County Councillor Report for Parishes – February 2024 – Cllr Anna Bradnam

Which Council does what?

	County	District	Town/Parish
Adult social care	•		
Allotments			•
Building regulations		•	
Births, deaths and marriages	•		
Burials, cremations and cemeteries		•	•
Children's services	•		
Coastal protection		•	
Community safety	•	•	
Concessionary travel	•		•
Council tax and business rates		•	
Consumer protection	•		
Economic development	•	•	
Education and related services	•		
Elections and electoral services		•	
Emergency planning	•	•	•
Environmental Health		•	
Fly tipping clearance		•	
Highways, roads, pavements, footpaths, Public Rights of Way	•		
Housing and homelessness		•	
Housing benefits		•	
Litter, bins, street cleaning		•	
Libraries	•		
Licensing		•	
Local planning		•	[•]
Markets and fairs		•	•
Parking	•	•	•
Parks		•	
Public toilets		•	•
Trading standards	•		
Trees	•	•	[•]
Waste and recycling **collection**		•	
Waste **disposal** and public tips	•		

[•] – Parish council is a consultee but has no formal powers

The Budget for Children – including Holiday Food Vouchers

Cambridgeshire County Council will put £3million into the budget for 2024/25 to continue to provide holiday food vouchers for those on free school meals.

A further **£320k will go to children's mental health**, which has worsened following the Covid pandemic. The funding will be used to employ trained specialists to work with schools

to design and deliver programmes working with children and young people, teachers and parents with interventions that are known to manage anxiety.
An **additional £12.7m** will be allocated to demand and inflation pressures, including the number of complex cases and the increasing number of children in care placements in Cambridgeshire.
2024/25 is being recognised as 'the toughest year to set a balanced council budget' whilst the Council is looking to support vulnerable people and improve highways maintenance and seeking to bridge a remaining £2m gap. The views of all committees and from town and parish councils, business leaders and trade unions, will be combined, before the Strategy, Resources and Performance (30 Jan) makes a final recommendation for the budget to Full Council on 13 February 2024.

Environment
The County Council has significantly reduced its greenhouse gas emissions, as we seek to become a Net Zero organisation by 2030. This is the Council's fifth annual carbon footprint report, measuring greenhouse gas emissions from the council's own activities as well as emissions from the whole of Cambridgeshire. The Council publishes these findings because it is committed to sharing its work to tackle climate change. You can read the full paper on our website, and watch committee on our YouTube channel.

Highways
In 2023/24 the Council invested £27 million of investment in the County's roads and transport network. See details here Document.ashx (cmis.uk.com)

The budget for 2024-25 recognises our deteriorating highways network, as well as the need to improve connectivity and for preventive work. £9 million will be invested over 2024-26 for Highways (£3 million in 2024-25 and £6 million in 25-26), on top of £2.3 million of additional Government grant funding for 2024/25 and £70 million already in the capital programme.
Of that, an additional £2 million in 2024/25 and a further £2 million in 2025/26 will fund £40 million of capital expenditure, specifically to address: • Drainage cleansing and management • Weeds and vegetation clearance and management • Management of potholes • Improvements to Public Rights of Ways • Preventative works on the roads, footpaths and cycleways • Maintenance of signs, road marking and traffic signals.

Festival of Stories - Caring for our Planet – all at Waterbeach Child and Family Zone
For all events: £2 per family. **Booking is essential**. To book a place, telephone 01954 284 672 or email childandfamilycentre.south@cambridgshire.gov.uk
Wednesday 21 February, 10-11.30 - A range of activities that encourage children to play with natural materials and explore the world around them.
Thursday 22 February, 10-11.30 - A range of activities designed to help children and parents understand how they can look after the natural world.
Thursday, 22 February 1pm–2.30 Story Teller – Marion Leeper. Join in with Aiken Drum's Treasure Hunt and explore some creative ideas for turning trash into treasure.

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