

EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL



REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES WITHIN THE REMIT OF THE OPERATIONAL SERVICES COMMITTEE 2022-23

(Including reports from representatives for 2021-22)

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PRIORITY CATEGORY OF OFFICER SUPPORT

1. Nominated officers to provide Members with regular support on a proactive basis, and attend meetings where appropriate (including those outside bodies where officers attend at present).
2. Nominated officers to provide ad hoc support on specific agenda issues and act as a contact for feedback and implementation of action points. The onus will be on the Member to contact the nominated officer to facilitate these arrangements.
3. Members should liaise directly with Democratic Services (Committees).

CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL HEALTH COMMITTEE

AIMS AND ACTIVITIES

- The County Council's public health duty including health improvement, individual and community wellbeing, and reduction of health inequalities;
- To respond as appropriate to central government consultation relating to policy or legislation falling within the remit of the Committee;
- The review and scrutiny of any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health services in Cambridgeshire;
- To report to the Secretary of State for Health on any proposals for substantial change to any part of the NHS's services within Cambridgeshire.

Representation:	One Member and one Substitute
Status of Member:	Non-voting member
Approx. no. of meetings per year:	6
Expenses paid by organisation:	No
Insurance provision:	Yes
Category of Officer Support (see p. 1):	1
Contact Officer:	Environmental Services Manager, Liz Knox

Representatives for 2022/23:	Cllr Lis Every (<i>Lead Member</i>) Cllr Julia Huffer (<i>Substitute</i>)
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REPORT FROM 2021/22 REPRESENTATIVE

Cllr Lis Every (attended 3 of 4 meetings)

The Adults and Health Committee has a statutory responsibility for Health Scrutiny of NHS commissioners and providers and non-NHS providers of NHS funding and services. The Committee can review matters and make recommendations to the NHS and other relevant organisations. A representative from each District Council sits on the Scrutiny of Health Committee which is held separate from the Adults Committee. District Councillors are there as observers and have no vote.

Over the past year, the Committee has focused on Covid-19 Recovery for NHS Trusts, performance and quality monitoring, thematic scrutiny areas (e.g. the dental services), new developments (e.g. the new Integrated Care System).

ECDC has helped fund local GP services with CIL money and the development of the Princess of Wales Hospital is moving forward (Corporate Objective in Social and Community Infrastructure). Health Services, although not a statutory area for ECDC, they have a vested interest in the health of the community. As can be seen from the above this is really relevant to ECDC and the health and well-being of our community.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD

AIMS AND ACTIVITIES

The remit of the Cambridgeshire Health and Wellbeing Board is to work to promote the health and wellbeing of Cambridgeshire's communities and its focus is on securing the best possible health outcomes for all residents.

The Member should provide local information to the Cambridgeshire Health and Wellbeing Board, related to health and wellbeing within East Cambridgeshire and the impact (actual or potential) of any relevant policy changes, service changes, proposals, and/or identified need.

Representation:	One Member
Status of Member:	Voting member
Approx. no. of meetings per year:	4-6
Expenses paid by organisation:	No
Insurance provision:	-
Category of Officer Support (see p. 1):	1
Contact Officer:	Environmental Services Manager, Liz Knox

Representative for 2022/23: **Cllr Julia Huffer**

REPORT FROM 2021/22 REPRESENTATIVE

Cllr Julia Huffer (attended 1 of 2 meetings)

The Health and Wellbeing Board continues to work across County and Districts along with health professionals to ensure that our residents receive the best possible care.

Support for this organisation should continue.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE & CRIME PANEL

AIMS AND ACTIVITIES

The Police and Crime Panel (PCP) provides checks and balances on the work of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). The Panel does not scrutinise Cambridgeshire Constabulary; it scrutinises how the PCC carries out their statutory responsibilities. While the Panel is there to constructively challenge the PCC, it also has a key role in supporting the Commissioner in their role in enhancing public accountability of the police force.

- Review and make recommendations on the draft Police and Crime Plan.
- Scrutinise the PCC, inviting the Chief Constable to attend before the PCP where appropriate.
- Review the PCC's appointment of Chief Executive, Chief Financial Officer and Deputy PCC where one is appointed.
- Make reports and recommendations on matters relating to the PCC.
- Monitor all complaints against the PCC and the informal resolution of such complaints where necessary.
- Question the PCC on the annual report in a public meeting.
- Veto powers on the PCC's proposed annual council tax precept and appointment of Chief Constable.

Representation:	One member and one substitute
Status of Member:	ECDC representative
No. meetings per year:	4
Expenses paid by organisation:	£920 per annum (maximum) from a central fund administered by Peterborough City Council
Insurance provision:	No
Category of Officer Support (see p. 1):	1
Contact Officer:	Communities & Partnership Manager, Lewis Bage
Representatives for 2022/23:	Cllr Alan Sharp (<i>Lead Member</i>) Cllr Julia Huffer (<i>Substitute</i>)

REPORT FROM 2021/22 REPRESENTATIVE

Cllr Alan Sharp (attended 4 of 5 meetings)

The Police & Crime Panel is important, as it fits into ECDC's objective of keeping the public safe, whilst also fitting into the objective of influencing policing within our District.

The continued representation on the Police & Crime Panel is required, for the interests of ECDC.

I have attended all but one of the Panel meetings and I was elected vice-chair of the panel.

This year has seen the election of a new Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), after a period of “holding the fort” by the previous acting PCC who held the post for months after the resignation of the previous PCC in November 2019.

The new PCC included the panel in the formulation of the Police & Crime Plan from an early stage, and this has been a trend, where the new PCC has engaged with the panel from the outset.

The panel have asked challenging questions of the PCC and those have been answered in a positive manner.

It has been a very positive start to the PCC’s term of office.

CITIZENS ADVICE WEST SUFFOLK

AIMS AND ACTIVITIES

The objective of the service is to provide free, confidential, impartial and independent holistic advice to enable local residents to deal with a wide range of issues, including benefits, housing, money advice, employment, consumer, relationships and utilities. It values diversity, promotes equality and challenges discrimination. The nature of the assistance provided will depend on a client's needs and abilities.

The provision of this service requires that, at any one time, 2 to 6 advisers and 1 supervisor are on duty and 1 telephone number with 3 linked lines are available to members of the public. For face-to-face advice, offices are available at Foley House, Wellington Street, Newmarket. The charity holds the Advice Quality Standard and is accredited to the Money Advice and Pensions Service. It is also registered with the Financial Conduct Authority.

The Management Committee (Trustee Board) is responsible for the governance of the charity, including setting the overall vision and making strategic decisions. The Committee ensures there is effective planning, financial management and controls in place. It holds staff accountable while carrying ultimate responsibility for the activities of Citizens Advice West Suffolk.

Representation:	One Member and one Substitute
Status of Member:	ECDC representative (no decision-making powers)
No. meetings per year:	12
Expenses paid by organisation:	No
Insurance provision:	Yes
Category of Officer Support (see p. 1):	2
Contact Officer:	Communities & Partnerships Manager, Lewis Bage

Representatives for 2022/23:	Cllr Amy Starkey (<i>Lead Member</i>) Cllr Alan Sharp (<i>Substitute</i>)
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REPORTS FROM 2021/22 REPRESENTATIVES

Cllr Amy Starkey

(*Not received.*)

Cllr Alan Sharp (attended 1 meeting as a substitute)

I am a substitute member of the CAB – West Suffolk trustees.

I have attended one meeting during the year and the CAB is an important function within the support required for residents during the last two years.

ECDC supports the West Suffolk CAB well in terms of grant funding and it is important that a continued presence is maintained to ensure that resident's interests are maintained.

The meetings are a mixture of zoom with a couple of face-to-face and that seems to be the way that it will continue, with maybe three face-to-face meetings a year and the rest on zoom. There have been clashes of date with other commitments, which has resulted in a lower attendance.

However, looking at the meeting pattern for the coming year, it seems to sit better with other meetings.

COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

AIMS AND ACTIVITIES

- Section 6 of the 1998 Act requires the responsible authorities [commonly referred to collectively as a Community Safety Partnership (CSP)] in a local government area to work together in formulating and implementing strategies to tackle local crime and disorder in the area.
- To work in partnership with other organisations and groups to implement the Strategies.
- To monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the strategies.
- To contribute to the improvement of the quality of life of local people by improving Community Safety and reducing crime and disorder (and the fear of crime) in East Cambridgeshire.

Representation:	Three Members and one Substitute
Status of Member:	ECDC representative. Lead Member has voting rights.
No. meetings per year:	4
Expenses paid by organisation:	No
Insurance provision:	No
Category of Officer Support (see p. 1):	1
Contact Officer:	Neighbourhood & Community Safety Officer, Emma Graves-Brown

Representatives for 2022/23:	Cllr Lis Every (<i>Lead Member</i>) Cllr Christine Ambrose Smith Cllr Alan Sharp Cllr Jo Webber (<i>Substitute</i>)
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REPORTS FROM 2021/22 REPRESENTATIVES

Cllr Lis Every (attended 3 meetings)

The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) brings together a number of agencies and organisations concerned with tackling and reducing crime and antisocial behaviour. Community Safety Partnerships were set up under Sections 5-7 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. Some organisations, like the District Council and the Police, are statutory members, but voluntary groups and businesses are also represented and play an important role.

Our key role is to understand the kind of community safety issues East Cambridgeshire is experiencing; decide which of these are the most important to deal with; and then decide what actions we can take collectively, adding value to the day-to-day work undertaken by our

individual agencies and organisations. We detail these actions in our Community Safety Plan which we update each year.

This is organised strategically through the Partnership Board who operate a Problem-Solving Group where key personnel from all the agencies and local representation including schools discuss issues concerning the above. If a solution cannot be found, it is referred to the Delivery Group which is also multi-agency where a Task and Finish Group is formed. Funding is available for the CSP through ECDC and the Police and Crime Commissioner. Currently the Task and Finish Groups working are:

- Youth Provision across District (working closely with the ECDC's Youth Strategy)
- Social and private landlord collaboration to support vulnerable families
- Mental Health provision for young people
- Local Parish Forums where there is an element of anti-social behaviour or issues that need resolving requiring a multi-agency approach

The Delivery Group also runs and funds projects, e.g:

- The very successful Eyes and Ears project which is now County-wide;
- The Drink Spiking Campaign;
- Safety on the streets campaigns;
- Road safety, security in the home, scams training.

ECDC has a statutory duty to work on community safety and is a stakeholder on the Community Safety Partnership. The CSP is a valuable organisation working closely with the residents in order to make them feel and be safe and deal with issues that may arise. All of the above issues are relevant to ECDC and the CSP reports regularly to the Operational Services Committee.

Cllr Christine Ambrose Smith (attended 3 meetings)

The CSP provides a forum for a number of agencies to work together to put in place strategies / action plans to deal with a large range of issues which impacts on our communities. The agencies include:

- Police & Fire
- Health – GP's
- Local authorities - District & County officers
- Specialists
- Elected members and others.

Continued representation on this Outside Body is worthwhile because this is valuable work which goes on very much behind the scenes of which the majority of residents are probably unaware. This does indeed shine a light on problems which blight the lives of many residents and their communities as a whole and endeavours to put in place effective measures to combat individual and collective distress, improving the lives of our residents.

Items considered / discussed have included:

- ASB
- Drugs – exploitation – County Lines
- Domestic Abuse
- Modern Day Slavery
- Identifying Scams
- Knife Crime
- Hate Crime

- Safety of Women & Children
- Empowering the Youth of our district.

Cllr Alan Sharp (attended 2 meetings)

The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is important to ensure that the objectives of ECDC are being met and we can collaborate with partner organisations to keep the public safe.

The continued representation on the CSP is required to continue, for the interests of ECDC and its residents.

Having only joined this Committee this year, it has been a good learning curve into its workings and I look forward to making further contributions during the coming year.

HISTORIC ENGLAND – HERITAGE CHAMPION

AIMS AND ACTIVITIES

The historic environment includes historic buildings, landscapes, monuments, places, archaeology (including marine archaeology) and areas. The Heritage Champion will promote the local historic environment, share best practice and attend training (where appropriate).

The network of Heritage Champions across the country supports the protection of the historic environment at a local level. At a strategic level, Champions can make sure that local plans and strategies capture the contribution that the local historic environment can make to the success of an area. More specifically they can:

- Help local authorities manage the historic environment of their area;
- Promote heritage within the local community, generating enthusiasm for and awareness of the importance of the local historic environment;
- Help ensure that commitment to the proper care of the historic environment is embedded in all relevant activities and plans of the local authority;
- Support the Authority's local historic environment services (both archaeological and historic buildings conservation officers);
- Influence and communicate with others to ensure benefits for the historic environment.

Representation:	One Member
Status of Member:	Champion
No. meetings per year:	0
Expenses paid by organisation:	No
Insurance provision:	No
Category of Officer Support (see p. 1):	1
Contact Officer:	Planning Manager, Rebecca Saunt
Representative for 2022/23:	Cllr Lis Every

REPORT FROM 2021/22 REPRESENTATIVE

Cllr Lis Every (no formal meetings, regularly meets with Conservation Officer)

East Cambridgeshire has many locally important heritage assets, which are valued by residents and contribute to the area's character and identity, are local landmarks or are important to the community. Its heritage assets are a key focus for tourism in the area, which is supported by the East Cambridgeshire District Council Tourist Website.

These heritage assets may be buildings, archaeological remains, parks, gardens, or public work of arts. The Conservation Officer at ECDC, as well as being a statutory consultee regarding planning in conservation areas, works to support the new Local Heritage Listing project set up by Cambridgeshire County Council and each of the 5 District Councils. We are

setting up our own local lists of heritage assets that are important to the people living in this community. In addition, it is anticipated that a local Heritage Forum will be resurrected engaging with local interested residents and heritage stakeholders to further develop this resource and encourage more visitors to the area.

This is an important part of the work that ECDC does which is not only statutory but in keeping with development of the area as an important historic and tourist area.

Regular meetings are held on the above to expand further the work that is being done.

PARADISE CENTRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

AIMS AND ACTIVITIES

- The provision of facilities for playing sports;
- The provision of opportunities for recreation, social activities and refreshment, for the benefit of its members and the public;
- The provision and maintenance of a sports and leisure centre at Paradise Ground, Ely; including selection of the centre management.

Representation:	One Member
Status of Member:	Non-voting Observer
No. meetings per year:	6
Expenses paid by organisation:	No
Insurance provision:	Yes
Category of Officer Support (see p. 1):	3
Contact Officer:	Senior Leisure Services Officer, Victor Le Grand

Representatives for 2022/23: **Cllr David Ambrose Smith**

REPORT FROM 2021/22 REPRESENTATIVE

Cllr David Ambrose Smith

Not notified of any meetings during the year.

(This has now been resolved.)

RECAP BOARD

AIMS AND ACTIVITIES

RECAP has representation from all Districts, Peterborough City Council and Cambridgeshire County Council. The partnership was set up to enable discussion and joint decisions. By working collaboratively on both the collection and disposal of waste as well as associated areas of work, education, fly-tipping efficiencies have been realised.

The RECAP Board shall:

- act as the focus for discussion and to deliver a political perspective and steer to the scope of activities undertaken by the RECAP Partnership.
- establish and implement a process of partnership and joint working on issues included within the scope of activities, seeking consensus within the budgets delegated by the constituent Councils, whilst respecting the individual council policies and authorisations of individual members.
- investigate ways of working to deliver services provided by Partner authorities in a more economic and efficient way, including the investigation of joint procurement where applicable.
- promote data sharing of the local environmental services provided by the Partner authorities and others in order to identify best practice.
- agree and recommend to the appointing authorities, the breakdown of the financial contribution to be made by respective Councils towards the coordination and development of the work of the RECAP Partnership.
- agree an annual work programme and recognise the achievements of the RECAP Partnership by regularly reporting on progress to the Cabinets of the County Council and Peterborough City Council and to the appropriate District Council Executives.
- promote common messages and common themes to ensure a consistent approach between the Partner authorities.
- contribute to the process of public consultation and public debate in relation to the services included in the scope of activities.
- consider the impact of legislation and national policy development and to make recommendations on the implications for, and response of, Partner authorities.

Representation:	One Member
Status of Member:	ECDC representative. Decision-maker.
No. meetings per year:	4
Expenses paid by organisation:	No
Insurance provision:	No
Category of Officer Support (see p. 1):	1
Contact Officer:	Environmental Services Manager, Liz Knox
Representative for 2022/23:	Cllr Julia Huffer

REPORT FROM 2021/22 REPRESENTATIVE

Cllr Julia Huffer (attended all 5 meetings)

RECAP is a vital source of communication and information with other local districts dealing with all matters to do with waste and recycling. We are working together to respond to Central Government's consultations about the reform of waste services throughout the country.

The work done by officers and members alike is vital to ensure that ECDC is able to respond rapidly to any national decision taken regarding recycling and the waste service.

SANCTUARY HOUSING SERVICES LTD
EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

AIMS AND ACTIVITIES

A non-profit-making organisation to provide affordable homes for rent throughout East Cambridgeshire.

Representation:	Two Members
Status of Member:	Decision-maker (limited)
Approx. no. of meetings per year:	4
Expenses paid by organisation:	Travel
Insurance provision:	No
Category of Officer Support (see p. 1):	1
Contact Officer:	Housing & Community Safety Manager, Angela Parmenter

Representatives for 2022/23:	Cllr Christine Ambrose Smith Cllr Jo Webber
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REPORTS FROM 2021/22 REPRESENTATIVES

Cllr Christine Ambrose Smith (attended all 3 meetings)

Sanctuary Housing and its predecessor took over the stock of social housing within the District that were owned and operated by the local council up until the early 1970s. Sanctuary hold the largest share of social housing within East Cambs and as such are a significant organisation. As part of a national HA this does mean that some services are necessarily a little more remote (Customer Services, Property Maintenance) than some residents feel entirely comfortable with. The local Sanctuary Housing office does always demonstrate however an impressive local knowledge of the housing stock, their tenants, and the difficulties around the large number of properties built just before or in the immediate aftermath of WW2. An aging housing stock will always require a great deal of ongoing maintenance. Many of these properties were however, built on generous plots with good accommodation and make excellent family homes.

Continued representation is worthwhile because it enables at least two Councillors to have a deeper understanding of how this housing provider works, building an easy working relationship with the management and other officers based locally and the challenges that are faced – staffing, budgets, managing the expectations of their tenants and many other smaller details. The last two years have been difficult for everyone and for every organisation. The inability to deal with many maintenance issues short of extreme emergencies have led to a backlog of work. Many of the maintenance staff have themselves been unable to work either

because of illness, shielding of family members or having been in contact with those shown to be Covid positive. It is possible that we will all be living with these issues for some considerable time. Materials and replacement parts have had lengthy lead times or have been difficult to source throughout the construction industry. For a tenant awaiting a repair – possibly living without heat or power, hot water, damaged exteriors, or interiors – this is sometimes difficult to accept. We encourage Councillor colleagues to escalate matters where they have been contacted as the Ward Member once the tenant has followed the process of reporting via the Sanctuary helpdesk without success.

Relevant issues discussed have included disputes with neighbours, requests for work to improve accessibility, complaints regarding the state of neighbouring gardens, noise, and other nuisances.

Cllr Jo Webber (attended all 3 meetings)

Sanctuary Housing are a national housing association with a large stock of housing in East Cambridgeshire, which includes both general needs and residential care for the elderly.

ECDC have responsibility for housing services and Sanctuary Housing play a vital role in ensuring that our residents have access to suitable accommodation, which is safe and well-maintained.

As the largest residential social landlord in East Cambridgeshire, I think it is crucial that a strong working relationship is maintained not only between Sanctuary Staff and ECDC Officers, but also with Ward Members who are representing their residents. It is important for Members to gain an understanding of the processes and procedures that are in place, and how they can work with Sanctuary to support their residents in the most effective way.

Sanctuary Managers and Housing Officers work closely with the Housing Team at ECDC and have staff located alongside the Customer Services Team, so that residents can easily access support when required.

Quarterly meetings are normally held between Sanctuary management, tenant representatives, and representatives from East Cambs District Council. I am currently one of the representatives for ECDC along with Cllr Christine Ambrose Smith, and chair the meetings. Since the outbreak of the coronavirus it was agreed that the quarterly meetings would be put on hold with reports being sent to all members of the Committee for comment and feedback. This has continued as the older members of the Group are more reluctant to return to face-to-face meetings at the present time. Regular zoom meetings have still been held between the East Cambs Representatives, and Lorna Philcox the Operations Manager for Sanctuary, and more recently Ben Tranter who has taken over from Lorna Philcox during her secondment to Head of Housing. These regular meetings enable issues to be escalated and information to be shared.

SOHAM AND DISTRICT SPORTS ASSOCIATION

AIMS AND ACTIVITIES

- To establish, maintain, finance and manage an indoor sports hall;
- To act as a central body representing all sports interests in Soham and the surrounding district;
- To maintain and improve the provision of all sports learning and recreational facilities within Soham and the surrounding district.

Representation:	Two Members
Status of Member:	Voting Committee Member
Approx. no. of meetings per year:	At least 3
Expenses paid by organisation:	No
Insurance provision:	Yes
Category of Officer Support (see p. 1):	2
Contact Officer:	Senior Leisure Services Officer, Victor Le Grand

Representatives for 2022/23: **Cllr Ian Bovingdon**
Cllr Daniel Schumann

REPORTS FROM 2021/22 REPRESENTATIVES

Cllr Ian Bovingdon (no meetings held)

Since there have been no meetings, there is nothing to report.

Cllr Daniel Schumann (no meetings held)

Leisure Centres make a positive contribution to the health and wellbeing of the residents of East Cambs and help to make East Cambs a great place to live.

Engagement with elected members is low, however ECDC does fund this organisation so representation is needed.