

Cllrs Lorna Dupré and Mark Inskip

MONTHLY REPORT JANUARY 2026

ANTI-SOCIAL DRIVING

A further outbreak of anti-social driving took place at the Elean Business Park over the Christmas period. The police attended on multiple occasions, and issued the following statement.

“Over the weekend we received numerous reports of anti-social behaviour and dangerous driving in Sutton.

Our response officers attended and witnessed one of the vehicles drifting just metres from a crowd of onlookers. The driver, who had travelled up from Kent, was stopped...

- ✓ Vehicle seized for **no insurance**
- ✓ Reported for: **No insurance, No MOT, driving without due care and attention, failing to display a front number plate**
- ✓ **Section 59 ASB driving warning** issued – meaning the vehicle can be seized again if they repeat this behaviour

The driver faced a long and expensive taxi ride back to Kent!

This follows work before Christmas when 20 Community Protection Warning letters were issued along with two Community Protection Notices for anti-social driving. We'll continue to take robust action against dangerous driving and ASB to keep our communities safe.”

East Cambridgeshire District Council plans to consult on a proposed Public Space Protection Order in January and February. This would give the police and council officers more powers to deal with anti-social driving.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN FUNDING

East Cambridgeshire District Council has set aside a fund of £50,000 for parish councils seeking to make or review a neighbourhood plan, following the Government's decision to cease to supply grants for this purpose. Bids for up to £5,000 will be considered on a first come first served basis until 31 March 2028.

More information about neighbourhood planning at
<https://eastcambs.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy-and-guidance/neighbourhood-planning>

PLANNING MONITORING

East Cambridgeshire District Council has published its annual Authority Monitoring Report and Housing Land Supply Statement.

The Monitoring Report provides data about house-building completions year by year. 635 net completions took place in 2024/25. Most of these were in Ely, Soham and Littleport in line with the council's planning policies. In the Sutton ward the figures for completions in 2024/25 (net, so subtracting any dwellings lost during the period) are as follows:

Mepal	2
Sutton	2
Wentworth	0
Witcham	2

The council reports that it has a 6.1 year land supply, above the five-year minimum requirement.

<https://eastcambs.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy-and-guidance/planning-monitoring-and-land-supply>

SAFE DISPOSAL OF BATTERIES

East Cambridgeshire District Council is launching a campaign to remind the public not to discard batteries in recycling or black bags, after a bin lorry caught fire. While it is not known exactly what caused the blaze the crews suspect a discarded battery is to blame.

Every year over 1,200 fires are caused nationally by hidden and loose batteries being thrown in with general rubbish and recycling. As well as loose batteries, many are hidden inside everyday electricals, like children's toys, alarm clocks, vapes and electric toothbrushes.

If disposed of in this way, batteries can get crushed or punctured in the bin lorries. This releases chemicals which come into contact with the air and can start a serious fire. Battery fires are particularly dangerous as the lithium in them releases its own oxygen. This intensifies the fire and makes it more difficult to extinguish.

Sadly, nearly half of UK adults are unaware this can lead to fires. As well as endangering lives, the fires can cause air pollution spikes, disrupt bin collection rounds and cause damage to lorries which can be expensive to repair.

Anything with a plug, battery or cable can be reused or recycled - including the plugs, batteries and cables themselves. If possible, remove batteries from

electricals and recycle them separately. If this is not possible, recycle the whole electrical at your nearest electrical recycling point.

- ➔ Search Recycle Your Electricals to find all your local electrical and battery drop off points www.recycleyourelectricals.org.uk
 - ➔ Or use their postcode locator to find your local battery and electrical recycling point <https://bit.ly/3JldTQ4>
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JANUARY MEETINGS

- Wednesday 14 January: Planning Committee
 - Tuesday 20 January: Audit Committee
 - Wednesday 21 January: Licensing Committee
 - Monday 26 January: Operational Services Committee
 - Thursday 29 January: Finance & Assets Committee
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MEET YOUR COUNCILLORS

We will be at Joy Bistro, 65 High Street, Sutton on Monday 5 January and Monday 2 February at 6:30-7:30PM. Between surgeries, residents can continue to contact us by email, Facebook, or phone.

A happy and healthy 2026 to all residents of the Sutton ward.

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District Councillors for the Sutton ward
(Mepal, Sutton, Wentworth, and Witcham)