





**COUNCILLORS' BULLETIN  
WEDNESDAY, 26 APRIL 2017**



South  
Cambridgeshire  
District Council

**CONTENTS**

**1. Meetings and events from Thursday 27 April to Friday 12 May 2017**

Date	Time	Name	Venue	Contact
Thu 27 Apr				
Fri 28 Apr				
<b>Mon 1 May</b>		May Day Bank Holiday – Office Closed		
Tue 2 May				
Wed 3 May				
<b>Thu 4 May</b>		County Council and Mayoral Elections		
Fri 5 May				
<b>Mon 8 May</b>				
<b>Tue 9 May</b>				
<b>Wed 10 May</b>	10:30	<a href="#">Planning Committee</a>	Council Chamber	<a href="#">Ian Senior</a>
<b>Thu 11 May</b>				
<b>Fri 12 May</b>				

**INFORMATION FOR DISTRICT COUNCILLORS AND PARISH COUNCILS**

**2. Community Right to Bid - Assets of Community Value**

The following assets have entered the interim moratorium protected period ending on 02 April 2018 and 16 April 2018:

**The Ancient Shepherds Public House, 5 High Street, Fen Ditton, Cambridge, CB5 8ST**  
**The Pear Tree, High Street, Hildersham, CB21 6BU**

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**3. Media Monitoring**



Arising from the results of the Member Communication Needs Survey, many members highlighted the fact that residents found out about SCDC matters through the media.

The Council's Communications Team will produce a weekly summary of recent news items to be published in the Bulletin to help keep members informed of recent coverage of SCDC.

Contact the [Communications Team](#) for further information.

Date	Publication	Details
17/04/2017	BBC Radio	Bin collection changes due to bank

	Cambridgeshire	holiday - but don't forget to recycle		
24/04/2017	Cambridge News	Council system is 'expensive and chaotic'	P4	Julian Huppert commenting on county's councils

#### 4. Items of Interest from the Local Government Association (LGA)



**Government Association**

#### Items of Interest from the Local Government Association (LGA)

The Local Government Association provides a list of news headlines relevant to its members. Please click the headlines below for more details.

Friday 21 April: *Guardian*: [More than 200,000 homes in England lie empty](#)

More than 200,000 homes in England with a total value of £43 billion were empty for at least six months during 2016 despite the national shortage of properties to rent and buy.

Saturday 22 April: *Express*: [Waste firm blamed over rubbish collection](#)

Residents have complained about a lack of rubbish collection after a new waste firm was appointed by the local council.

Sunday 23 April: *Sunday Times*: [Affordable housing pledges swept under mat](#)

An investigation by the 35% Campaign has found that developers are renegeing on promises to build affordable housing alongside those being sold at full market rates.

Tuesday 25 April: *Guardian*: [£300m business rates relief fund now available for councils to distribute](#)

A £300 million relief fund to help small businesses worst hit by the recent change to business rates is now available for councils to share out.

Tuesday 25 April: *Telegraph*: [Caterpillar could solve plastic bag crisis](#)

A waxworm that can eat its way through polyethylene more than 1,400 times faster than other organisms could be the solution to the global plastic bag crisis.

Wednesday 26 April: *Guardian*: [The future of local services](#)

Peter Hetherington references the LGA's previous analysis about the funding gap facing local government by the end of the decade in a commentary piece.

#### 5. View Planning Applications



To view the list of planning applications that have recently been submitted to the Council, please visit the authority's on-line [Planning Application Search](#). Once the page has loaded, you can use the [Search option](#) to set your own criteria of parish, area and date range.

The system will provide a range of information on current and decided applications since 1948, including a brief description of the development, reference number, decision and the date of decision. More recent applications show the name and telephone number of the council officer who is dealing with the application.



Search results are presented in a collection of pages, the number of which depends on the number of results your search produces. There are navigation tools to allow you to browse your results.

## EXECUTIVE DECISIONS TAKEN SINCE WEDNESDAY 19 APRIL 2017



In accordance with the [Access to Information Procedure Rules in Part 4 of the Council's Constitution](#), any executive decision shall be published normally within five days of being made. That record will bear the date on which it is published and will specify that the decision will come into force, and may then be implemented, on the expiry of 5 working days after the publication of the decision, unless called in for review by the Chairman of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee or by any five other councillors.

A list of decisions currently within the call-in period is available [on the Council's website](#).

The call in procedure is set out in full in [Part 4 of the Council's Constitution, 'Scrutiny and Overview Committee Procedure Rules'](#).

### 6. **Response to Housing White Paper and New Build Private Rented Consultation**

Cabinet agreed

- (i) Endorsed the consultation response set out in Appendix A to the report from the Joint Director for Planning and Economic Development and Housing Director, subject to officers being given delegated powers to make minor amendments, as agreed; and
- (ii) that where an identical response has been agreed by both this Council and Cambridge City Council in response to individual questions that these are included in a joint consultation response.

*This decision was first published on Friday 21 April and so the deadline for call-in Friday 28 April at 5pm. If not called-in this decision can be implemented on Tuesday 2 May (Monday 1 May being a bank holiday).*

### 7. **Response to the Planning and Affordable Housing for Build to Rent Consultation**

The Cabinet endorsed the consultation response set out in Appendix A to the report from the Joint Director for Planning and Economic Development and Housing Director, subject to officers being given delegated powers to make minor amendments, to include consideration for longer term tenancies than the three years proposed within the consultation paper.

*This decision was first published on Friday 21 April and so the deadline for call-in Friday 28*

*April at 5pm. If not called-in this decision can be implemented on Tuesday 2 May (Monday 1 May being a bank holiday).*

## **8. A428 Improvement Scheme**

Cabinet agreed the recommended response in principle but that delegated authority be given to the Joint Director of Planning and Economic Development to make further technical comments in consultation with the Strategic Planning Portfolio Holder. The outcome of such delegation was that the following was submitted as South Cambridgeshire District Council's formal response:

1. Support the principle of upgrading the A428 between the Black Cat and Caxton Gibbet which will support the delivery of the national, regional and local growth agenda.
2. On the basis of the evidence provided up to this point in the process, the Council support the Orange Route Option, provided it includes grade separated junctions at Cambridge Road / B1428 and Caxton Gibbet / A1198. The Purple and Pink options would have significantly greater environmental disbenefits, and are therefore not supported. This is subject to any final alignment and confirmation that the existing A428 will be retained as a local road and that the new road will not sever existing minor roads connecting villages either side of the proposed alignment.
3. Support proposals for the Black Cat roundabout which enable free flowing traffic on all the strategic routes as well as providing all movements on the local road network (Options A and C).
4. Advise Highways England that the Council is seeking to ensure that future design for the Caxton Gibbet junction minimises impacts on nearby existing and planned developments, including Cambourne West. As the junction layout was not included in the route options consultation, the Council would like to engage in early discussions about the design and how it will enable free-flowing traffic and safe cycle / pedestrian crossing.
5. Advise Highways England that the scheme should not prejudice the delivery of any future strategic proposals, including the A1 improvement scheme and wider Oxford to Cambridge Expressway proposals.
6. Advise Highways England that the scheme should not prejudice Greater Cambridge City Deal proposals for the A428 corridor, including bus and cycle improvement measures, and where possible synergies should be sought.
7. The Council supports the intention to provide opportunities for improving access for pedestrians, cyclists and equestrians and would urge Highways England to secure opportunities for the enhancement of existing and/or provision of new infrastructure to the highest standard. The scheme should also seek to redress severance caused by the existing road through the provision of crossings at appropriate points.
8. The Council would like to explore Legacy opportunities with Highways England.

*This decision was first published on Friday 21 April and so the deadline for call-in Friday 28 April at 5pm. If not called-in this decision can be implemented on Tuesday 2 May (Monday 1 May being a bank holiday).*

## **9. Planning Shared Service**

Cabinet

1. Noted progress to date on the implementation of the shared planning service.
2. Agreed the development of the multi-phase programme for delivery of the project (see **Appendix 1** of the report).
3. Approved the broad principles of the proposed management structure (**Appendix 2**) as the basis for the continued development of the organisational structure.
4. Agreed the allocation of additional resources to support the programme as set out in paragraph 21 – 24.

5. Agreed the early introduction of a “Greater Cambridge Planning Service” designation on signatures of emails from planning staff of both Councils
6. Noted the need for seamless ICT systems across Greater Cambridge and to note the commitment to early work (and costs) on the procurement of a common ICT system for planning.
7. Noted the high level objectives identified by the project team and invite them to consider adding to them the need to retain and support an understanding of Place in the way shared service was structured, delivered and managed.
8. Noted the competitive market for planning staff, and asked officers to explore measures that will strengthen the recruitment and retention of planning staff.

*This decision was first published on Friday 21 April and so the deadline for call-in Friday 28 April at 5pm. If not called-in this decision can be implemented on Tuesday 2 May (Monday 1 May being a bank holiday).*

### DECISIONS MADE BY OFFICERS

Please click on the link below to find details of decisions made by officers under delegated authority:

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/content/access-information>

#### 10. Proof of Concept Exercise: Modular Construction

The Interim Chief Executive, with the approval of the Housing Portfolio Holder,

**AGREED** to undertake a proof of concept exercise to explore whether a production assembled flat pack home could form part of the Council’s strategy to tackle the shortage of affordable housing within South Cambridgeshire.

### OTHER INFORMATION

#### 11. Newly-Published Items on modern.gov



##### Decisions

- [Officer Decision: Single Dwelling Modular Construction Project](#)
- [Cabinet 20 April](#)

##### Minutes

- [Civic Affairs Committee 23 March](#)

#### 12. SCDC Starters and Leavers



##### Staff who have left

Name: Andrew Hinge  
 Job title: Contracts & Quality Officer (Single Shared Waste Service)  
 Date left: 21 April 2017

Name: Tracey Cassidy

Job title: Housing Support Services Manager  
Date leaving: 30 April 2017



## Contract Regulations Exemption Request Form



**Section 1 - Officer Completes**

Your Name: Gill Anderton	Approval required from: Alex Colyer (See notes below)
Contract Title: Modular Proof of Concept	Budget Value: £85,000 Contract Value: £85,000
Supplier: Cubicco Ltd, The Netherlands	Supplier Code: (from the Council's FMS System)

Valid Reasons for Exemption:

<input type="checkbox"/> No Competition	<input type="checkbox"/> Documentary evidence exists (list in Supporting Info)
<input type="checkbox"/> Unforeseen emergency	
<input type="checkbox"/> Collaborative procurement arrangement	
<input type="checkbox"/> Exemption from using a corporate contract	<input type="checkbox"/> Technical <input type="checkbox"/> Capacity <input type="checkbox"/> Conflict of Interest
<input type="checkbox"/> Gas or electricity purchase	
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of existing contract	<input type="checkbox"/> Existing contract has provision for extension
Regulation Paragraph From Contract Regulations: 3.5	

This exemption is being sought on the basis that SCDC wishes to undertake a proof of concept exercise to explore whether a production assembled flat pack home could form part of SCDC's strategy to tackle the shortage of affordable housing within South Cambridgeshire.

The rationale for this exemption, is that this particular manufacturer has an established proven flat packed product and whilst other manufacturers could build this type of product, this particular product is an established credible tested solution. The manufacturer is also prepared to involve the Smartlife Centre (Cambridge Regional College) in the project and provide training to the college in the construction of the modular elements in the SmartLife training facility, and provide project management training at the manufacturers cost. This would provide social value to SCDC. In addition we are discussions with the BBC about this proof of concept featuring in a BBC programme about modular construction.

Should the proof of concept to be successful, then a full procurement exercise would be carried out to procure a framework of modular of suitable manufacturers and installers of modular solutions from which a mini competition would run to build out 6-10 modular homes on a council owned site. This proof of concept would upskill SCDC staff with sufficient information to enable SCDC staff to understand both the product and market enabling SCDC to successfully let any tender for these services.

The proof of concept is dependent upon suitable planning permission being obtained upon an HRA owned plot of land. Once completed the modular home would be used as a show case for visits and research for 2-3 months and thereafter it would be sold on the open market to evidence demand for such homes. The receipt would be used to fund out affordable homes in the District as part of the ongoing new build development pipeline.

To the unique nature of the project it would be considered an exceptional circumstance rather than a regular circumstance.

Regulation 3.5 - In exceptional circumstances the Chief Executive / Executive Director or the Chief Finance Officer also has the power, under the Scheme of Delegation in the Constitution to dispense with any provision of these Contract Regulations, provided that where the contract exceeds level 4 (£120,000), the relevant Portfolio Holder is consulted.

Legal or Procurement Consulted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Person consulted: Sean Missin	Date: 21/04/2017

**Section 2 - Authoriser Completes and copies to Requesting Officer, CFO, Procurement & Legal**

Approved by: <i>[Signature]</i>	Date: 25/4/2017	<i>[Signature]</i>
Comments: Estimated cost of unit is £85,000		

**Routing information (who can authorise this exemption request):**

Scenario	To	To
Level 1 to 1 ½    £5,001 - £12,500	Service Manager	
Level 1 ½ to Level 4    £12,501 - £120,000	Corporate Manager	
Over Level 4    £120,001 - Full Value	Chief Executive/Executive Director	

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