

County Council – 22nd October 2024

Chair's Announcements

Southport Attack

The Chair of Cambridgeshire County Council, on behalf of all Members, has expressed his sympathy and support for the people of Southport. The horrific events have left the nation shocked and saddened. The Council shares that sense of shock in Cambridgeshire. It has been deeply moved by the dignity shown by the families of the children who lost their lives – Elsie Dot Stancombe, Alice Dasliva Aguiar and Bebe King, and of those injured – their strength is an example to us all. The Council's thoughts and prayers are with all those affected.

People

Sally Cartwright, Director of Public Health

Sally Cartwright has been appointed as Cambridgeshire County Council's new Director of Public Health to drive improvements in the health and wellbeing of the residents of Cambridgeshire. She joins Cambridgeshire from a similar role at Luton Borough Council, where she has provided strong strategic leadership to develop the delivery of priorities post-covid. Sally will take up the Director of Public Health role in January 2025.

Tim Spiers, Service Director: Customer and Digital Services

Tim Spiers has been appointed as Cambridgeshire County Council's new Service Director: Customer and Digital Services. His most recent role was Director of Digital at Oxfordshire County Council, and he has previously worked in District authorities and also has extensive private sector experience. He started in Cambridgeshire on 20th August.

Awards

National Link Officer Award

Sarah Gawne, Business Partner for Children's Workforce Learning and Development, Joanna Cook, Learning Advisor, and Sarah Smith, Senior Learning Advisor, all Link Officers with Research in Practice for colleagues across Children, Education and Families, received a Highly Commended Award in the Newcomers category at the Research in Practice Link Officers' Annual Meeting on 26 September 2024.

Local Government Chronicle (LGC) national workforce awards for 2024

The Council has been shortlisted for two LGC national workforce awards for 2024. The 'Best next generation employer' award seeks to recognise councils or groups of councils working to address through initiatives to recruit and retain people under 30, either across the organisation or in one specific service area. The 'Best wellbeing innovation' award is aimed at a council that has demonstrated a commitment to the mental and physical wellbeing of its staff, and that really stands out from the crowd with its offer. In recognition of the diversity of council workforces it could be an initiative aimed across the whole workforce or targeted at one specific service area. The final awards will take place on 5 November 2024.

Social Worker of the Year Awards 2024

Cambridgeshire County Council is a shortlisted finalist for the Social Worker of the Year Awards 2024. The Council is shortlisted in the category of Supportive Social Work Employer, with a focus particularly upon its Adults Social Workers and the work of its Learning and Development Team to support them. It is also shortlisted for a member of the Learning and Development Team in Human Resources, for the Award of Practice Educator of the Year, so both individual and collective recognition opportunities, which demonstrates the strong partnership between Adults, Health and Commissioning and the Human Resources Service in respect of delivering the Council's People Strategy and its Adults Workforce Development Framework. The winner of these awards will also be announced in November.

Messages

Historic County Flag at New Shire Hall

The Chair raised the Historic Counties Flag and said a few words at New Shire Hall alongside Deputy Lieutenant Mr John Bridge OBE MStJ, Dr Stephen Moir and the Mayor and Mayoress of Ely. The aim of Historic County Flags Day is to have as many county flags flying across Great Britain as possible on the same day, to mark the nation's historic counties.

Change of Command at RAF Alconbury

The Chair attended the Change of Command at RAF Alconbury where Group Commander, Colonel Valarie Long handed over Command to Colonel Michael Fleming.

Open Day at Grafham Water Centre

The Chair attended the Open Day at Grafham Water Centre for County Council staff and families, where the Chair said a few words of welcome before taking a tour of the site.

Merchant Navy Day Flag at New Shire Hall

The Chair raised the Merchant Navy Day Flag alongside Dr Stephen Moir and other Cambridgeshire County Council Members and Colleagues. Merchant Navy Day takes place annually on 3rd September, and the campaign to fly the Red Ensign to mark the occasion started in 2015 by the Seafarers charity to address 'sea blindness' and the widespread lack of knowledge about the UK's ongoing dependence on merchant seafarers who are responsible for more than 95% of the UK's trade.

RAF Wyton Annual Reception

The Chair attended the RAF Wyton Annual Reception alongside Deputy Lieutenant Lord Grimthorpe and other dignitaries.

St Ives Civic Parade and Service

Alongside Deputy Lieutenant Mrs Sue Freestone OBE and other dignitaries the Chair paraded through St Ives before attending the Mayor of St Ives' Civic Service at All Saints' Parish Church, St Ives

Emergency Services Day Flag at New Shire Hall

Alongside Deputy Lieutenant, Dame Polly Courtice DBE LVO and Councillor Alex Bulat, the Chair raised the Emergency Services Day Flag at New Shire Hall to show support for all those working in the NHS and emergency services who work tirelessly to save lives.

Shakespeare at the George, New Location launch event

The Chair attended the Shakespeare at the George, New Location launch event where it was announced that Shakespeare at the George will now take place at Buckden Towers.

Everyspace launch event at March library

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Everyspace launch event at March library. EverySpace is an innovative and inclusive space and will enable the people of March to connect, share, create and discover through a variety of digital resources, modern technology, and flexible layouts. EverySpace supports the County Council's initiative of bringing services closer to the community, in line with our vision of creating a greener, fairer and more caring Cambridgeshire.

Visit by His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester to Nestle Purina in Wisbech

The Chair was part of the dignitary line up to welcome His Royal Highness, The Duke of Gloucester who visited the Nestle Purina Factory in Wisbech.

Cambridge United Foundation's Gala Dinner

The Chair attended Cambridge United Foundation's Gala Dinner at Childerley Long Barn.

Chevin Service/Harvest Festival in Cambridge

The Chair attended the Mayor of Cambridge's Chevin Service/Harvest Festival at Great St Mary's, Cambridge.

Huntingdon Police Memorial Day Service

The Chair attended the Huntingdon Police Memorial Day Service at All Saint's Church, following the service he laid a wreath at the Thinking Soldier War Memorial in memory of all those that have lost their lives in the line of duty.

Opening of a Permissive Path

The Chair cut the ribbon at the opening of a permissive path in Isleham.

British Empire Medal (BEM) Investitures

The Chair attended the BEM Investitures at Great St Mary's Church, Cambridge where three Cambridgeshire Citizens were awarded their British Empire Medal after being recognised in the King's birthday honours.

High Sheriff's Justice Service in Cambridge

The Chair was welcomed by High Sheriff, Mr David Way for his Justice Service at Great St Mary's in Cambridge.

Opening of the 'Paris 1924: Sport, Art and the Body' Exhibition

The Vice-Chair attended the opening of the new exhibition of 'Paris 1924: Sport, Art and the Body' at the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge.

Mayor of Godmanchester's Civic Service

The Vice-Chair attended the Mayor of Godmanchester's Civic Service at St Mary's Church in Godmanchester.

Ramsey Town Council's Civic Service

The Vice-Chair attended the Mayor of Ramsey's Civic Service at St Thomas A Becket Church in Ramsey.

Re-opening of the Sunken Garden Memorial

The Vice-Chair attended the re-opening of the Sunken Garden Memorial in Peterborough, which included the unveiling of the Nuclear Test Veterans Memorial.

Mayor of Rushden's Civic Service

Councillor Stephen Ferguson attended the Mayor of Rushden's Civic Service at St Mary's Church in Rushden

Citizenship Ceremonies

The Chair attended Citizenship Ceremonies at New Shire Hall on 22nd & 29th July, 5th, 12th & 19th August, 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th September and 7th & 14th October, welcoming over 500 new British Citizens.

Ellie James Fundraising

The Chair reports that Ellie James completed her charity sail, sailing the equivalent of the English Channel, at Grafham Water for Papyrus Prevention of Young Suicide and has raised £1,865, although all donations will still be gratefully received -

[Ellie James is fundraising for PAPYRUS Prevention of Young Suicide \(justgiving.com\)](https://www.justgiving.com/elliejames).