

COUNTY COUNCIL: MINUTES

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

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C0DBZUM31rM>

Date: Tuesday 19th May 2020

Time: 10:30am – 2:20pm

Venue: Virtual Meeting

Present: Councillor M McGuire (Chairman)
Councillor L Every (Vice-Chairwoman)

D Ambrose Smith	J Gowing	K Reynolds
B Ashwood	L Harford	C Richards
A Bailey	N Harrison	T Rogers
H Batchelor	A Hay	T Sanderson
I Bates	R Hickford	J Schumann
C Boden	M Howell	J Scutt
A Bradnam	S Hoy	M Shellens
S Bywater	P Hudson	M Shuter
D Connor	B Hunt	M Smith
A Costello	D Jenkins	A Taylor
S Count	L Jones	S Taylor
S Crawford	N Kavanagh	S Tierney
S Criswell	S Kindersley	S van de Ven
K Cuffley	S King	D Wells
P Downes	I Manning	J Whitehead
L Dupre	P McDonald	J Williams
J French	E Meschini	G Wilson
R Fuller	L Nethsingha	J Wisson
D Giles	L Nieto	T Wotherspoon
M Goldsack		

Apologies: Councillor I Gardener

206. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN/WOMAN OF COUNCIL

It was moved by Councillor Count, seconded by Councillor Hickford, and resolved unanimously:

That Councillor McGuire be elected Chairman of Council for the period to the annual meeting of the Council in 2021.

Councillor McGuire read the statutory declaration of acceptance of office and informed Council that he would sign the declaration when the Council had returned to its offices. He thanked the Council for his election.

207. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN/WOMAN OF COUNCIL

It was moved by Councillor McGuire, seconded by Councillor Count, and resolved unanimously:

That Councillor Every be elected Vice-Chairwoman of Council for the period to the annual meeting of the Council in 2021.

Councillor Every read the statutory declaration of acceptance of office and informed Council that she would sign the declaration when the Council had returned to its offices. She thanked the Council for her election.

208. MINUTES – 11TH FEBRUARY 2020

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th February 2020 were approved as a correct record and it was agreed that they would be signed by the Chairman when the Council returned to its offices.

209. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

210. REPORT OF THE COUNTY RETURNING OFFICER

Council noted the election of Councillor Peter McDonald in the by-election for the Duxford Electoral Division held on 27th February 2020.

211. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest under the Code of Conduct

212. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The Chairman reported that four questions had been received from members of the public, as set out in **Appendix B**.

213. PETITIONS

The Chairman reported that one petition had been received from a member of the public, which would be presented at the beginning of the agenda item to which it was related (see Minute 217 below).

214. SECTION 85 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 – RECOMMENDATION TO EXTEND SIX MONTH RULE

The Chairman withdrew the motion with the consent of the meeting.

215. PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2020-21 AND GENDER PAY GAP REPORTING

It was moved by the Chairman of the Staffing and Appeals Committee, Councillor Schumann, and seconded by the Vice-Chairman, Councillor Hudson, that the recommendation, as set out in the report on the Council agenda, be approved.

It was resolved unanimously to:

Approve the Chief Officer Pay Policy Statement 2020/21 (Appendix 1 of the report) and the Gender Pay Gap Report 2020 (Appendix 3 of the report).

216. UPDATED DRAFT CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY

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

It was resolved unanimously to:

- a) Approve the updated draft Climate Change and Environment Strategy as Council policy;
- b) Approve the updated action plan that accompanies the Strategy; and
- c) Approve the publication of the Council's first Annual Carbon Footprint Report.

217. CONSTITUTION AND ETHICS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS TO FULL COUNCIL

A petition was received by Council and a statement from the petition organiser was read out by the Chairman, as set out in **Appendix C**.

a) Committee Structures

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

It was resolved unanimously that full Council:

- a) Approves the abolition of the Economy and Environment Committee and Highways and Infrastructure Committee;
- b) Approves the introduction of the Environment and Sustainability Committee and Highways and Transport Committee;
- c) Approves revisions to the terms of reference of the General Purposes, Adults, Children and Young People, Commercial and Investment, Communities and Partnership and Health Committees;

- f) Approves the increase in the membership of General Purposes Committee from fifteen to seventeen; and
- g) Authorises the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Chairwoman 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.

It was resolved by majority that full Council:

- d) Approves the abolition of the Cambridge Joint Area Committee by the end of July 2020 following the discussions set out in paragraph 3.3 of this report; and
- e) Approves the withdrawal from the Joint Development Control Committee for Cambridge Fringes by the end of July 2020 following the discussions set out in paragraph 4.4 of this report.

[Voting pattern: Conservatives and 1 Independent in favour; Liberal Democrats, Labour and 1 Independent against; 1 Independent abstained]

b) Proposed Changes to the Consideration of Adult Mental Health Guardianships

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

It was resolved unanimously to:

- a) Agree the changes to the Constitution, as set out in paragraph 2.5 of the report; and
- b) Authorise the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Chairwoman 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) Scheme of Delegation

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

It was resolved unanimously to:

- a) Agree the Scheme of Delegation or such part of it as the Constitution determines it is for Council to agree (as set out in Part 3 of the Constitution); and

- b) Authorise the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Chairman/woman 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.

218. COMMITTEES – ALLOCATION OF SEATS AND SUBSTITUTES TO POLITICAL GROUPS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLITICAL BALANCE RULES

It was moved by the Chairman of the Council, Councillor McGuire, and seconded by the Vice-Chairwoman, Councillor Every, that the allocation of seats and substitutes on Committees to political groups in accordance with the political balance rules, as set out in the tabled report under item 14, be approved.

It was resolved unanimously to:

Agree the allocation of seats and substitutes on Committees to political groups in accordance with the political balance rules as set out in **Appendix D**.

219. APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIRMAN/WOMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN/WOMAN OF COMMITTEES

It was moved by the Chairman of Council, Councillor McGuire, seconded by the Vice-Chairwoman, Councillor Every, that the appointment of the Chairman/woman and Vice-Chairman/woman of the Policy and Services Committees, and the Chairman/woman only of the Audit and Accounts Committee, the Pension Committee, the Planning Committee and the Health and Wellbeing Board, as set out on in the report, be approved.

It was resolved unanimously to:

Approve the appointments as set out in the report.

220. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES AND ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20

It was moved by the Chairman of Council, Councillor McGuire, and seconded by the Vice-Chairwoman, Councillor Every, and agreed unanimously to:

- a) Appoint to the outside bodies set out in Appendix A of the report, subject to the appointment of Councillor Nethsingha as one of the Council's representatives on the Greater Cambridge Partnership Joint Assembly to replace Councillor Williams; and
- b) Note the Outside Bodies Annual Report 2019/20.

221. CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY – MEMBERSHIP AND OTHER APPOINTMENTS

It was moved by the Chairman of Council, Councillor McGuire, seconded by the Vice-Chairwoman, Councillor Every, and agreed unanimously, to:

- a) Appoint the Leader of Council to act as the Council's appointee to the Combined Authority and the Deputy Leader to act as the substitute member;
- b) Nominate Councillor Connor from the Conservative Party and Councillor Scutt from the Labour Party, as indicated in Appendix 1 of the report, to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and Councillor McGuire and Councillor Jones as substitute Members from the same political parties;
- c) Nominate Councillor Goldsack from the Conservative Party, as indicated in Appendix 2 of the report, to the Audit and Governance Committee, and Councillor Wells as substitute Member from the same political party; and
- d) Authorise the Chief Executive to make any amendments to the appointments to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Audit and Governance Committee in consultation with the Political Group Leaders, if the political balance was amended by the Combined Authority between now and the next Council meeting.

222. APPROVAL OF CALENDAR OF COUNTY COUNCIL MEETINGS

It was moved by the Chairman of Council, Councillor McGuire, seconded by the Vice-Chairwoman, Councillor Every, and resolved unanimously that the following calendar of meetings for the County Council be approved:

- 21st July 2020
- 13th October 2020
- 15th December 2020
- 9th February 2021
- 12th February 2021 (provisional)
- 16th March 2021
- 25th May 2021

223. MOTIONS SUBMITTED UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE 10

Two motions had been submitted under Council Procedure Rule 10.

(a) Motion from Councillor Lucy Nethsingha

The following motion was proposed by Councillor Nethsingha and seconded by Councillor Sanderson:

This Council would like to express their profound thanks to the staff of the council, along with all the thousands of individuals and groups who stepped up to support communities so quickly when the government announced the lockdown due to Corona Virus. As a result of the swift action of council staff, and of many small groups, from parish councils, to WhatsApp groups, from charities to residents associations and small businesses, health and care services in Cambridgeshire have coped, and people have been supported to follow the lockdown rules.

The swift action of so many meant that the vast majority of Cambridgeshire's vulnerable residents have been cared for by their own neighbours and communities, meaning

council staff have been able to focus on supporting the most vulnerable, and our amazing care staff. We thank those neighbours and communities and ask the Chief Executive to convey our thanks to those staff and communities in an appropriate way.

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

(b) Motion from Councillor Ian Manning

The following motion was proposed by Councillor Manning and seconded by Councillor Bates:

This council notes the following impacts of the Covid-19 lockdown measures in Cambridgeshire:

- The reduction in pre-lockdown levels of vehicle traffic
- The measured improvement in air quality and decrease in congestion
- The potential long term benefits of the above for public health
- The financial effects of business closures and reduced economic activity.

This council recognises the need to ensure that the environmental gains of reduced vehicle traffic are not lost as the economy reopens, and therefore resolves to:

- work with the Combined Authority to take the lead of other authorities in the UK and abroad (for example Brighton, Milan and Bogotá) in experimenting with temporary road layouts that privilege active modes of travel to and within economic centres; and instructs officers to work with the Combined Authority to prepare options that could be quickly implemented.

This council further resolves to instruct officers to liaise with the Combined Authority about ways in which public transport providers can be supported to offer services to the public that encourage confidence in their safety.

In both these cases officers should ensure that Members of this authority on the Highways and Transport committee are kept informed and consulted of progress and options for implementation.

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

224. QUESTIONS

Written Questions (Council Procedure Rule 9.2)

Three questions were submitted under Council Procedure Rule 9.2, as set out in **Appendix E**.

225. THE FUTURE OPERATING AND FINANCIAL MODEL FOR LGSS SERVICES

It was moved by Councillor Boden, and seconded by Councillor Kindersley, that the recommendations, as set out in the report on the Council agenda, be approved.

It was resolved unanimously to:

Approve the recommendations as set out in the report on the Council agenda.

Chairman
21st July 2020

COUNTY COUNCIL – 19TH MAY 2020**CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS****PEOPLE****Duxford By-Election**

The result from the By-Election held on 27th February 2020 for the Duxford Electoral Division was:

Name	Description	Votes Cast
Stephen John Edwards	Conservative	1090
Peter John McDonald	Liberal Democrats	1607

The turnout was 32.53%, and total number of votes was 2711 (rejected 14).

Peter McDonald was declared as the duly elected candidate for the Duxford Division and has signed his declaration of acceptance.

AWARDS**Adult Social Care**

Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) and Peterborough City Council (PCC) are in the top 15 strongest performing councils in adult social care, highlighted in IMPOWER's latest productivity INDEX.

The inclusion of CCC and PCC on this list by Impower means the two councils have been able to achieve higher 'productivity, measured as outcome value per pound spent'. This suggests therefore that users of social care across the local area are getting better outcomes at the same time as the council is making best use of public funds.

Local Government Chronicle Awards

Cambridgeshire County Council has been shortlisted for two LGC Awards. Connecting Cambridgeshire & Smart Cambridgeshire has been shortlisted for the Future Places award for their use of new and emerging technology to address congestion and sustainability challenges through a wide range of collaborative initiatives. We are also shortlisted for the Entrepreneurial Council where the Energy Investment Unit, Connecting Cambridgeshire and the Transformation team have taken a more agile, commercial approach to delivering services and generating income in the face of shrinking budgets.

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, the awards ceremony has been delayed and the teams will now find out at an awards dinner in October whether the Council has been successful. We would like to wish them the very best of luck!

MESSAGES

Royal Visits

The Chairman was honoured to welcome Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal to Cambridgeshire on 21 February 2020, when Her Royal Highness visited the Magpas Air Ambulance Operations Base at RAF Wyton. The purpose of Her Royal Highness's visit was to find out more about the vital service and enhanced training the charity provides.

The Chairman was also delighted to welcome Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal to Cambridgeshire on 27 February 2020 when she visited as Patron, the Injured Jockeys Fund at Peter O'Sullivan House, Newmarket, to Chair Board and Cases Committee Meetings.

St Luke's

The Chairman would like to pass on his congratulations to St Luke's, our Learning Disability supported Living Scheme in Huntingdon who received an 'outstanding' CQC rating in February 2020, this is a fantastic result.

VE Day

The Chairman was delighted to be able to mark the 75th anniversary VE Day on 8th May 2020 by sharing his memories by video of serving in the Armed Forces, as well as his own experience as a young boy of the first VE Day on 8th May 1945.

At 3pm on 8 May a 'virtual service' was held, with music, memories and speeches celebrating the occasions and paying tribute to the entire Second World War generation from British, Commonwealth and Allied Forces, to evacuees and those who served on the home front.

COUNTY COUNCIL – 19TH MAY 2020**PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

No.	Question from:	Question to:	Question
1.	Ms Jenny Wood	Councillor Josh Schumann, Chairman of Commercial and Investment Committee	<p><i>Question carried over from 17 March 2020.</i></p> <p>Residents are concerned that the Flats above Milton Road Library remain vacant, albeit Milton Road Library was completed and it is understood that the Flats have been ready for occupation since June 2019.</p> <p>It is understood that This Land has the ownership or control of the Flats, and that the intention was that the Flats provide an income stream to the County Council or otherwise provide revenue to the County Council.</p> <p>Can the County Council advise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) The state of play with regard to the Flats, namely are they complete and if so(b) What date are they to go on the market and(c) Are they to be sold, leased or tenanted? <p>And further what are the financial arrangements between the County Council and This Land as to provision of an income stream or revenue in relation to the Flats.</p>
	Response from:	Response to:	Response
	Councillor Josh Schumann, Chairman of Commercial and Investment Committee	Ms Jenny Wood	<p>Before responding to the specific question that you raised, I would like to start by clarifying a general misconception that was clear from the introduction of your question.</p> <p>This Land is a limited company, and although the County Council is a single shareholder of the company, it has a Board and an Executive that are required by law to operate independently of the County Council. To do otherwise would create a different relationship with the County Council and would potentially constrain the ability of the company to achieve the objectives that are set out in its Articles of Association.</p>

			<p>The company therefore makes all operational decisions based on the business needs of the company. There is therefore no direct relationship between the flats and Milton Road and the County Council.</p> <p>None of the This Land developments will create a direct revenue stream for the Council. This has never been the case. The Council does however derive revenue from the company based on the funds that it borrows from the Council, and eventually the dividends generated from the profits of the company.</p> <p>As far as the flats in Milton Road are concerned, it is our understanding that these flats are now complete, and although there were some snagging works that were required, we believe that these works have now been undertaken, and were completed and ready for sale in December 2019.</p>
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No.	Question from:	Question to:	Question
2.	Robert Stanford	Councillor Mathew Shuter, Chairman of Highways and Infrastructure Committee	<p data-bbox="891 209 2085 316">Are there some simple things the council could do to give people space for social distancing, and space to walk, cycle, and safely complete their shopping or essential trips?</p> <p data-bbox="891 357 2107 501">This is really important locally, because we're all trying to give each other at least two metres, but we've still got pedestrians trying to pass each other safely on narrow pavements, whilst there's acres of unused road space that could temporarily be made available for people travelling on foot or cycling.</p> <p data-bbox="891 542 2145 724">Creating that space could massively benefit the key workers keeping our hospitals, care homes and essential services going. Those key workers won't all feel comfortable using public transport at the moment, but with some people taking advantage of the quieter roads to drive far above the speed limit, many key workers would need safe space separated from motor traffic to feel confident cycling or walking to work.</p> <p data-bbox="891 766 2163 979">When it comes to taking action, one thing this crisis has shown us is that where there's political will things can be done quickly. National and local governments around the world have realised this, implementing emergency measures to temporarily widen footpaths, create new cycle lanes and restrict motor traffic on residential streets and create low-traffic neighbourhoods: all designed to open up space and enable people to socially distance.</p> <p data-bbox="891 1021 2152 1091">There's no reason why we can't do this here, and I'm really hoping that you can help with this.</p> <p data-bbox="891 1133 2152 1315">Whilst we're in the middle of this crisis it's crucially important that people aren't just told that they must stay two metres apart, but that local authorities put in place measures that enable them to do so. This will still be essential as and when restrictions are eased, because people will need to get out and about, to and from shops and town centres, benefiting from outdoor exercise whilst giving others space.</p> <p data-bbox="891 1356 2123 1460">I've just written to the leader of the council explaining that it wouldn't be difficult or complex to make this happen. Neither does it have to be expensive. It just needs political will, and it's incredible what can be achieved temporarily by using some cones,</p>

			<p>some planters as temporary bollards, suspending push buttons at pedestrian crossings and through experimental traffic orders.</p> <p>Cycling UK has provided a short guide (www.cyclinguk.org/advice-for-councils) with suggestions for what can be done quickly, with advice to overcome any barriers that you may identify or which may be raised by others.</p> <p>Rather than restricting people's access to space, we need to enable them to move more actively whilst maintaining social distancing, freeing up road space that's not needed.</p> <p>This is really important locally, so I would be hugely grateful if you could raise this and ask both the leader of the council and the Highways Authority whether they will consider what measures can be taken quickly to create space for people during the current crisis.</p> <p>This crisis presents an opportunity to think about things differently. It would be fantastic if you could help persuade the council to seize it.</p>
	Response from:	Response to:	Response
	Councillor Mathew Shuter, Chairman of Highways and Infrastructure Committee	Robert Stanford	<p>I would like to thank Robert Stanford for his question, and I would like to assure him that a lot of the things that are contained in his full question, are in fact being worked on at the moment, as we speak.</p> <p>Officers are drawing up a short list and a long list of those things that can be done quickly, those things that can be done over the medium term and those things that can be done over the longer term, and I can assure Mr Stanford that we are looking very seriously at the aspects of social distancing and what we can do to help that, the possibility of pop-up cycle lanes, and a whole range of other measures to take advantage of the situation we now find ourselves in. There will, over the next couple of weeks I suspect, be more information published on this, and it will be for the new Highways Committee to confirm the details of those things that are taken forward, however everything that's contained within his question is being looked at, at the moment.</p>

No.	Question from:	Question to:	Question
3.	Mr Jeremy Caddick Cambridge Green Party	Councillor Steve Count, Leader of the Council	<p>While Cambridge Green Party welcomes the publication of the Council's Climate Change and Environmental Strategy, it is disappointed at the way that it fails to address the full seriousness of the challenge presented by the Climate Emergency, and consequently fails to propose adequate steps to address it.</p> <p>In his Foreword Councillor Count claims that UK emissions have fallen by 40% while the economy has grown by two thirds. Does he agree that when we include the emissions embodied in our imports our contribution to global warming is virtually unchanged, and that we have merely succeeded in exporting our greenhouse gas production? Does he further agree that the figure for GDP growth is of no use at all as a measure of success in tackling the Climate Emergency?</p> <p>Will the Council agree to redraft the Strategy to set out more ambitious steps to tackle the crisis?</p>
	Response from:	Response to:	Response
	Councillor Steve Count, Leader of the Council	Mr Jeremy Caddick Cambridge Green Party	<p>Thank you Jeremy for your considered questions. You have two questions today, the first is on GDP and emissions, and the second is on peat land. These were serious, well-articulated, well-meaning questions, which I have taken seriously, as I do the subject of climate change and all matters concerning our environment. I do not believe I can do full justice to these in the two minutes allocated for each. Therefore, to supplement my verbal responses, a full response will be added to the public records of this meeting in a written format (<i>see Appendix 1</i>).</p> <p>In response to your first question, the UK government figures you refer to are calculated on a territorial basis, this is the internationally agreed United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change – their accounting method, and this helps avoid double counting. Our strategy recognises that reducing consumption of the world's resources to sustainable levels is fundamental, and is referred to repeatedly in the document. Our action plan includes using procurement procedures, which are a key mechanism to address the issue you raise.</p>

			<p>I agree with you, GDP is not an entirely useful measure for tackling climate change, however to be able to tackle climate change effectively requires strength in the economy. Success, will be a strong, zero carbon economy, for which GDP will be one important measure alongside many others.</p> <p>The Council has produced a very ambitious strategy and action plan, which has been subject to public consultation. Our ambitions include the allocation of a £16M Environment Fund to take all Council buildings down to zero carbon, as well as a whole host of other actions referred to in the strategy and action plan, making this an unmatched and unprecedented ambition for a council to take. Thank you.</p>
No.	Question from:	Question to:	Question
4.	Mrs Elizabeth May	Councillor Steve Count, Leader of the Council	<p>On behalf of the Cambridge Green Party, I would like to ask about the CUSPE report prepared by Cambridge University students which highlighted the huge amount of greenhouse gases released from the County's peatland. This is thought to be about 4 to 5.5 million tons of CO₂ equivalent which is nearly as much as the 6 million tons produced by all other human activity in Cambridgeshire. The Strategy talks lamely about working with others to tackle this problem.</p> <p>What urgent steps are being taken to draw the huge size of the emergency to central government, and to reform agricultural practices to address it? Will the answers to these two questions be included in the Strategy document before it is approved?</p>
	Response from:	Response to:	Response
	Councillor Steve Count, Leader of the Council	Mrs Elizabeth May	<p>As indicated earlier, there is a much greater written response as well as my verbal response. It is our CUSPE 2019, Net-Zero by 2050 report, which has brought attention to the potential scale of peatland emissions across Cambridgeshire. We have sought to address this in many ways including drawing the issue to Government's attention, some examples of which follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We're providing leadership of the Countryside Climate Network, in order to inform the UN International Conference on Climate Change, at COP 26, hosted by the UK next year. • The Council's ongoing collaboration with Natural England.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council influencing and disseminating through national bodies such as Association for Directors of Environment and Transport (otherwise known as ADEPT), • The Country Land and Business Association and feeding into DEFRA's development of the UK Peatland Strategy. • As well as that, we help shape and influence government proposals such as the Agriculture and Environment Bills. • It is also vital we improve the soil survey data covering the Fenland area, as existing data is more than 40 years old. • Simultaneously the Council is gathering information on the land in its ownership to inform future changes. • As a partner in the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Nature Partnership, we have supported the Great Fen and Wicken Fen Projects, and these have taken land out of farming to restore natural peatland. • However, when considering how to deal with peatlands I must point out Fenland is the bread basket of the UK. In tackling peatland emissions we mustn't inadvertently increase our reliance on food provision from outside the UK, as this too has a carbon impact. <p>These answers and actions are already included in our action plan, which forms part of the strategy, which we will review by 2025 at the latest, but the Action Plan that goes with it, is a live document, which we will keep under constant review to ensure we are taking real and swift action to reduce emissions in Cambridgeshire. Thank you, Chair.</p>
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Question 3 – full written response

(On behalf of Cambridge Green Party)

While Cambridge Green Party welcomes the publication of the Council's Climate Change and Environmental Strategy, it is disappointed at the way that it fails to address the full seriousness of the challenge presented by the Climate Emergency, and consequently fails to propose adequate steps to address it.

In his Foreword Councillor Count claims that UK emissions have fallen by 40% while the economy has grown by two thirds. Does he agree that when we include the emissions embodied in our imports our contribution to global warming is virtually unchanged, and that we have merely succeeded in exporting our greenhouse gas production? Does he further agree that the figure for GDP growth is of no use at all as a measure of success in tackling the Climate Emergency?

Will the Council agree to redraft the Strategy to set out more ambitious steps to tackle the crisis?

Response

Q1. Do we agree that when we include the emissions embodied in our imports our contribution to global warming is virtually unchanged, and that we have merely succeeded in exporting our greenhouse gas production?

The UK government figures are calculated on a “territorial” basis – i.e. only emissions that occurred in the UK. This is the standard accounting method internationally as required by the UNFCCC¹ and avoids double-counting emissions that other countries calculate. The calculation of ‘consumption emissions’ (those that occur in other countries in the production of imported goods) and rely more on estimation. They are also produced with a longer time lag. The imported goods that contribute most to these ‘consumption emissions’ are fossils fuels, steel and cement and foods.

Our Strategy recognises that reducing consumption of the world's resources to sustainable levels is fundamental **as set out in** sections 1.2, 1.4, 3.1, 5.1, 5.2 and 6.4. Importantly our action plan includes using procurement mechanisms, to harness market innovations, to reduce carbon emissions embodied in the Council's consumption of goods and delivery of its services. This is a key mechanism to address the issue you raise as it influences global supply chains.

Greening the UK's electricity supply has been a major achievement and is globally recognised. It should be noted the UK power sector has achieved a 68% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions since 1990, due to the retirement of coal-fired power generation and growth in wind and solar generation. This is a real reduction in UK emissions and Cambridgeshire County Council has contributed to this reduction through the development of renewable energy project on its assets.

Q2: Does he further agree that the figure for GDP growth is of no use at all as a measure of success in tackling the Climate Emergency?

I agree GDP is not a useful measure for tackling climate change.

The challenges which the Strategy seeks to address are to enable the economy to transition from fossil fuels to zero carbon, efficient use of non-renewable resources but also building resilience to local climate impacts and improving nature. To be able to tackle climate change

¹ The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

effectively requires strength in the economy, and GDP is a measure of that. Success, however, will be a strong, zero carbon economy, for which GDP will be one important measure alongside many others.

Q3: Will the Council agree to redraft the Strategy to set out more ambitious steps to tackle the crisis?

The Council has produced a very ambitious Climate Change and Environment Strategy and action plan, which has been subject to public consultation.

Our Strategy outlines several ways Cambridgeshire can support carbon emissions reductions by reducing fossil fuels and supporting the circular economy. For example, we have agreed a £16M Environment Fund to take all Council buildings (we own and occupy) off fossil fuels by 2025 and onto low carbon heating. We are installing EV charging to fuel electric cars and we emphasise waste management and the circular economy.

This is all in addition to the Council's investment programme in solar park developments and smart energy grids to generate clean renewable energy locally.

This reflects unprecedented ambition. We will review the Strategy in 2025, but the Action Plan that goes with it, is a live document that we will keep under constant review to ensure we are taking real and swift action to reduce emissions in Cambridgeshire.

NB. All Committee on Climate Change quotes and figures are from: <https://www.theccc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/CCC-2019-Progress-in-reducing-UK-emissions.pdf>

Question 4 – full written response

On behalf of the Cambridge Green Party, I would like to ask about the CUSPE report prepared by Cambridge University students which highlighted the huge amount of greenhouse gases released from the County's peatland. This is thought to be about 4 to 5.5 million tons of CO2 equivalent which is nearly as much as the 6 million tons produced by all other human activity in Cambridgeshire. The Strategy talks lamely about working with others to tackle this problem.

What urgent steps are being taken to draw the huge size of the emergency to central government, and to reform agricultural practices to address it? Will the answers to these two questions be included in the Strategy document before it is approved?

Response

1. What urgent steps are being taken to draw the huge size of the emergency to central government?

The CUSPE 2019, Net-Zero Cambridgeshire by 2050 report brought attention to the potential scale of peatland emissions across Cambridgeshire. The Climate Change and Environment Strategy and accompanying action plan address peatland, described below, and this has been drawn to government's attention by the following actions:

- Leadership of the Countryside Climate Network, a network of rural authorities to identify good practice and nature based policy development (including peatland) to inform the UN International Conference on Climate Change, COP 26, hosted by the UK next year
- Cllr Count's meeting with Steve Barclay MP to brief on the peatland emissions
- Ongoing collaboration with Natural England to identify a Cambridgeshire case study to feed into the Lowland Peatland Agricultural Taskforce.
- Improving soil survey data covering the Fenland area as existing data is more than 40 years old and in urgent need of updating to inform accurate carbon emissions. There is a national need to improve soil survey data and a large scale project is being addressed by Natural England and DEFRA.
- The Council is gathering information on the land in its ownership to inform future changes and looking to develop initiatives to understand the wider peat landscape.
- The council is a partner in the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Nature Partnership and supports the Great Fen and Wicken Fen Projects, which has taken land out of farming to restore peatland.
- Through national bodies such as Association for Directors of Environment and Transport (ADEPT) and other national bodies including The Country Land and Business Association to feed into DEFRA's development of the UK Peatland Strategy plus those national bodies helping influence government proposals such as the Agriculture and Environment Bills.

and 2. Reform agricultural practice?

Fenland is the bread basket of the UK and is nationally important for its food production. Any activity to improve peatlands must also consider the area's importance for domestic food production. In tackling peatland emissions we mustn't inadvertently increase our reliance on food provision from outside the UK as this too has a carbon impact.

Observing the Covid-19 pandemic. This highlights just how important our local food chain and supplies. We need to ensure that local food supplies are strengthened and we need to support farmers in their endeavours.

Government (DEFRA) has published the Environment and Agriculture Bills during 2019 and is introducing the Environmental Land Management Scheme (ELMS) replacing all existing agricultural subsidies and stewardship schemes with a new three tier system which will have a focus on carbon reduction and peat management amongst other things. The Council is:

- Engaging with DEFRA on their ELMS consultation. The Council has the benefit of owning large tracts of contiguous land which may bring opportunity to support higher impact projects at scale targeted by the tier 3 funding.
- Working closely with its tenant farmers to encourage carbon reduction. This may mean promoting the use of carbon calculators to highlight beneficial changes, setting up a 'monitor farm' to share best farming practice to reduce carbon emissions, looking closely at the lessons that can be learned from a farm that has had raised water tables for over 20 years, which has protected peat, although this approach was initially taken to enhance biodiversity.

3. Will the answers to these two questions be included in the Strategy document before its approved?

These answers/actions are already included in our action plan which forms part of the strategy. The actions in our strategy are broad but have been designed in this way to allow a range of actions to be progressed with stakeholders including the NFU, Natural England, the Wildlife Trust, Government and RSPB etc.

Written Speech by Mr Edward Leigh (Petition Organiser)

CJAC provides a public, democratic and accessible forum for Cambridge councillors and residents to inform and challenge decision-making about local transport schemes.

Its relevance is greater today than ever, with the government having recently instructed councils to implement new walking and cycling schemes to facilitate safe travel to work, schools, shops and so on.

Officers and members in this chamber may feel confident they will make good decisions through delegated powers and public deliberation by the new Transport and Highways Committee. However, history tells us that better decisions are made when they are informed and shaped by people with local knowledge and a personal interest in the welfare of their neighbours and neighbourhoods.

The reorganization of the Economy & Environment and Highways & Infrastructure committees makes good sense. It does not follow from this that abolishing CJAC does too.

Our petition asks members to defer a decision on this until more extensive consultation can be carried out. That could suggest a different strategy – one that recognises the importance of getting the details of local transport schemes right, and enables councillors and residents in all parts of Cambridgeshire to inform and shape them.

We are sure all members can agree that a process that allows discussion and debate at a time and place (including potentially online) that is accessible to as wide a range of people as possible is best for democracy and sound decision-making.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP 2020/21

POLICY AND SERVICE COMMITTEES

GENERAL PURPOSES (17)

				Substitutes	
CLLR	A BAILEY	C	CLLR	D AMBROSE-SMITH	C
CLLR	I BATES	C	CLLR	C BODEN	C
CLLR	S BYWATER	C	CLLR	A HAY	C
CLLR	S COUNT	C	CLLR	M HOWELL	C
CLLR	S CRISWELL	C	CLLR	S HOY	C
CLLR	M GOLDSACK	C	CLLR	M MCGUIRE	C
CLLR	R HICKFORD	C	CLLR	L NIETO	C
CLLR	P HUDSON	C	CLLR	M SHUTER	C
CLLR	J SCHUMANN	C	CLLR	T WOTHERSPOON	C
CLLR	L DUPRÉ	LD	CLLR	B ASHWOOD	LD
CLLR	D JENKINS	LD	CLLR	S KINDERSLEY	LD
CLLR	P MCDONALD	LD	CLLR	J WILLIAMS	LD
CLLR	L NETHSINGHA	LD	CLLR	G WILSON	LD
CLLR	N KAVANAGH	L	CLLR	L JONES	L
CLLR	E MESCHINI	L	CLLR	J SCUTT	L
			CLLR	J WHITEHEAD	L
CLLR	T SANDERSON	IND.	CLLR	D GILES	IND.
CLLR	VACANCY	IND.		S TAYLOR	IND.
				-	IND.

ADULTS (10)

				Substitutes	
CLLR	D AMBROSE-SMITH	C	CLLR	J FRENCH	C
CLLR	A BAILEY	C	CLLR	L EVERY	C
CLLR	A COSTELLO	C	CLLR	J GOWING	C
CLLR	M GOLDSACK	C	CLLR	A HAY	C
CLLR	M HOWELL	C	CLLR	W HUNT	C
CLLR	D WELLS	C	CLLR	L NIETO	C
CLLR	N HARRISON	LD	CLLR	P MCDONALD	LD
CLLR	G WILSON	LD	CLLR	L NETHSINGHA	LD
			CLLR	VACANCY	LD
CLLR	S CRAWFORD	L	CLLR	N KAVANAGH	L
			CLLR	E MESCHINI	L
			CLLR	J WHITEHEAD	L
CLLR	D GILES	IND.	CLLR	T SANDERSON	IND.
			CLLR	S TAYLOR	IND.
			CLLR	-	IND.

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE (10)

				Substitutes	
CLLR	D AMBROSE SMITH	C	CLLR	D CONNOR	C
CLLR	S BYWATER	C	CLLR	A COSTELLO	C
CLLR	L EVERY	C	CLLR	K CUFFLEY	C
CLLR	A HAY	C	CLLR	M GOLDSACK	C
CLLR	S HOY	C	CLLR	J GOWING	C
CLLR	J WISSON	C	CLLR	M HOWELL	C
CLLR	P DOWNES	LD	CLLR	H BATCHELOR	LD
CLLR	L NETHSINGHA	LD	CLLR	A BRADNAM	LD
			CLLR	A TAYLOR	LD
CLLR	J WHITEHEAD	L	CLLR	N KAVANAGH	L
			CLLR	E MESCHINI	L
			CLLR	J SCUTT	L
CLLR	S TAYLOR	IND.	CLLR	D GILES	IND.
			CLLR	T SANDERSON	IND.
			CLLR	-	IND.

COMMERCIAL AND INVESTMENT COMMITTEE (10)

				Substitutes	
CLLR	I BATES	C	CLLR	R HICKFORD	C
CLLR	C BODEN	C	CLLR	L NIETO	C
CLLR	M GOLDSACK	C	CLLR	J SCHUMANN	C
CLLR	J GOWING	C	CLLR	M SMITH	C
CLLR	T ROGERS	C	CLLR	S TIERNEY	C
CLLR	T WOTHERSPOON	C	CLLR	D WELLS	C
CLLR	D JENKINS	LD	CLLR	P DOWNES	LD
CLLR	P MCDONALD	LD	CLLR	L DUPRE	LD
CLLR	M SHELLENS	LD	CLLR	G WILSON	LD
CLLR	L JONES	L	CLLR	S CRAWFORD	L
			CLLR	N KAVANAGH	L
			CLLR	J WHITEHEAD	L

COMMUNITIES AND PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE (10)

				Substitutes	
CLLR	A COSTELLO	C	CLLR	D AMBROSE SMITH	C
CLLR	S CRISWELL	C	CLLR	D CONNOR	C
CLLR	L EVERY	C	CLLR	K CUFFLEY	C
CLLR	J FRENCH	C	CLLR	J GOWING	C
CLLR	L NIETO	C	CLLR	J SCHUMANN	C
CLLR	M SMITH	C	CLLR	D WELLS	C
CLLR	B ASHWOOD	LD	CLLR	N HARRISON	LD
CLLR	H BATCHELOR	LD	CLLR	D JENKINS	LD
CLLR	A TAYLOR	LD	CLLR	L NETHSINGHA	LD
CLLR	E MESCHINI	L	CLLR	L JONES	L
			CLLR	J SCUTT	L
			CLLR	J WHITEHEAD	L

ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY (10)

				Substitutes	
CLLR	I GARDENER	C	CLLR	J FRENCH	C
CLLR	J GOWING	C	CLLR	M GOLDSACK	C
CLLR	P HUDSON	C	CLLR	L HARFORD	C
CLLR	J SCHUMANN	C	CLLR	R HICKFORD	C
CLLR	M SHUTER	C	CLLR	S HOY	C
CLLR	T WOTHERSPOON	C	CLLR	M SMITH	C
CLLR	A BRADNAM	LD	CLLR	S KINDERSLEY	LD
CLLR	L DUPRE	LD	CLLR	I MANNING	LD
CLLR	G WILSON	LD	CLLR	P MCDONALD	LD
CLLR	J SCUTT	L	CLLR	S CRAWFORD	L
			CLLR	N KAVANAGH	L
			CLLR	E MESCHINI	L

HEALTH (10)

				Substitutes	
CLLR	D CONNOR	C	CLLR	C BODEN	C
CLLR	L HARFORD	C	CLLR	M GOLDSACK	C
CLLR	A HAY	C	CLLR	J GOWING	C
CLLR	P HUDSON	C	CLLR	M HOWELL	C
CLLR	K REYNOLDS	C	CLLR	R HICKFORD	C
CLLR	M SMITH	C	CLLR	L NIETO	C
CLLR	L DUPRE	LD	CLLR	D JENKINS	LD
CLLR	L NETHSINGHA	LD	CLLR	P MCDONALD	LD
CLLR	S VAN DE VEN	LD	CLLR	J WILLIAMS	LD
CLLR	L JONES	L	CLLR	N KAVANAGH	L
			CLLR	E MESCHINI	L
			CLLR	J WHITEHEAD	L

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT (10)

				Substitutes	
CLLR	I BATES	C	CLLR	J FRENCH	C
CLLR	D CONNOR	C	CLLR	R HICKFORD	C
CLLR	R FULLER	C	CLLR	W HUNT	C
CLLR	L HARFORD	C	CLLR	M SHUTER	C
CLLR	M HOWELL	C	CLLR	M SMITH	C
CLLR	S KING	C	CLLR	S TIERNEY	C
CLLR	H BATCHELOR	LD	CLLR	L DUPRE	LD
CLLR	I MANNING	LD	CLLR	D JENKINS	LD
CLLR	A TAYLOR	LD	CLLR	L NETHSINGHA	LD
CLLR	N KAVANAGH	L	CLLR	E MESCHINI	L
			CLLR	J SCUTT	L
			CLLR	J WHITEHEAD	L

REGULATORY

PLANNING COMMITTEE (8)

			Substitutes	
CLLR	D CONNOR	C	VACANCY	C
CLLR	I GARDENER	C	R FULLER	C
CLLR	L HARFORD	C	J GOWING	C
CLLR	B HUNT	C	M HOWELL	C
CLLR	M SMITH	C	P HUDSON	C
CLLR	B ASHWOOD	LD	H BATCHELOR	LD
CLLR	S KINDERSLEY	LD	A BRADNAM	LD
			D JENKINS	LD
CLLR	J SCUTT	L	S CRAWFORD	L
			L JONES	L
			N KAVANAGH	L

OTHER COMMITTEES

AUDIT AND ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE (7)

			Substitutes	
CLLR	P HUDSON	C	I BATES	C
CLLR	M MCGUIRE	C	C BODEN	C
CLLR	T ROGERS	C	J FRENCH	C
CLLR	D WELLS	C	M SHUTER	C
CLLR	M SHELLENS	LD	S KINDERSLEY	LD
CLLR	J WILLIAMS	LD	I MANNING	LD
			G WILSON	LD
CLLR	T SANDERSON	IND.	D GILES	IND.
			S TAYLOR	IND.
			-	IND.

CONSTITUTION AND ETHICS COMMITTEE (8)

			Substitutes	
CLLR	D CONNOR	C	I BATES	C
CLLR	L HARFORD	C	C BODEN	C
CLLR	R HICKFORD	C	S BYWATER	C
CLLR	L EVERY	C	J GOWING	C
CLLR	K REYNOLDS	C	VACANCY	C
CLLR	S KINDERSLEY	LD	L DUPRE	LD
CLLR	D JENKINS	LD	VACANCY	LD
			A TAYLOR	LD
CLLR	J SCUTT	L	L JONES	L
			N KAVANAGH	L
			J WHITEHEAD	L

CAMBRIDGE CITY JOINT AREA COMMITTEE (6)

		Substitutes	
N HARRISON	LD	B ASHWOOD	LD
I MANNING	LD	L NETHSINGHA	LD
A TAYLOR	LD	-	LD
L JONES	L	S CRAWFORD	L
N KAVANAGH	L	C RICHARDS	L
E MESCHINI	L	J WHITEHEAD	L

Membership from Councillors representing Cambridge City Divisions

CAMBRIDGESHIRE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD (5)

		Substitutes (one per position):	
S HOY	C	S BYWATER	C
R HICKFORD	C	M GOLDSACK	C
M HOWELL	C	P HUDSON	C
S VAN DE VEN	LD	L NETHSINGHA	LD
L JONES	L	E MESCHINI	L

CORPORATE PARENTING SUB-COMMITTEE (5)

			Substitutes	
CLLR	A COSTELLO	C	D CONNOR	C
CLLR	L EVERY	C	K CUFFLEY	C
CLLR	A HAY	C	M GOLDSACK	C
CLLR	A BRADNAM	LD	H BATCHELOR	LD
CLLR	E MESCHINI	L	A TAYLOR	LD
			VACANCY	LD
			L JONES	L
			N KAVANAGH	L
			J WHITEHEAD	L

[Note: Membership drawn from Children and Young People Committee membership includes subs]

JOINT DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE - CAMBRIDGE FRINGES (4)

			Substitutes (two per group)	
CLLR	L HARFORD	C	P HUDSON	C
CLLR	T WOTHERSPOON	C	VACANCY	C
CLLR	B ASHWOOD	LD	A BRADNAM	LD
CLLR	C RICHARDS	L	S KINDERSLEY	LD
			N KAVANAGH	L
			J WHITEHEAD	L

LGSS JOINT COMMITTEE (3)

		Substitutes	
C BODEN	C	I BATES	C
T ROGERS	C	R HICKFORD	C
		S KING	C
S KINDERSLEY	LD	VACANCY	LD
		I MANNING	LD
		G WILSON	LD

PENSION FUND COMMITTEE (6)

			Substitutes	
CLLR	A HAY	C	C BODEN	C
CLLR	I GARDENER	C	R HICKFORD	C
CLLR	T ROGERS	C	J SCHUMANN	C
CLLR	P DOWNES	LD	VACANCY	LD
CLLR	M SHELLENS	LD	L NETHSINGHA	LD
			G WILSON	LD
CLLR	VACANCY	L	VACANCY	L
			VACANCY	L
			VACANCY	L

PENSION FUND COMMITTEE INVESTMENT SUB-COMMITTEE (4)

			Substitutes	
CLLR	I GARDENER	C	A HAY	C
CLLR	T ROGERS	C	R HICKFORD	C
			J SCHUMANN	C
CLLR	M SHELLENS	LD	P DOWNES	LD
			L NETHSINGHA	LD
			G WILSON	LD
CLLR	VACANCY	L	VACANCY	L
			VACANCY	L
			VACANCY	L

[Note: Membership drawn from Pension Fund Committee membership]

PENSION FUND BOARD (2 Employer Representatives)

CLLR	S KING	C		
CLLR	E MESCHINI	L		

[Note: Members of the Board cannot be members of the Pension Fund Committee]

STAFFING & APPEALS COMMITTEE (8)

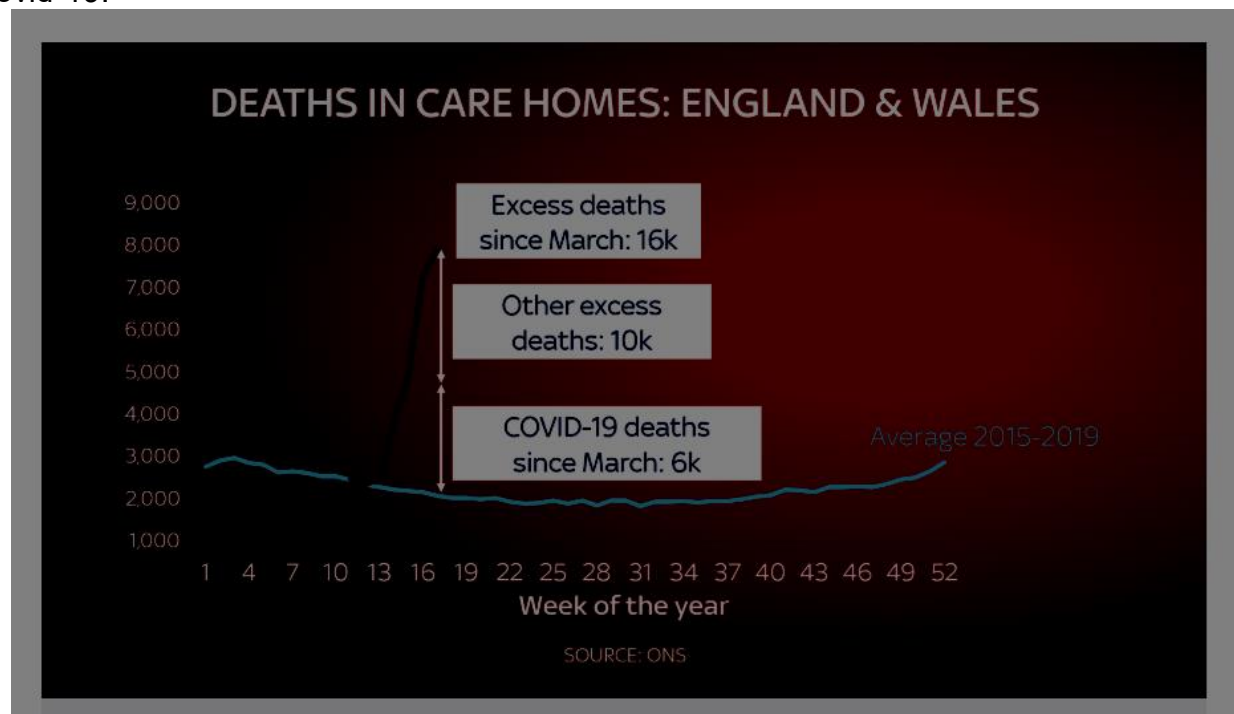
			Substitutes	
CLLR	D AMBROSE SMITH	C	S BYWATER	C
CLLR	P HUDSON	C	R HICKFORD	C
CLLR	W HUNT	C	S KING	C
CLLR	M MCGUIRE	C	M SHUTER	C
CLLR	J SCHUMANN	C	S TIERNEY	C
CLLR	B ASHWOOD	LD	L DUPRE	LD
CLLR	N HARRISON	LD	L NETHSINGHA	LD
			VACANCY	LD
CLLR	L JONES	L	N KAVANAGH	L
			E MESCHINI	L
			J SCUTT	L

SERVICE APPEALS SUB-COMMITTEE (3) (Two Conservatives, and one Liberal Democrat)
APPOINTED FROM STAFFING & APPEALS COMMITTEE AS AND WHEN NEEDED

COUNTY COUNCIL – 19 MAY 2020
WRITTEN QUESTION UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 9.2

1. Question from Councillor Sandra Crawford

There has been an alarming 16,000 rise in the number of home care deaths in the UK recently. At least 6800 are known to have been caused by Covid-19.



Professor Martin Marshall Chair of the Royal College of GPs (14th April), stated that lack of testing in care homes makes it difficult for GPs to record the cause of death accurately and makes it difficult for staff to take the necessary measures to isolate patients to reduce the risk of the virus spreading. While 6800 of the excess deaths are confirmed as Covid 19. (ONS), it is likely that some of the other excess deaths are due to Covid-19 or Covid-19 related (not getting to hospital for other illnesses)

Professor Angela McLean, the UK's deputy chief scientific adviser said that Care home deaths are still rising and stated "I think what this shows us is there is a real issue we need to get to grips with about what is happening in care homes."

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/may/05/deputy-chief-scientist-we-need-to-get-to-grips-with-coronavirus-care-home-deaths>

It is the responsibility of the health protection team from Public Health England, commissioned by the NHS, to carry out testing of residents, and up to now the guidance has been to test residents only if they show symptoms, which can arise up to 14 days after infection. In the early stages of the outbreak, many residents were not tested due to test kits being in limited supply (L Robin, Health Committee). The Government has stated that wider testing would be available "in the ramping up of testing, we would expect all residents to be tested" (L Robin, Health Committee). This would address the issues raised by Professor Marshall and help to diagnose cause of death, and better still, identify those infected before symptoms arise and allow isolation to prevent further spread and save lives. The non Covid-19 deaths could fall by being treated apart from Covid-19 patients.

In the Cambridgeshire County, there were 66 deaths at 10th April compared to a three year average of 21, 19 were confirmed as Covid-19. (Health Committee L Robin). We need to bear in mind Professor Marshall's statement that the inadequacy of testing means that not all of the excess deaths causes are accurately identified. Residents and staff could be carrying the infection with no symptoms, so consequently without testing all staff and residents, this could lead to higher infection and death rates, and an inaccurate/incomplete cause of death on the certificate.

Deaths in City Care Homes have been rising at an alarming rate. A report on City Care Home deaths showed that ALL deaths in the City were as follows:

- (i) Woodlands Care Home 19,
- (ii) Langdon House 10
- (iii) Buchan House 9

Of these, 21 were confirmed as Covid 19 by ONS

Questions:

- 1) While testing is the responsibility of Public Health, the well being of residents in commissioned care homes is still the duty of care of the Local Authority under the 2014 Health and Social Care Act to ensure the well being of residents in commissioned care homes. Therefore could the Adults and Health Committees report back to concerned members the following:
 - (i) Will the wider testing mean that all residents and staff will be tested?
 - (ii) Will this include the testing of all people moved back to care homes from hospital?
 - (iii) When will the wider testing begin?
 - (iv) Members would benefit from information on the wider testing of residents and staff to ascertain if this is improving mortality rates, will this be provided in due course in a report to members?
- 2) Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is being supplied by the Local Resilience Forum (LRF) Hub, and is the responsibility of care homes to obtain it. However, the Unison and Unite Unions have stated that guidance on its use “are not sufficiently clear, or comprehensive enough. As a result, workers up and down the country are being told incorrectly by unscrupulous employers that safety clothing such as masks aren’t necessary.” Members are being asked by unions for answers regarding these issues. It would be very helpful for members to provide them with reassurance that these issues are being addressed in Cambridgeshire commissioned homes. As the Local Authority does have a duty of care under the Health and Social Care Act 2014 could it use its good offices to scrutinise procedures in care homes that it funds and give a report to members. We can then give a qualified answer to the Unions.
- 3) Similarly, Unison has asked members about the payment of staff when they need to self isolate and are unwell, or have family members with symptoms. Where the Local Authority have commissioned care homes, could the Council officers supply information on care staff who are paid (or not), as this is both a safety and welfare issue for care workers and those that they care for.

Sources of information from Unison/Unite-

<https://www.unison.org.uk/news/press-release/2020/05/elderly-vulnerable-people-still-risk-poor-advice-care-homes-says-unison/>

<https://unitetheunion.org/news-events/news/2020/march/social-care-workers-must-be-provided-with-full-protective-equipment-during-coronavirus-crisis/>

Media report on care staff pay when ill, and reports on scarcity of PPE

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/may/08/care-workers-pay-ppe-stress-zero-hours-contracts-coronavirus>

Response from Councillors Anna Bailey and Peter Hudson, Chairwoman of Adults Committee and Chairman of Health Committee

Question 1:

- (i) A [new online portal](#) through which care homes can arrange deliveries of coronavirus test kits for all care home residents and all asymptomatic staff (staff without symptoms) was launched on 11th May. It is currently available for care homes whose primary clients are older people or those with dementia. The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) is working with local authority Directors of Public Health, Directors of Adult Social Services and local NHS providers to help deliver and prioritise this new testing programme for care homes.

The only exemption to this is if a care homes identifies their first symptomatic resident and is concerned they may have an outbreak. In these circumstances they should contact their local Public Health England Health Protection Team who will undertake a risk assessment, provide public health advice, and arrange urgent testing of all symptomatic residents.

- (ii) All people who move back to care homes from hospital are already tested before they leave hospital in line with national guidance.
- (iii) The national Care Home testing portal was launched on May 11th.
- (iv) The Council's Public Health Intelligence team will be producing a weekly update on Covid-19 mortality, including mortality in care homes, using information from the Office of National Statistics (ONS) and Care Quality Commission (CQC) weekly updates. This will enable local trends in mortality to be monitored to see whether they are improving as a result of the range of interventions taking place, including testing.

Question 2:

The Clinical Commissioning Group and social care are working with care homes to support them with infection control, including the appropriate use of personal protective equipment.

Communication has been made to all registered providers by way of our daily bulletin and the message below is issued every day to ensure all providers recognise the importance of PPE, but all understand that there is support available to them. All our weekly provider forums are attended by the infection control nurse who can answer questions and give advice about PPE supplies or usage.

“You will be aware that there has been significant guidance which has been issued on the use of PPE. It is understood that the supply of PPE has changed in terms of availability and cost, however, it is essential that as providers you are clear on the correct use of PPE and your responsibility as providers to ensure that your employees are supported to have the necessary access to use it.”

Question 3:

Care providers received a 10% uplift from the council in recognition of the additional staffing costs and the cost of PPE. Where care staff are self-isolating or are ill the council and CCG have provided staff to support the home. Our understanding is that all providers are paying or furloughing staff that are not able to be in work due to Covid 19, we have spoken to a number of providers who have confirmed this to us.

Care Home support guidance was published on 14th March 2020 that strengthens support for care homes, this includes financial support for additional staffing where necessary.

2. **Question from Councillor Lorna Dupré**

ELY SOUTHERN BYPASS TRAFFIC DATA

In answer to a written question on 16 October 2018, regarding plans to repeat traffic counts following the opening of the Ely Southern Bypass, I was told by the Chairman of the Highways & Community Infrastructure Committee, Cllr Mathew Shuter, that at one and five years respectively after the opening of the Ely Southern Bypass, repeat traffic data would be collected at the following locations:

1. Angel Drove (A142) / Station Road mini roundabout
2. Angel Drove / Bypass new roundabout
3. Stuntney Causeway / Bypass new roundabout
4. A10 / Cambridge Road / Angel Drove roundabout

5. A10 / Witchford Road roundabout
6. Stuntney Causeway (A142) / Queen Adelaide Way priority junction
7. Queen Adelaide Way / Ely Road / Branch Road priority junction
8. Station Road tidal flow signal controlled under railway bridge
9. Ely level crossing and underpass
10. A142/B1381 at Sutton
11. A1123/B1381 (Earith)
12. Angel Drove (A142) / Station Road mini roundabout
13. Stuntney Causeway (A142) / Queen Adelaide Way priority junction
14. Ely level crossing and underpass

It now appears that a decision was made to delay the one-year repeat traffic count from its original date one year after the bypass opened on 31 October 2018, to a date after the reopening of the Station Road underpass some months later. The data was finally collected between 13 and 30 March this year, during the COVID-19 lockdown period, and even then only at a few of the above locations. This has had the further consequence that it will not now be possible to properly gauge the effect of the opening of the A14 separately from that of the Ely Southern Bypass, as the A14 has now opened before the one year count has been fully conducted.

Will Councillor Shuter please:

- A. advise who authorised the delay of the data collection exercise, and who was informed of this delay?
- B. explain why data was not collected at all the locations promised; and
- C. commit to ensuring a traffic count is conducted at all the above locations as soon as lockdown has been lifted, in addition to the five year count which should take place in October or November 2023?

Response from Councillor Mathew Shuter, Chairman of Highways and Infrastructure Committee

Thank you Councillor Dupré for this question. I will take the points you have raised in turn.

- A. On the first point, it is important to understand the purpose of the data collection. This was a requirement from the Department for Transport as they part funded the scheme and was referenced in the Business case that they signed off. It was therefore important that like for like traffic flows were being considered. Officers took the decision that as the underpass works were not complete, it would not have been representative to undertake the surveys at the planned time. The revised date for the surveys was also at what is termed a neutral time and so is acceptable to the Department. All of that said, I do appreciate the local interest in this matter Councillor Dupré and agree that although I believe this was the right decision, it would have been helpful for local councillors to be made aware of it.

B. On the second point, I have to apologise that the information given to me for the last response to a question on this matter was incorrect. The actual locations that information was to be collected to satisfy the monitoring framework agreed with the Department for Transport are those for which data has recently been collected. I was led to believe that there would be some additional sites where data would be collected too, but I now understand that to not be the case. For the avoidance of doubt, the monitoring framework locations that data has been collected this year immediately prior to the formal Covid-19 lockdown and will be repeated at the five year stage are as follows:

1. Angel Drove (A142) / Station Road mini roundabout
2. Angel Drove / Bypass new roundabout
3. Angel Drove between new roundabout and Tesco roundabout
4. Stuntney Causeway / Bypass new roundabout
5. Stuntney Causeway (A142) / Queen Adelaide Way priority junction
6. Stuntney Causeway (A142) westbound approach to new bypass roundabout
7. Ely Bypass itself

C. With regard to your final point, I have agreed with officers that traffic surveys will be conducted at the other locations not included in the monitoring plan in October this year, subject to the impact of Covid-19 restrictions. This is the first available neutral month for traffic data collection.

3. **Question from Councillor Lorna Dupré**

LANCASTER WAY ROUNDABOUT CONSULTATION

On what date will consultation open on the design of the Lancaster Way roundabout on the A142 at Ely?

Response from Councillor Ian Bates, Chairman of Economy and Environment Committee

The consultation on the design of the A142 Lancaster Way roundabout is currently scheduled to start in July this year and will run for an eight week period. The outcome of the consultation will be reported to the Combined Authority's Transport & Infrastructure Committee and the County Council's Highways & Transport Committee in the autumn. Construction work is programmed to start in early 2021.