



Hello and welcome to South Cambridgeshire!

It's a fascinating place to work and I've really enjoyed my 18 months here. Our Leadership Team came together exactly a year ago (replacing a more hierarchical structure with something much leaner) and we have enjoyed getting to know each other and starting to get to where I want us to be – a high performing team who can address challenges collectively and celebrate success together. Team is the key word. I give colleagues as much independence to run their services as possible – and offer support if it's needed. But broadly speaking you'll be responsible for all service areas, and a number of key corporate areas.

Our members across the board are incredibly dedicated – as was seen during our COVID response, where members were front and centre of how we mobilised over 4,000 volunteers to deliver a hyper-local support network to anyone who needed it in the district. It was something that we were all really proud of and we are trying to build on that model of supporting our communities to use the resources they have to do the things that matter to them.

We are one of the UK's biggest growth areas, and that brings interesting opportunities and sometimes dilemmas! We are a key player in the Oxford-Cambridge Arc, and while sometimes we feel a bit stretched (especially during the last year) we completely recognise the importance of wider geographies and strong partnerships.

My colleagues are great and I've really missed them 'in person' over the last 12 months. As we slowly move back to the office, we are determined to hold on to the things we've benefitted from (working from home at least part of the week makes sense for lots of office based colleagues) but ensure that we can collaborate and be innovative through different ways of working, breaking down any remaining silos and taking a 'one council' approach seriously. And of course in this role, you'll be leading the Waste service for Cambridge City too, meaning that you will be embedded in their leadership structure and support their members to ensure that the Waste service continues as a high performing and responsive customer focused service.

So it's a big job, but an exciting one. If you'd like to talk about it don't hesitate to contact me by e-mail (liz.watts@scambs.gov.uk) and we can set up a call.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Liz Watts".

Liz Watts | Chief Executive