

FACT: There is no overall majority at the County Council

Since 2013 no party has had a majority in the County Council – despite this, Conservatives stopped the County’s portion of the Council Tax being raised by 4.99% this April, keeping it to a 0% rise for general rates and agreeing a 2% precept ring-fenced specifically for adult social care.

Our record

- ✓ **Council Tax** Kept Council Tax and adult social care precept rises to 2% or less for the last four years.
- ✓ **Devolution** Secured the deal for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough – £600m of new funding for infrastructure, £170m for housing, new powers for adult skills.
- ✓ **Business rates retention** Negotiated with the government to keep business rates income growth – more businesses into the area, new funds to the County and District Councils.
- ✓ **Infrastructure** Major projects are being delivered – A14 upgrade, Cambridge North railway station near the Science Park, new and expanded schools, superfast broadband.
- ✓ **Local health services** Worked with local people to secure funding from new developments to provide increased GP capacity.
- ✓ **Social care innovation** Won funding to trial a radical new way of supporting adults with social care needs.



A14 upgrade The Conservative Group in the County Council helped to make it happen.

Our promises

If you elect us in May with overall control, we will...

- **Increase highway maintenance**
An extra 67,500 pothole repairs every year, more grass verge cutting and pavement repairs.

Put us in control of the County Council so we can radically reform it to protect and improve front line services

Cambridgeshire County Council Conservative Group

We aim to make Cambridgeshire an even better place to live

- **Eliminate bottlenecks** We’ll initiate £50m of pinch point / congestion busting schemes which so frustrate travelling around the county.
- **Work with the Mayor** To make local government more efficient with less bureaucracy.
- **Reform the County Council** Change it into a customer driven, efficient Council with a positive attitude and a pro-business approach.
- **Spend on you** Improve back office efficiency to focus on moving money into front line services.
- **Move on railways** Continue work on the Cambridge to Oxford line and the new station at Addenbrooke’s.
- **Free Park & Ride parking** Get rid of the £1 parking charge.
- **Keep bus services** Retain – and enhance where possible in rural areas by bringing in a joined up, flexible, more efficient system.
- **Invest more in mental health** Help employers with staff at risk and schools to deal with bullying – and start a debt advice service.
- **Fund early years literacy** We’ll pay for literacy projects in St Neots and areas of greatest need.
- **Skills** Support the development of the skills we need through quality apprenticeship opportunities.

DEVOLUTION: For a better Cambridgeshire

James Palmer’s experience dealing with major infrastructure projects shows how the whole process can be accelerated.



James Palmer with Heidi Allen, MP for South Cambs.

The new Mayor will have the power to change the way we live in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

Our fine county is hamstrung by poor infrastructure which seriously affects our lifestyle and prevents business and housing growth.

If elected I will immediately begin to improve our roads and rail, eliminating pinch points and delivering new schemes.

The government is providing £770m to help solve these problems and I will use the money wisely, utilising all my experience as a local government leader.

Included in the government finance deal is money for apprenticeships and further education and I will work alongside education partners to provide opportunities for all.

Cambridgeshire is already a wonderful place to live. Devolution hands us the opportunity to enhance the whole county for everyone.

Throughout the county, as Mayor I will improve infrastructure

South Cambridgeshire: A bold vision with radical ideas is required

In order to keep South Cambs at the very centre of biomedical innovation, we have to provide an answer to the current road, rail and bus problems.

South Cambridgeshire needs a radical solution to its traffic problems – the City Deal is not providing all the answers.

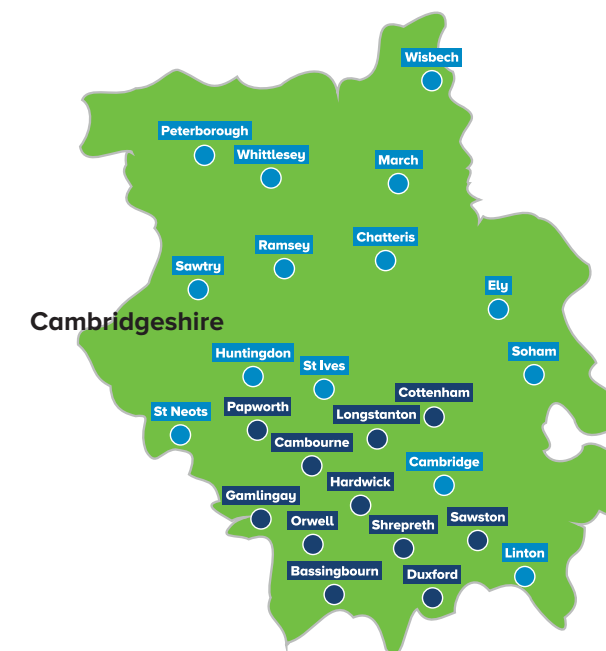
As Mayor I will endeavour to provide an underground for Cambridge and a light railway into South Cambs.

Cambridgeshire is already highly respected worldwide – but until the traffic problems in and around Cambridge are solved, we will not be

able to attract the highest levels of international investment.

Buses are *not* the solution. A clean, integrated system, fit for a world leading education and technology centre, is needed.

As Mayor, I will work hard on your behalf to provide these vital improvements so South Cambs remains a very pleasant place to live and becomes an easy commute to work.



James Palmer, Conservative candidate for Mayor of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority.

“It will be a big and important job – I will be working full time to deliver.”

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