

Councillor Peter McDonald Duxford Division & Ward:  
District Councillor for Parishes of Duxford, Hinxton, Ickleton, Babraham, Pampisford.  
County Councillor also for Foxton, Fowlmere, Shepreth, Thriplow, Heydon, Chishills, Whittlesford

## **Parish Council County Report December 2025**

### **Local Government Re-Organisation**

Cambridgeshire County Council has published its final proposal for 'Two Councils. One fairer future.' also known as Option A for Local Government Reorganisation (LGR). The County Council's proposal will be submitted directly to Government by the deadline of Friday, 28 November, following the decision of the Full Council in October.

Option A sets out the proposed creation of two new unitary councils across the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough area, replacing the seven existing councils. This consists of a Northwest unitary council covering the current footprint of Fenland, Huntingdonshire, and Peterborough, and a Southeast unitary council, covering Cambridge, East Cambridgeshire and South Cambridgeshire

Option A sets out proposals for Neighbourhood Area Committees (NACs). These will give residents a stronger, more empowered, and more local voice. They will complement the role of democratically elected councillors, who will become responsible for the political leadership of the full range of local government services. Builds on a robust, evidence-based options appraisal demonstrating that Option A most effectively meets the Government criteria for LGR.

Between September and October, the council undertook a second phase of engagement across the whole of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough that received 1,912 responses from residents, businesses, public bodies, and community and voluntary sector groups. The results showed strong support in favour of Option A:

East Cambridgeshire: 67%

Cambridge City: 62%

South Cambridgeshire: 61%

Peterborough: 55%

Strong support was evident for Option A, with 65% of organisations and 58% of elected representatives responding to the engagement survey also being in favour to the consultation. Lower support for Option A was recorded in Fenland (26%) and Huntingdonshire (20%) – this was largely due to concerns about local identity in the proposed council structure.

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/asset-library/lgr/proposal/LGR-Option-A-Proposal-28-Nov-25.pdf>

### **Highways Workers Safety**

Cambridgeshire County Council is supporting a national campaign to stop abuse of roadworkers.

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The council is appealing to the public to show respect for our highway officers after incidents of physical and verbal abuse.

In Cambridgeshire, there have been 29 threatening behaviour reports and four assaults in the past year (since November 2024). These included incidents where highways workers have been intimidated, sworn at, had a bottle thrown at them, spat at and one officer was assaulted whilst trying to help the public with a diversion route. There have also been 30 intentional incursions onto our worksites since February 2025, all of which could have resulted in a more serious outcome than they did.

While trying to carry out their work on the highway, officers continue to face daily verbal abuse as well as more serious cases.

In one incident, in South Cambridgeshire, a woman drove at the highway officer, rammed her vehicle into barriers, became extremely aggressive, got out of her car, shouted personal abuse at him, threatened him, and then called the police.

The Stamp It Out campaign hopes to raise awareness of the issue amongst the public and help remove abuse that roadworkers receive every day. Research by the group found that 50% of those in public-facing roles face weekly abuse, while 80% do not report it, as they feel nothing will be done.

To tackle this behaviour, highway workers have begun to wear bodycams and vehicles are fitted with dashcams to record any incidents. We're also working with the police to report these incidents and pass on the recordings for further investigation and prosecution.

More details about the national Stamp It Out campaign can be found on their website.  
<https://www.stampitout.uk/>



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A very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of You

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Peter McDonald Dec 5th 2025

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