

District Councillor report to Parish Council April 2026

Thank you and goodbye

This will be a short report as we are in the pre-election period. It has been a pleasure to serve as a District Councillor over the last 11 years. During this time, I have had the opportunity to work with many different community groups, Parish Councils, and local residents.

I have served on a number of committees at South Cambridgeshire District Council, contributing to the development and scrutiny of local government policy both as a councillor in the administration and in opposition. In recent years I have chaired the Scrutiny and Overview Committee, a cross-party committee responsible for examining policy before it reaches the Cabinet for approval. The committee also has the power to call in external bodies for scrutiny, which we have actively undertaken.

Much of the work of a local councillor takes place outside of council meetings. This includes visiting residents and holding meetings to discuss local concerns, responding to phone calls and emails, and helping to signpost people to the right services when they need support. It also involves working with Patient Participation Groups, taking part in community litter picks, and maintaining regular contact with local organisations. Supporting residents with planning matters is another important part of the role, including working alongside applicants and helping residents understand the process. In addition, the role often involves working with the police to help resolve local issues and liaising with social housing providers when residents need assistance. These day-to-day activities form an important part of representing the community and helping residents navigate local services.

I will be standing down as a Councillor at the upcoming elections in May. This is primarily because I have moved house and no longer live in the ward, as well as to balance my family commitments and full-time job after 11 years of service. I wish the incoming councillors every success in their roles and hope they continue to serve the community with dedication.

*Thank you for taking the time to read my report; if you have any questions or want to discuss any of the issues raised email me on graham.cone@councillor.online or ring 07595 361 285 (please leave a voicemail if I am unavailable) **Councillor Graham Cone***