



Lina Joseph  
Cambridgeshire County Councillor

**Report October  
2017**

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## I. Children, Families and Adults Directorate

Business plans are currently being approved by the different committees. The measures adopted so far have identified ways of working more efficiently, for example by joining up with other services. Communication between services is essential for a holistic delivery of any of the services the County offers and the budget is now one.

During the Full Council meeting the motion regarding Children’s Centres went through.

Services will be co-located with other partners making it easier for people to access all the services they need in one place, e.g. health visitors, midwives, libraries in one place. This will provide for a more joined up approach to planning and delivery of the service that families will experience as more seamless and easier to access.

Access to and much needed availability of early education/childcare places may be increased through re-designation of some sites.

As you can see in the image below, the efficiencies are focused on management and infrastructure. There has been an increase of 7% in front line services.

overhead costs. We intend to maintain the current level of expenditure on frontline delivery.

current budget versus the proposed budget and the savings.

Category of Spend	Current Budget 2017/18 £	Current Budget % of total spend	Proposed Budget 2018/19 £	Proposed Budget % of total spend	Proposed Budget Saving £	Proposed % Budget Saving
Management costs	1,228,942	23%	772,665	18%	456,277	37%
Building and infrastructure costs	706,150	13%	456,702	10%	249,448	35%
Business Support costs	773,975	15%	513,708	12%	260,267	34%
Front Line Delivery Costs	2,563,092	49%	2,629,084	60%	(-65,992)	(-7%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,272,159</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>4,372,159</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>900,000</b>	

Another key point of this motion is to tackle inequality of the provision of services across the county. Fenland district has the highest levels of deprivation. The new structure offers one Children Centre in each of the larger cities and a family Zone, plus more outreach sessions.



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## **Caldecote**

The Children Centre in Caldecote will be protected in order for the Primary School to continue using the facility for Care Club and extend the Early Years provision.

## **Mental health**

I met with Gillian Beasley, our Chief Executive, and we are going to involve partners in order to make sure we have a consistent Mental Health Strategy for children across the County. I will keep you updated in the progress.

## **Kooth**

I have been sharing this initiative in social media and it would be very positive if you help me get the word out.

This initiative has been commissioned by Public Health, offering counselling services for free to young people. They can remain anonym, if they feel more comfortable.

<https://kooth.com/>

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## **Neighbourhood Cares Soham – Supporting people on a local level – Now Live!**

Following on from the launch of the Neighbourhood Care (St Ives) service, the dedicated Soham team are now live!

At a busy event this week, Soham residents, volunteer organisations, church leaders and Councillors came along to meet the team and find out how they will be providing a range of services and support to local people, at a local level.

A lot of positive connections were made between the team and local community, The network is already starting to build!

[You can find more information on the Neighbourhood Cares service here.](#) , or find us on Facebook (search for Neighbourhood Care Soham, or find the St Ives team at Neighbourhood Care St Ives)

This project will be potentially roll out across the County after the pilots have been evaluated.

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### **Sons and Daughters Month**

Our fostering service has been celebrating Sons and Daughters Month, a national campaign to recognise the important role played by children whose parents foster. We had a chat with Isabel and Quentin from Ely to find out more about growing up in a fostering household. Their parents have been fostering babies and young children for the past 5 years.

Quentin said “I like it when we are caring for the babies best and I get to hold them and feed them. When we have older children here we play together. It was really nice when one little girl came to watch me play football. I get really involved with fostering, when we know someone new is coming I help with things like getting their bed ready. It’s emotional when they leave but we stay in touch if we can and have been to the birthday parties of children after they have moved on from us”.

Isabel added “I like knowing that we are helping influence children’s lives. When they first arrive I give them some space at first and then go and check they are ok. We do things like drawing and colouring together. I always learn about why the babies and children we foster have come into care and I’m pleased that we can help them. I think it’s a really good experience for someone my age and I know a lot more about the different lives some children lead thanks to fostering.”

To find out more about how your family can help local children and young people call us on 0800 052 0078 or visit [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/fostering](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/fostering)

## **2. Economy, Transport & Environment**

- Please see the press release regarding Consultation for parking in Cambridge.
- We are also starting to investigate new materials for our roads. In Cumbria they have started to use plastic.
- The Economy and Environment Committee has approved the Cambridgeshire Transport Investment Plan scheme list at its meeting on 12 October. The Scheme List is now published on the County Council’s website. The schemes are listed by district, with Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire listed



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together which mirrors the Transport Strategy for the area. There is also one list for cross-district and county-wide schemes.

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/transport-plans-and-policies/transport-investment-plan/>

- In June 2017 the County Council submitted grant application for two projects in Cambridgeshire to the Department for Transport's National Productivity Investment Fund (NPIF) for Local Road Network. As required by the Department, the funding bids were submitted through the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority along with two proposals from Peterborough. Note that each local highway authority was allowed a maximum of two bids.

The Department announced last week on 19 October the funding awards. We are pleased to report that funding has been awarded to two projects in the area. Even though the two Cambridgeshire proposals – March Junctions Improvements and Wisbech Access Improvements – have been unsuccessful in securing this funding, the successful Peterborough schemes will still benefit Cambridgeshire residents. The A605 scheme is just over the border west of King's Dyke and Whittlesey, so the improvements will benefit residents in the north of the County.

The two schemes awarded NPIF funding are:

- £3.85m towards junction capacity upgrade at the A15 Junction 18 (A15 junction with A47)
- £2.8m towards A605/B1095 Stanground East junction improvements

### 3. Public Health

I attended Health Committee this month and it was great to see the new initiatives in Mental Health for young people and the new Duty Desk that schools now have at their service.

I was also reassured that the pre-natal and post-natal appointments will be monitored due to the current changes in the Children's Services, however, they felt that there was not going to be large changes to the current percentages.



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## Stopper Campaign

It is never too late to gain support to quit smoking. Evidence shows that if you can stop smoking for 28 days you are five times more likely to stay smokefree for good.

Details on Stoptober can be found at;

<https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/stoptober/home#EPUd8YbekfMOwS53.97>

There are lots of different ways to quit, including nicotine replacement therapies or Champix, which are available on a NHS prescription through the stop smoking services.

This year's campaign will also be promoting the use of e-cigarettes as an effective tool as part of the quitting journey, alongside the local stop smoking service. In 2015 Public Health England said 'E-cigarettes are significantly less harmful to health than tobacco and have the potential to help smokers quit smoking'.

You can get expert face-to-face advice from our local stop smoking service – Camquit or through your GP practice or community pharmacy.

To find out more about how Camquit can help visit <http://www.camquit.nhs.uk/>

## 5. Other business

**Green Agenda:** As you may know I am also very keen in moving up the Green Agenda within the Council and there is starting to be progress in this area. We have very passionate and professional officers in this area of work and I will be working closely with them.

**Support local businesses:** Last week I took my boys to the Star & the Mouse Halloween children session. There was hot chocolate, face painting, popcorn and film! They are a local company that specialise in open air cinema. It's great to see the community supporting them in Grantchester.

It's extremely important that we do everything we can to support local companies. Just like the bus service if you don't use it, you lose it.

**As much as possible I support Charities, if you would like me to attend an event in your area I would love to be involved.**



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-----Press releases -----

### **Have your say on residents' parking plans**

Cambridge residents are being asked to have their say on a number of potential new parking schemes in their local area from this week (23 October).

Consultations are focussed on four areas in the city as a priority in-line with the Council's Parking Policy which was agreed in March 2017 and are part of the Greater Cambridge Partnership's plans to reduce congestion in Cambridge.

Informal discussions with residents and councillors have already taken place and demonstrated support for a scheme which gives local residents priority over parking within their area. The needs of local businesses and community facilities are also taken into account. Residents' Parking Schemes enable those who regularly find it difficult to park within a reasonable distance of their home to find a space.

The four areas are Accordia, Staffordshire, Coleridge (West) and Newham. If schemes are supported by the majority of respondents then the consultation will progress to the next stage which is a statutory consultation.

Cambridgeshire County Council's Chair of the Highways and Infrastructure Committee, Councillor Mathew Shuter said "We've listened to requests from local residents and councillors for schemes to help them after regularly experiencing parking problems. The feedback we now hope to receive will help us to understand the level of support for the proposed schemes. We realise that this could affect other road users, not just residents so we welcome the views of everyone."

Everyone has a chance to have their say and the consultations close on 4 December 2017. Visit [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/resident-parking-scheme-consultation](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/resident-parking-scheme-consultation) for more information.

Proposals are currently being put forward for revised parking fees, up to date information can be viewed on the Council's website.

The Greater Cambridge Partnership Executive Board will fund the implementation costs associated with this scheme.



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## Plans to relocate Ely Registration Office get the green light

County Councillors on the Highways & Community Infrastructure Committee have agreed to relocate the Ely Registration Office in their last committee meeting.

The Registration office will be moved to the new Cambridgeshire Archives Centre in Ely, which is due to open in 2019.

The move will increase the availability of public appointments with the Registration Service to five days per week. The current service in Market Street, Ely, only offers appointments three days a week.

The new location will offer great transport links, with Ely Train Station being nearby. The site will also offer onsite parking, disabled parking and the ability to drop off wedding parties directly outside the building, which is not possible at the current location.

Cambridgeshire County Council's Chairman of the Highways and Community Infrastructure Committee, Cllr Mathew Shuter, said: "The move of the Registration Office to the Cambridgeshire Archives Centre will offer the public a more accessible location. The centre will provide opportunities for the public to come and explore Cambridgeshire's rich history, and create some of their own through registering their key milestones."

This move is subject to a planning permission application, which is due to be made in the next few months.

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Just to remind you that the public is welcome to attend County Councils meetings. You can find all the details in the website, along with the agenda and supporting documents.

As always I welcome your questions and comments on the foregoing and any other local or strategic matter in which you are interested.

Lina Joseph