

**COUNTY COUNCIL – 19TH MARCH 2019
CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

PEOPLE

Executive Director for Place & Economy

Steve Cox has been appointed by Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, as Executive Director for Place & Economy - leading one of the only joint services in the UK concentrated on developing both a City unitary and County Council area, and completing a wholly joined up management team under Chief Executive Gillian Beasley.

Steve is currently Corporate Director, Place at Thurrock Council where over the past three years he has been responsible for leading England's highest rated planning service, drawing down £150m of Government growth funding and where he is currently delivering a £500m capital programme and leading Thurrock's response to the proposed £6bn Lower Thames Crossing.

SERVICE DEVELOPMENTS

Ely Bypass Project

The Ely underpass re-opened to traffic at the end of February, marking the completion of all work associated with the Ely Bypass project. The closure of the level crossing and underpass improvements, made possible by the opening of the bypass, have provided improved local access to Ely for cyclists and pedestrians, alongside changes to the warning signage for the height restriction associated with the railway bridge. Work with Network Rail is also continuing to ensure that drivers are adequately warned of the recent permanent closure of the level crossing.

Abbey Chesterton Bridge and Chisholm Trail

Work has now begun on the first phase of a major walking and cycling trail through Cambridge. The cutting of the sod for the Abbey Chesterton Bridge and Chisholm Trail by the Chairman of the Council, Mandy Smith and Chair of Greater Cambridge Partnership, Lewis Herbert along with local cycling campaigner Jim Chisholm took place on the 8th March, and is the culmination of 25 years of work.

The Abbey Chesterton Bridge which is funded by Cambridgeshire County Council will be only the second new crossing of the River Cam since 1970.

The Chisholm Trail, which is funded by the Greater Cambridge Partnership will allow cyclists to travel on mostly off-road routes across the city from Cambridge North to Cambridge Station and also includes a new underpass under Newmarket Road.

It is hoped that the Trail will be a game changer for Cambridge, improving foot and cycle access to places such as the Cambridge Science Park and Cambridge Biomedical Campus.