

ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

FACTS AND FIGURES

What sort of place is Cambridgeshire?

- 4 of our District Councils are classified as rural, and almost 40% of our population live in villages with fewer than 10,000 residents.
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The area is one of the most economically vibrant places in the UK. The south of the County holds a cluster of hi-tech/bio-tech businesses that are of international importance, currently employing over 50,000 people. The northern part of the County contributes significantly to the nation's food production and is increasingly important in the realm of agricultural engineering and technology. Levels of crime are low.

Life expectancy in the County is above the national average.

Overall, school performance in Cambridgeshire is improving and the majority of children do well. However, we need to achieve improvement in some areas, particularly results at Stage 2 and accelerating the attainment of children from deprived backgrounds.

12.6% of all the County's children live in low income families, with this figure rising to over 30% in the most deprived areas.

Managing the reduction in services due to funding pressures:

For 2015-16 there will be an actual reduction in funding of £9.8m. However, pressures such as inflation (£9.7m), a growing demand for services (£9.6m) increases in statutory responsibilities, creates an overall savings requirement of £29.8m.

Over the next 5 years it is estimated that the savings will need to be as high as £118.8m.

This is on top of savings in excess of £115.3m that have been made over the last 3 years.

Increasing Demand:

Between 2001 and 2011 the number of people living in Cambridgeshire increased by 68,500; from 552,700 to 621,200.

This growth rate of 12% over 10 years was the largest growth in population of any county council area in England.

Population forecasts based on planned housing developments show growth continuing with the population increasing by a further 24% between 2011 and 2031 to reach 768,900.

The number of people aged over 65 is expected to increase by 72,000; from 100,100 in 2011 to 172,000 in 2031 (from 16% to 22% of the total population) The number of very old people aged 90 and over (including centenarians) is expected to increase from 4,900 to 14,400 over the same period). In addition, improvements in healthcare are increasing the life expectancy for people with disabilities, meaning we need to plan to support more people in Physical and Learning Disability Services for longer. A growing population also means increased demand for a range of other services including education, children's social care, waste and recycling, transport and public health services.

In Economy, Transport and Environment Services, we:

Maintain 2,800 miles of roads, 2,400 miles of footways, 1,500 bridges and 55,000 street lights.
3.45m journeys on the Guided Bus.

Transport 15,000 children to school every day.
Manage almost 320,000 tonnes of waste, of which over 55% is recycled.
Intervened in rogue trader cases involving over 180 victims and in excess of £500,000.
Helped 20,000 people benefit from adult learning.
Delivered 85 highways improvement schemes working with local communities.
Welcomed 2.55m visitors each year to our libraries.
Registered 15,200 births, marriages, civil partnerships and deaths.
In Children, Families and Adults Services, we:
Support more than 3,000 children with statements of special educational need.
Provide more than 1,000 disabled children and young people with short breaks.
Look after children in care, finding them adoptive parents and supporting around 500 children at any one time in foster and residential care.
Care for over 7,800 older people in their own homes
Commission around 1.4 million hours of care for older people in their own homes.
Provide social care services to over 13,900 people.
Provided social care services to over 2,900 people following discharge from hospital.
Provided packages of care and support to 1,600 people with learning disabilities, around 775 with physical disabilities and over 500 with sensory impairments.

In Corporate Services, we:

Handled 220,000 phone enquires. 86,000 non phone contacts. 3.5m visits to our website a year with services like renewing library books and concessionary bus passes.
Managed 1,150 Freedom of Information requests and 115 Subject Access Requests (an individual's request to see their personal information which we hold).

County Councillor Ian Bates

27th May 2015