

Cambridge City Council Notice of Council

Date: Thursday, 9 October 2025

Time: 6.00 pm

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

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

Dear Councillor,

A meeting of Cambridge City Council will be held in the Council Chamber, The Guildhall, Market Square, Cambridge, CB2 3QJ [access the building via Peashill entrance] on Thursday, 9 October 2025 at 6.00 pm and I hereby summon you to attend.

Dated 1 October 2025

Yours faithfully

Robert Pollock

Chief Executive

Agenda

- | | | |
|---|---|----------------|
| 1 | Minutes of the meeting held on 24 July 2025 | (Pages 9 - 40) |
| 2 | Mayor's announcements | |
| 3 | Declarations of Interest | |
| 4 | Public questions time | |
| 5 | To deal with oral questions | |
| 6 | Appointment of Vice-Chair of the Planning Committee | |
- Full Council is required to make appointments to the Chair and Vice-Chair positions of the formal committees of the Council.

There is currently a vacancy for the position of Vice-Chair of the Planning Committee.

Council is therefore asked to:

1. Agree to an appointment for the position of Vice-Chair of the Planning Committee.

A nomination to the position has been made by the Labour Group, nominating Councillor Katie Thornburrow.

- 7 To consider the recommendations of the Executive for adoption

- 7a Cambridge Civic Quarter Project Update (Pages 41 - 160)

The public appendices for the report can be found here: [Cambridge Civic Quarter: Scrutiny committee and Cabinet reports - Cambridge City Council](#)

This report contains confidential appendices relating to information which following a public interest test the public is likely to be excluded by virtue of paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of Part 1 of the Local Government Act 1972. Members will need to agree to go into exempt session to discuss these appendices.

- 7b Establishment of new loan facilities for Cambridge Investment Partnership (Pages 161 - 170)

- 7c Annual Treasury Management (Outturn) Report 2024/25 (Pages 171 - 196)

- 8 To consider the recommendations of Committees for adoption
There are none for this meeting.

- 9 To consider the following notices of motion, notice of which has been given by:

- 9a Councillor Illingworth, Waste Water Plant Relocation: Rethink or our Money Back.

Council **records** its huge disappointment at the government's last minute funding U-turn on the relocation (and expansion) of the Anglian Water waste water treatment plant from North East Cambridge which

will:

- throw away 7 years of work by local councils and of council expenditure in planning and development;
- block the provision of at least 5,600 much-needed new homes on the most sustainable site around the city close to jobs and the provision of new amenities for the shared benefit of new and existing residents in north Cambridge;
- cause alternative development in other less suitable locations to be considered;
- make future waste water treatment capacity a new potential obstacle to all development in our area.

Council is **horrified** that their short-sighted decision is at complete variance with the government's earlier planning approval for the relocation, its wider ambition for Cambridge's future, and the promise of a local partnership approach, and that it will prevent an attractive return to the Treasury from the growth that it would have unlocked.

Council **resolves** accordingly to:

- demand that the government urgently reconsiders its funding decision, so that the waste water plant relocation and the planned development of North East Cambridge can go ahead;
- failing which, ask for the council's money back;
- request the Head of Finance, as a precaution, to prepare a comprehensive costing of all council resources deployed since the Housing Infrastructure Grant was awarded in 2019 and premised on it – including both planning for North East Cambridge and development of the new urban quarter of Hartree;
- urges the responsible government minister to attend our Performance, Assets & Strategy Overview & Scrutiny committee at the earliest opportunity, if invited, to discuss the status and outlook for the other expected financial support to back up its ambition for Cambridge.

9b

Councillor Anna Smith, Anti-Racism Charter

This council notes that whilst it is already undertaking many of the actions in Unison's anti-racism charter, that it has never been more important to make a clear statement of the Council's opposition to racism in all its forms, and of our clear intent to tackle racism.

This council therefore determines to endorse and implement Unison's anti-racism charter in full.

The text of the anti-racism charter is set out below:

Our organisation pledges we will introduce the following ongoing commitments within 12 months of signing:

Our leaders will

- Recognise the need and benefit in championing a racially diverse workforce.
- Challenge racism internally and externally wherever it arises in relation to the organisation.
- Recognise the impact of racism upon staff members' wellbeing.
- Set and regularly review strategy to improve racial equality, diversity and inclusion so that the organisation reflects the communities it serves.

Our organisation will

- Have a clear and visible race equality policy championed by leadership.
- Have a clear and visible anti-racism programme of initiatives and actions.
- Undertake equality impact assessments for all strategic-level decisions.
- Undertake ethnicity pay gap recording and publicly publish results.
- Undertake workforce ethnicity recording and publicly publish results.
- Provide unconscious bias and anti-racism training for all staff members.
- Provide a racism reporting process for notifying, investigating and recording outcomes.
- Provide robust equality training for managers involved in recruiting, promotions and investigating allegations.
- Provide a wellbeing support facility for staff experiencing racism in the workplace.
- Be anti-racist, not just non-racist in all we do

Our equality auditing process will review

- Recruitment processes to identify and address race disparities in equality of opportunity.
- Exit interview results to identify and address race disparities in retention of staff members.
- Promotional processes to identify and address race disparities in equality of opportunity.
- Discipline and grievance to identify and address race disparity in outcomes of comparable cases.
- Policies and research under a duty or commitment to promote solidarity and tackle racism.
- Our mission, values, and support to removing racial discrimination in all its forms.

9c Councillor Glasberg, New Homes & Old Myths

This council notes that:

- Cambridge data on completions of new homes, unused planning permissions and affordability ratios for rents and mortgages demonstrate that “the market” is not solving the city’s housing crisis
- its high housing costs impose severe financial and mental stresses on residents, weaken the night time economy and increase social isolation
- Cambridge’s green spaces and wildlife habitats are essential for resident wellbeing, preserving biodiversity and resilience to climate habitats
- Part 3 of the proposed Planning and Infrastructure Bill would allow developers to continue to destroy habitats and species, providing that they pay into a proposed national nature fund

council believes that:

- biodiversity lost in Cambridge now cannot meaningfully be replaced by potential future projects elsewhere
- market housing cannot on its own address the city’s housing needs

This council requests that:

- the government maintains and increases protection for the environment and biodiversity.
- in particular it urges the government not to pass part 3 of the

proposed Planning and Infrastructure Bill currently going through the House of Lords without significant amendments to improve protection

- it removes excessive restrictions on the use by councils of Right to Buy receipts so that councils have the flexibility to fund the full cost of bringing empty homes back into use, purchasing and repairing existing homes and building new 100% council housing

Accordingly, this council proposes to write to Daniel Zeichner MP, Pippa Heyling MP and Steve Reed MP to share its concerns and make this request.

9d Councillor Baigent, Civic Quarter Project - Council Chamber

Council notes that:

- The jury is still out on if the Civic Quarter Project is to have public support. Certainly at £92,000,000 it is a lot of money.
- One part of that project, the Council Chamber, will be a significant cost. It is being sold as the place where the new Unitary will meet.
- BUT, we do not know the size of the new Unitary. Nor do we know who will lead it, or the amount of councillors, or where it will meet.

Council resolves that:

- Given all these unknowns, work on the chamber should be put on hold until there are answers to these questions.

10 Written questions

No discussion will take place on this item. Members will be asked to note the written questions and answers document as circulated around the Chamber.

Emergency Evacuation Procedure

In the event of the fire alarm sounding all persons should vacate the building by way of the nearest escape route and proceed directly to the assembly point in front St Mary's Church. The duty Officer will assume overall control during any evacuation, however in the unlikely event the duty Officer is unavailable, this responsibility will be assumed by the Committee Chair.

Information for the public

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

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

This Meeting will be live streamed to the Council's YouTube page. You can watch proceedings on the livestream or attend the meeting in person.

Those wishing to address the meeting will be able to do so virtually via Microsoft Teams, or by attending to speak in person. You must contact Democratic Services democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk by 12 noon two working days before the meeting.

The full text of any public question must be submitted in writing by noon two working days before the date of the meeting or it will not be accepted. All questions submitted by the deadline will be published on the meeting webpage before the meeting is held.

Further information on public speaking will be supplied once registration and the written question / statement has been received.