

Newsletter March 2017 from the County Councillors Gail Kenney and Tony Orgee

### **Priorities for Cambridgeshire.**

We have been deciding on our priorities for the County Council in the coming year by listening to the needs of our residents and these have already been agreed by the Committees and they are:

An increase to our funding for pothole repairs, services and cracks by an extra £2.15m. This will enable us to do an extra 67,500 pot holes and repairs a year.

An increase in Gulley Clearance, grass cutting and visibility splays by £200k. This will increase cuts from two to three a year, help prevent some of the costly emergency response work we do and address concerns of residents.

A further £300k will be invested in sealing and improving pavements.

CCC. will invest an additional £60k in mental health to implement the public mental health strategy commitments as previously approved by the Health Committee.

We will fund £120k on early year's literacy. These Early Years Community Literacy Projects will be delivered in Wisbech, Huntingdon, North Cambridge and St Neots. They have a proven impact – the initial project in Wisbech worked with 200 families and 450 children and contributed to a 26% increase in the children achieving the early year's standard over a two year period.

We will prepare £50m of congesting busting projects that will help alleviate those delays in our work and social journeys that have such a negative effect on those that need to commute to work and travel around the county

**New funding for Adult Social Care.** The Chancellor in his speech last week announced an increase in the funding for Adult Social Care. Cambridgeshire will receive an extra £8.33 million which will expedite the transformation of our Care Services., and is extra to the extra 2.5% increase that the County Council has budgeted this year. This is very welcome news.

**Local Highway Improvements schemes.** The budget for 2017 was £607,000 and S. Cambs share was £117,000. Each parish agrees to pay 10% of the cost. The approved schemes in our division are:

Little Shelford entry and exit roads.

Stapleford 20mph speed limits.

Great Shelford Church Street Installation of school signs with flashing lights.

Sawston New Road close to SVC and Martindale Road a Zebra Crossing.

Harston Bend between Harston and Newton. Chevron Signs to highlight the bend and encourage motorists to slow down.

**Central Library Cambridge Refurbishment.** The first floor of the library is being updated with a new layout and the creation of a new area for young people and an extension of the children's area It will cost £65,000. The Central Library is the fourth busiest in the country and has 70,000 visitors a year.