time. Luckily the attempt was unsuccessful, and the person left without coming inside. The police visited the next day.

When she told her neighbours the next day what had happened, we had one collective question - if a 'live' home invasion is not an immediate priority for the Cambridge police for a call out, what is happening in Cambridge that is more pressing? Sergeant Misik advised that he had reviewed this case and had spoken with Councillor Bick of the outcome; the nature of the call changed while the member of the public was on the phone. Due to the change, the call handler adjusted the priority as the risk had reduced.

Q2: NB: This is not referring to the motorised mopeds being discussed elsewhere.

Cycling through the centre of Cambridge since the end of Lockdown is now essentially anarchic. There is no more any concept of one way streets and there is widespread cycling on pavements. Although I cycle through it several times a day, I have never seen any police or community patrol engaging in it

Although I'm sure some cyclists are doing it deliberately to save time, I think many simply do not understand which streets are one way

Could the Council please consider some action towards improving this for example, a day or two where those entering one-way systems the wrong way are actively and publicly stopped; improved signage, etc? (Regarding improved signage, can it please be remembered that not all cyclists, particularly those not from the UK, have taken a UK driving test and may not understand the meaning of UK road signs.)

At a bare minimum, could the painted signs on the ground that show that there is separate 'lanes' for pedestrians and cyclists on the path leading to Garret Hostel Bridge from the Backs be repainted? They are barely visible, and there is a general air of confusion as to where one is supposed to be. This will only get worse as the tourists return in greater numbers.

The Head of Environmental Services respond that enforcement was a Police responsibility, and the County Council would be responsible for signage as the highway authority. Had spoken with the City and County Council Cycling Officer on this matter who had advised of the following.

i. The highway around Garrett Hostel was to narrow for the effective segregation of pedestrians and those using cycles. This should not have been implemented in the first instance. Therefore, could not support the request for the faded signs to be repainted.

ii. There had been some improvement to signage undertaken some years back but there could be scope for greater clarity. Without enforcement, signage has limited impact.

Sergeant Misik explained that enforcement was undertaken but could not be at the same location all day every day.

The Committee discussed whether a one-way system was required and if there was an issue with people choosing to cycle doing so both ways. It was noted this was also an environmental issue, witnessed aggressive interaction on a shared space and there should be respect and awareness.

The Committee next discussed the policing and safer neighbourhood report and the frustration that was experienced when reporting a crime / incident that very little or no feedback was received, particularly when reporting a drug related crime and / or associated anti-social behaviour.

Sergeant Misik explained that an outcome was rarely provided back to the individual. Reporting provided the police with a better chance of being in the right place at the right time and provided examples where a positive outcome had been received due to the public / councillor reporting. Agreed to speak with Inspector McNeill on how to improve the message of successes and if a briefing note could be circulated to the Committee.

In response to a discussion on street begging the Harm reduction and Anti-Social Behaviour Manager advised those individuals who were passive begging were rarely reported, therefore officers were not receiving the evidence of the impact this was having on people. Officers did not have the power to move on or prevent these street beggars unless a case of evidence was provided to the court for injunctive action. Officers would try to engage with these individuals to link them in with options available.

Those street beggars who were accommodated were treated the same as those who were homeless, it was the behaviour that was targeted, and all were offered the same support services.

Members welcomed and supported the work of the Police and Anti-Social Behaviour Team. Members expressed concerns regarding:

i. Drug dealing and associated anti-social behaviour, including threatening behaviour and safeguarding of young people with a particular focus on open spaces.

- ii. Road safety focussing on delivery mopeds and electric scooters illegally used on public highways, particularly those vehicles at night without lights;
- iii. Street begging; and
- iv. Improving feedback back to the community and councillors when a crime or incident had been reported to show the positive results.

Members confirmed their agreement the above areas would remain as suggested priorities for the police, including the additional request for feedback to residents and councillors on positive results from non-urgent reporting and a focus on open spaces during the summer months

23/14/WAC Open Forum

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

Q1: About 100 Newnham residents met on 6 June to discuss increasing alarm about the Greater Cambridge Partnership's (GCP) plans for the Barton Greenway as they affect our area. We believe that the current remodelling of the junction of Barton Rd and Newnham Rd fails to correct prior deficiencies of amenity and safety and introduces new ones.

The plans for upgrading the path across Lammas Land (which we understand had not been notified to the City Parks Department) may damage its environment. The proposed upgrade of the cycle path and installation of a new pedestrian path along the length of Barton Road later in 2023 would lead to the total destruction of all the mature hedges, trees and planting in the verges along the northern property boundaries, devastating the attractiveness and the biodiversity of the entire street. All the changes give the lowest priority to pedestrians, who would be put at increased risk of injury.

Consultation with Newnham residents about the Greenway in late 2022 was minimal, in contrast to the effort put in to informing those living in Barton, Haslingfield and Grantchester. Responses from Newnham Residents Associations and CamCycle were submitted but had been ignored at the Newnham Rd junction, and we fear will also be for the rest of the project.

In view of the extreme desirability of preserving green spaces and biodiversity in the City, please would the City Council support our efforts to get the GCP to:

- pause future works at Grantchester Road junction due in August and along the whole of the northern side of Barton Road in November;
- undertake proper consultation with local people,
- make changes to their scheme to protect Newnham's environment?

In response the Chair read out the following statement from the GCP:

The Barton Greenway was taken out for formal public consultation in 2018, with additional informal public engagement undertaken in November/December 2022. The results from this and GCP's proposed responses are available online and were presented to the March 2023 Executive Board.

The scheme that is underway at the junction of Barton Road and Newnham Road is a Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) scheme. All comments and feedback received on the CCC scheme during engagement were passed across to CCC colleagues for review and consideration. The County Council wrote to affected residents and we understand also responded to key issues raised with them.

Regarding the remainder of Barton Road, the feedback and comments received during both the engagement and the road safety audit are being used to help further shape and refine the proposals and designs for this section of Greenway. From the engagement, there was much concern around the trees, vegetation and green verges along Barton Road, therefore proposals are being designed to minimise impact on existing green infrastructure as much as possible. Regarding trees along Barton Road, for the Barton Greenway there is one tree proposed to be removed to accommodate the proposals just east of Clare Road, however GCP will be planting a new tree on the grass verge to replace this. For the Haslingfield Greenway works at the junction of Barton Road and Grantchester Road, there are two saplings which will need to be relocated slightly. There are no other changes to existing trees proposed along Barton Road.

In terms of timescales and next steps, the Haslingfield Greenway works at the junction of Barton Road and Grantchester Road are currently planned to commence mid-August. Work on the rest of the Barton Road section of the Barton Greenway will not commence until November at the very earliest.

GCP will be organising a meeting with local Councillors over the next couple of weeks, to discuss proposals for the Barton Road area. We will be asking local

Members for feedback on how best to update local residents on the forward plans for this section and will then action this going forward.

Councillor Glasberg stated that although she supported the scheme, there were major issues with the proposal and more consultation was required. The following three key issues were highlighted

- i. Priority had not been given to pedestrians. There were several schools and nurseries along this route, 1.5m wide was not enough to pass one and other going in opposite directions. Children would be stepping into the cycle way. CamCycle did not support the proposals and had said that pedestrians and cyclists would be placed in conflict with one another.
- ii. There was strong environmental concern with the loss of planting and verges which were a key part of the character to Barton Road. Encouraging active travel was not just about providing a cycle superhighway but to make pathways and cycle routes places that people wanted to use.
- iii. The consultation appeared to be deficient in Newnham and was different to the way it had been carried out in the villages. Officers had held meetings and had provided alternative options during these discussions. This consultation had presented one design for Barton Road, despite being in a conservation area, with no other options for consideration having listened to feedback from residents. The design had not taken into the account the character of the area unlike the village of Grantchester, detailed literature had been provided, outlining how the scheme had responded to the character of the village, such as the removal of red asphalt. There were no such considerations for Barton Road.

Had attended the GCP Assembly the previous week to raise the issues mentioned and express concern at consultation process. There were several speakers present who had raised the same issues.

Councillor Holloway stated there had been difficulties with the short-term consultation prior to the implementation of the Newnham Road junction; this needed to be improved upon for the Grantchester Road section. Hoped to bring GCP Officers to Newnham for residents to have their say. Had been liaising with the project lead officer and had already fed back the public question.

The member of the public advised that it had been clear that the work to the Newnham Road Junction had been undertaken without consideration to the

consultation response. Expressed concern that resident's feedback would be ignored for the rest of the scheme. Plans (2023) for the end of Haslingfield Greenway opposite to the entrance of Wolfson College showed tarmac pedestrian paths over the verges along the Wolfson College railings. In the spring these verges were filled with a vast array of different flowers which would all disappear.

The 2023 plans showed the same location of the proposed tarmac pedestrian paths along Barton Road as it was in the 2022 plans (first published on 01.04.22). Therefore, had no confidence that residents' concerns would be listened to.

Time was very limited as work was due to start on Haslingfield Greenway in two months' time. Once this had been built this would commit the GCP to the rest of the scheme and no changes could be made to the cycle and pedestrian pathways.

Expressed disappointment with the Ward County Councillor and described their response to residents' concerns as vague.

Residents were currently crowd funding to take legal advice on how the scheme could be paused via the legal route. The response from senior officers at the GCP had been distant and non-committal.

Action Point: Councillor Porrer to raise with GCP officers the concerns raised, along with a recording of this debate, to encourage an immediate meeting with relevant ward councilors and members of the public.

Q2: Is there any indication when area committees might begin to meet in person again?

The Chair advised that this was a decision agreed at full council and was unlikely to change for the municipal year 23/24. A governance review was currently planned and was likely that Area Committees would be considered under this review but could not advise when this would take place. On a personal note, would welcome the Area Committee's to take place via hybrid meeting or in person if and when legislation changed to allow voting to take place virtually.

Councillor Martinelli suggested a discussion should be held whether there was any value to having a non-decision-making committee; what were the value to residents and how could residents better engage. Councillor Holloway stated there were not many residents who engaged; perhaps needed to determine what could be the decision making function of the area committee and how to increase public engagement.

Q3: 78 Castle Street (which used to be part of Interlfora aeons ago) got boarded up a while ago. Does anyone have any insight into when it might come back into use? [It'll clearly need *alot* of work given how much pigeon guano must be in there.]

The Chair provided an update from the City Council's Empty Housing Officer which read:

Refurbishment had been delayed due to the commercial tenancy at 80. The tenancy was due to end soon. Both properties were interlinked and work cannot begin until the tenancy had ended. The owners were hoping to start work on 78 as soon as possible after this, pending the confirmation from planning on the validity of their previous planning application.

Q4: "Buses from south Cambridge are regularly blocked at The Hyde Park Corner junction by OLEM/Parker's Piece. Many years ago there was a yellow box junction prohibiting cars from blocking that junction, with penalties for those caught doing so. It was then removed for unknown reasons.

Please could the Committee ask Cambridgeshire County Council to reinstate that yellow box junction if only to improve the flow of traffic and this increase reliability if bus services otherwise delayed at the traffic lights, especially during rush hours/peak periods?

Councillor Martinelli advised that this area was being redesigned from Hills Road to Parkers Piece. At a recent meeting on the redesign, the subject of the box junction was discussed, which officers would consider but further investigation was required. Would support this suggestion.

Action Point: Councillor Porrer to send the public question to the relevant County Council Officers for information and advise of her and Councillor Martinelli's support.

The meeting ended at 8.40 pm

CHAIR

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Agenda Item 4

Committee Action Sheet - West/Central Area Committee Meeting Date: 15/06/23 Updated 29/08/23

- 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 escooters / 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 escooter/ 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.

• Progress 15/06/23: The three-way partnership involving City, County and Police continues to meet to plan and review progress on actions to tackle the misuse of these vehicles in public places.

City Officers are currently finalising the design for the behaviour influencing signage for Midsummer Common, which aim to complete by end of month to be installed in the Summer. This represents a trial, which if successful could be rolled out to other locations.

In May, the City passed a motion on e-scooter and e-moped usage, which included the following resolutions:

i. To request a report to the Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee within the next 6 months on the progress of the three-way partnership, identifying means by which the city council and partners might take this forward, exercising influence over, and potentially co-organating, the best use of existing powers in a concerted fashion to mitigate the adverse, and channel the positive effects of the phenomenon, including but not limited to engagement with:

- The Police on the use of existing enforcement powers;
- Highways and Trading Standards at the County Council;
- The city council's own services with responsibility for public open spaces, (building on the recent initiative for 'Respect' signage on Midsummer Common), environmental enforcement and community safety;
- The Combined Authority as local sponsor of the Voi licensed pilot in Cambridge
- Delivery companies whose services utilise the novel vehicles
- Interest groups in the city representing established users of spaces now also used by novel vehicles.
- *ii.* To instruct the Chief Executive to write to the relevant government minister (copying in the city's MPs, the CPCA Mayor, the PCC and the LGA) in order to:
 - Request the urgent creation of a national regulatory framework for the novel vehicles, which recognises the need for controls over safety and anti-social use and empowers local authorities and the Police to take effective enforcement action;
 - Express the Council's concerns about the impact of the gig economy model on this issue and seek measures which also address that.

Progress: Final plan of the proposals should be sent to Ward Councillors and Executive Councillors, stakeholders, etc for their consideration, 29 August.

- 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 the age thority, 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, 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 HAD 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.
- Progress 15/06/23: Police is currently the only authority with antiidling enforcement powers, but does not see this as a priority and will only enforce when witness a blatant traffic offence. County Council currently has no legal powers to enforce against idling. To secure such powers of legal powers to enforce against the Secretary of State for Transport

Any anti-idling signage in the public highway would need to be approved by the County (as Highway Authority). County currently don't have an approved anti idling Highway sign

Officers query the value/ impact of investing in developing anti-idling Highway signage for general use. However, officers would support use of such signage in school zone locations, where there is a clearly defined target audience and means of engagement, via the school.

To justify the use of such signage, officers would need to investigate and establish that a significant problem exists and secure approval of any resulting Highway sign design. This would require officer time and budget, which officers would find difficult to justify, given current workload priorities and the small consequential benefit to wider air quality.

- That said, City would be willing to publicise the issue of idling in Cambridge Matters and highlight a few key locations where it has been identified as an issue and advice on switching off engines.
- The area already has double yellow lines; and or resident only parking restrictions and so the primary enforcement for breaches on parking restrictions should be through County's Parking Enforcement service.
- The Head of Environmental Services agreed to supply the Committee with details on what is required to apply for the Secretary of State for Transport to secure enforcement powers against idling.

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 16/03/23: 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.

Progress 15/06/23: Officers explored procuring a (PTZ) (pan; tilt; zoom) CCTV camera for the East Road and Burleigh Street junction. Each PTZ camera costs c£8-12k to supply and install. With no available budget to meet these costs, officers have been unable to proceed with procuring a camera.

The Council had recently invested over £600,000 upgrading the public space cameras across the city (100aprx) with a new digital network to support this.

To ensure City is maximising the value/ return on investment of its existing public space CCTV camera network (200+ cameras), officers were undertaking a review of all the public spare camera locations against ASB/ crime evidence to determine whether, or not, there are any locations, where existing cameras are no longer needed; and so can be re-located to other locations of need; and new locations where cameras are needed. If unable to relocate cameras, then results of review will be used to support a capital funding bid to cover the supply and installation of additional public space cameras.

Sergeant Misik confirmed that under the cycle crime initiative new PTZ cameras had been installed on Burleigh Street for the bike parks, offering additional coverage along Burleigh and Fitzroy Street.

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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.

 Progress 15/06/23: Officers would explore with Executive Councillor support for budget bid to be put forward for consideration in the BSR for 2024/25 to support design development/ planning work. This would then feed into the procurement for a new operator for the Lido from March 2026.

Councillor Porrer to contact stake holder and ward councillors regarding the improvements to Jesus Green

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5. Minute reference: 23/14/WAC Open Forum Q1 (Barton Greenway)

Action: Councillor Porrer to raise with GCP officers the concerns raised, along with the YouTube recording of this debate, to encourage an immediate meeting with relevant ward councillors and members of the public.

Progress 26/03/22: Councillor Porrer e-mailed GCP officers with the above details. The relevant ward councillors were copied into the email to ask to take this forward with them and with residents. Also copied in Andrew Limb (Assistant Chief Executive) as the city council's GCP link officer, for his information.

CLOSED

6. 23/14/WAC Open Forum Q4 (Hyden Park Corner Junction / Parkers Piece)

Action: Councillor Porrer to send the public question to the relevant County Council Officers for information and advise of her and Councillor Martinelli's support for box junction – hills road / parkers piece.

Progress 21/07/23: Councillor Porrer sent the relevant question to <u>consultations@greatercambridge.org.uk</u> as well as noting the support from members of the West Central Area Committee.

CLOSED

Agenda Item 6



To: West Central Area Committee

Date: 14 September 2023

Report by:

Philippa Kelly, Strategic Sites Manager, Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service Tel: 07704 Email: <u>Philippa.kelly@greatercambridgeplanning.org</u>

Wards affected: Castle

Key Decision: No

1. Executive Summary

1.1 This report provides an update in respect of the Darwin Green BDW2 development site, which is situated to the north of Huntington Road, Cambridge.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The West/Central Area Committee is recommended to:
 - (i) Note this update report in respect of the Darwin Green BDW2 development site.

3. Background

- 3.1 In June 2023 the City Council was made aware of failures to the foundations of residential properties under construction at the BDW2 development site in Darwin Green, by Barratt David Wilson Homes Cambridgeshire (BDW).
- 3.2 Planning permission had previously been given for these properties, and BDW appointed a private company as building control provider to

oversee the scheme. The Council was not appointed as building control provider for this development, however the shared building control service, 3C Building Control, is the local enforcing body.

- 3.3 The Council has received information from BDW which identifies a number of plots at various stages of the construction process that are affected by foundation failure. The developer has been working with officers from the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service and 3C Building Control to understand the extent of the issue and to agree the appropriate action needed to ensure compliance with the Building Act and Town and Country Planning Regulations.
- 3.4 BDW has a website which provides latest construction updates for Darwin Green, including Frequently Asked Questions. The link to this is below:

https://darwingreenconstruction.co.uk/latest-updates/

3.5 The Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service also has an area for updates about Darwin Green. The link to this is below:

https://www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/about-us/news/darwin-green

4. BDW 2 Update

- 4.1 A number of Darwin Green Public Forums have been arranged to provide updates to the local community and agree actions and next steps. These meetings are attended by City Council Planning and Building Control officers, representatives from BDW, and local ward Councillors. The most recent Public Forum was held on the evening of Monday 04 September 2023, at Storey's Field Community Centre.
- 4.2 At the 04 September Forum, BDW confirmed that approximately 70 buildings and partly built structures are to be demolished and rebuilt with new foundations. Work has ceased building any new buildings on parcel BDW2 until this demolition process has taken place. The demolition process is estimated to take place over a 12-week period.
- 4.3 Before full demolition works can commence, BDW has to submit information to 3C Building Control to demonstrate compliance with the Building Act. Information is also required to be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority to satisfy planning regulations.

- 4.4 The information to be submitted to the Local Planning Authority will be in the form of applications to re-discharge planning conditions relating to the details of the demolition. It will include details of the methods of demolition and how noise, vibration and dust will be mitigated, monitored and controlled to ensure that potential impacts on residential amenity will be kept to a minimum.
- 4.5 Planning officers will undertake additional public consultation when the discharge of planning condition applications are formally submitted, to ensure that local residents will have the opportunity to comment on the technical details submitted.

5. Implications

a) Financial Implications

N/A

b) Staffing Implications

There are direct staffing implications arising from this report. A number of officers from across the Council is working directly on this. This resource has been considered in the programming of other work across the Shared Planning and Building Control services and will be monitored on a regular basis.

c) Equality and Poverty Implications

The report is not considered to give rise to any equality or poverty impacts. An Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) has not been undertaken in respect of this report.

d) Net Zero Carbon, Climate Change and Environmental Implications

The report is not considered to have any direct environmental implications. The developer may need to consider the Councils ambitions for Net Zero and Biodiversity as part of any subsequent course of action under the Planning and Building Control Regulations.

e) Procurement Implications

None.

f) Community Safety Implications

None.

g) Consultation and communication considerations

This content of this report has not been directly published however the subject matter and related issues have previously been subject to a Council news release, and a dedicated webpage created and updated on the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service website.

Individual members, residents and local residents' associations have also been contacted regarding this matter and a series of public meetings have taken place to date with the intention to continue such meetings throughout the demolition process. Officers will continue to engage with members and residents as the situation progresses.

6. Background papers

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

7. Appendices

None.

8. Inspection of papers

If you have a query on the report please contact Philippa Kelly philippa.kelly@greatercambridgeplanning.org

Agenda Item 7



Environmental Report

Cambridge West / Central Area [Covering the wards of Castle, Market and Newnham]

Period of February to July 2023



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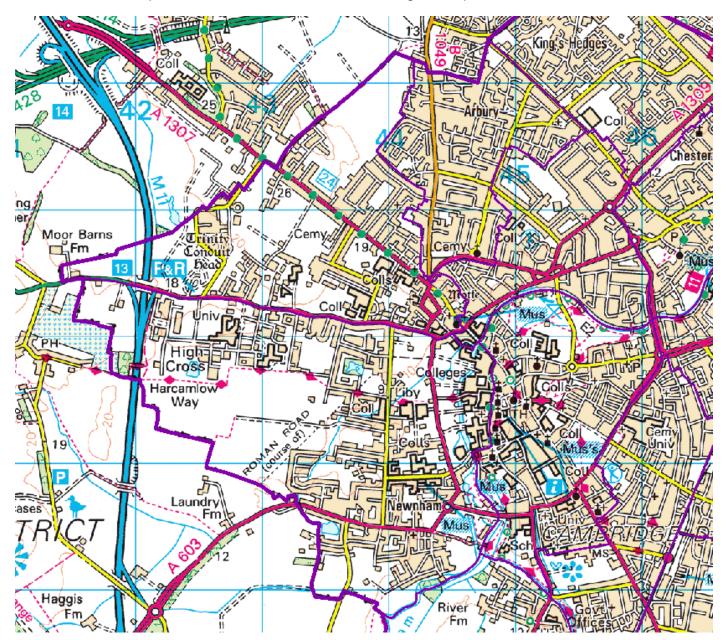
1. Introduction

This report provides 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.

This report provides open data on service performance, so that City and County Councillors and their constituents are informed of what service activity is happening in their area; and can engage in and help to shape this activity, including identifying specific local service requests/ issues.

- 1. Streets and Open Spaces Operations Team:
 - a. Street cleansing and Grounds Maintenance cleans all residential streets and public land and maintains all grass and shrub beds across the city.
 - b. Community Engagement Team works with Community Payback and Streets and Open Spaces volunteers to deliver community nominated improvement projects.
 - c. Enforcement Team investigate and act against instances of environmental crime and dog control issues in public places across the city.
- 2. Streets and Open Spaces Assets Development Team
- 3. Streets and Open Spaces Projects Team
 - a. Projects
 - b. Parks
 - c. Trees
- 4. The Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service provide rubbish and recycling collections from homes and business Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire and empties 32,000 bins each day. It is responsible for setting policy on how this should be done and educating residents and customers on how best to recycle.
- 5. Environmental Health:
 - a. Pest control free treatments for rats, mice, cockroaches, bedbugs, and pharaohs ants
 - b. Private sector Housing interventions complaints and investigations regarding condition of properties
 - c. Other public health interventions refuse, hoarding, bonfires
 - d. Noise complaints daytime and night-time noise complaints ,

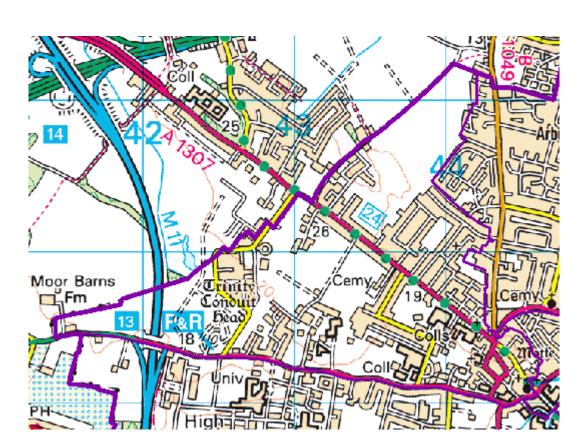
2. West / Central Area Profiles



In this section an update of what teams have been doing in the previous six months is detailed.

Ward Profile: Castle

Мар



Community Engagement team

In both February and May volunteers worked at Histon Road recreation ground and undertook a group litter pick was

In June at Ascension Burial Ground volunteers spent a session undertaking works to ensure a balance of plants, tackling invasive species and promoting rare species. This was further supported by corporate volunteers from Horizon Discovery in April, and PEM in July. In April, the corporate volunteers spent an afternoon, tidying, cutting back, removing spoil, and creating insect habitat at the church grounds. In July, the corporate group completed a full day of works including weeding, maintaining the wildflower meadow, clearing graves, creating new habitats for amphibians, birds, and insects.



If you would like to nominate some work for the Community Payback to undertake or to get involved with volunteering, please get in contact with the Community Engagement Team.

Enforcement team

Officers conduct regular proactive patrols in the area, spending approximately five hours per week there.

Officers continued to undertake proactive patrols within the city targeting hot spot areas and investigate cases of littering from a motor vehicle. Fixed penalty notices are issued for littering as an alternative to prosecution. Hot spot areas in the period have included Victoria Road and Huntingdon Road.

Officers undertake investigations into dumped waste on all public land across the ward, including parks, open spaces, footpaths, and recycling centres, and investigate cases where there is a breach of the household duty of care of waste produced by a householder.

As part of an investigation the suspect will be contacted and invited to provide a response as to how their waste came to be found at the location – this will be done either via letter or a formal interview under caution. Based on their response, or non-response appropriate action can be taken, and this could include a Community Protection Warning, fixed penalty notice or prosecution.

In the last six months there have been twelve investigations completed which resulted in three fixed penalty notices.

The hot spot areas have been:

- Huntingdon Road There have been a number of fly tips at this location with two fixed penalty notices being issued and these have now been paid.
- Victoria Road Officers have investigated several fly tips in this area resulting in one fixed penalty notice being issued.

Nine suspected abandoned vehicles have been investigated in the period:

- One vehicle have been declared abandoned and were destroyed by the council, this then resulted in a fixed penalty being issued for the offence and
- Eight vehicles have been claimed by the owner or were no longer on site when officers revisited the locations.

Hot spots for abandoned vehicles in the period were Whitehouse Lane

No dogs were found straying and seized by the council during the last six months.

If you would like to report an environmental crime issue in your ward, please get in contact with your Enforcement Officers, Andy Hine, or Jess Toombs.

Operations service

The Operations teams have been busy during the last few months continuing to conduct scheduled mechanical sweeping all bus routes, main roads and housing footways and carriageways. Outside of the bird nesting season, the Ground Maintenance operatives have been continuing with pruning cutting back.

The hot spot map shows the numbers and locations of the flytips cleared within the last six-month period.

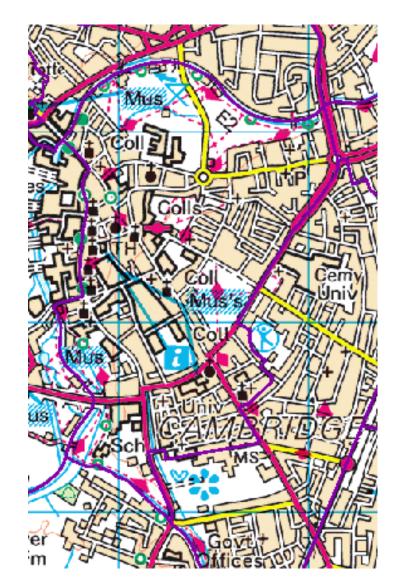
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If you would like to report a cleansing or grounds maintenance issue, please visit our website and complete the relevant webform (found at <u>https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/street-and-park-maintenance</u>) or contact our Customer Service Centre.

Ward Profile: Market

Мар



Community Engagement team

In February at All Saints Church volunteers attended a green team session and undertook tasks including weeding the flower and shrub beds and creating a path.

At Parkers Piece, in February volunteers spent a session completing tree care by weeding the tree pits, and a second session was held to remove water bags from twenty new trees and lay new bark. In the same month, a low-level graffiti removal training session for volunteers was run. In March and April litter picks were completed by volunteers and residents as part of the annual Great British Spring Clean. In June, the Community Engagement team had a group of corporate volunteers from Gardiner & Theobold LLP who spent a day painting the café/toilet block and painting railings.

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At Jesus Green in March and April litter picks were completed by volunteers and residents as part of the annual Great British Spring Clean. In April Community Payback had a work party that spent a day painting the lido exterior in preparation for the 100-year anniversary. In May a litter pick was organised for volunteers as part of 'The Big Help Out' national campaign for the Kings coronation in the same month volunteers completed a group litter pick in preparation for the 100-year anniversary of the lido. In June volunteers also undertook a group litter pick around the area Alongside the Park Parade site of Jesus Green a corporate group of volunteers from Dassault Systemes and Bidwell's completed bench renovations, tree care, cutting back suckers and maintaining saplings.

In May at Christ's Pieces the Community Engagement Team had a group of corporate volunteers from Stobbs who completed tasks including tree care, bench renovations, painting railings and a litter pick. In July, another corporate group from Charles River and AMGEN attended and completed a day of activities including, pruning the trees, painting the railings, renovating benches and litter picking.



In March and April at Midsummer Common litter picks were completed by volunteers and residents as part of the annual Great British Spring Clean.

If you would like to nominate some work for the Community Payback to undertake or to get involved with volunteering, please get in contact with the Community Engagement Team. Page 31 Page 9 of 22

Enforcement team

Officers conduct regular proactive patrols in the area, spending approximately five to ten hours per week there.

Officers continued to undertake proactive patrols within the city targeting hot spot areas and investigate cases of littering from a motor vehicle. Fixed penalty notices are issued for littering as an alternative to prosecution. Hot spot areas in the period have included Gonville Place and Lensfield Road.

Officers undertake investigations into dumped waste on all public land across the ward, including parks, open spaces, footpaths, and recycling centres, and investigate cases where there is a breach of the household duty of care of waste produced by a householder.

As part of an investigation the suspect will be contacted and invited to provide a response as to how their waste came to be found at the location – this will be done either via letter or a formal interview under caution. Based on their response, or non-response appropriate action can be taken, and this could include a Community Protection Warning, fixed penalty notice or prosecution.

In the last six months there have been seventy-five investigations completed which resulted in fifty-one fixed penalty notices

The hot spot areas have been:

- Regent Street There have been a number of fly tips at this location with sixteen fixed penalty notices being issued.
- Gonville Place Officers have investigated several fly tips in this area with five fixed penalty notices being issued.
- Corn Exchange Street There have been three separate incidents of fly-tipping at this location which resulted in one fixed penalty notice being issued.
- Parsons Court– Next to the bins. This has seen a steady amount of waste being dumped there over the past couple of months. Officers have been unable to take any further action due to not being able to find any evidence of who is responding for dumping the waste.



Officers deal with businesses within the city where there are breaches of the duty of care relating to commercial waste and can issue statutory notices (section 47) setting out how waste is to be managed, stored, and disposed of. Failure to comply with such as notice is an offence for which a fixed penalty notice can be issued. Officer

duty of care and work with Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Commercial team and other waste carriers operating in the city.

At present there are forty-one businesses within the ward on section 47 notices. In this period, an additional two businesses have been issued section 47 notices relating to the poor management of their trade waste, and seven fixed penalties issued in the period for breach of notices.

Four suspected abandoned vehicles have been investigated in the period. All these vehicles have been claimed by the owner or were no longer on site when officers revisited the locations; and

Officers undertake investigations into cases of reported dog control issues. This can include dogs straying from a property, dogs not being exercised under control or irresponsible dog ownership (such as dog fouling). Officers work closely with Wood Green Outreach Team who work to support dog owners in the community (<u>Meet Woodgreen's Outreach team | Woodgreen Pets Charity</u>).

In the last six-month officers have investigated the following cases of dog control:

• Burleigh Street: Reported by the owner of the aggressive dog, dog on dog attack. Contact made and a referral to Wood Green Outreach team who are providing education, advice and training for the dog and owner.

One dog was found straying and seized by the council during the last six months. The dog was found straying at St Andrews Street. This dog was claimed by their owners.

Officers respond to reports of illegal camping where a tent is in use. Any campers on site that are visited to be officers will be asked to move on and served a 24-hour notice to vacate. If a tent is abandoned after the 24 hours then it will be seized and stored for 28 days. Occupants of tents will be signposted to the relevant support agencies, and details of the camp passed onto the Street Outreach team who are able to respond. Officers will always seek to provide information to campers on how they can seek access to welfare facilities and support services.

In the period there have been five cases of illegal camping located at Midsummer Common, Jesus Green and Coe Fen.

If you would like to report an environmental crime issue in your ward, please get in contact with your Enforcement Offices, Andy Hine, Jess Toombs, or Tony Durman.

Operations service

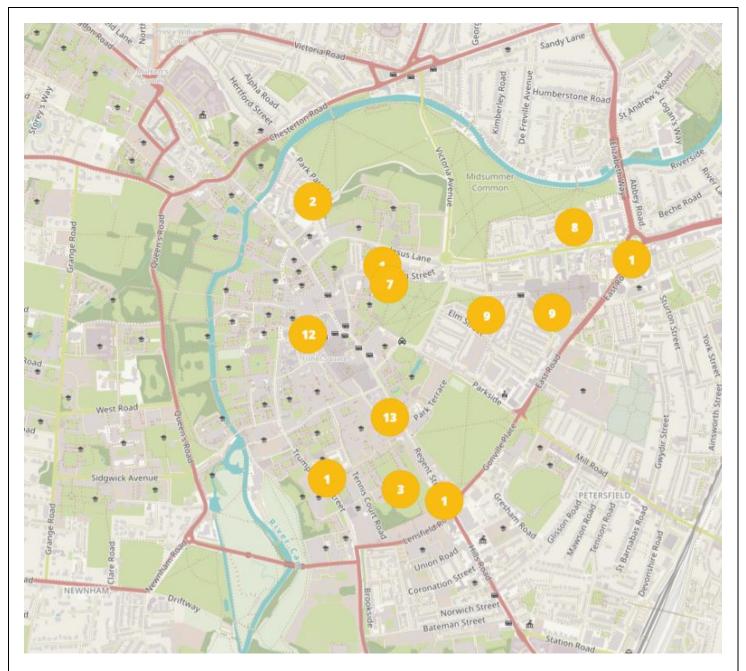
The Operations teams have been busy during the last few months continuing to conduct scheduled mechanical sweeping all bus routes, main roads and housing footways and carriageways. The market square is washed down on a Wednesday and Sunday mornings.

Our Grounds Maintenance operatives have been pruning, hoeing, leafing, and undertaking general preparation works to keep our city centre parks maintained.

The Rapid Response and graffiti teams are busy dealing with graffiti tags, stickers, and fly posters. The teams also wash down the pavements as part of Cambridge BID work.

The hot spot map shows the numbers and locations of the flytips cleared within the last six-month period.

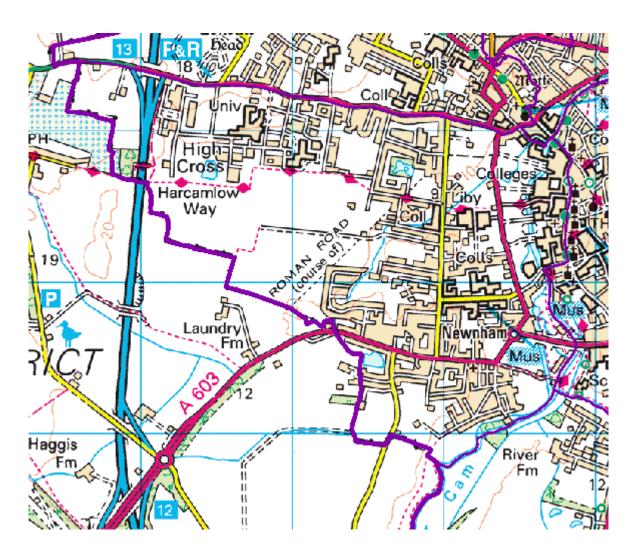




If you would like to report a cleansing or grounds maintenance issue, please visit our website and complete the relevant webform (found at <u>https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/street-and-park-maintenance</u>) or contact our Customer Service Centre.

Ward Profile: Newnham

Мар



Community Engagement team

In April at Lammas Land the Community Engagement Team had a corporate group of volunteers from Future Tech spent an afternoon tree planting, renovating benches and litter picking.

In April at Queens Green a corporate group with volunteers from MEET took place where they undertook tasks including cutting back overgrowth of saplings from bases of mature trees and litter picking around the green.

In March and April at Mill Pond litter picks were completed by volunteers and residents as part of the annual Great British Spring Clean.

If you would like to nominate some work for the Community Payback to undertake or to get involved with volunteering, please get in contact with the Community Engagement Team.

Enforcement team

Officers conduct regular proactive patrols in the area, spending approximately five hours per week there.



Officers continued to undertake proactive patrols within the city targeting hot spot areas and investigate cases of littering from a motor vehicle. Fixed penalty notices are issued for littering as an alternative to prosecution.

Officers undertake investigations into dumped waste on all public land across the ward, including parks, open spaces, footpaths, and recycling centres, and investigate cases where there is a breach of the household duty of care of waste produced by a householder.

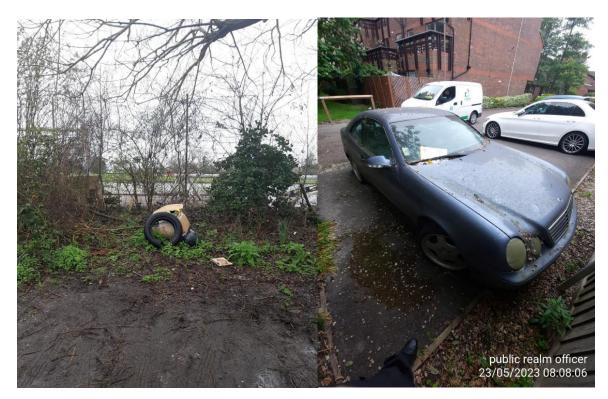
As part of an investigation the suspect will be contacted and invited to provide a response as to how their waste came to be found at the location – this will be done either via letter or a formal interview under caution. Based on their response, or non-response appropriate action can be taken, and this could include a Community Protection Warning, fixed penalty notice or prosecution.

In the last six months there have been seventeen investigations completed which resulted in

- Four fixed penalty notices and
- Two cases are still ongoing.

The hot spot areas have been:

- Barton Road There have been a number of fly tips at this location with one fixed penalty notice being has been issued.
- Queens Road Officers have investigated several fly tips in this area. These investigations have led to one fixed penalty notice being issued.
- Grange Road There have been three separate incidents of fly-tipping at this location, and this has resulted in one fixed penalty notice being issued.



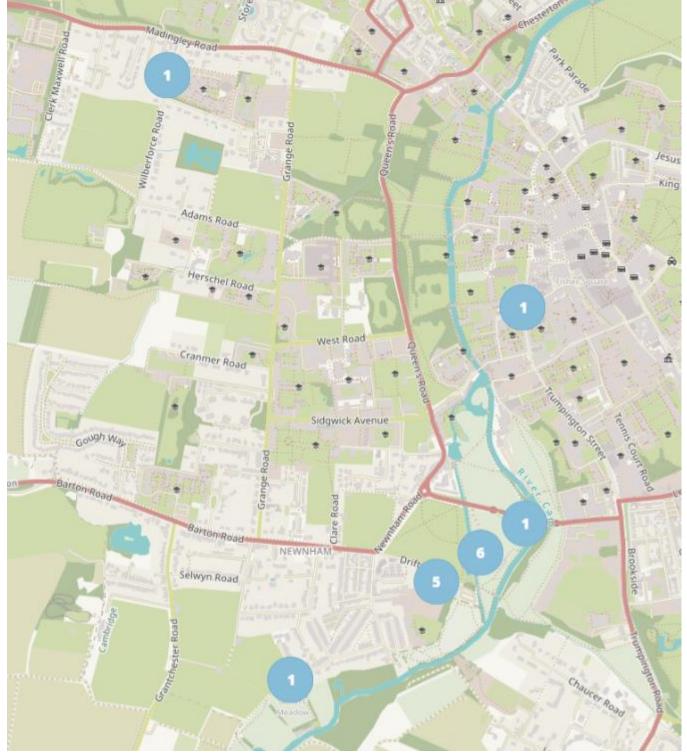
One suspected abandoned vehicle has been investigated in the period and was declared abandoned and were destroyed by the council.

If you would like to report an environmental crime issue in your ward, please get in contact with your Enforcement Officers, Andy Hine, or Jess Toombs.

Operations service

The Operations teams have been busy during the last few months continuing to conduct scheduled mechanical sweeping all bus routes, main roads and housing footways and carriageways.

The hot spot map shows the numbers and locations of the flytips cleared within the last six-month period.



If you would like to report a cleansing or grounds maintenance issue, please visit our website and complete the relevant webform (found at <u>https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/street-and-park-maintenance</u>) or contact our Customer Service Centre.



Community Engagement Team Updates

Hedgehog Holes

The Community Engagement Team continues to work with Cambridge Hedgehogs to promote hedgehog holes and highways. The team can assist residents by cutting holes in fences to facilitate hedgehog movement between gardens.



To date the team have cut over forty new hedgehog holes across the city. Should residents wish to have a hedgehog hole cut they can email the Community Engagement Team at <u>sosvolunteers@cambridge.gov.uk</u> who will make suitable arrangements.



Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service Update:

Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service Updates for Cambridge (Covers the period of April to July 2023):

Event	Date
Byron Square, Trumpington	01.04 23
Crathern Way	08.04 23
Queens College	26.04 23
Hills Road	27.04 23
Over Youth Centre	02.05 23
Mortlock Avenue CAD	13.05 23
Linton St Marys Church	31.05 23
Wolfson College	05.6 23
Cambourne CAD	10.06 23
Northstowe CAD	17.06 23
Wilson Close	24.06 23
Roxburgh Road CAD	15.07 23
Ditton Fields CAD	17.07 23
Victoria Road COPE AGM Recycling Stall	27.07-28.07 23
Coldhams Common Rec Cambridge Folk festival recycling bag hand out	27.07-28.07 23

3. Environmental and Waste Data

Public Realm [West / Central Area]

Period	Activity	Total number of incidents	Castle	Market	Newnham
Feb 2022 to Jul 2022	Fly tipping	37	13	18	6
Feb 2023 to Jul 2023	Fly tipping	86	14	63	9
Feb 2022 to Jul 2022	Needles	26 needles (6 instances)	1 needle (1 instance)	5 needles (4 instances)	20 needles (1 instance)
Feb 2023 to Jul 2023	Needles	48 needles (13 instances)	28 needles (3 instances)	20 needles (10 instances)	0
Feb 2022 to Jul 2022	Fixed penalty notices	61	1	51	9
Feb 2023 to Jul 2023	Fixed penalty notices	72	4	56	12

40

Summary of public realm data:

Fly tipping:

Hot spot maps within each of the ward profiles shows the numbers and locations of the flytips within the last six-month period.

Needles:

- Castle: In June one needle was removed from Castle Court, and in July there were two instances of needles (one needle and 25 needles).
- Market: In February three needles were removed from Willow Walk and one needle from Eden Street. In April one needle was removed from Midsummer Place, and there were two instances of needle removal at James Street (each containing three needles). In May one needle was cleared from James Street. In June three needles were cleared from Holy Trinity on Sidney Street, and in July four needles were removed from Midsummer Common (two instances) and one needle from Trinity Street.

Fixed penalty notices:

Fixed penalty notices issued across the period includes 21 for littering, 26 for trade related waste (including littering, fly tipping and breaching of a statutory notice), 6 for domestic related waste (including littering, breach of domestic duty of care and fly tipping), 18 for littering from a motor vehicle and one for an abandoned vehicle.

Private Realm [West / Central Area]

Data not available at the time of the report.

Page **19** of **22**

Waste and Recycling Data [Great Cambridge Area]

Recycling rate:

This is based total amount of recycling collected in blue and green bins. Waste is subject to seasonable fluctuations.

Activity	Q1 Apr-Jun 22/23
Total recycling rate	54.81%
Recycling rate – dry recycling	25.50%
Recycling rate – composting	19.57%
Amount collected for disposal	54.86%

4. Key contacts

Area	Contact	Telephone Number	Email
Community Engagement	Community Engagement Team	01223 458084	sosvolunteers@cambridge.gov.uk
Enforcement	Andy Hine Jess Toombs Tony Durman Jordan Hine	01223 458282	envirocrime@cambridge.go.uk
Streets and Open Spaces Operations / Commercial	Paul Jones	01223 458282	paul.jones@cambridge.gov.uk
Operations / Commercial	Mark Yeardsley	01223 458282	mark.yeardsley@cambridge.gov.uk
Recycling Champions ω	Birgitta Laurent	07525 213774	recycling.champions@scambs.gov.uk

If you have a question about one of the council's services, you will be able to find several answers on our website <u>www.cambridge.gov.uk</u>. If you can't find what you are looking for, or want to discuss something with us, you can contact us on the details above or call 01223 457000.

5. Volunteer schemes

Time Credits

You can earn Time Credits for your time as volunteer. Every hour of involvement with us earns you a 1-hour time credit – which can be spent in places like cinemas, gyms, swimming pools or music venues. The more time you give the more time credits you receive.

Streets and Open Spaces Volunteers:

We're looking for volunteers to make the streets of Cambridge even cleaner, tidier, and more pleasant and to spread our motto 'A greener, cleaner city starts with you.' So, whether you're already part of an existing local group and want some additional support or you're an individual who feels strongly about these issues, then get in touch to take part. Our volunteers work to improve their local streets by acting to keep them clean, tidy, and looking their best.

With the support of a dedicated Area Ranger, you'll be able to:

- Recruit other local people to help you in a project
- Organise events locally to promote cleaner streets: litter picks, ward walks etc.
- · Have access to and use specialist equipment for removing graffiti and litter
- Take part in large city-wide events for volunteers
- Provide education to other members of the public
- Get involved with new volunteer roles/projects

As a volunteer you're free to suggest your own ideas and we will do our best to accommodate them. We don't expect you to give huge amounts of time to our projects, as a volunteer, we just hope you can commit some regular time each month to keep the project active and vibrant in the community.

To sign up or find out more visit our webpage <u>https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/streets-and-open-spaces-volunteers</u> or contact our Community Engagement Team on <u>sosvolunteers@cambridge.gov.uk</u> or 01223 458084

Recycling Champions:

Are you a passionate about recycling? Would you like to meet other people who are also keen to help to promote recycling, minimizing waste and sustainability? Do you enjoy working with the public? If yes, then why not become a recycling champion. The Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service is looking for volunteers to help spread the word about recycling within the community. You don't need any experience or previous knowledge, you just need to believe that recycling is important, be friendly and approachable and be willing to convey your enthusiasm about helping the environment to others. Full training will be provided.

Our volunteers do a variety of roles such as:

- Run stalls at various events in the city and south of Cambridge
- Do door knocking around flats, hand out leaflets
- Attend monthly recycling champions meetings
- Do talks to community groups and schools about recycling
- Write articles in newsletters and go on trips to visit various recycling sites to learn about waste management and recycling.

To become a recycling champion please visit our webpage <u>https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/become-a-recycling-champion</u>, or contact <u>recycling.champions@scambs.gov.uk</u> or telephone 07525 213774.

