

# South Cambs

Magazine

[www.scambs.gov.uk](http://www.scambs.gov.uk)

Winter 2022

## Cost of living support

See page 8

## Our Christmas market

See page 19

## Fix or recycle your small electricals

See page 27



**WIN**  
A year-long family pass to Shepreth Wildlife Park, worth £300  
See page 46

The Warm Hub at Cottenham Village Hall.  
Find out more about free Warm Hubs on page 12.

News in brief | Cost of living support | Business support | Things to do in South Cambs | Planning | Recycling and waste  
Community | Housing | Your Council | Climate and environment | Transport | Competition



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# Hello. Welcome to the winter issue of South Cambs Magazine

We declared a 'cost of living emergency' back in September and so one of our primary goals for this edition is to highlight the support on offer to help you deal with these costs. Whether you are an individual, family, or small business, we hope that the material from page eight onwards helps you. As you'd expect, there is a focus on energy given the increased bills that we'll all be paying to keep warm during the colder months. Please do read through the different areas of advice and support that are available and take advantage of those you can.

Elsewhere in this edition, we're planning to support our local traders by running a Christmas market in December. It looks set to be a lovely occasion and opportunity to shop local and pick-up some festive gifts, while also benefiting the raft of wonderful small businesses we have in the district. Find out more on page 19.

If you have old or broken small electrical items, we want to help you get them fixed or disposed of responsibly. Turn to page 27 for details. First, we highlight the excellent Repair Cafés that take place regularly, for those items that need a bit of TLC to be brought back to life. For those electrical products that can't be fixed, we're making it easier

for you to dispose of them safely and responsibly. There are new collection banks installed in some of our villages, with more locations on the way. From there, they are collected by specialist re-processors who will salvage precious materials like gold, aluminium and steel which are needed for making new items. This is so much better than old electrical items going to landfill.

We continue to focus on bringing forward new homes that are genuinely affordable to live in, and on page 32 you can see our latest new-build Council homes that have been completed across the district. All are highly insulated, to help tenants keep their energy bills as low as possible.

Finally, I want to highlight the work that we have done in the year since COP26 through the themes of mitigation, adaption, finance, and collaboration. Turn to page 39 to see how we continue to put addressing the climate emergency on a local level at the very forefront of our thinking.

I hope you enjoy the magazine.

**Clr Bridget Smith**  
Leader  
South Cambridgeshire  
District Council



## Contents

News in brief	4
Cost of living support	8
Business support	13
Things to do in South Cambs	18
Planning	20
Recycling and waste	24
Community	30
Housing	32
Your Council	36
Climate and environment	38
Transport	43
Competition	46

The next issue will be delivered between Monday 13 March and Saturday 25 March 2023.

Contact Smart Distribution for delivery enquiries.

✉ [scdc@smartdistribution.co.uk](mailto:scdc@smartdistribution.co.uk)  
☎ 0800 6444 011

## Contact us

### It's easier to contact us online

You can do more online at a time to suit you. Did you know you can complete a short form to update your Council Tax bill if you've moved; report a change in your circumstances related to your Benefits; or report a missed bin collection?

🖱 [www.scams.gov.uk](http://www.scams.gov.uk)

You can also create a My South Cambs account, to see personalised information – such as your Council Tax payments or your Benefits account.

🖱 <https://mysouthcambs.scams.gov.uk>

Or you can email us, phone us, write to us, visit our offices, or get in touch using our social media channels.

✉ [scdc@scams.gov.uk](mailto:scdc@scams.gov.uk)

☎ 01954 713 000

📍 South Cambridgeshire District Council, South Cambs Hall, Cambourne Business Park, Cambourne, CB23 6EA

👤 Our office opening hours are 9am to 4pm, Monday to Friday. If you come to the office, we'll try our very best to resolve your query there and then. If we can't, our advisors will book you a follow-up appointment when you will be able to speak to someone from our relevant service. Alternatively, you can book your own appointment at [www.scams.gov.uk/book-an-appointment](http://www.scams.gov.uk/book-an-appointment)

📘 South Cambridgeshire

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## Putting residents first

### If you phone us we will:

- resolve your enquiry as quickly as possible
- provide voicemail if the person you need is unavailable
- answer your phone message within three working days.

### If you write to us we will:

- reply to your letter or email within 10 working days.

### If we write to you we will:

- write in plain language
- arrange for translation, large type, braille or audio tapes upon request.

### If we visit you we will:

- carry identification that you can check with a phone call to us
- arrive at the time we say we will, or give you as much notice as possible if we have to change the time.

### If we get it wrong we will:

- apologise if we have made a mistake or failed to meet our standards
- acknowledge your written complaint within three working days
- reply in full to your complaint within 10 working days.

### Assisted Digital Service Support

We have set up Assisted Digital Service Support to ensure that nobody is excluded from completing an online application or e-form due to difficulty with digital skills or access to a computer. Eligible customers are offered telephone support or face to face support by one of our contact centre advisors. Your local library or parish council hub can also help.

➔ [www.scambs.gov.uk/contact-us](http://www.scambs.gov.uk/contact-us)

## Tell us how we're doing

We have launched a short, five-minute survey to help us improve. We want to know what you think we are getting right and where we need to do better across our services. If you have a compliment, a general comment, or a complaint, we want to hear from you. We'd really appreciate your feedback.

➔ [www.scambs.gov.uk/feedback](http://www.scambs.gov.uk/feedback)

# News in brief



## Councillor contributions recognised

We are proud that two of our Councillors have been recognised for their contributions to communities and local business.

Cllr Sue Ellington, District Councillor for Swavesey, received the Etheldreda Medal Award in October. The Bishop of Ely awards the Medal to people whose service to the community is both 'generous' and 'outstanding'.

Cllr Peter McDonald, our Lead Cabinet Member for Economic Development, won an LGIU 2022 Cllr Award for Resilience and Recovery. The Cllr Awards are the only national awards to celebrate the vital contributions of local councillors across England and Wales.



## Recycle your Christmas tree

Arthur Rank Hospice Charity's team of volunteers will collect your Christmas tree in January, hassle-free. Trees are chipped and used for mulch or composted. Residents of postcode areas CB1, CB2, CB3, CB4, CB5, CB21, CB22, CB23, CB24 plus Waterbeach or Landbeach can register for a collection at [www.arhc.org.uk/tree-recycling](http://www.arhc.org.uk/tree-recycling)

Collections will be carried out between Friday 6 and Monday 9 January, and you can register up to 10am on Tuesday 3 January. Last year the Hospice's 170 volunteers collected 3,040 trees and raised over £58,000 for the charity!



## Community Chest swings into action in Lolworth

Since the beginning of the year, we have handed out 94 Community Chest grants, between them worth almost £100,000. This has provided much needed funding for equipment, materials, start-up costs, jubilee legacy items and repairs for local organisations, including not for-profit groups and small parish councils. For example, Lolworth Parish Meeting received £1,716 for a new swing with two seats and safety surface at the village green play area (pictured above). Around £100,000 is remaining in the fund this financial year, which includes £48,000 for Community-Led Plans, £20,000 for projects that provide a benefit to those affected by the cost of living crisis, and approximately £17,000 for biodiversity projects. For more details on how to apply and examples of projects we have funded, visit our website.

➔ [www.scambs.gov.uk/communitychest](http://www.scambs.gov.uk/communitychest)

## Adoption families needed

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Adoption Service is looking for adopters who can offer consistency, stability and reassurance for children and young people. Families are needed for sibling groups, older children, children with disabilities, and babies.

In many cases, children and young people need adoptive parents because they have experienced a difficult start in life and are unable to continue living safely with their birth families. What's important is they are offered a home and a family where they can thrive and develop. The experienced team offers ongoing support.

To find out more email [adoptionenquiries@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:adoptionenquiries@cambridgeshire.gov.uk), call 0300 123 1093 or visit: [www.cpadoption.co.uk](http://www.cpadoption.co.uk).

Facebook icon @candpadoptionservice



## Free Wi-Fi now easier to access across Cambridgeshire

If you're out shopping this festive season, make the most of the free Wi-Fi available at over 200 sites across Cambridgeshire. As well as libraries and park-and-rides, free CambWifi can be found in streets and open spaces in Cambridge, Ely, Huntingdon, Peterborough, St Ives and St Neots.

If you've not used CambWifi before, simply connect to 'CambWifi\_Public' in your device's Wi-Fi settings, accept the terms, click 'Log In' and start browsing! You'll then be connected automatically to the free Wi-Fi in all CambWifi locations across the county.

➔ [www.connectingcambridgeshire.co.uk/CambWifi](http://www.connectingcambridgeshire.co.uk/CambWifi)



## Active & Healthy 4 Life Exercise referral scheme

Our Active & Healthy 4 Life exercise referral scheme is designed to create a positive change through exercise for patients with specific medical health conditions. This scheme offers people aged over 18:

- Support from a qualified referral instructor
- Four months of gym membership
- A personal fitness programme
- Access to other class/sessions with guidance from your instructor

### Three steps to get started:

1. Ask your health professional to complete the Active & Healthy 4 Life referral form on our website.
2. Contact the centre local to you and arrange your initial assessment.
3. Attend the initial assessment with the referral qualified instructor.

The cost is £20 per month for four months (costs vary in Cambourne). Find a sports centre near you on our website.

➔ [www.scambs.gov.uk/active](http://www.scambs.gov.uk/active)



## Children's holiday sports camps: 2023 dates

During the school holidays, we run athletics and netball camps for children of all abilities in Year Three to Year Nine. Check out our dates for 2023:

### Easter

**Athletics:** Monday 3 and / or Tuesday 4 April

**Netball:** Wednesday 5 and / or Thursday 6 April

### May half term

**Athletics:** Tuesday 30 May

**Netball:** Wednesday 31 May

### Summer

**Athletics:** Monday 24 and / or Tuesday 25 July

**Netball:** Wednesday 26 and / or Thursday 27 July

### October half term

**Athletics:** Tuesday 24 October

**Netball:** Wednesday 25 October

➔ [www.scambs.gov.uk/sportscamps](http://www.scambs.gov.uk/sportscamps)

✉ To join our mailing list, email [holiday.camps@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:holiday.camps@scambs.gov.uk)

## Community forums

We run community forums for new neighbourhoods arising from growth in South Cambridgeshire. They are an opportunity for communities to engage with key stakeholders on major developments. For full 2023 prospective dates, as well as agendas, links to virtual meetings and to submit questions in advance, please visit our website. Always check the website closer to meetings as they could change, depending on local circumstances.

### Spring 2023 Forum dates:

- Northstowe: Wednesday 11 January
- Cambridge East: Wednesday 22 February
- North West and West Cambridge: Wednesday 1 March
- A428 Cluster – Bourn: Wednesday 8 March
- A428 Cluster – Cambourne: Wednesday 8 March
- Waterbeach: Wednesday 15 March
- North East Cambridge: Wednesday 22 March

➔ [www.scambs.gov.uk/communityforums](http://www.scambs.gov.uk/communityforums)

## South Cambs Magazine

Enquiries should be directed to:

**Editor:** Tom Horn

**Editorial:** Tom Horn, Kath Sansom, Lauryn Snow

South Cambridgeshire District Council, South Cambridgeshire Hall, Cambourne Business Park, Cambourne, CB23 6EA

✉ [communications@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:communications@scambs.gov.uk)

**Design:** Danielle Harrington

✉ [hello@dhdesignstudios.co.uk](mailto:hello@dhdesignstudios.co.uk)

**Advertising:** Charlotte Dyason at Media Shed Ltd

First Floor, West Wing, Beater House, Turkey Mill, Ashford Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 5PP

✉ [charlotted@media-shed.co.uk](mailto:charlotted@media-shed.co.uk)

☎ 0207 183 1815

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To find out more about The Cambridgeshire Care Home, contact Yvonne Quigley, Customer Relations Manager

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### Great stones! Great service!

Especially thankful to Santosh and his team for meeting very tight deadlines to ensure that we move in with our newborn asap despite some delays on our end. Also grateful to Santosh for listening to me and helping me pick the perfect stone for our kitchen - Sea Pearl Quartzite. I originally wanted totally different stone with different colors and shades, but Santosh convinced me that the Sea Pearl would work better and it did. Our kitchen looks stunning! Also would like to mention the prices which I thought were much more reasonable than I found elsewhere, also don't hesitate asking for a discount. Where possible Santosh makes sure his clients are happy with the price and service. Highly recommend this company!



# Cost of living support: Latest help available from us

The cost of living crisis is having a significant impact on residents and businesses in South Cambridgeshire and around the country.

Over the following pages, we're bringing together a range of articles that we hope will provide you with tangible support and advice. On this page, we start by looking at some of the latest support that we can offer.

## Discretionary Housing Payments

This is a fund that we have which supports residents on Universal Credit or Housing Benefit with housing costs. We can award this to residents whose housing costs are not fully met by benefits, or where household costs are high, and they are in exceptional hardship. We are planning to add an extra £100,000 to this fund to use it to support more people.

You can read the full eligibility criteria and find out how to apply at [www.scambs.gov.uk/dhp](http://www.scambs.gov.uk/dhp) or you can email [benefits@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:benefits@scambs.gov.uk) or call 01954 713 000 if you have questions.

## Discretionary Council Tax Discounts

This is a fund that we operate to support people who are not eligible for our Local Council Tax Support scheme but are in extreme hardship. If you qualify, we may be able to offer you a discount to help make your Council Tax instalments more affordable. Currently, the main qualifying criteria are that residents are in financial hardship; they have tried to improve the



situation before applying and have no assets or savings.

You can read the full eligibility criteria and find out how to apply at [www.scambs.gov.uk/reductions-discounts](http://www.scambs.gov.uk/reductions-discounts), or email [revenues@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:revenues@scambs.gov.uk) or call 01954 713 000 if you have a question.

## Charitable giving

We are establishing a grant fund which will be used to provide lower cost options for cooking and staying warm, such as slow cookers and electric blankets to those in need. Residents and businesses who are financially able will be welcome to contribute towards this charitable fund if they choose. We will allocate £15,000 to the fund to get it up and running. Criteria will be created to ensure the most vulnerable families and those just about managing can access support. Visit [www.gofundme.com/SCDCcostofliving](http://www.gofundme.com/SCDCcostofliving) to find out more and donate, if you are able.

## Community Chest

Our popular Community Chest fund provides grants to voluntary and community sector groups, charities and public sector bodies wishing to further improve quality of life locally. In November, the criteria were amended to allow bids that include contributions for any project that has a positive impact for communities related to the cost of living crisis. Parish and town councils can also now bid for Community Chest grants linked to this cause.

Visit [www.scambs.gov.uk/communitychest](http://www.scambs.gov.uk/communitychest) for more details, or email [Community.Chest@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:Community.Chest@scambs.gov.uk)

➔ [www.scambs.gov.uk/cost-of-living-support](http://www.scambs.gov.uk/cost-of-living-support)



# Feeding residents in need through the cost of living crisis

As we face increasing hardships in the coming months and beyond, local food banks will continue to be important.

**Food banks provide safe, nutritious food to those facing hunger. Likewise, clothes banks will be used more to further help those struggling on low incomes.**

We've all heard the terms food banks, food hubs and community fridges, but do you know the difference?

## Food banks

Typically, those accessing a food bank undergo a screening or referral process through care professionals such as health visitors, staff at schools and social workers. Although the services provided by food banks may vary from area to area, they all react to the needs of local people in crisis. One of the leading organisations in this field is the Trussell Trust where non-perishable, in-date food is donated by the public at a range of places, such as schools, churches, and businesses, as well as supermarket collection points. It is then sorted into emergency food parcels to be given to people in crisis who have been issued a food bank voucher.



A map with addresses of food banks and food hubs in South Cambridgeshire, along with further information about each one and eligibility, can be found at [www.scambs.gov.uk/food-hubs](http://www.scambs.gov.uk/food-hubs)



We have also produced a guide to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis. This is available at [www.scambs.gov.uk/cost-of-living-support](http://www.scambs.gov.uk/cost-of-living-support)

## Food hubs and community fridges

These are set up to be a longer-term feature of a community. They are not means-tested and are open to all. They bring people together to ensure good food is shared instead of going to waste. As well as food sharing, they give people opportunities to contribute through volunteering, learning new skills, or sharing their existing skills. It's hoped they pave the way to a more sustainable approach to food consumption, as well as being a gateway to other community services and activities.

## Cambourne Community Food Project

A relatively new initiative, the Cambourne Community Food Project is run by Hope CIC in partnership between Cambourne Town Council, us and Cambourne

Morrisons. Located at The Hub in Cambourne on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday, it's open to anyone facing hardship across the district including those who don't have access to benefits. Currently, 60 to 80 families a week are supported with free food and other essentials at an affordable price. The Food project has received £2,000 from our Community Chest grant scheme to provide hampers this Christmas.

Hope Against Poverty Food project: Mahesh Hettiarachchi is Director of Hope CIC which runs the Cambourne Community Food Project.



## Would you like to start a food hub?

If you are interested in setting up a food hub in your community, email [info@cambridgesustainablefood.org](mailto:info@cambridgesustainablefood.org) or visit <https://cambridgesustainablefood.org/about>

# How to make your home more energy efficient

Having a good idea about what type of house you have is the first step in being able to think about making it more energy efficient, especially during colder weather.

**There are differences in the movement of moisture and air in modern and traditional construction. With energy costing significantly more than it did a year ago, now is the time to ensure your home is as efficient as possible.**

Modern buildings are designed to keep water out whereas traditional buildings, either solid walls or timber framed, accept and release moisture through their walls. In good condition and with regular maintenance, traditional buildings stay in balance and function properly.

On this page, there are tips aimed at all those South Cambridgeshire residents living in traditional buildings.

- Damp walls are the enemy and maintaining a 'good hat and boots' is very important; look after your roof, keep your gutters and drainpipes clear and make sure that water is not collecting in the ground around your house.
- Check loft insulation. Do you have enough?
- Draughtproofing can have a huge impact on the feeling of comfort within the building; have a look at your windows and doors, gaps between floorboards or skirting boards, or even the space under kitchen cabinets. Why not borrow a thermal imaging camera to see where your home is leaking heat? Email [thermal.imagery@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:thermal.imagery@scambs.gov.uk) if you'd like to borrow one.

- Thermal curtains and blinds have a dramatic effect on heat retention, particularly as most heat loss occurs at night.
- Install a chimney balloon if a fireplace is not used.

We offer bookable free 'surgery' appointments with a Conservation Officer for residents of listed buildings and conservation areas to discuss proposals to improve energy efficiency. If you are interested in this service, email [historicensevironment@greatercambridgeplanning.org](mailto:historicensevironment@greatercambridgeplanning.org) with the subject of your email 'Surgery' or visit [www.greatercambridgeplanning.org](http://www.greatercambridgeplanning.org) and search for making homes more energy efficient.



Building Regulations may be required for carrying out works to make your home more energy efficient. This includes works to thermal elements, for example, re-plastering and replacement roofs, even if this is only new or replacement "felt". Also, external rendering or cladding and installing or upgrading insulation to your home including floors.

Special consideration is required for buildings of traditional construction, as well as listed buildings and buildings in conservation areas. This is recognised by Building Regulations where the aim is to improve energy efficiency as far as is reasonably practicable.

Grants are available from our partners at Cambs HIA to help those on certain benefits or low incomes to improve the efficiency of their homes. Find out more at [www.cambshia.org](http://www.cambshia.org) or by emailing [hia@cambshia.org](mailto:hia@cambshia.org) or calling 01954 713 330.

If you're making improvements to your home or planning building work, you can contact our shared Building Control team for help and guidance. 3C Building Control is an award-winning partnership covering South Cambridgeshire, the city of Cambridge and Huntingdonshire. You can contact them today on:

[www.3csharedservices.org](http://www.3csharedservices.org)

✉ [buildingcontrol@3csharedservices.org](mailto:buildingcontrol@3csharedservices.org)

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# Free Warm Hubs open

A network of Warm Hubs has opened across South Cambridgeshire for the winter. These hubs are community spaces where residents can enjoy a safe, warm and friendly environment - all for free.

The Hubs are for everyone of any age who lives in the district. They are cosy places to go in the colder weather as the cost of living crisis becomes challenging for many people.

The hubs are being funded by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Integrated Care System, and delivered by the charity Cambridgeshire ACRE, working in partnership with us.

Run within existing community spaces, the idea behind the hubs is for residents to visit a warm venue and enjoy refreshments and social activity, obtain information and advice relating to energy bills and finances, and share the company of others. The network of Warm Hubs is coordinated by Cambridgeshire ACRE and hosted by trained volunteers within the heart of local communities. There is no need to book and residents can simply walk in for free.



## Warm Hubs



When we went to print in November, the following hubs were operational, with more locations to follow through the winter months:

- **Caldecote Pavilion, Furlong Way, Highfields, Caldecote, CB23 7ZH**  
Tuesday, 9:30am to 12:30pm, Thursday, 12pm to 3pm
- **Cambourne Church, Jeavons Lane, Great Cambourne, CB23 6AF**  
Monday to Friday, 9:30am to 1pm
- **Comberton Baptist Church, Green End, Comberton, CB23 7DY**  
Monday, 3:30pm to 6:30pm, Thursday, 10:30am to 1:30pm
- **Cottenham Community Centre, 250a High Street, Cottenham, CB24 8RZ**  
Friday, 3pm to 6pm
- **Cottenham Village Hall, Lambs Lane, Cottenham, CB24 8TA**  
Monday, 10am to 1pm
- **Gamlingay Eco Hub Community Centre, Stocks Lane, Gamlingay, SG19 3JR**  
Monday and Wednesday, 2pm to 4pm; Thursday 10am to 12pm;  
Friday 10:30am to 12:30pm; and Saturday, 10am to 12pm
- **Great Shelford Free Church, Ashen Green, Great Shelford, CB22 5EY**  
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10am to 4pm
- **Great Shelford Memorial Hall, Woollards Lane, Great Shelford, CB22 5LZ**  
Wednesday, 9am to 3pm
- **Hardwick Evangelical Church, Broadway House, 149 - 151 St Neots Road, Hardwick, CB23 7QJ**  
Tuesday, 11am to 2pm
- **Linton St Mary's Church, Church Lane, Linton, CB21 4JX**  
Thursday, 11am to 2pm
- **Meldreth Sheltered Housing Building, Elin Way, Meldreth, SG8 6LX**  
Tuesday and Thursday, 12pm to 3pm
- **Milton All Saints Church Hall, Church Lane, Milton, CB24 6AB**  
Tuesday, 10am to 4pm
- **Rampton Village Hall, 4 Church End, Rampton, CB24 8QA**  
Wednesday, 1pm to 3:30pm or Thursday, 10am to 12:30pm (alternate weeks)
- **Sawston Our Lady of Lourdes RC Church Hall, 135 High Street, Sawston, CB22 3HJ**  
Monday and Friday, 12:30pm to 4:30pm
- **Weston Colville Reading Room, Chapel Road, Weston Colville, CB21 5NX**  
Monday to Friday, 11am to 5pm

Additional Warm Hubs will be listed at [www.scambs.gov.uk/warm-hubs](http://www.scambs.gov.uk/warm-hubs) as they are confirmed.

# How can a business manage its energy use?

With the increased cost of energy, the cost of doing business over the colder months is causing concern for many companies.

This is not helped by inflation with many small businesses also feeling the bite of rises in the price of goods, such as ingredients and raw materials.

Many companies are still recovering from the impact of the pandemic and will not have the cash reserves needed to help reduce their carbon emissions as winter approaches.

This includes not having spare funds to install alternative sources of renewable energy such as solar panels. There may not be funds available to change how they heat their business, such as installing ground or air source heat pumps, or to encourage others to reduce their emissions by installing electric vehicle charging points.

Whilst the government has recently announced an energy support package for businesses that may help with confidence in meeting expenditure, there are some simple steps businesses can take now to ensure they are managing their energy consumption.

Our Business Support and Development team have produced a guide to help businesses take small steps to reduce their energy costs over winter.

The guide can be found at [www.scambsgov.uk/business/cost-of-doing-business-support](http://www.scambsgov.uk/business/cost-of-doing-business-support)



## Thermal imaging cameras

To help understand where heat loss occurs, we have a thermal imaging camera that is free to borrow - but what is it and how does it benefit businesses?

A thermal imaging camera is a visual tool to understand where heat is being lost from buildings. Warmth typically leaks through floors, walls, beneath doorways and between windows. Cameras highlight 'hot spots' where heat escapes. Readings are best taken on dry, cold days with a greater indoor and outdoor temperature gap.

There are lots of useful resources available to businesses that can also provide tips and advice on conserving energy. For more information on this and for details on how to borrow a Thermal Imaging Camera for free, visit [www.scambsgov.uk/climate-emergency-and-nature](http://www.scambsgov.uk/climate-emergency-and-nature) or email [Openforbusiness@scambsgov.uk](mailto:Openforbusiness@scambsgov.uk)

Our Lead Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Cllr Peter McDonald, said:



**“Our Business Support and Development team are here to support local businesses in all aspects of ‘doing business’. If you need guidance on reducing your carbon emissions, or any other business advice and support, contact them by email at [openforbusiness@scambsgov.uk](mailto:openforbusiness@scambsgov.uk) as soon as possible.”**

imagine  
if



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- // A Sustainable Travel Zone
- // A £5 daily road user charge to drive in the zone between 7am-7pm from 2027
- // All money raised from the charge invested back into transport

### HAVE YOUR SAY ON MAKING CONNECTIONS

We want your feedback on improvements to bus services, cycling and walking, and introducing a Sustainable Travel Zone in Cambridge. Vehicles would pay to drive in the Zone at certain times.

Find out more at [www.greatercambridge.org.uk/mc-2022](http://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/mc-2022)  
Consultation opens on 17 October and closes midday on 23 December



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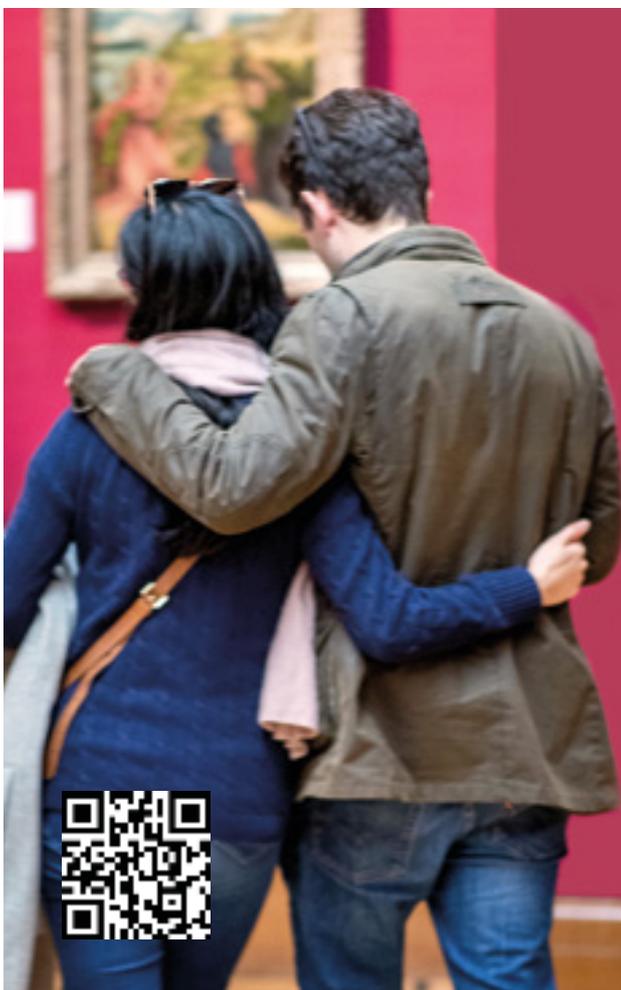


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# Business boosted by Council support

We're pleased to have been able to support and advise local organic wedding and events catering business, The TeaPod.

**Our Business Support and Development team is on hand to help companies in South Cambridgeshire find the resources they need to launch, sustain, or grow. They also provide advice to businesses who need to diversify to recover from the effects of the pandemic.**

One such business was an independent Balsham-based catering company, launched a few weeks before the country went into lockdown. Thérèse Coyne created a bespoke trailer for her wedding and corporate event catering business in February 2020 with a view to launching a couple of months later.

The TeaPod specialises in organic, freshly-made treats like sweet and savoury waffles and crêpes from locally sourced ingredients, alongside a range of healthy drinks including fresh pressed fruit juices, speciality teas, milkshakes, smoothies and bubble teas - and coffee is coming soon!

TeaPod owner Thérèse Coyne.



Pandemic restrictions disrupted the entire wedding industry, which meant Thérèse's first 15 bookings could not go ahead. This was a devastating blow for such a young business that was not eligible for government support. Luckily, she was directed to our Business Support and Development team who helped her access a Growth Fund grant, using money from the government's Additional Restrictions Grant.

Thérèse said:

**“Without the Business Support and Development team, my little business would not have survived. The team gave me sound advice around diversification and kept me focused on opportunities in the wedding and corporate events space along with the means to invest in marketing and staff training.**

“With an unusable trailer sitting on the driveway, I had to think outside the box but stay ‘laser focused’ on the industry I was so invested in. I had worked hard to establish contacts at local wedding venues so, whilst we were all ‘locked in’, I used my grant from the Growth Fund to train as a wedding celebrant. I did enough marketing to make sure potential clients were aware that The TeaPod was still trading and was ‘business-ready’ for when we able to reopen.

“We had a steady stream of bookings for 2022 and lots of testimonials from happy clients. I am chuffed!”

Thérèse is now a fully certified independent celebrant and trades as Butterfly Heart Celebrations. Meanwhile, The TeaPod has grown to employ a team of adults and young people, including one young person who has suffered a brain injury. Thérèse's background in Learning and Development means she can encourage and assist young people in valuable life skills through working in public facing roles.

The TeaPod also has a ‘pop-up’ gazebo to complement the trailer, to provide catering at events of all sizes, from weddings to corporate events.

For more information, visit [www.theteapod.co.uk](http://www.theteapod.co.uk), call 07495 099040 or email [info@theteapod.co.uk](mailto:info@theteapod.co.uk)

## Support for your business

If you want to start a business, need help diversifying, or any other support contact our team.

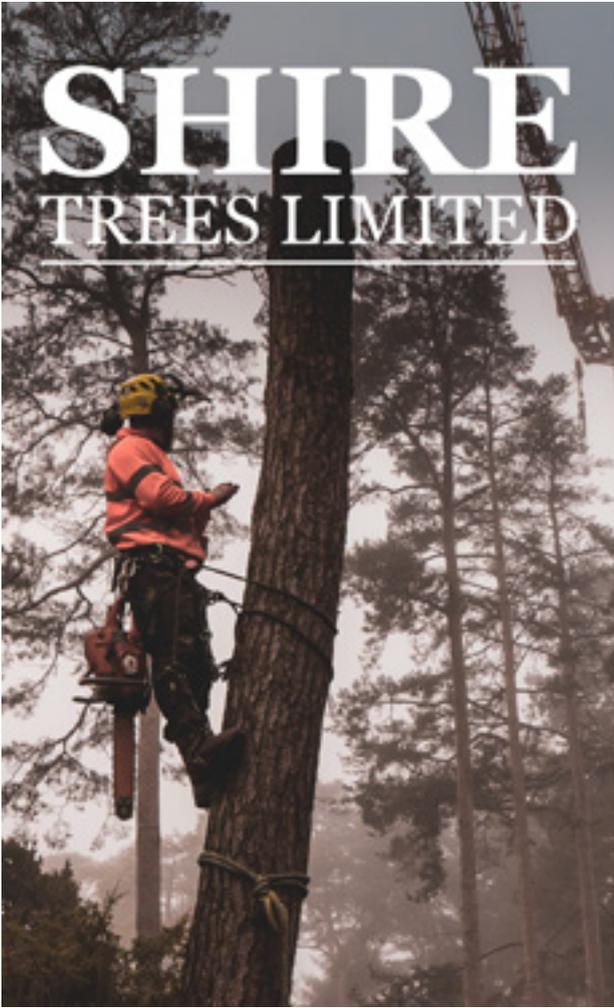
✉ [openforbusiness@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:openforbusiness@scambs.gov.uk)

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# Visitors, venues, and events flock to Visit South Cambs in first year



Visit South Cambs, our tourism website for South Cambridgeshire, has welcomed thousands of visitors and highlighted hundreds of venues and events since it launched in September 2021.

The website is the first dedicated to promoting the district's tourism, hospitality and leisure businesses, making it easier for people to explore, discover and enjoy the hidden gems across the region and, by doing so, support local jobs and the economy.

During the past 12 months, more than 220 local venues have enjoyed free listings and over 270 local events have been promoted, from village fetes to art exhibitions.

The site has had more than 10,000 unique visitors from around the world, reaching countries including America, Australia, and Japan.

Cambridge Past, Present and Future is a local independent charity that cares for heritage and green spaces. A spokesperson for them said:

**“As a charity, we run fundraising events that aim to help us support our projects and achieve our goals. We always look for ways to advertise our events to the public and Visit South Cambs is a great source for this - and it is absolutely free!**

**Thanks to Visit South Cambs, we have had more people join our walks, more children attend our events and activities, and our volunteer work parties have been a huge success!”**

For the year ahead, we are developing further new content including detailed walks, themed itineraries, premium listings as well as launching a new quarterly newsletter.

Follow us on social media for regular fun updates on national and local campaigns such as

heritage open days, promoting local markets or events happening at the weekend.

We would also love residents and visitors to share their favourite places to go and things to do in South Cambs by using #WeLoveSouthCambs on social media.

Visit South Cambs

VisitSouthCambs

To discover what's on and find places to visit this winter, visit our website.

➔ [www.visitsouthcambs.co.uk](http://www.visitsouthcambs.co.uk)

25 November to 1 January



Photo by Paul Tibbs

## Sensational Christmas at Wimpole Estate

Head into the Mansion House at the Wimpole Estate to enjoy the sights, sounds and smells of the festive season.

6 December & 11 January



## Winter tree walk at Wandlebury

Learn how to identify native trees using bark, buds, shape and form on this guided walk around Wandlebury Country Park.

## Free listing for local businesses

Local businesses operating within the tourism, hospitality and leisure sector, or event organisers, can sign up for a **free listing!**

Scan the QR code or visit <https://bit.ly/3WAcZd9>





South Cambridgeshire

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For more information, please visit [www.scambs.gov.uk/christmas-market](http://www.scambs.gov.uk/christmas-market)

# Communities shape Neighbourhood Plans

Neighbourhood planning is a way for communities to have a say in the future of the places where they live and work.

**More than 2,400 communities across the country have already started neighbourhood planning.**

As part of these efforts, our Greater Cambridge Shared Planning team has specialist planning officers supporting the preparation of Neighbourhood Plans. We also have guidance material online for those thinking about preparing a plan for their community. Once adopted, these plans become an important consideration in determining planning applications in the neighbourhood area.

There are now six Neighbourhood Plans that have been formally adopted in South Cambridgeshire, covering Waterbeach, Foxton, Cottenham, Histon and Impington, the Former Land Settlement Association Estate at Great Abington and West Wickham, which is the latest. Greater Cambridge Shared Planning continues to support work to prepare 16 Neighbourhood Plans for other areas. When a community creates a Neighbourhood Plan, it is put to a referendum so people living in the area can decide whether it should be considered when local planning applications are determined.

Policies within Neighbourhood Plans can be used to protect green spaces, influence the tenures of new homes provided, identify sites for development, and guide the design of new buildings.

Within South Cambridgeshire, Neighbourhood Plans are produced by parish councils,

often with support from other local volunteers. Their content is shaped by working with their communities to understand their needs and priorities. Neighbourhood Plans represent an excellent opportunity for residents to influence planning decisions made in their area.

Vice Chairman of West Wickham Parish Council, Cllr Dave Sargeant, said:

**“West Wickham Parish Council is very pleased that our Neighbourhood Plan has been adopted by South Cambridgeshire District Council. We think that the policies will help ensure that future development in West Wickham meets the needs of the community, is environmentally sustainable and protects the character of the Parish.”**

The West Wickham Neighbourhood Plan aims to help secure new smaller



The Neighbourhood Plan for West Wickham aims to help protect nocturnal wildlife from light pollution.

and affordable homes and supports bringing forward new community facilities. It also includes a unique policy that protects nocturnal wildlife and the night sky from light pollution by restricting external lighting in new developments. All our adopted Neighbourhood Plans include guidance on the design of future developments.

➤ [www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/emerging-plans-and-guidance/neighbourhood-planning](http://www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/emerging-plans-and-guidance/neighbourhood-planning)

✉ [neighbourhood.planning@greatercambridgeplanning.org](mailto:neighbourhood.planning@greatercambridgeplanning.org)



An aerial view of West Wickham. With thanks to West Wickham Parish Council and Skylar Media Ltd.

# Schoolchildren help plan R&D space



Pupils at Icknield Primary School in Sawston were awarded prizes for the most creative designs, after participating in a series of recent planning workshops.

The sessions in September were run by our Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service, which we share with Cambridge City Council.

The workshops examined proposals by the development company Abstract, to build research and development facilities for office and laboratory space at Dales Manor Business Park in Sawston.

The 10- and 11-year-old pupils in Year Six had a say in the planning and decision-making process, as well as developing skills in placemaking and planning, all while learning about the importance of protecting and enhancing the natural environment. This work is based on our well-established Youth Engagement Framework that aims to get young people more involved in the planning system. The pupils also received career advice on becoming urban designers, landscape architects, town planners and local councillors.

The children were asked to design bespoke outdoor furniture, such as benches, for the new development, based on their local knowledge and feelings about the place. Subject to planning approval, their ideas will be incorporated into the landscape layout of the proposed scheme; several benches designed by the students will also be placed in the school playground. Prizes were awarded to those who produced the most creative designs.

Schoolchildren with their prizes, along with Cllr Dr Tumi Hawkins and members of our Greater Cambridge Shared Planning team.



Our Lead Cabinet Member for Planning, Cllr Dr Tumi Hawkins, who presented the awards along with the site developers and architects, said:

**“It was wonderful to spend time in the classroom and watching young people get excited about influencing the planning process. It is hugely important that our next generation is involved in the planning system that will impact their lives both now and in the future. Our Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service has created another exemplar of genuine youth engagement, which aligns with the Council’s commitments to community engagement, social value, and responsibility.”**

👉 [www.greatercambridgeplanning.org](http://www.greatercambridgeplanning.org)



◆ HOW WILL YOUR FENCE LOOK AFTER ANOTHER UK WINTER? ◆

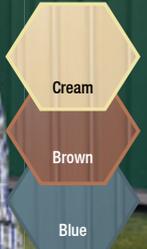
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Mr & Mrs P. Glamorgan

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# Bin collection calendar

Bins must be put out by 6am on your collection day. Close lids fully. Please report missed collections between 3:30pm on collection day and 3:30pm the next working day. For advice on how to leave out extra recycling for collection and other policies, see [www.scams.gov.uk/bins](http://www.scams.gov.uk/bins)

Green bin  
 Blue bin  
 Black bin  
 Change of date

## MONDAY A

Balsham, Carlton, Cherry Hinton, Fulbourn, Great Wilbraham, Horseheath, Little Wilbraham, Six Mile Bottom, Stow-cum-Quy, Teversham, West Wickham, West Wrating, Weston Colville

DECEMBER				JANUARY				FEBRUARY				MARCH				
05	12	19	28	04	10	16	23	30	06	13	20	27	06	13	20	27
Mon	Mon	Mon	Wed	Wed	Tue	Mon	Mon	Mon	Mon	Mon	Mon	Mon	Mon	Mon	Mon	Mon

## MONDAY B

Babraham, Bartlow, Castle Camps, Great Abington, Hildersham, Linton, Little Abington, Pampisford, Sawston, Shudy Camps, Whittlesford

DECEMBER				JANUARY				FEBRUARY				MARCH				
05	12	19	28	04	10	16	23	30	06	13	20	27	06	13	20	27
Mon	Mon	Mon	Wed	Wed	Tue	Mon	Mon	Mon	Mon	Mon	Mon	Mon	Mon	Mon	Mon	Mon

## TUESDAY A

Duxford, Fowlmere, Great Chishill, Great Shelford, Harston, Hauxton, Heydon, Hinxton, Ickleton, Little Chishill, Little Shelford, Newton, Stapleford, Thriplow & Heathfield

DECEMBER				JANUARY				FEBRUARY				MARCH				
06	13	20	29	05	11	17	24	31	07	14	21	28	07	14	21	28
Tue	Tue	Tue	Thu	Thu	Wed	Tue	Tue	Tue	Tue	Tue	Tue	Tue	Tue	Tue	Tue	Tue

## TUESDAY B

Barrington, Foxton, Melbourn, Meldreth, Shepreth

DECEMBER				JANUARY				FEBRUARY				MARCH				
06	13	20	29	05	11	17	24	31	07	14	21	28	07	14	21	28
Tue	Tue	Tue	Thu	Thu	Wed	Tue	Tue	Tue	Tue	Tue	Tue	Tue	Tue	Tue	Tue	Tue

## WEDNESDAY A

Abington Pigotts, Barton, Bassingbourn, Grantchester, Guilden Morden, Harlton, Haslingfield, Litlington, Orwell, Shingay-Cum-Wendy, South Trumpington, Steeple Morden, Whaddon, Wimpole

DECEMBER				JANUARY				FEBRUARY				MARCH				
07	14	21	30	06	12	18	25	01	08	15	22	01	08	15	22	29
Wed	Wed	Wed	Fri	Fri	Thu	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed

## WEDNESDAY B

Arrington, Caldecote, Cambourne (West), Comberton, Coton, Croydon, Gamlingay, Great Eversden, Hardwick, Hatley, Kingston, Little Eversden, Little Gransden, Longstowe, Madingley, Tadlow, Toft

DECEMBER				JANUARY				FEBRUARY				MARCH				
07	14	21	30	06	12	18	25	01	08	15	22	01	08	15	22	29
Wed	Wed	Wed	Fri	Fri	Thu	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed

## THURSDAY A

Bourn, Boxworth, Cambourne (Great, Lower and Upper), Caxton, Childerley, Conington, Croxton, Elsworth, Eltisley, Graveley, Knapwell, Papworth Everard, Papworth St Agnes

DECEMBER				JANUARY				FEBRUARY				MARCH					
01	08	15	22	31	07	13	19	26	02	09	16	23	02	09	16	23	30
Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu	Sat	Sat	Fri	Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu

## THURSDAY B

Bar Hill, Dry Drayton, Fen Drayton, Girton, Lolworth, Longstanton, Northstowe, Oakington, Over, Swavesey, Westwick

DECEMBER				JANUARY				FEBRUARY				MARCH					
01	08	15	22	31	07	13	19	26	02	09	16	23	02	09	16	23	30
Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu	Sat	Sat	Fri	Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu

## FRIDAY A

Cottenham, Histon, Impington, Landbeach, Orchard Park, Rampton, Willingham

DECEMBER				JANUARY				FEBRUARY				MARCH					
02	09	16	23	03	09	14	20	27	03	10	17	24	03	10	17	24	31
Fri	Fri	Fri	Fri	Tue	Mon	Sat	Fri	Fri	Fri	Fri	Fri	Fri	Fri	Fri	Fri	Fri	Fri

## FRIDAY B

Chesterton Fen, Chittering, Fen Ditton, Horningsea, Milton, Waterbeach

DECEMBER				JANUARY				FEBRUARY				MARCH					
02	09	16	23	03	09	14	20	27	03	10	17	24	03	10	17	24	31
Fri	Fri	Fri	Fri	Tue	Mon	Sat	Fri	Fri	Fri	Fri	Fri	Fri	Fri	Fri	Fri	Fri	Fri

## What goes in your blue bin?

Yes

No

### Recycle

✓ Clean ✓ Empty ✓ Don't bag it



Cardboard



Paper & magazines



Tins, cans & foil



Aerosol cans



Wrapping paper  
(except foil/plastic)



Glass bottles & jars



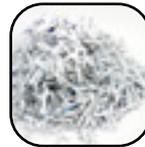
Cartons



Plastic pots, tubs, trays & bags



Plastic bottles



Shredded paper  
(in envelope or clear sack)

- ✗ Black bin bags or rubbish
- ✗ Nappies, tissues, kitchen paper, wipes & sanitary waste
- ✗ Polystyrene
- ✗ Glasses, flat glass or glass dishes
- ✗ Mirrors, Pyrex, plates/crockery

The following can be recycled elsewhere – check our website.

- ✗ Clothing and textiles
- ✗ Food, liquid or garden waste
- ✗ Wood, plasterboard & DIY waste
- ✗ Furniture or electricals
- ✗ Scrap metal e.g. pans
- ✗ Hard plastics e.g. bucket
- ✗ Crisp packets

Please put used batteries in a clear plastic bag and NOT in your bin.

Place the bag on top of your blue bin. Batteries must not be put inside the bin. Small portable household batteries can be put in the clear bag - e.g. AA, AAA, 6v, 9v, D, C, button. Do not include mobile phone or laptop batteries. Search online for 'recycle small electrical items' instead.



## What goes in your green bin?

Yes

No

### Compost



Untreated wood and sawdust



Garden waste



Cooked/uncooked food waste  
(including meat, fish and dairy)



Used paper tissues and kitchen paper



Real Christmas trees (cut up, with lid closed)

- ✗ Plastic & plastic bags
- ✗ Compostable bags e.g. Biobags
- ✗ Nappies, wipes and sanitary waste
- ✗ Soil or stones
- ✗ Painted or treated wood
- ✗ Cat or dog waste
- ✗ Plant pots and seedling trays
- ✗ Loose ash (wood ash CAN go in the green bin, but only if enclosed in paper bags)

## What goes in your black bin?

Yes

No

### Reduce

Please try to reduce other rubbish that cannot be recycled or composted



General rubbish including nappies, wipes, sanitary waste, polystyrene, broken crockery or glassware (wrapped).

- ✗ Rubble/bricks
- ✗ Soil
- ✗ Very heavy items
- ✗ Electrical items
- ✗ Batteries
- ✗ Loose ash (any ash can go in the black bin, but must be bagged, not loose)

# Remember the three Rs this Christmas!

The festive season can be a time when we buy more, indulge more, and as a result, unfortunately waste more.

Here's how to reduce, re-use and recycle your way to a greener Christmas, item by item.



## Crackers

**Reduce:** Lose the crackers and play charades or devise a challenge instead!

**Re-use:** Buy or make reusable crackers that can be re-filled each year. You can buy snaps online.

**Recycle:** Choose crackers without glitter, metallic card, fabric, or plastic parts. Card can be recycled in your blue bin. Paper hats and plastic or metal toys can't.



## Christmas jumper

**Reduce:** Choose one with motifs you can wear for longer – like snowflakes or stars.

**Re-use:** Buy second-hand or convert an ordinary jumper by attaching tinsel, baubles, or festive fabric shapes.

**Recycle:** Swap or pass on to friends, at 'swish' events, using apps like Olio or charity shops.



## Wrapping

**Reduce:** Use fabric for gifts given within your household that you can keep and use again every year.

**Re-use:** Save and re-use wrapping paper and gift bags that you receive. Remove tape and pack away with your decorations each year.

**Recycle:** Choose paper without metallic or glittery elements as this can be recycled in your blue bin. Avoid plastic gift-wrap.



## Turkey and other food

**Reduce:** Make space in your freezer before Christmas. Plan portions and buy what you will eat.

**Re-use:** Freeze anything you can't use up straight away. You'll save money and have easy meals later. Get storage tips at

[www.lovefoodhatewaste.com](http://www.lovefoodhatewaste.com)

**Recycle:** All food waste including bones and plate-scrappings can be added to your green bin to be composted.



## Christmas trees

**Reduce:** Hire a tree or create something different. There are lots of ideas online from stacks of books to egg boxes!

**Re-use:** If you have a fake tree, keep using it! You can often buy trees second-hand in charity shops or on Gumtree. Pot-grown trees can be planted in the garden to re-use.

**Recycle:** Real trees can be recycled at Household Recycling Centres (like those at Milton and Thriplow) or collected by the Arthur Rank Hospice Charity scheme (see page 4).



## Decorations

**Reduce:** Choose quality decorations that you love and will last instead of buying into the latest trends.

**Re-use:** Look after decorations by packing them away carefully so you can keep using them year after year.

**Recycle:** Choose paper decorations like paper chains that can be recycled or composted. Natural items like holly wreaths can be put in your green bin if they don't contain wire or plastic. Baubles, tinsel, and other plastic decorations can't be recycled.

You can find options for reducing, re-using and recycling hundreds of items in our Recycling Directory at [www.scams.gov.uk/bins](http://www.scams.gov.uk/bins)

# Taking care of your small electricals

South Cambridgeshire households throw away 280 tonnes of small electrical appliances, like toasters and mobile phones, in their black bins every year.

This is a waste of the precious materials these items contain, many of which are in short supply and needed to make new items like batteries. It is also a waste of the energy used to make them, which contributes to greenhouse gas emissions. We're all keen to stop electrical items ending up in landfill, so what can you do?

## Reduce, re-use and repair

Before you buy new electrical items, consider whether you really need them. Unwanted but working items can be sold or donated. Check if your local charity shop accepts them.

If something's broken, maybe it can be repaired. There are local repair services for larger items like vacuum cleaners, and small items can be taken to volunteer-run pop-up Repair Cafés. You can find these listed at

[www.cambridgecarbonfootprint.org](http://www.cambridgecarbonfootprint.org)

Repairers at Repair Cafés will see a huge range of items from broken hairdryers and straighteners to DAB radios, printers, clocks, and tools. They are run in many villages including Bassingbourn, Sawston, Fulbourn, Swavesey and Willingham as well as in central Cambridge.



Repair Cafés run in several South Cambridgeshire villages.

## Recycle

Anything with a plug, cable or battery can be recycled, but not in your wheelie bins. Our Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service with Cambridge City Council has installed special new pink collection banks for small electrical items at the Morrisons car park in Cambourne, the Tesco car park in Bar Hill, the village car park on the High Street in Melbourn and at the Tesco car park in Fulbourn, as well as at sites in Cambridge. You can also recycle small and large electrical items at Household Recycling Centres at Milton and Thriplow.

In our new pink collection banks, you can recycle anything with a plug, battery or cable which will easily fit through a slot about the size of an A4 piece of paper. If batteries are removeable, take these out and recycle them separately by leaving them in a small bag on top of your blue bin. Examples of suitable items to deposit into our pink collection banks include kettles, toasters, games consoles, electric toothbrushes, mobile phones, tablets, cables, headphones, laptops and IT accessories.

Smoke detectors, light bulbs, e-cigarettes, batteries, paints, chemicals, or aerosols are not accepted in these banks.



Our Lead Cabinet Member for Environment, Cllr Brian Milnes (pictured), said:

**“We need to do all that we can to prevent electrical items from going into landfill, where they are harmful to the environment. Getting them repaired, such as at a Repair Café, is of course the ideal solution. However, if they can't be fixed, drop them off at one of our pink banks where you can be sure they will be recycled.”**

➔ [www.recycleyourelectricals.org.uk](http://www.recycleyourelectricals.org.uk)



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# Campaign encourages local businesses to become breastfeeding and pump-friendly

We've launched an exciting campaign called #FreeToFeedCP to encourage local hospitality businesses to make families with young infants feel welcome if they need to breastfeed or pump in public.

Breastfeeding and pumping away from home can be daunting so our aim is to help make parents feel as welcome and comfortable as possible.

The campaign has been launched by us in partnership with Cambridgeshire Community Services Infant Feeding Team in a drive to create confidence around breastfeeding, and also raise awareness that breast feeding is beneficial to the health of both parent and baby.

Our aim is to normalise breastfeeding, build confidence and remove any feelings of embarrassment. While it should be a positive experience, for some it can be the barrier for a parent to continue breastfeeding longer term or inhibit their choices to leave home.

Since the start of the campaign, around 30 businesses across South Cambridgeshire have signed the #FreeToFeedCP pledge and about 80 parents have completed our online survey - and we would love even more to get involved.

Businesses who have signed up so far include Shepreth Wildlife Park, Govia Thameslink Railway, community centres, libraries, cafés and play barns. For a full

list of participating organisations please visit [www.scambs.gov.uk/freetofeedcp](http://www.scambs.gov.uk/freetofeedcp)

Our Lead Cabinet Member for Communities, Cllr Bill Handley, said:

**“To become a breastfeeding friendly organisation, businesses must sign a breastfeeding policy by taking the ‘pledge’. It’s then about making sure that staff understand how to implement this. In return, they will be provided with a certificate and window sticker to demonstrate their commitment.”**

We are asking residents to get involved and recommend venues they would like to become breastfeeding or pump-friendly. Please complete the online survey,



Cllr Bill Handley with Sarah Few, owner of Willingham Auction Café, who has signed up to our campaign.

available via the link above, and nominate your favourite place.

For businesses, nothing beats a recommendation from a happy customer! We know that breastfeeding mums who are able to sit anywhere while breastfeeding - and who receive a warm welcome from staff, management and customers - will come back, tell their friends and increase repeat custom. Embracing and normalising breastfeeding will not only help boost your business but will also help improve the overall health of the population and create a better and healthier community for everyone.



Shepreth Wildlife Park was one of the first local businesses to sign-up to our #FreeToFeedCP pledge.

# Ongoing support for those who have fled Ukraine

We have now passed the initial six month point since the Homes for Ukraine scheme launched, and we are still seeing incredible generosity from South Cambridgeshire residents.

Our district has seen more visas issued under the scheme than almost any other Council area in the country.

Hundreds of residents have signed up to be 'hosts' for guests from Ukraine for an initial minimum period of six months. Around 740 guests from Ukraine have arrived in South Cambridgeshire so far.

We are supporting Ukrainian guests with their next steps and moving on from where they are currently hosted if the time is right for them and their hosts. There are several options to try to make this process as stress free as it can be for guests. One option for Ukrainian guests is finding a new host. If you wish to be considered as a potential host, please email [HFULiaison@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:HFULiaison@scambs.gov.uk) and we will be pleased to provide you with more details.

In the meantime, we have been working with partners on several projects to benefit guests.

- We've provided funding to help Cambridge Refugee Resettlement Campaign work with Laptops4Learning to provide free refurbished laptops. So far, around 100 laptops and 90 Chrome books



Galyna Korzhova with her new bicycle provided via our scheme, with Nick Manning from TAG Bikes.

have been provided.

- The Cambridge University Botanic Garden have generously been providing free admission to Ukrainian refugees. Over 115 free tickets have been offered.
- We have been working with three local charities; Owl Bikes (part of the Papworth Trust), Camtrust and TAG Bikes to provide free bikes to guests. Almost 200 bike applications have been received throughout the district.
- We've provided small grants to help guests settle into their communities. These have funded things like buying books for English language sessions, and travel costs to take Ukrainian guests on a sightseeing tour of Cambridge.
- The demand for English classes has been extremely high so we are offering free weekly

English classes for Ukrainian guests in Sawston, Cottenham, Waterbeach and Cambridge in collaboration with A Learning Place and the Cambridge Russian-Speaking Society.

Our Lead Cabinet Member for Communities, Cllr Bill Handley, said:

**"Residents of South Cambridgeshire have been incredible in their welcome and ongoing support for guests from Ukraine. I feel humbled, and grateful to each host. We're also pleased to have been able to extend our own warm welcome as a Council, by helping provide laptops, bikes, and grants to help Ukrainian families integrate into community life."**



Local primary school children sent messages of kindness and hope for Ukraine Independence Day in August.

# Newly built affordable homes across the district

Our New Build team have been busy over the last few years delivering new housing that is genuinely affordable to live in.

To meet the increasing demand for affordable homes in the district, and responding to modern building practices, our new Council homes have had a twenty-first century facelift.

- Our homes are warm
- Our homes are affordable
- Our homes are green
- Our homes are modern
- Our homes have great access to outdoor space

Working closely with developers, our team have successfully delivered 29 new affordable homes through September and October, in villages across the district.

- **Swavesey:** 12 properties completed in partnership with Matthew Homes. A mixture of affordable rent and shared ownership houses and apartments.
- **Waterbeach:** Eight properties completed in partnership with Matthew Homes. A mixture of affordable rent and shared ownership houses and maisonettes.



Development Project Officer, Claire Guyton, Cllr John Batchelor and Cllr Sue Ellington outside the shared ownership houses in Swavesey.



Cllr Jose Hales and Cllr Sally Ann Hart outside the affordable rent houses in Meldreth.

- **Meldreth:** Seven properties completed in partnership with Enterprise Property Group Ltd. A mixture of affordable rent and shared ownership houses.
- **Toft/Comberton:** Two affordable rent homes completed in partnership with Beechwood Estates.

All these homes are built to a high specification with good levels of insulation and double-glazed windows to help reduce the cost of keeping them warm as winter approaches.

Every house and maisonette can also easily be adapted to install EV charging points in the future, with external electric sockets installed at houses in Swavesey, Meldreth and Toft/Comberton, and underground cabling to individual parking bays in Waterbeach.

Cllr Judith Rippeth and Cllr Anna Bradnam outside the shared ownership houses in Waterbeach.



Our Lead Cabinet Member for Housing, Cllr John Batchelor, said:

**“Over the last few years we have managed to more than double the number of new houses we are adding to our stock. These are high-quality properties that we are proud to offer to our tenants.”**

All homes have their own individual gardens and are provided with sheds. The affordable rent apartments in Swavesey come with water butts to store rainwater and help with water conservation.

Further new build homes in the villages of Sawston, Great Abington, Gamlingay and Melbourn will be completed over the coming months. To apply for an affordable home, visit our website at [www.scambs.gov.uk/housing/apply-for-housing](http://www.scambs.gov.uk/housing/apply-for-housing)

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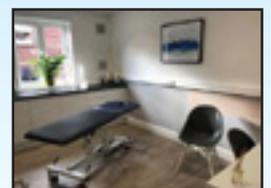
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# Trial of four-day week

To help with our recruitment and retention of staff, a trial of a four-day week for our desk-based colleagues will begin in January.

**This will follow a three-month planning period, which we are now part-way through. If the three-month trial is successful, there will be further trials involving our bin crews.**

A four-day week is when people work one less day per week but still get paid the same salary. The idea is to make us as an organisation stand out from others, improve our staff retention and be more attractive to talent. Not being able to fill vacant posts – or switching between agency staff to cover them – is also disruptive to services for residents. For example, when case officers change during the process of a planning application, it can cause delays and frustration because a lot of context and institutional memory is lost.

Four-day weeks require everyone to become more productive – so that they can do all their work in four days. It's not about doing less work. It's about working smarter and being more productive while you're at work, with the benefit of having an extra day off. It's

a 'reciprocal deal' between the Council and our employees.

One of the primary reasons we are trialling this is to help fill vacancies. There are currently 23 agency staff covering our office-based roles, which should ideally be filled by people in permanent positions. Over a whole year, these agency staff could cost us more than £2million. If we filled all these posts with permanent staff, it would only cost around £1million per year.

Similar trials, including around 3,300 staff, have been taking place this year at 70 other UK organisations. Those trials are run by 4 Day Week Global, in partnership with academic researchers including those at Cambridge University.

In September, which marked the half-way point of the trial, 88% of respondents stated that the four-day week was working 'well' for their business at that stage. Meanwhile, 46% of respondents said their business productivity had 'maintained around the same level',

while 34% reported that it had 'improved slightly', and 15% said it had 'improved significantly'.

## Here to serve you

Importantly, during the trial, there will be no reduction in the hours that we are open and available to serve you. We will also look to see whether we can extend the hours we are open to you via the telephone, a soon-to-be-launched webchat service and Teams or Zoom meetings.

To monitor our performance during the trial, we will use our standard performance metrics which are regularly updated and published quarterly. These keep a check on things like how long it takes us to process benefits claims, Council house rent collections, how fast planning applications are determined, staff turnover, call answering times and more.

Council Leader, Cllr Bridget Smith, said:



**"We have taken a big step forward in looking to address not only our own recruitment issues, but also the staffing challenges facing local government across the country. But first, this must be a trial that works for our residents and businesses, as well as the Council. There will be a laser focus on our performance during this trial period."**

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# Meet the 2022/23 Zero Carbon Communities grant recipients

Back in August, 13 projects were granted £128,544 through our popular Zero Carbon Communities grant scheme.

Since the scheme's inception in 2019, we've handed out more than £400,000 to 61 different grass roots projects including campaigns and awareness-raising around reducing carbon emissions, tree planting, energy efficient heating and lighting, food production and distribution, and waste reduction.

This year, we received many high-quality applications under two categories; carbon emission reduction and community engagement on climate change. These included projects to install solar panels, funding for a new round of Cambridge Carbon Footprint's Net Zero Now programme and support for green community projects around the district.

The Let's Cook project received £15,000 to train 30 representatives in 10 community facing roles at training events, equipping them to deliver cookery skills sessions. This project demonstrates sustainability in all senses of the word, reducing food waste and plastic packaging, giving people the skills to cook and eat on a budget, reducing social isolation, and improving mental health. The organisation will equip people within the district to make lasting changes to their behaviours which will help to tackle climate change.

Another project with strong sustainability co-benefits was Sheddit! This project was developed from the Library of Things movement and will loan equipment



This trailer will be converted into a mobile 'Library of Things' by Sheddit!

to Swavesey and the surrounding villages. Not only will it engage communities on climate change, encouraging behaviour change, but it will also allow people to share skills, reduce social isolation, and increase wellbeing. The project plans to add carbon saving measures in the future and incorporate this into the education of volunteers, members and visitors.

CLlr Pippa Heylings, Chair of our Climate and Environment Advisory Committee, said:

**"It's wonderful to see our communities coming together to tackle climate change on a very local level through projects funded by our Zero Carbon Communities grants. These projects will not only pave the way for a greener future for the district, but also help our residents become more climate aware."**



## Other Funded Projects

Cambridge Carbon Footprint: £15,000 - Net Zero Now programme.

Cottenham Parish Council: £15,000 - Solar PV and battery system.

Cottenham Community Centre: £15,000 - Solar PV and battery system.

Milton Community Centre and Recreation Grounds: £13,296 - Solar battery storage.

Cambridge Sustainable Food: £11,318 - Sustainable food projects.

Harston Village Hall Trust: £8,956 - External wall insulation.

Ickleton Village Hall: £8,000 - Solar PV.

Hardwick Parish Council: £5,292 - Electric bike scheme.

West Wickham Village Hall: £4,000 - Solar PV and battery storage.

Sustainable Northstowe: £1,551 - Climate change projects.

Fowlmere Recreation Ground and Village Hall: £2,000 - LED lighting.

➔ [www.scambs.gov.uk/zero-carbon-grant](http://www.scambs.gov.uk/zero-carbon-grant)

# What are we doing to address climate change?

A year on from the global climate conference, COP26, we have seen a surge in action across the country, driving organisations to achieve climate goals.

With this year's conference, COP27, having just finished, we wanted to share some of the steps we have taken, as part of our plan to get the Council and South Cambridgeshire to net zero.

This year's COP27 – Conference of the Parties – was centred around four main themes: Mitigation, Adaptation, Finance and Collaboration. So, what have we been doing to address climate change across the district under each of those themes?

## Mitigation

We can mitigate our impact on climate change by reducing our emissions. Our largest source of emissions is our bin lorries. That's why we're electrifying our Greater Cambridge Shared Waste fleet, which we share with Cambridge City Council. June saw the arrival of our second fully electric bin lorry. It has a rotating body and is the first of its kind in the country. Whilst we move to electric, we're trialling hydrotreated vegetable oil to fuel our lorries, which reduces emissions by 90%. These changes will not only reduce our carbon footprint, but also improve air quality.



Greater Cambridge Shared Waste's second fully electric bin lorry collecting waste in Elsworth.

## Adaptation

Climate change is one of the key themes of the emerging Greater Cambridge Local Plan, which will affect how we live, work, and play locally over the next 20 years. We're working on a joint plan with Cambridge City Council. Planning to adapt to the impacts of the changing local climate is an important part of this. A flood risk assessment has been undertaken to fully understand and prepare for the likely impacts of flooding. This will ensure that we can adapt to what this changing weather might bring.

## Finance

In February 2022, we set-out our latest budget, allocating £6.83 million to tackling climate change. This includes funding to install a solar farm at our waste service depot, £1.9 million towards solutions to tackle climate change through the waste service we share with the City Council, and £150,000 for electric vehicle charging.

## Collaboration

We believe that we can't tackle this problem alone and have been working with neighbouring councils to find solutions. We are working with them to provide government grant funded energy efficiency improvements to eligible households through our Action on Energy scheme. We've also provided another round of grants to local grassroots projects that tackle climate change, taking the amount handed to local groups to more than £400,000 since 2019.

Council Leader, Cllr  
Bridget Smith, said:



**“We continue to drive change towards a cleaner, greener future. Our efforts haven't gone unnoticed. We were awarded Silver at the IESE Public Sector Transformation awards in the Green Public Service category. We were also shortlisted for a Municipal Journal Achievement Award in the Leadership in Responding to the Climate Emergency category.”**

➤ [www.scambs.gov.uk/climate-emergency-and-nature](http://www.scambs.gov.uk/climate-emergency-and-nature)





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# Let's Get Together

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# Stylish

Where innovation meets creativity

## Daikin air conditioning available from Elliotts - Daikin D1 partners

Daikin's award-winning *Stylish* air conditioning unit brings together excellent design and technology to deliver a total climate solution for any interior.

Winner of the Red Dot and Good Design Awards, *Stylish* is one of the slimmest (189mm deep) wall mounted units on the market and achieves the best in comfort, energy efficiency, reliability and control.

The *Stylish* unit comes in three colours (white, silver and blackwood) with curved corners, for a discreet and space-saving design. So Daikin harmonises aesthetics and performance to create an innovative product that suits any contemporary interior.

**The Coanda effect:** optimises the airflow for a comfortable climate

**Fresh, pure air:** provides the best indoor air quality using Daikin's deodorising filter

**Quiet operation:** with a new fan design delivering higher energy efficiency at low sound levels

**Smart control:** of the unit, from your smartphone, with Daikin's Online Controller

See the latest stylish unit working at Elliotts Renewable Energy showroom

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See our renewable energy website [www.tcrec.co.uk](http://www.tcrec.co.uk)

# Comment on plans for significant public transport improvements

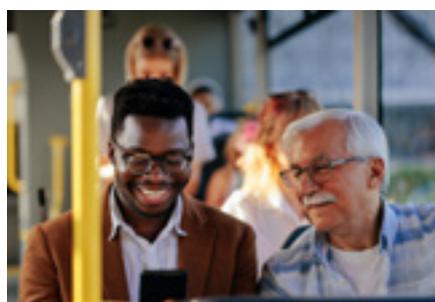
People who live and work in South Cambridgeshire are encouraged to share their views on proposals that would transform the way people travel around the region.

The Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP), of which we are a member, launched a public consultation in October on ambitious plans to significantly improve public transport. This would see one of the largest ever investments in a UK bus network alongside better walking and cycling links.

These upgrades to the bus network would be funded up front by the GCP and phased in over four years ahead of the proposed introduction of a Sustainable Travel Zone (STZ) with a road user charge to fund the bus network in the future.

Key features of the public transport improvements are:

- New bus routes, additional orbital and express services, and a huge increase in rural coverage, with buses supported by flexible services known as Demand Responsive Transport.
- Longer operating hours from 5am to 1am and more frequent services. This would see six to eight buses every hour in the city and from market towns, and hourly rural buses.
- Flat fares to make public transport cheap and accessible for all; with passengers paying £1 to travel in the city and £2 in the wider travel to work area.
- Options for new cycling routes in the city that would link into the wider Greenways network for better active travel journeys.



Significant upgrades to local bus services are planned.

The package has been developed following extensive public consultation over many years. It is anticipated that it would result in 20,000 extra journeys made by bus, and an additional 60,000 trips would be made by cycling and walking, creating cleaner air.

Under the proposals, all vehicle movements into, out of and within the STZ would pay a flat daily charge between 7am and 7pm on weekdays. The money generated by the STZ, which would not be introduced until 2027/28, would be ringfenced for the bus network and transport improvements.

The GCP is developing an extensive package of exemptions and discounts to support those on lower incomes, blue badge holders and emergency service vehicles. An extensive reimbursement scheme is also being developed for people including, but not limited to, clinically ill NHS patients and care home workers, and vehicles used by not-for-profit groups.

It is expected that the scheme would cut the number of car trips in Cambridge by 50%, improving air quality and generating the funding and road space required to deliver the future bus network.

CLlr Elisa Meschini, Chair of the GCP's Executive Board, said:

**“This is one of the most important public consultations our region has seen and so I encourage everyone to carefully consider the ambitious proposals we have put forward and share their views with us.”**

To view the proposals and have your say visit [www.greatercambridge.org.uk/mc-2022](http://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/mc-2022) before Friday 23 December.



New cycle links are planned as part of the GCP's proposals.



# Helping keep you safe in a taxi

We are responsible for the licensing of taxis in South Cambridgeshire, and work to ensure they are safe.

**There are two types of vehicles which we license that you would generally consider a taxi.**

One is a Hackney Carriage or “taxi” in the traditional sense, which can be flagged down in the street. The other is a Private Hire vehicle, which must be pre-booked through a licensed operator.

All taxi licences we issue are subject to conditions that must be complied with. Vehicles we license are tested at approved garages to ensure high standards are met. All drivers must meet stringent checks before they are granted a licence, including demonstration of local knowledge, advanced driving standards and safeguarding. In addition, all applicants are subject to an enhanced criminal record check.

Driver and vehicle checks are carried out to ensure that they hold the correct licences and are safe to transport people. Where issues are found, such as a taxi not carrying a first aid kit, penalty points can be issued against the driver’s licence. Any driver issued with 12 points or more within a 12-month period will be referred to our Licensing Panel, who have the power to suspend or revoke a licence. Major vehicle breaches would result in an immediate suspension of the vehicle until the breach has been fixed.

To ensure compliance, our officers carry out enforcement operations with partner agencies. This year, officers have carried out operations to check taxis at locations such as Stansted Airport, local schools, and evening checks in the city of Cambridge.

Our Lead Cabinet Member for Environment, Cllr Brian Milnes, said:



**“There are over 1,200 licensed taxi drivers and almost 1,000 licensed vehicles in South Cambridgeshire. Through our application process and subsequent checks, residents should be assured that both Hackney Carriages and Private Hire vehicles are held to a high level of compliance to ensure they are safe.”**



With Christmas around the corner, it is always prudent to be extra mindful and know what to look out for if you are getting into a taxi.

1. A licensed vehicle (unless it is an executive hire) will display a licence plate. This will be yellow for Private Hire and white for a Hackney Carriage. It will be on the rear of the vehicle which will include the licensing authority’s name, licence number and vehicle registration number. The vehicle will also display door signs. All vehicles must display an internal vehicle notice detailing the vehicle and operator details.
2. A licensed driver will wear or have on display an identity badge, including the licensing authority’s name and their licence number.
3. If you are travelling alone, sit in the back of the vehicle directly behind the driver.
4. If you feel something is not right, make a note of the licence plate number or driver’s badge number, and report your concerns in confidence by emailing [licensing@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@scambs.gov.uk)



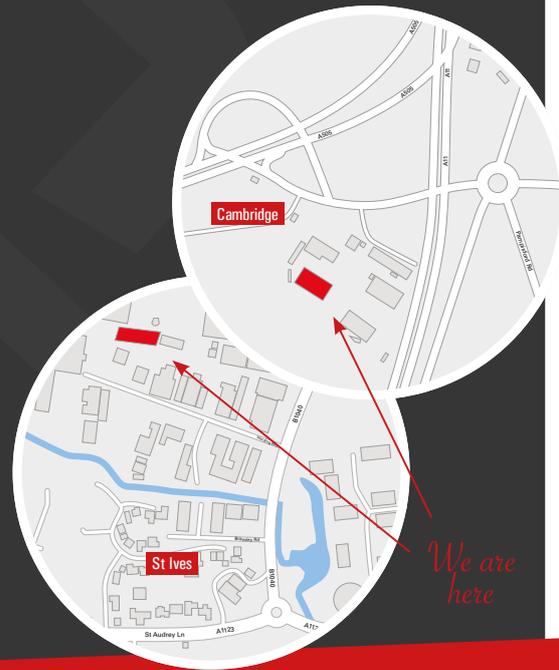
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# A year-long family pass to Shepreth Wildlife Park

We've teamed-up with Shepreth Wildlife Park to offer one lucky household the chance to win a year-long family pass, for four people, worth up to £300. The prize also gives pass-holders a 20% discount at several other fantastic attractions in the East of England.

Shepreth Wildlife Park opened to the public in 1984 as a refuge for injured and orphaned animals.

Since then, it has become one of the East of England's major attractions participating in endangered breeding programmes and raised over £500,000 for conservation projects worldwide, working alongside Shepreth Wildlife Conservation Charity.

Today, there are over 100 species to see and meet, with keeper talks and demonstrations throughout the day. Set in natural grounds, as well as in and outdoor play zones, warm tropical exhibits and animal encounter sessions, the park also provides lots of unique experiences from hand-feeding the capybaras to coming face-to-face with a red panda.

As members of the British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquaria and European Association of Zoos and Aquaria, the wildlife park is progressively and actively committed to its animals and conservation, and to educating the next generation of conservationists.



Visit [sheprethwildlifepark.co.uk](http://sheprethwildlifepark.co.uk) or call 01763 262 226 for more information. Terms and conditions that are specific to this prize apply. Full details will be provided to the competition winner.

## To enter

To be in with a chance of winning, just answer this question:

What colour are the special new collection banks for small electrical items that we have installed recently?

- a) Orange
- b) Purple
- c) Pink

You can enter the competition online.

➤ [www.scams.gov.uk](http://www.scams.gov.uk)

Click 'Apply' and then 'Reader's competition'.

## Don't have Internet access?

You can enter by post. Send your name, address and telephone number, along with your answer to the question, to:

✍ South Cambs Magazine  
Competition,  
South Cambridgeshire District  
Council,  
Cambourne Business Park,  
Cambourne, CB23 6EA

Closing date for entries is 5pm on Tuesday 3 January 2023.

Terms and conditions are available at [www.scams.gov.uk/t-c](http://www.scams.gov.uk/t-c) or can be requested by calling the Council. Winners will be notified in early January and announced in the spring 2023 issue of South Cambs Magazine.

## Winner's spotlight

The winner of our previous competition was Andreas van Wijngaarden from Coton. Andreas won concert tickets worth a total of more than £260 thanks to Cambridge Live. Andreas said: "The morning we received the message that we won, it was a double blessing! First of all, we love concerts, but besides that we also had gone through the concert calendar the same morning, and concluded that most concerts are above our budget. So how great is it that I now can take the family. Thank you for doing this, it is much, much appreciated!"



Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead, September 2022  
(Photo by Paul AShley Photography)



**experience the very best from your local theatre!**

Cambridge University Amateur Dramatic Club and Cambridge University Footlights  
**CUADC/FOOTLIGHTS PANTOMIME: TREASURE ISLAND**  
By Niamh Howat, Christian Longstaff and Beck Walker  
In the midst of woeful underfunding and ridicule from local private school St Perfecton's Prep, join the students and teachers of Grove Park Secondary as a mysterious pirate offers them the geography field trip of a lifetime. Will they find Billy Bones' lost treasure?  
**WED 23 NOV - SAT 3 DEC AT 7.45PM**  
**MATINEES AT 2.30PM**

BAWDS  
**ALICE THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS**  
Adapted from the original by Lewis Carroll, by Barry Brown  
Bawds presents a fresh, new treatment of Lewis Carroll's "Alice" books, featuring all their best-loved characters, including the Mad Hatter, the Red and White Queens, the White Knight and Humpty Dumpty. Truly a Frabjous Christmas Carroll for young and old.  
**TUE 06 - SAT 10 DEC AT 7.45PM**  
**SAT 10 DECEMBER AT 2.30PM**

Between the Bars  
**AFTER LIFE**  
By Jack Thorne, adapted from the film by Hirokazu Kore-eda  
A group of strangers grapple with this impossible question as they find themselves in a bureaucratic waiting room between life and death. Encouraged by enigmatic officials, they must sift through their past lives to choose a memory they can live with forever.  
**TUE 13 - SAT 17 DEC AT 7.30PM**  
**SAT 17 DECEMBER AT 2:00PM**

Corkscrew Theatre Company  
**HORROX**  
By David Sear  
Horrox brings the tragi-comic Cambridge hero back to life and to the stage to celebrate a young astronomer who became the first human to observe the Transit of Venus and answer one of humanity's greatest mysteries: what is our place in the Universe?  
**TUE 28 MAR - SAT 01 APR AT 7.45PM**

The Pied Pipers  
**CAROUSEL**  
By Rogers and Hammerstein  
Set in a New England coastal town, **Carousel** tells the story of the tragic romance between Billy Bigelow, a troubled carnival barker, and Julie Jordan, the young woman who gives up everything for him. Named best musical of the 20th Century by Time Magazine, **Carousel** is the classic American musical, spanning heaven and earth in its exploration of human resilience, love and forgiveness.  
**TUE 04 - SAT 08 APRIL AT 7.45PM**  
**SAT 08 APRIL AT 2:30PM**

Combined Actors of Cambridge  
**TRANSLATIONS**  
By Brian Friel  
An ancient society which is becoming unsustainable: is its cultural identity to be prized above all else, or abandoned in the cause of survival? Language carries the roots of this identity – but what is lost in translation? And how true and authentic can any form of human communication ever be?  
**TUE 18 - SAT 22 APRIL AT 7.45PM**

Installing commercial solar PV systems for over 13 years...

