



Soham and East Neighbourhood Panel Update

January 2013

East Cambridgeshire District Council – Action Updates

Priorities: None Identified

Other Issues:

No.	Issue	Action Taken
1	Littering on the side of the road (Chippenham)	Rachel Doyle (East Cambridgeshire District Council). Litter picking is carried out throughout the district on a regular schedule, the frequency depending on the type of area. Additionally any reports of litter, will be brought back up to the standard defined within the Street Cleansing Code of Practice. In residential areas this will usually be the next working day. Problems with litter can be reported to the Council via CRM on 01353 665555, these will be passed straight to Veolia.
2	Rubbish collection contractor's central location; pile the rubbish up just before collection. How the bags are placed and impacts for residents move around the rubbish (Fordham)	Rachel Doyle (East Cambridgeshire District Council). Under the Councils waste collection contract, crews are allowed to 'bag up' waste – i.e. go ahead of the vehicle and move sacks to a central location to make it easier to collect. However, our service standards state that waste should not be left in place for longer than 3 hours, nor must it be put where it is causing an obstruction to the pavement, or driveways for example. If members of the public experience this, they should report it to the Council directly 01353 665555, and we will deal with the crew involved.
3	Malting Lane leaves near the school (Isleham)	Rachel Doyle (East Cambridgeshire District Council). Leaf fall at this time of year is to be expected, and this is built in to our cleansing schedule. As with other litter, if this is reported to the Council will be able to arrange clearance as outlined in the code of practice.

Reported Fly Tips

Parish/Village	Apr	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	Total
Chippenham	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	0					4
Fordham	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					2
Isleham	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	0					4

Kennett	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0							2
Snailwell	0	1	0	3	1	0	1	0							6
Soham	2	7	5	6	4	2	3	9							38
Upware	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0							2
Wicken	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0							3
Month total	7	10	5	10	10	2	8	9	0	0	0	0			61

Total Fly Tipping Reports in East Cambridgeshire

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total	Monthly Ave.
2012/13	26	24	27	25	25	13	22	19						
2011/12	27	23	23	25	28	38	43	30	32	54	0	0	323	27.33
2010/11	47	15	35	31	33	16	28	20	19	18	30	28	320	32.20
2009/10	41	20	24	39	17	40	24	35	32	27	32	57	388	32.33
2008/09	42	19	30	37	32	30	50	28	18	47	29	37	399	33.25

Fly Tipping Enforcement Actions 2012/13 (District)

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Investigation	27	16	33	32	42	31	31	28					240
Warning letter	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0					1
Statutory Notice	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0					1
Fixed Penalty Notice	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0					1
Duty of Care Inspection	3	0	1	1	1	0	14	9					29
Stop & Search	7	1	1	0	0	9	0	0					18
Formal Caution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					0
Formal Caution With Costs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					0
Prosecution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					0

**Fly Tipping Enforcement Actions 2011/12
(District)**

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Investigation	32	17	21	27	42	37	61	53	38	74	33	57	492
Warning letter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Notice	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fixed Penalty Notice	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Duty of Care Inspection	2	3	2	0	3	2	2	2	0	0	0	1	17
Stop & Search	0	0	1	5	0	0	2	0	0	0	5	10	23
Formal Caution	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Formal Caution With Costs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Prosecution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Dog Fouling Reports 2012/13

Soham & East Neighbourhood Panel

Parish/Village	Fouling Reports												Total
	Apr	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	
Chippenham	0		0	0	0	0	0	0					0
Fordham	0		0	0	0	0	0	0					0
Isleham	0		0	0	0	0	0	1					1
Kennett	0		0	0	0	1	0	0					1
Snailwell	0		0	0	0	0	0	0					0
Soham	0		0	1	2	0	0	0					3
Wicken	0		0	0	0	0	0	0					0
Month total	0	0	0	1	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	5

Total Dog Fouling Reports in East Cambridgeshire

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total	Monthly Ave.
2012/13	7		7	4	8	12	9	8						
2011/12	5	4	0	1	1	6	4	12	10	24	30	28	125	2.20
2010/11	4	7	7	8	4	5	9	8	13	19	21	12	117	6.00
2009/10	2	4	1	4	1	0	7	3	8	11	14	9	64	5.33

Cambridgeshire County Council – Action Updates

Priorities: None Identified

Other Issues:

No.	Issue	Action Taken
1	Public transport for the village bus routes (Chippenham)	Chippenham is currently served by a Monday to Friday peak service into Newmarket, which also enables a connection into Cambridge. In addition, there is a shopping facility provided on Tuesdays and Saturdays into Newmarket. As part of the County Council's Cambridgeshire Future Transport project, all the current contracted services are being reviewed over the next two and a half years. Services in the Chippenham area are programmed to be reviewed for April 2014 and consultation on the future shape of public transport in the area will commence around the middle of 2013. Any changes to the current provision will be considered as part of this process but it is important to note that the overall funding available is being reduced across the county from £2.7 million to £1.5 million.
2	Following a serious incident on the A142, what are the opportunities for a Speed cameras and / or signs being placed on the roadside or within the town (Soham)	<p>In Cambridgeshire, speed cameras are one of the possible measures that may be used at sites with a sustained history of collisions where people have been seriously or fatally injured and are targeted at locations where the speed of vehicles is felt to be a significant factor in the crashes.</p> <p>The use of cameras is not a solution to all types of collision and where there are alternative engineering measures, these would be preferable to reliance upon enforcement.</p> <p>Soham town centre is not a location where the County Council currently has any plans to</p>

		consider installation of speed enforcement equipment.
3	Townend road post knocked down in accident lamp post original fitting is open with wires showing. Incident happened months ago (Soham)	Column CCC94 in Townsnd, Soham has been connected to the electricity supply by UK Power Networks and removal of the old column was removed by Balfour Beatty, the County Council's street lighting contractor, during the first week of December 2012.
4	Bus stop covered up (Julius / Martin Lane) sort out if the stop can be put back in use. (Soham)	The bus stop was covered up whilst work on a new residential development took place. Although the work has now finished, the bus company is unhappy with the proximity of the stop to the entrance to the new development. An alternative location is being investigated.
5	Whetheralls School response by the County Council to last update. Map passed to Terry Jordan (Soham)	<p>Weatheralls Primary School has chosen to use this as an entry / exit point to the school, previously closing the one at the top of Kents Lane. The school has recently changed the rear access to the school by removing the steps and installing a ramp (which will be the school's responsibility to maintain</p> <p>This site has been inspected by an officer of the Highways Service and reports that there are some obvious muddy areas, where cycle tracks / footprints are visible under an area covered by trees / self sets.</p> <p>It is known that the parents, children and pet dogs congregate at this vicinity to drop off / collect children. Obviously when a pedestrian wishes to pass, the parents / carers / children stand on the verges adjacent the footpath, thus creating more mud, especially in what has been an exceptionally wet year.</p> <p>The gully at the rear of the Weatheralls Primary School has, since the last panel meeting, been cleaned out and left working by the County Council's contractor's jetting unit.</p> <p>An order has been placed with the County Council's contractors to side back the footpaths, clear the leaves / mud / debris from the footpath and cut back any vegetation overhanging the footpath; also to clean out the dished channel to the gully and cut some grips in the verge.</p> <p>The leaves on the path is an issue for the District Council, to be actioned under its Sweeping Cleansing and Watering (Street Cleaning) operation.</p>

		The County Council is not currently in a position, and unlikely to be, to be able to widen the footpath. It does, however, arrange for its crews to side back the verges and cut back overhanging vegetation on an annual basis.. The council has also used the Community Payback Scheme to assist with this work.
6	Highways Department at Cambridgeshire County Council to confirm the regulations for placing speeding signs on roadside / within towns or villages. (Across panel area)	<p>Such markings are considered by the Local Highway Authority (LHA) on the basis of need and to be able to provide an informed comment the LHA would need further information on location and circumstances.</p> <p>With no longer having a discretionary budget for minor road signing and lining work, the County Council's only realistic options would be if a case could be made on safety grounds as a community promoted local highway improvement or whether funding within the highways maintenance budget could be used (this is, however, unlikely unless the works involved replacing an existing sign).</p>

Sanctuary Housing – Action Updates

Priorities: None Identified

Other Issues: None identified

The Government is reducing the amount of housing benefit some people can claim.

If you claim housing benefit to help pay your rent you may be affected by changes from April 2013. The changes mean that some people will get less housing benefit than they did before.

From April 2013, if you live in a council or housing association home and you have one or more 'spare' bedrooms your housing benefit may be reduced.

This could affect you:

- if you are 16 to 61 years old
- even if you only get a small amount of housing benefit – for example, if you are working
- even if you are sick or disabled

You won't be affected if:

- you live in a one bedroom flat or bedsit, or if
- you or your partner are old enough to receive pension credits.
- In April 2013 the pension credit age will be around 61 years and 6 months

The new benefit rules will apply from April 2013, so now is the time to get help and support.

What is a 'spare' bedroom?

Under the new rules if you have more bedrooms than the Government says you need, you will lose part of your housing benefit. The new rules mean you will be allocated one bedroom for:

- each adult couple
- any other person aged 16 or over
- two children of the same sex under the age of 16
- two children under the age of 10 regardless of their sex
- any other child
- a carer (who does not normally live with you) if you or your partner need overnight care.

It does not matter how the 'spare' bedroom is used, the new rules will apply even if:

- you and your partner need to sleep apart because of a medical condition
- the main residence of your children is another address, but you have a spare room for when they stay with you.

What happens if you have a 'spare' bedroom?

If you have one 'spare' bedroom your housing benefit will be cut by 14% of the rent you pay every week. If you have two or more spare bedrooms, you will lose 25%. If your benefit is cut you will have to pay your landlord the difference between your housing benefit and your rent.

Limit on benefits

From April 2013, the overall amount of benefit you can receive will be capped. The Government will add up how much money you get from a range of benefits, including: housing benefit, jobseeker's allowance, employment support allowance, child benefit, child tax credit and carer's allowance.

If the total comes to more than the maximum amount allowed your housing benefit payments will be reduced.

The maximum amount of benefit you will be able to receive from April 2013 will be:

- £500 per week for single parents
- £500 per week for couples with or without children
- £350 per week for single people without children.

This will not apply to you if:

- you get pension credit or working tax credit
- a member of your household is claiming disability living allowance, attendance allowance or the support element of employment support allowance.

If you are worried about being able to afford to pay your rent from April 2013 you should ask for advice now. If you don't pay your rent you could lose your home, so talk to your landlord about different ways to pay. You can also:

- Talk to your landlord about transferring to a smaller home or taking in a lodger
- Contact your council to ask about extra financial help. Councils have a limited amount of money available to make discretionary payments towards housing costs. Your council may prioritise your claim if you have a disability and your house has been adapted.
- Get in touch with your local citizens advice bureau (www.citizensadvice.org.uk) or other local advice agencies
- Make sure you are claiming all the benefits you can – for example, money to help with the costs of a disability
- Try to find some paid work to increase your income
- Get more information about the cap on benefits by calling the Government's information line on 0845 605 7064.

Do you have a disability and need overnight care?

If you are of working age, have a disability and need a 'spare' bedroom so that a carer can stay overnight you should contact your local council now so that staff can help you keep more of your housing benefit.

Changes to council tax benefit

From April 2013, if you are of working age and claim council tax benefit, the amount of support you receive may be cut. This is because the Government is reducing the amount of money available and asking local councils to run their own schemes, which may vary from area to area. Contact your local council for details.

If you have any questions about the information in this leaflet you can talk to your:

- Landlord
- local council
- citizens advice bureau
- local advice agency.

Priorities: None Identified

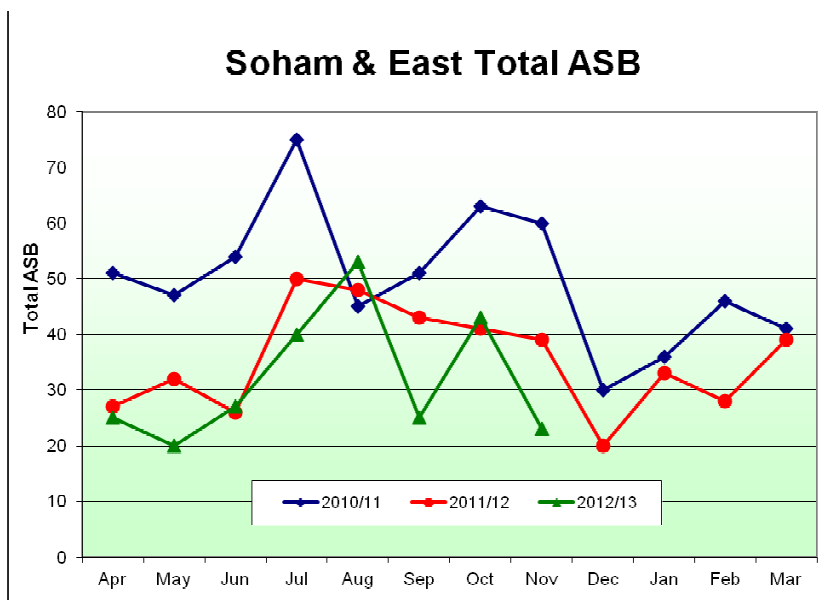
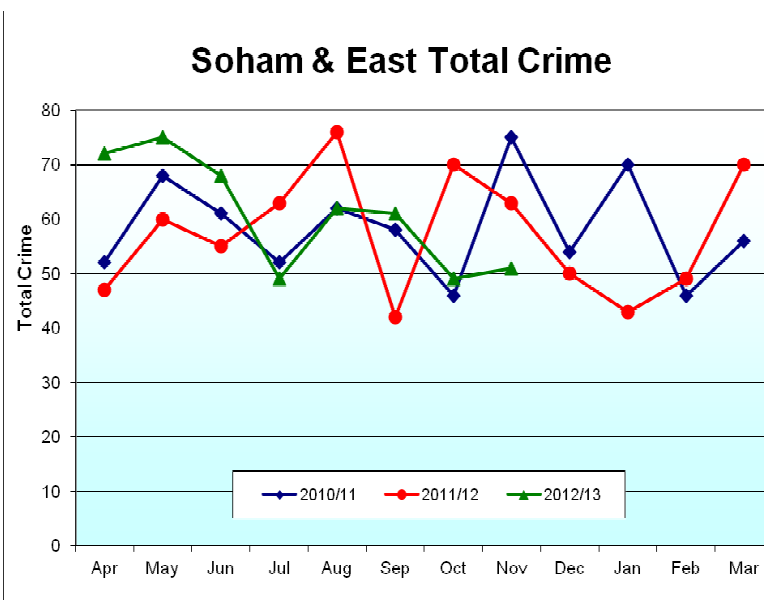
No.	Priority	Action Taken																				
1	Anti social behaviour (Soham)	<p>High-visibility patrols of Soham conducted during this period, particularly in the area of Fountain Lane Recreation Ground.</p> <p>Numerous stop searches in the run-up to Hallowe'en and Bonfire Night, following reports of fireworks being let off dangerously in public places. 2 males issued with Fixed Penalty Notices (£80 each) for letting off fireworks. 1 male arrested for possession of controlled drugs with intent to supply.</p> <p>5 young people suspected of involvement in ASB in Soham signed up to Acceptable Behaviour Contracts. These appear to have had a positive impact on their behaviour.</p> <p>Particular issues on Hallowe'en in Soham, with over 100 young people congregating in Soham, and incidents of ASB reported.</p> <p>No particular issues reported since the beginning of November. Police and partners looking to work together on a long-term plan looking at the provision of services for young people in the village, and diversionary activities for those at risk of getting involved in ASB and crime.</p> <p>Overall drop in reported ASB in Soham compared to 2011:</p> <table><tr><th colspan="5">Reported ASB Incidents - Soham</th></tr><tr><td>Sep 11</td><td>35</td><td>Sep 12</td><td>20</td><td>-15</td></tr><tr><td>Oct 11</td><td>36</td><td>Oct 12</td><td>35</td><td>-1</td></tr><tr><td>Nov 11</td><td>33</td><td>Nov 12</td><td>19</td><td>-14</td></tr></table>	Reported ASB Incidents - Soham					Sep 11	35	Sep 12	20	-15	Oct 11	36	Oct 12	35	-1	Nov 11	33	Nov 12	19	-14
Reported ASB Incidents - Soham																						
Sep 11	35	Sep 12	20	-15																		
Oct 11	36	Oct 12	35	-1																		
Nov 11	33	Nov 12	19	-14																		
2	Speeding (Across the panel area)	<p>Speed enforcement and Speedwatch activity has taken place across the panel area.</p> <p>Update (to 10/12/12):</p> <p>A1123, Wicken – 1 Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) issued, 12 Speed Awareness, 2 Words of Advice A142, Soham – 4 FPNs, 27 Speed Awareness</p> <p><u>Speedwatch Activity</u></p>																				

		Townsend, Soham – 126 letters sent High Street, Chippenham – 15 letters sent The Green, Snailwell – 23 letters sent Mildenhall Road and Collins Hill, Fordham – 52 letters sent
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Other Issues:

No.	Issue	Action Taken
1	Traffic lorries and speeding cars ignoring speed limits. Continuing issues (Chippenham)	Speedwatch activity has taken place in Chippenham. 148 vehicles have been monitored and 15 letters sent out to speeding motorists.
2	Rural crime and local crime – police feedback (Chippenham)	A letter has been sent out to all parish councils in East Cambridgeshire, advising about police engagement with parish councils and the provision of local crime information, and seeking to set realistic expectations around this.
3	Speeding in the village (Fordham)	Speedwatch activity has resulted in 52 letters being sent out by Police to speeding motorists.
4	Police presence at parish council meeting – Police Reports (Isleham)	A letter has been sent out to all parish councils in East Cambridgeshire, advising about police engagement with parish councils and the provision of local crime information, and seeking to set realistic expectations around this.
5	Meeting to be arranged by Police, Cambridgeshire County Council Highways and Wicken Parish Council to discuss possible measures to address speeding (Wicken)	This was originally an action for the District Council, but was passed to Police as ECDC had been unable to action. The County Council has provided a comprehensive update in relation to possible traffic calming in the village, and funding implications. Police will carry out enforcement whenever possible, and support Speedwatch activity in the village. If the parish council wishes to hold a multi-agency meeting to discuss matters further, then Police will be happy to attend along with partners. However, initial enquiries by Police have not uncovered any appetite for such a meeting at this time.
7	Circulate the police stats website link (Across Panel Area)	A letter has been sent out to all parish councils in East Cambridgeshire, advising about police engagement with parish councils and the provision of local crime information, and seeking to set realistic expectations around this. Crime and ASB (Anti-Social Behaviour) data for your area can be accessed at http://www.police.uk/ . This site provides street-level crime and outcomes maps and data, along with details of your local policing team and forthcoming meetings. Parish-level crime statistics are also available on the Cambridgeshire Constabulary website, at http://www.cambs.police.uk/LocalPolicing/CrimeData.aspx .

			Dwelling burglary	Other burglary	Violent Crime	Robbery	Theft of vehicle	Theft from vehicle	Cycle Theft	Theft from shop	Criminal Damage	Other Crime	Total crime	ASB
Nhod	Soham and East	Sep 12 - Nov 12	11	18	30	0	4	12	7	7	27	14	130	41
		Jun 12 - Aug 12	13	21	33	0	4	17	6	4	24	29	151	54
		Sep 11 - Nov 11	13	21	28	0	4	16	1	7	28	43	161	69
Wards	Fordham	Sep 12 - Nov 12	2	8	11	0	0	5	0	3	4	9	42	8
		Jun 12 - Aug 12	4	8	5	0	2	7	1	2	1	11	41	11
		Sep 11 - Nov 11	4	6	5	0	1	3	0	3	8	14	44	15
	Isleham	Sep 12 - Nov 12	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	3	4	11	10
		Jun 12 - Aug 12	1	3	2	0	1	4	0	1	2	5	19	10
		Sep 11 - Nov 11	1	0	2	0	1	1	0	1	2	4	12	6
	Soham North	Sep 12 - Nov 12	5	4	10	0	2	3	1	0	6	5	36	23
		Jun 12 - Aug 12	1	3	7	0	0	1	1	0	13	11	37	33
		Sep 11 - Nov 11	1	8	6	0	0	8	0	0	4	9	36	48
	Soham South	Sep 12 - Nov 12	3	5	8	0	2	4	5	4	14	27	72	50
		Jun 12 - Aug 12	7	7	19	0	1	5	4	1	8	30	82	66
		Sep 11 - Nov 11	7	7	15	0	2	4	1	3	14	30	83	54



East Cambridgeshire Fire Service Data

District	Ward	Residential	Non-residential	Vehicle	Refuse	Derelict Bldg	Derelict Veh	Grass, heath etc.	Outdoor Structure	Straw/Stubble	Total
E	Burwell			1							1
E	Downham Villages			1							1
E	Ely North			2							2
E	Ely West				1						1
E	Haddenham			1		2					3
E	Isleham			1							1
E	Littleport West				3						3

E	Soham South			1	1						2
E	Stretham				4						4
E	The Swaffhams			2							2
	Total			9	9	2					20

District	Ward	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
E	Burwell				1						1
E	Downham Villages				1						1
E	Ely North			1	1						2
E	Ely West						1				1
E	Haddenham	1				1	1				3
E	Isleham			1							1
E	Littleport West					1	1	1			3
E	Soham South						1	1			2
E	Stretham	1		1		1			1		4
E	The Swaffhams						2				2
	Total	2		3	3	3	6	2	1		20

Other Information

ECDC sports club directory

East Cambridgeshire District Council has recently launched a new online sport club directory. We would like to encourage sport clubs to register online to help raise the profile of sport clubs, promote new sessions and increase memberships. The sport club directory will be published on the council website and be a focal point for residents to find out more information about sport clubs and services. If you would like to register a sport club please visit

www.eastcambs.gov.uk/sports/sports-club-directory

Or for more information e-mail sportandhealth@eastcambs.gov.uk or call 01353 665555.

Waste and recycling bid is a winner

East Cambridgeshire District Council has successfully won a £5 million bid from Central Government to fund a new recycling service and retain weekly waste collections.

The funding, from the Department for Communities and Local Government's 'Weekly Collection Reward Scheme', means residents will find it easier to recycle more of their waste with the new service being introduced in late 2013 or early 2014.

The current brown sack and black box collection system will be replaced with:

- * A new wheeled bin recycling collection, including paper, glass, metal cans, plastics, cartons and cardboard. This will be collected fortnightly.
- * A new wheeled bin collection for organics to include food and garden waste. This will also be collected fortnightly.
- * A fleet of new vehicles for the new services as well as a rescheduling of rounds to reduce carbon emissions.

The weekly waste collections would be retained and collected via black sacks.

The work to put in place the new system will include a survey of all households in the district to identify anyone whose property would not be suitable for the new service. These homes would retain the current black box and brown sack collection service while other households would convert to the wheeled bin service.

Councillor Richard Hobbs, Chairman of the Community and Environment Committee at East Cambridgeshire District Council, said: "Winning the funding to improve our recycling service is fantastic news. In a recent public consultation we had overwhelming support for our plans so it is great to know we can now deliver a recycling service which people want.

"The task ahead of us now is to bring the service in as soon as we can. This will mean a lot of hard work from buying the vehicles and wheeled bins to deliver the service to identifying the homes which will not be suitable for the service. We hope to complete this by next summer and have the service up and running from late 2013 or early 2014. During this process we will ensure residents are kept fully up to date with the progress of our work. Finally I would like to thank the Environmental Team at the District Council who has made our bid successful. It is very exciting to know our recycling rates are set to rise and we can continue to collect black bag rubbish every week in the years to come."

For more information on the waste and recycling service in East Cambridgeshire please visit www.eastcambs.gov.uk or call 01353 665555.

Local Plan Consultation



The new Local Plan will provide a blueprint for the growth of the district over the next 20 years, setting out how much and where development should take place, and identifying the need for new infrastructure. It will also allocate specific sites for housing, employment and other land uses. Extensive consultation has already taken place with local communities on local priorities and needs, and Parish/Town Councils have been heavily involved in helping to draw up initial draft 'Visions' for each village and town. The next stage will involve consultation on the draft Local Plan (including the draft Village/Town Visions) in Jan/Feb 2013. The draft Plan, plus comments will then be reported to an independent Inspector appointed by Government. A public examination will be held, and the Plan adopted by the end of 2013.

Consultation on issues and options in villages and towns	2011/12
Publish draft Local Plan for consultation (incorporating draft Village/Town Visions)	Jan/Feb 2013
Submission of Local Plan to Government	June 2013
Public Examination on Local Plan	Autumn 2013
Adoption of Local Plan by East Cambs District Council	Late 2013