

COUNTY COUNCIL: MINUTES

Please note the meeting can be viewed on YouTube at the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kzr74PD0QQ8>

Date: Tuesday, 16th October 2018

Time: 10:30 am – 1:20 pm

Place: Shire Hall, Cambridge

Present: Councillor M Smith (Chairman)

Councillors: D Adey, D Ambrose Smith, A Bailey, I Bates, C Boden, A Bradnam, S Bywater, D Connor, A Costello, S Count, S Crawford, S Criswell, P Downes, L Dupre, L Every, J French, R Fuller, I Gardener, D Giles, M Goldsack, J Gowing, N Harrison, A Hay, M Howell, S Hoy, P Hudson, B Hunt, D Jenkins, L Jones, N Kavanagh, S Kindersley, S King, I Manning, M McGuire, E Meschini, L Nethsingha, K Reynolds, C Richards, T Rogers, T Sanderson, J Schumann, J Scutt, M Shellens, M Shuter, A Taylor, S Taylor, S Tierney, P Topping, S van de Ven, J Whitehead, J Williams, G Wilson, J Wisson and T Wotherspoon

Apologies: Councillors: H Batchelor, K Cuffley, L Harford, R Hickford, L Joseph and D Wells

101. MINUTES – 17TH JULY 2018

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 17th July 2018 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

102. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made a number of announcements as set out in **Appendix A**.

103. REPORT OF THE COUNTY RETURNING OFFICER

Council noted the election of Councillor Mark Goldsack in the by-election for the Soham North and Isleham Electoral Division held on 4th October 2018.

104. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest under the Code of Conduct

105. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The Chairman reported that no questions had been received from members of the public.

106. PETITIONS

The Chairman reported that no petitions had been received from members of the public.

107. ITEM FOR DETERMINATION FROM GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council Shared Services – Joint Working Agreement and Protocols

It was moved by the Chairman of General Purposes Committee, Councillor Count, and seconded by Councillor Bates, that the recommendation from the General Purposes Committee, as set out in the report on the Council agenda, be approved.

It was resolved unanimously by a show of hands to:

Agree the principles set out in the Joint Working Agreement and Protocols.

108. REPORTS OF THE CONSTITUTION AND ETHICS COMMITTEE

(a) Monitoring Officer

It was moved by the Chairman of the Constitution and Ethics Committee, Councillor McGuire, and seconded by the Vice-Chairman, Councillor Reynolds, that the recommendations of the Constitution and Ethics Committee, as set out in the report, be approved.

It was resolved unanimously by a show of hands to:

- a) Approve the following amendments to the Council's Constitution, as recommended by the Constitution and Ethics Committee, and set out in Appendices 1 to 3.
- b) Authorise the Deputy Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Chairman of the Constitution and Ethics Committee, to make any other minor or consequential amendments to the Constitution necessary for, or incidental to, the implementation of these proposals.

(b) Council – Public Question Time

It was moved by the Chairman of the Constitution and Ethics Committee, Councillor McGuire, and seconded by the Vice-Chairman, Councillor Reynolds, that the recommendations of the Constitution and Ethics Committee, as set out in the report, be approved. The Chairman proposed an alteration from the version included in the report to delete "in exceptional circumstances" on page 31 of Appendix 1 which was agreed by the meeting without discussion.

It was resolved unanimously by a show of hands to:

- a) Approve the following amendments to the Council's Constitution, as recommended by the Constitution and Ethics Committee, and set out in Appendices 1 and 2.
- b) Authorise the Deputy Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Chairman of the Constitution and Ethics Committee, to make any other minor or consequential amendments to the Constitution necessary for, or incidental to, the implementation of these proposals.

(c) Transfer of Delegated Responsibility for the Council's Whistleblowing Policy

It was moved by the Chairman of the Constitution and Ethics Committee, Councillor McGuire, and seconded by the Vice-Chairman, Councillor Reynolds, that the recommendations of the Constitution and Ethics Committee, as set out in the report, be approved.

It was resolved unanimously by a show of hands to:

- a) Amend the Constitution to pass the delegated responsibility for the Council's whistleblowing policy and oversight from the Constitution and Ethics Committee to the Council's Audit & Accounts Committee.
- b) Authorise the Deputy Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Chairman of the Constitution and Ethics Committee, to make any other minor or consequential amendments to the Constitution necessary for, or incidental to, the implementation of these proposals.

109. APPOINTMENT OF MONITORING OFFICER

[The Acting Monitoring Officer, Fiona McMillan, left the Chamber for this item]

The Chairman explained that this report had not been available for public inspection five clear days in advance of the meeting. Members noted that this was due to the interviews for this position taking place on 11 October 2018. She therefore exercised her discretion under Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to allow discussion of this report, as the Council had a duty to designate one of its officers to be known as the Monitoring Officer.

It was moved by the Chairman of the Staffing and Appeals Committee, Councillor Schumann, and seconded by the Vice-Chairman, Councillor Hudson, subject to Peterborough City Council's agreement on 17th October 2018, to:

- a) Note the decision by the Staffing and Appeals Committee on 4th September 2018 to appoint a shared Monitoring Officer by way of secondment arrangement with Peterborough City Council.
- b) Formally appoint Fiona McMillan to the shared Monitoring Officer role.

[The Acting Monitoring Officer returned to the chamber]

110. AUDIT AND ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2017-18

The Chairman of the Audit and Accounts Committee, Councillor Shellens, moved receipt of the annual report of the Committee for 2017-18. Council noted his thanks to the Committee and officers for their support.

Council noted the report.

111. PENSION FUND COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2017-18

The Chairman of the Pension Fund Committee, Councillor Rogers, moved receipt of the annual report of the Committee for 2017-18.

Council noted the report.

112. CAMBRIDGESHIRE LOCAL PENSION FUND BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2017-18

Councillor King, Chairman of the Local Pension Fund Board covering the period of the report, moved receipt of the annual report of the Board for 2017-18.

Council noted the report.

113. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

It was moved by the Chairman of the Council, Councillor Smith, and seconded by the Vice-Chairman, Councillor McGuire, and resolved unanimously to:

Approve the change in membership on:

- a) The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority to appoint Councillor L Harford to replace former Councillor P Raynes
- b) The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority to appoint Councillor I Bates to temporarily replace Councillor R Hickford as a substitute.

114. MOTIONS SUBMITTED UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 10

Four motions had been submitted under Council Procedure Rule 10.

(a) Motion from Councillor Susan van de Ven

The following motion was proposed by Councillor van de Ven and seconded by Councillor Whitehead:

This Council notes:

- the economically damaging effects of Brexit on local residents and businesses, and on its own financial position;
- the poor progress made by government in planning for withdrawal from the European Union;
- the significant risk of a particularly damaging 'no-deal Brexit'; and
- the refusal of the Prime Minister to support giving the British public the final say on any deal.

The Council's own current business planning cites risks arising from Brexit including

- the effect of a national economic downturn
- workforce recruitment and retention issues

Local small, medium and large Cambridgeshire businesses face these same risks and pressures.

Any further rise in cost of living arising from a national economic downturn will inevitably fall to Cambridgeshire residents, in turn bringing further pressures on this Council, which is already facing significant financial challenge in delivering essential public services to the people it is meant to serve.

Therefore, this Council supports the growing People's Vote campaign, whereby the British people would vote in a referendum on the specific terms of Brexit, including an option to remain in the European Union, in order to have a say in what they deem to be in their own and Britain's best interests now and for the next generation.

Following discussion, the motion on being put to the vote was lost.

[Voting pattern: Liberal Democrats, Labour and three Independents in favour; Conservatives and one Independent against.]

Before the vote closed, Councillor Jones requested that she be recorded as being in favour of the motion as her voting equipment failed.

(b) Motion from Councillor Lorna Dupre

The following motion was proposed by Councillor Dupre and seconded by Councillor Hudson. The motion included alterations from the version included on the agenda which were agreed by the meeting without discussion:

[Additions in bold and deletions shown in strikethrough]

This council notes:

- the risks to public health posed by poor air quality;
- the success of Clean Air Day 2018 in increasing awareness of air pollution, with 203 supporter organisations, five campaign partners and thousands of volunteers across the country taking part; and
- the involvement of 2000 organisations including hospitals, schools and local authorities in 550 events nationwide on the day.

This council welcomes the activities recently undertaken or planned by this authority in conjunction with partner councils and other public bodies to address air pollution more collaboratively, including the development of communication resources, training and learning events, guidance for communities on air quality monitoring, and collaborative working.

This council therefore resolves to **support** ~~work with its partner councils and other public bodies towards promoting a programme of active participation across Cambridgeshire in~~ next year's Clean Air Day on Thursday 20 June 2019.

Following discussion, the motion on being put to the vote was carried unanimously by a show of hands.

(c) Motion from Councillor Tom Sanderson

The following motion was proposed by Councillor Sanderson and seconded by Councillor Bates. The motion included alterations from the version included on the agenda which were agreed by the meeting without discussion:

[Additions in bold and deletions shown in strikethrough]

This Council notes that:

- a. when the new A14 is completed, the current A14 will be de-trunked and become the responsibility of the County Council;
- b. the removal of the A14 viaduct in Huntingdon will entail modifications to the existing road layout; and
- c. when all the work is completed, the County Council will take on responsibility for maintenance, road safety and traffic flow.

This Council further notes that:

- a. there are already major traffic jams along Hinchingsbrooke Park Road and Brampton Road leading into the town and the railway station;
- b. this stretch of road is the only exit for all the traffic from over 1,000 houses, a large hospital, a large secondary school, the police and fire headquarters and the ambulance headquarters and is also the main feeder road into Huntingdon for several large and growing villages to the west; and
- c. local residents and councillors are concerned that the modifications proposed by Highways England may exacerbate what is already a very unsatisfactory situation.

This Council requests the Chief Executive write to Highways England to ask it to engage constructively and sympathetically with the County Council, ~~and~~ local **and other** Councillors to reach a solution which takes into consideration the widespread concerns of local residents, the changing financial circumstances of the county council and reaches a solution which will make the situation better not worse.

Following discussion, the motion on being put to the vote was carried unanimously by a show of hands.

[Councillor Downes declared a non-statutory disclosable interest under the Code of Conduct, as the former Head teacher of Hinchingsbrooke School.]

(d) Motion from Councillor Claire Richards

The following motion was proposed by Councillor Richards and seconded by Councillor Crawford:

The Council notes that the Children and Young People Committee at its meeting on 11 September 2018:

- a) noted the content of a report detailing information to enable Members to consider whether adopting a scheme whereby care leavers who are the responsibility of Cambridgeshire County Council are exempted from paying Council Tax would be an effective way of ensuring the Council is providing the best form of support to care leavers while making best use of available resources. The report also provided an update on numbers of unaccompanied asylum seeking young people in Cambridgeshire. (Link to report:

- b) approved the recommendation that adopting a scheme that exempts care leavers from paying Council Tax would not be appropriate in the absence of any national arrangements in this area;
- c) supported the Director of Children's Services writing to Central Government to support the development of a properly funded national scheme of Council Tax relief that supports all young people living independently;
- d) supported the Director of Children's Services writing to Eastern Region colleagues and Central Government to request assistance in relation to provision of support to Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children and Care Leavers in Cambridgeshire.

Given that the Government has identified best practice in 'local authorities' as providing 'additional support to care leavers, including using existing freedoms, which includes exemptions discounts to support vulnerable groups, such as Care Leavers, to meet their Council Tax payments', I call on the Council to:

- (i) work with non unitary and unitary authorities who exempt or who are in the process of exempting care leavers from paying council tax so that the County Council can adopt best practice in this context.
- (ii) join those non unitary and unitary authorities in leading the way nationally on exempting care leavers from paying council tax.

Following discussion, the motion on being put to the vote was lost.

[Voting pattern: nine Liberal Democrats, five Labour and two Independents in favour; Conservatives and one Independent against; three Liberal Democrats, one Labour and one Independent abstained]

115: QUESTIONS:

(a) **Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority and Overview and Scrutiny Committee** (Council Procedure Rule 9.1)

Two questions were submitted under Council Procedure 9.1. of the Council's Constitution, as set out in **Appendix B**.

(b) **Questions on Fire Authority Issues**

No questions were received.

(c) **Written Questions** (Council Procedure Rule 9.2)

Seven written questions were submitted under Council Procedure 9.2, as set out in **Appendix C**.

**COUNTY COUNCIL – 16TH OCTOBER 2018
CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS****PEOPLE****Soham North and Isleham Division By-Election**

The result from the By-Election held on 4th October 2018 for the Soham North and Isleham Electoral Division was:

Name	Description	Votes Cast
Victoria Charlesworth	Liberal Democrat	527
Mark Goldsack	Conservative	858
Lee Jinks	Labour	191
Geoffrey Woollard	Independent	182

Councillor Goldsack was declared as the duly elected councillor for the Soham and Isleham Electoral Division and has signed his declaration of acceptance.

Noelle Godfrey

Congratulations to Noelle Godfrey, Director of the Connecting Cambridgeshire and Smart Cambridge programmes, led by Cambridgeshire County Council, who has been voted one of the top 10 Female GovTech Leaders in the UK. The inaugural ranking by Govtech Leaders spotlights influential women across the public sector who are leaders, trailblazers and transformers.

Noelle has worked in local government IT for almost 29 years and is passionate about using the power of technology innovation with cross-sector collaboration to improve connectivity and local public service delivery. She has recently led several successful funding bids to expand the Connecting Cambridgeshire programme to significantly improve mobile, broadband and public WiFi coverage, whilst securing future proof full fibre and 5G networks, over the next four years.

SERVICE DEVELOPMENTS**Planned Opening of Ely Bypass on 31st October 2018**

The Ely Southern Bypass will open on 31st October 2018. The new road will connect the A142 at Angel Drove to Stuntney Causeway and has been a much wanted scheme for over 20 years.

The £49 million scheme includes a 1.7km long single carriageway road including a viaduct crossing the Great Ouse and bridges over two railway lines. The road will solve long-standing congestion problems and reduce journey times for drivers. The area around Ely station is heavily congested with lorries and other larger vehicles which are not able to use the low underpass. Once the bypass has opened, work on the existing underpass at the low bridge will begin in order to improve access for pedestrians and cyclists.

Nomination of schools programme for award

I am pleased to announce that Cambridgeshire County Council Energy Investment Unit’s school programme was nominated for a Department for Education School Energy Efficiency

Award. We recently heard from DfE that our programme has been selected as a runner up for this award. May I pass my congratulations to the team involved.

MESSAGES

Visit by His Royal Highness The Duke of Gloucester

The Chairman was honoured to welcome His Royal Highness The Duke of Gloucester to Cambridgeshire recently, on behalf of the County Council, when His Royal Highness visited the Oasis Community Centre and Nursery in Wisbech.

Whilst in Wisbech, His Royal Highness also visited the site for the People & Animals Community Farm, where he planted the first tree, and the Parish Church of St Augustine, where a memorial plaque was unveiled in memory of those from Wisbech who lost their lives during the First World War.

Visit by the Duke of York

The Chairman was honoured to welcome the Duke of York to Cambridge on Thursday 4 October 2018, when HRH attended a Pitch@Palace Boot Camp at the Cambridge Judge Business School Entrepreneurship Centre. Pitch@Palace guides, helps and connects Entrepreneurs and early-stage businesses with potential supporters, including CEOs, influencers, angels, mentors and business partners. Entrepreneurs are selected to participate in Pitch@Palace and are invited to attend Boot Camp. They receive guidance on how to develop and hone their Pitch, as well as support with investment, introductions and strategic guidance

**COUNTY COUNCIL – 16TH OCTOBER 2018
CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY AND OVERVIEW
& SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 9.1**

**Questions to the Council's Appointee on the Combined Authority –
Councillor Steve Count**

No questions.

**Questions to the Council's Appointee on the Combined Authority Overview &
Scrutiny Committee – Councillors David Connor and Lucy Nethsingha**

Question from Councillor Lorna Dupré:

Thank you chair, that's me now then. I would like to ask Cllr Nethsingha a question relating to Appendix 2 and the meeting of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee Decision Summary of 24th September, in particular the section on governance. And my question is that a letter has been published that has been sent by the Chief Executives of all the constituent bodies of the Combined Authority, except East Cambridgeshire, expressing grave concern about the way the Combined Authority is being managed and the governance of the organisation. What is the Scrutiny Committee doing to ensure the concerns raised by the Chief Executives are taken seriously?

Response from Councillor Lucy Nethsingha:

The letter to which you refer was sent by the Chief Executives of all authorities, except East Cambridgeshire, and including this authority during August. And while I was personally aware of the letter, at the time of the most recent Scrutiny Committee, the letter was not at that time in the public domain. Before the last Scrutiny Committee I tried to get the letter released to members of the Committee, so that it could inform our discussions about the sudden and unexpected departure of the Chief Executive of the Combined Authority, which also occurred during August. Since that meeting, the letter has been published in the local press and equally importantly, has been released formally to me as Chair of the Scrutiny Committee under FOI regulations, so we will be discussing it at our next meeting. In the meantime, I have been involved in local government for an embarrassingly long time now, almost 20 years across four different Councils in different parts of the Country, and I have never in that time come across a letter quite like this, from such a wide group of Chief Executives to a colleague. I am in no doubt that only enormous frustration could have led this group to write in this way. As you will be aware, the Combined Authority now has two joint Chief Executives, and I am sure the Scrutiny Committee will be wanting to examine very carefully the issues which were raised in the letter. I understand that following a joint meeting with the officers of the Combined Authority this week that was held between myself and the Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee, that the Internal Auditors of the Combined Authority will be producing a report looking into the governance of the Combined Authority, and I very much welcome the recognition by the Combined Authority that a review is needed. I hope very much that the new officer leadership of the Combined Authority can bring a different operational culture to the organisation, with a much more open and collaborative way of working. We all need the Combined Authority to be able to focus on its role in bringing forward a step change in the provision of affordable housing in Cambridgeshire, and alongside that a Transport Plan which can support the high level of economic growth which Cambridgeshire continues to experience. Both of these critical tasks require Councils to work together across district and county boundaries. The recent conflict and frustration between the leadership of the Combined Authority and its constituent

Councils has slowed rather than facilitated this delivery, and I hope very much that the change of leadership at the top of the officer structure will help make a difference in future.

Question from Councillor Steve Tierney:

I'm sorry I didn't give you advance notice, Councillor Connor, but these things happen quite quickly. I was at the Overview & Scrutiny Committee at Fenland District Council yesterday, and the Chief Executive was asked about the letter that has been referred to, and his comments were that he felt it had been blown out of all proportion, overblown and misused by the Press, and I wondered if you wanted to add anything to that comment?

Response from Councillor David Connor:

It certainly has been blown out of all proportion really. I think the Mayor should be getting on with his job, and not being over critical with him, that's my view, and I think that's what happened at Overview and Scrutiny, last panel. Thank you.

**COUNTY COUNCIL – 16 OCTOBER 2018 WRITTEN
QUESTION UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 9.2**

1. Question from Councillor Ian Manning

In September, it was reported that some Councils have been developing profiling for at risk residents and/or families:

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2018/sep/16/councils-use-377000-peoplesdata-in-efforts-to-predict-child-abuse>

Has the County Council any plan now or in the future to do this?

**Response from Councillor Simon Bywater
Chairman of Children and Young People Committee**

Cambridgeshire County Council has not been involved in trials of this nature and has no plans to develop profiling as a means to help identify risk in the way that some authorities have recently been reported. That said, we always ensure that we monitor the impact of approaches taken by other local authorities, and should schemes such as these be able to evidence value, we may wish to explore adopting similar approaches. We would only do so, however, in consultation with Members through the Children and Young People Committee.

2. Question from Councillor Susan van de Ven

Part of the division I represent has had no Local Highways Officer for nearly a year. Now the post of District Manager, who oversees the Local Highways Officers, is vacant.

Another Local Highways Officer from a neighbouring patch has been assigned to help cover the gap. He now has responsibility for 37 villages, and no money left until next financial year.

The County Council is doing its best to recruit to both the Local Highways Officer and District Manager posts.

As Local Member, what response should I give to requests from my residents for reasonable work that needs doing, knowing that existing staff are vastly overstretched and that money has run out less than half-way through the financial year?

**Response from Councillor Mathew Shuter
Chairman of Highway and Community Infrastructure Committee**

We have been actively recruiting a number of roles in the Highway maintenance team and have recently been successful in recruiting two Local Highway Officers and a Highways Inspector to Cambridge City and Huntingdon areas. We are currently advertising for the vacant position in South Division.

As a temporary measure the area has been split between the other Local Highway Officers in the South Division. This was implemented and shared with the Councillors by the new interim District Highway Manager Dennis Vacher as soon as he was in post.

Whilst we are recruiting we are supporting the existing Local Highway Officers with another temporary Inspector resource supplied by our Cambridgeshire Highways partners Skanska. We are aware of the extra work load that members of the team currently have and are monitoring the effectiveness of our temporary measures, and if required we will add to these.

There currently is budget available across the divisions but at times there is a lack of understanding regarding budgets with some team members. The District Highway manager is holding regular team meetings to improve this, and ensure that appropriate messages are passed onto elected Members and the public. To confirm, in Councillor van de Ven's patch, we have available budget for traditional pothole crews, the new dragon patcher's, gully emptying, carriageway patching and are currently completing all our cyclic programmes, that include grass cutting, weed kill, and the large countywide surface treatments programme.

We ask that members of the public should be encouraged to continue to report all defects via our online reporting system. All reports are inspected by the team and assessed according to the Highway Operational Standards document known locally as the HOS. Orders raised for work are checked that they are coded to the most appropriate budget, and then programmed with the timescale for work fed back to the customer.

3. Question from Councillor Nichola Harrison

Do you intend to continue with the LGSS project or will it be closed down and the services it provides be 'repatriated' to the council, as some have already been to Northamptonshire?

Response from Councillor Steve Count
Chairman of General Purposes Committee

The Council is currently evaluating how its support services will be delivered in the future. At this point Northamptonshire County Council have repatriated Professional Finance and Democratic Services. These two service areas are a priority of this review process and the Council is working closely with Milton Keynes Council in this evaluation. A decision is likely to be made on these two service areas within the next month. All three core partners of LGSS have also commissioned an independent review of both the governance and operating model of LGSS from the Chartered Institute of Public Finance. This review is currently in hand and on the conclusion the report and any recommendations emanating will be considered by the three partner organisations and the future model agreed.

4. Question from Councillor David Jenkins

Would the Leader of the Council kindly advise how many people are now employed within the transformation team and what the annualised cost of this team is including NI and pension payments and full office and support costs?

Response from Councillor Steve Count
Chairman of General Purposes Committee

The Transformation Team has an establishment of 38.5 full time equivalent roles. The full cost of this establishment is £1.96 million with a direct cost to revenue of £0.15m. The remaining £1.81m is funded through the Government initiative on flexible use of capital receipts, which was introduced in April 2016. The team operates without business support roles and has no office costs beyond the usual overheads associated with any team based at the Shire Hall site.

The transformation programme has supported the organisation to deliver £140million of savings and has had significant impact across all areas of the business including:

- an ambitious and innovative programme of change in Adults services, focused on putting more choice and more independence directly into the hands of individuals and communities;
- development of a place based approach to support health and wellbeing - built on the assets of a place and fostering community-based support and capacity;
- support to accelerate our digital approach, releasing savings, improving efficiency and ensuring our citizens receive a customer focused service;
- development of an evidence base and intelligence led approach to decision making and performance management, using benchmarking, baselining and consistent metrics to review and redesign services;
- investment in building partnerships across the public and voluntary sector which reduce duplication and cost and amplify the positive impact for citizens.

We took the decision in 2016 to centralise our transformation resource - reducing both the size and cost of capacity by 40% and being proactive in building capability for new ways of working. Over the last two years the Transformation Team have driven shared direction, alignment, and commitment throughout the organisation as well as successfully delivering a very challenging programme of change and its associated financial benefits.

5. Questions from Councillor Lorna Dupre

1. Which hauliers have signed up to the county council's HGV Covenant since it was launched in February 2016, and with which parishes?
2. Where and when were counts carried out to establish a baseline for traffic volumes before the building of the Ely Southern Bypass, and when will such counts be repeated after the opening of the bypass to measure its effect on traffic volumes?
3. Given the county council's considerable purchasing power, why is it cheaper for parish councils to purchase Mobile Vehicle Activated Signs directly from the supplier than through the council?

Response from Councillor Mathew Shuter **Chairman of Highway and Community Infrastructure Committee**

1. The companies signed up to the HGV Covenant as of October 2018 are:
 1. Amey
 2. Balfour Beatty
 3. Cornwell & Son
 4. Masters Logistical
 5. Mick George Ltd
 6. Skanska
 7. John Henry Group
 8. Cardinalis Concrete
 9. Geoff Hobbs Haulage Ltd
 10. Turners Soham Ltd

The form used for signing up to the Covenant does not ask for Parish information, therefore it is not possible to provide a list of Parishes.

2. As part of the planning application, a full transport assessment was undertaken in accordance with Department for Transport guidance.

Traffic data was collected in 2013 at the following locations:

- Angel Drove (A142) / Station Road mini roundabout
- Angel Drove / Bypass new roundabout
- Stuntney Causeway / Bypass new roundabout
- A10 / Cambridge Road / Angel Drove roundabout
- A10 / Witchford Road roundabout
- Stuntney Causeway (A142) / Queen Adelaide Way priority junction
- Queen Adelaide Way / Ely Road / Branch Road priority junction
- Station Road tidal flow signal controlled under railway bridge
- Ely level crossing and underpass

The data was factored for growth to give baseline data up to 2031. Further counts to validate modelled flows were undertaken in 2016 prior to the bypass construction and to measure wider potential impact arising from local concerns. These were at:

- A142/B1381 at Sutton
- A1123/B1381 (Earith)
- Angel Drove (A142) / Station Road mini roundabout
- Stuntney Causeway (A142) / Queen Adelaide Way priority junction
- Ely level crossing and underpass

A monitoring framework agreed with the Department for Transport will repeat these surveys at one and five years after the opening of the bypass.

3. The Council usually sources its Mobile Vehicle Activated Signs (MVAS) from the manufacturers via one of our framework contracts, such as with Skanska or the Eastern Highways Alliance. As part of this process, the contractor adds on an administration fee in accordance with the contract we have with them.

We usually order signs in bulk through this route once or twice a year. Typically, doing this, the price per unit is 5% to 10% cheaper than if they were sourced individually or if the Parish Councils sourced them directly from the manufacturer.

Our contract arrangements with our Framework Contractors do mean that if we order individual signs through them, they can be more expensive which is why we do not favour this approach and steer Parish Council's towards securing the signs through our bulk purchases although there are times when Parish Councils wish a quicker turnaround. In these cases, we will assist them to make the purchases individually.