

Our Vision for the Future

Corporate Plan 2015-2019



	Delivering a Financially Sound and Well Managed Council	Genuinely Affordable Housing	A Fantastic Place to Live	Improving Local Transport	Improving Infrastructure	New Jobs and Funding
Priorities	(1) A customer driven efficient Council with a 'can do' attitude and pro business approach and commercially focused to ensure financial self sufficiency for the taxpayer.	(2) Genuinely affordable housing by local people for local people.	(3) Making East Cambridgeshire an even better place to live.	(4) Making it easier to get around the District and do business.	(5) Appropriate developments with better infrastructure and improving Planning Service.	(6) Driving economic success by creating the infrastructure to attract businesses and create jobs.
Promises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Freeze the East Cambs element of Council Tax in 2016/17. Customer driven Council with a "can do" approach which exists to "serve you", our customers. Replace automatic pay increases with performance related pay. Prioritise and improve 'front line' services through commercialism and reduction in management and administration costs. Keep a firm grip on waste and unnecessary bureaucracy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support delivery of the first Land Trust homes in Stretham. Continue to support trusts in Swaffham Prior, Soham and Stretham and Wilburton. Encourage other places to consider Community Land Trusts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aim for a 60% recycling rate and put bins back tidily. Deliver the cinema and leisure centre on Downham road, Ely. Review and improve sports and leisure services throughout the District. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the Southern Bypass Ely is built. Keep free parking in our city and town centre car parks. Seek to increase car park spaces to service Ely and Littleport railway stations. Mark out new lanes on key roundabouts to improve traffic flow. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offer genuinely affordable housing-by local people, for local people. Work with partners to help secure a new railway station in Soham. Push to ensure the Ely Bypass is built. Work with partners to support the development in North Ely. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote apprenticeships with local businesses. Use the business rate retention fund on business development, creation of new jobs and opportunities for young people.
Our commitment and Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local residents will continue to receive high quality Council services without the increase in Council Tax during 2016/2017. The Council will deliver a programme of work to ensure customers receive high quality services to meet your expectations. The Council will deliver a self-sufficiency programme with a balanced budget and efficiency savings. Performance Related Pay will be implemented by 2016 along with proposals to encourage innovation and high quality services. The Council will establish a Local Authority Trading Company. The Council will carry out a review to ensure policies and procedures are streamlined and efficient. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The community-led, Stretham and Wilburton Community Land Trust will increase infrastructure to include; the completion of 15 affordable homes, a new GP surgery and business premises etc. The community-led Swaffham Prior Community Land Trust will build 8 affordable homes and will identify additional infrastructure to sustain healthy and economically diverse communities led by local residents. The Council will support local Community Land Trusts to scope community-led development opportunities through a dedicated programme delivered through the Council's Trading Company. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council will achieve a 60% recycle rate through the "It Pays to Recycle in East Cambridgeshire" campaign and ensure our streets are left tidily after bin collections. The Council will work with partners to build a new Multiplex cinema in Downham Road, Ely. A new District leisure centre will be built which supports the health and well-being of our customers. We will work with three existing Community Leisure Trusts to develop performance improvement plans to support the delivery of a district wide indoor sports facility strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Southern Bypass in Ely will be completed which supports the local economy, eases congestion and reduces waiting time for motorists. The Council will guarantee free car parking in the city and town centre car parks, encouraging more visitors to the district and continuing to help increase the local economy. The Council will complete the feasibility study and funding strategy at Ely and Littleport stations ensuring commuters have sufficient parking. The Council will work with partners to identify potential roundabouts and where appropriate new lanes for improvement to support traffic flow and reduce congestion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The District has a Local Plan which will ensure the efficient use of land and secures future development which is sustainable and delivers what our communities want to see. Residents and visitors to Soham have a station which supports the local economy, reduces congestion on roads and increases employment opportunities. An improved Station Gateway in Ely will reduce waiting times for visitors and commuters, increase employment opportunities, provide economic growth, improve customer satisfaction levels and encourage more people to visit the district. The development in North Ely will ease housing shortages, increase economic growth and employment opportunities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 new apprentices will have improved routes to employment by March 2016. Our Investment Programme, funded by the Business Rates Retention Scheme, will provide new opportunities which supports economic growth in our District.
Outcomes to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council has frozen the East Cambs element of Council Tax for the third year in a row. By valuing feedback and implementing new processes to meet your needs, we can truly say we are customer driven. Recent projects include: a new self-service section on the Councils' website and providing a more accessible Planning Service. The Council continues to present a balanced budget. The Council has replaced automatic pay rises with performance related pay. The Council has established the East Cambs Trading Company Limited to support the financial sustainability of the Authority. The Council has reviewed its policies and will continue to ensure that they meet the needs of our customers, whilst being efficient and streamlined. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Stretham and Wilburton Community Land Trust (CLT) has built 15 affordable homes and residents are currently in the process of moving in to their new homes. The Swaffham Prior CLT has built 8 affordable homes and they are now all occupied. The Council is proud to say that there are now a total of 7 CLT's within East Cambridgeshire: Kennett, Haddenham, Witchford, Soham, Stretham and Wilburton, Swaffham Prior and Fordham. The East Cambs Trading Company Limited has set up "Palace Green Homes" which will continue to offer support, advice and guidance to any local communities looking to develop CLT's. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council is currently achieving a 57% recycle rate through the "It Pays to recycle in East Cambridgeshire" campaign and continues to ensure that bins are put back tidily. Building works have started on the new Multiplex cinema in Ely. The Council continues to work closely with the developers by offering support such as planning advice and we are looking forward to the site being opened in 2017. The Council has committed £13 million to the new District leisure centre. Planning permission has been agreed, a contractor and operator have been appointed and we are on track to open the site in 2018. The Council has been continuing to support Community Leisure Trusts in Soham, Burwell, Stetchworth and The Paradise Centre, Ely, to help develop improvement plans and long term sustainability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council has been the driving force in progressing the Southern Bypass in Ely. The tender has been awarded, the grant from Central Government has been approved and works will begin on the bypass in 2017. The Council has enshrined its commitment for free car parking in the city in the constitution. The Council has acquired land at Angel Drove in Ely to increase the number of parking spaces near the railway station and we have secured a site to increase parking spaces in Littleport. The Council continues to work with Cambridgeshire County Council to increase the flow of traffic around the District's key roundabouts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council will be consulting with the public on the draft Local Plan. The development of the Local Plan will be a priority for the Authority moving forward, with the final document set for adoption by the autumn of 2018. The Council has been continuing to work closely with Network Rail and Cambridgeshire County Council to help progress the Soham Railway Station development. A GRIP 3 Study has now commenced. The Council continues to work with key stakeholders to bring about the ambition of developing the Station Gateway site. The development in North Ely has been granted outline planning permission and the Council has completed a Section 106 agreement to help provide new public open spaces. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council has been proud to have supported 8 new apprentices with routes to employment. The scheme will help them to develop key skills in order to secure employment in the future. The Investment Programme has now successfully completed. The Council has delivered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Securing Enterprise Zone status for Lancaster Way business park in partnership with Grovemere Property A new economic development website for the District, Enterprise East Cambridgeshire Skills development in partnership with the Greater Cambridgeshire, Greater Peterborough LEP and Ely Chamber.