

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

## **Parish Council Report April 2026**

### **Cambs County Council**

#### **Strategic Vision**

Healthy, fair and sustainable – Cambridgeshire County Council’s bold new vision for the county launched 1st April, setting out a clear commitment to delivering real outcomes that enhance daily life for people across our county. Approved by Full Council in February, this new direction is informed by resident feedback gathered through the council’s annual Quality of Life survey.

This vision guides everything the Council does from today until 2028/2029: the decisions it makes, the services it delivers, and the partnerships it works with. It reflects our commitment to having a positive impact on everyone who lives, works and travels in Cambridgeshire, ensuring that the outcomes we deliver genuinely improve people’s lives and strengthen our communities. It will help ensure Cambridgeshire is well prepared for the changes and challenges to come including Local Government Reorganisation. The vision is supported by the Strategic Framework and its three key ambitions, which together provide a clear, consistent direction for the years ahead.

Below is the video and the strategic framework slides

<https://youtu.be/sN9oDNwv7do?si=Uu4HuIKrwXcbnVL0>

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/asset-library/business-plan-section-1-strategic-framework-2026-29.pdf>

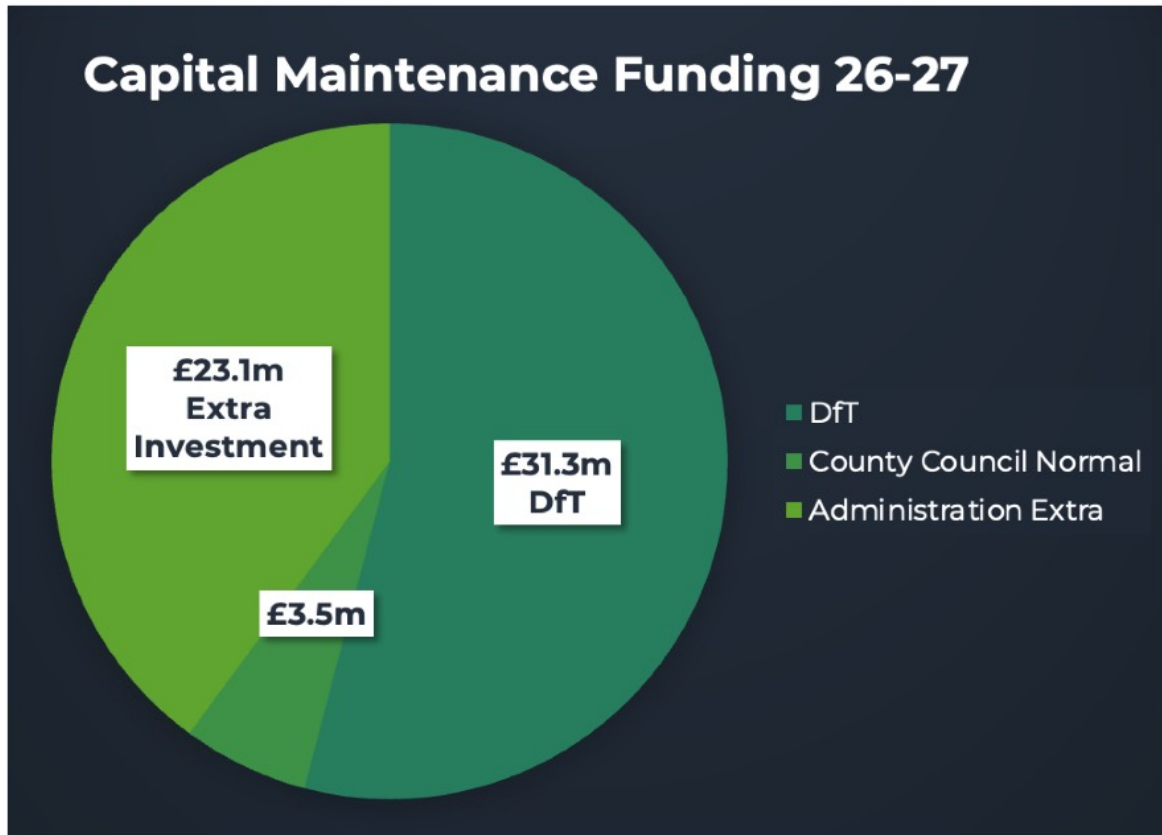
#### **Highways**

Cllr Alex Beckett has published a Substack on the pothole situation

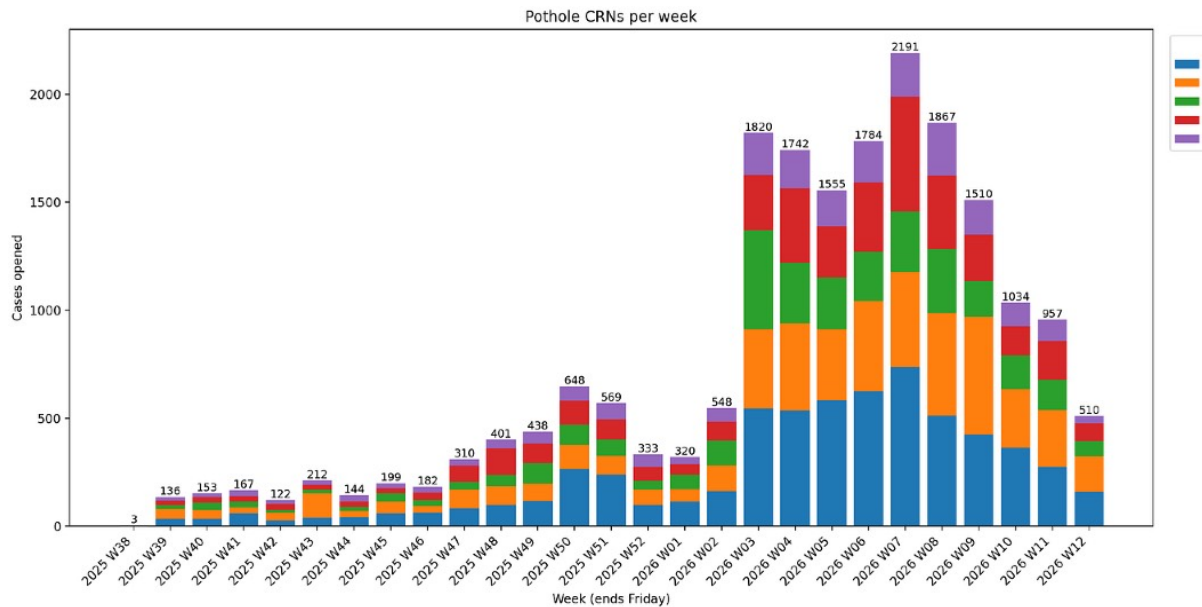
<https://notesfromalex.substack.com/p/why-are-the-roads-so-bad-right-now>

The overall spending this coming year is as follows.

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This is the pothole status in week 12 by area (S Cambs in Blue)



Contact Details: E mail: [peter.mcdonald@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:peter.mcdonald@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) Telephone 07912 669092

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## **Heating Oil Support**

Government funding has been made available for low-income families who heat their homes with oil to help tackle surging prices.



# Funded by UK Government

This targeted financial support, will help low-income households in rural communities who have no choice but to top up their tanks at a time when prices have risen so significantly.

Eligible households in Cambridgeshire can apply for a grant to support with these costs through the Cambridgeshire Community Foundation (CCF).

### **How to apply**

- [Apply online at Crisis & Resilience Fund: Cambridgeshire Community Foundation](#)
- Residents can apply direct.
- Or by a referral organisation that has assessed your circumstances and can verify that you need of immediate assistance.
- All applicants will need to provide proof of address, income and the need to top-up with heating oil.

### **Who can apply**

This fund is targeting Cambridgeshire households on low incomes who are reliant on heating oil and who need to top-up their tanks as a matter of urgency.

To receive this support, applicants must meet all of the following criteria:

- live in Cambridgeshire
- be reliant on heating oil to heat their home and/or water
- have 150 litres or less of oil remaining at the time of application
- be in receipt of or eligible for one of the following means-tested benefits:
  - Universal Credit
  - Pension Credit
  - Income based Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)

If funding allows, we hope to expand the scheme at a later date to households on incomes just above the threshold for means-tested benefits, or with exceptionally high energy needs.

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Applications to the fund will open on Monday 30 March. In the meantime, please see our webpage [Help with utility bills](#) for other ways to access support.

Peter McDonald April 8th 2026