

COUNTY COUNCIL – 19TH DECEMBER 2019

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

PEOPLE

Jack Merritt and Saskia Jones

The Council will be remembering Jack Merritt and Saskia Jones, the two University of Cambridge graduates, who died as a result of the terrorist attack in London on Friday 29th November 2019. The Chairman of the Council has written on behalf of the Council to Jack's parents, as Jack was a Cambridgeshire resident, and to the University of Cambridge and Anglia Ruskin University. The Council's thoughts are also with those who were injured and the members of the public and the emergency services who prevented further loss of life.

AWARDS

Local Authority Challenge

A Cambridgeshire County Council Team competed in the Local Authority Challenge held on 30 October. The Team was highly commended for its interactions with the press coming in the top three teams, won best team for partnership interactions, and finished in the top five Teams of all 24 entrants.

National Social Worker of the Year Awards

Two social workers from Cambridgeshire have been honoured for their contribution to the profession at the national Social Worker of the Year Awards.

Ella Waughman and Dan Grimes, who both work for Cambridgeshire County Council, were named the winners of the Newly Qualified Adult Social Worker of the Year and Newly Qualified Children's Social Worker of the Year awards respectively at the prestigious event which took place on 29th November in London.

The awards are organised by The Social Work Awards charity, which aims to improve public awareness and understanding of social work by showing the positive impact of social workers in the wide range of roles they undertake.

International Content Market Awards

The social care recruitment campaign has continued its winning streak by being awarded Gold at the 2019 International Content Marketing Awards.

See the difference, a social care recruitment campaign for Cambridgeshire County Council, resulted in 52 new appointments – 130% ahead of its original four-month target.

Judges were wowed by the work, which involved the council working in partnership with marketing agency CPL, and voted it the Best Consumer campaign in a category that included shortlisted entries from companies including Tesco, ASDA and Waitrose. Almost 150 agencies and companies from 23 countries entered the awards, which were held in London on Tuesday 26 November and organised by the Content Marketing Association.

The campaign's focus was to recruit reablement care workers, a high priority area of recruitment for the council. Reablement workers play a very valuable role in helping people to regain their independence by supporting in the community and helping them to leave hospital in timely way and become independent again. They help people be where they want to be – in their own homes – and avoid people having to go into a care setting or receive personal care at home. Most importantly they focus on increasing confidence and independence.

As well as winning at the International Content Marketing Awards, See the Difference has also won awards at the Chartered Institute for Public Relations Gold Awards in 2019 and the Unawards 2018.

SERVICE DEVELOPMENT

King's Dyke tender

The latest milestone for the Whittlesey King's Dyke level crossing scheme has been reached and a formal Invitation to Tender issued to six potential contractors. These companies, who scored highest in the initial quality assessments, now have four months to submit their final bids and price for building the scheme. Once the bids are received and evaluated, a final decision will be made at Committee, with a view to the appointed contractor starting construction by the end of 2020.

Work starts on Alconbury Weald Hub

Cambridgeshire County Council's new £18.3m Alconbury Weald Civic HQ building is set to open in Spring 2021. An event to mark the first spade in the ground on site took place immediately after the Commercial and Investment Committee meeting held on site at the Alconbury Weald Enterprise Campus on December 16. This marks the start of work that supports plans to reinvest in excess of £45m back into valued services.

Huntingdon section of A14 now open

On Monday 9th December, a new 12-mile bypass to the south of Huntingdon opened to traffic. The new bypass runs between Ellington and Swavesey and is part of the £1.5 billion project to upgrade 21 miles of the A14 between Cambridge and Huntingdon. The existing A14 between Godmanchester (junction 24) and Spittals (junction 23) has been closed in both directions to enable work to begin on the removal of the Huntingdon viaduct and build new link roads in the town centre. Once this work is completed in 2022, the road between Spittals and Godmanchester will re-open with links into and out of Huntingdon.

MESSAGES

Royal Visits

The Chairman was delighted to welcome Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal on Wednesday 16 October, when Her Royal Highness visited Hotel Chocolat in Huntingdon where she enjoyed a tour of the facility and a taste of one of the UKs premier chocolate brands.

Whilst in Cambridgeshire, The Princess Royal also visited the Museum of Armed Policing based at the old Chatteris Police Station which is celebrating its 10th Anniversary. Princess Anne ended her visit to Cambridgeshire with a visit to Corkers Crisps at Willow Farm in Little Downham near Ely where Her Royal Highness also presented Long Service certificates to members of staff.

On the 29 October the Chairman joined the welcoming party when His Royal Highness the Duke of York visited the new Civil Engineering Building and National Research Facility for Infrastructure Sensing.