

Recycle small electricals

Recycling small electricals like toasters, phones and hairdryers is easier for local people after more drop-off points were installed.

Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service, a partnership between Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council, has placed eight new pink collection banks for small electrical items at recycling points, with more locations planned.

In the Greater Cambridge area, figures from the RECAP waste partnership show that an average of 450 tonnes of small electrical equipment is disposed of in black bins every year, ending up in landfill where it will never break down and harms the environment.

Where are the new recycling banks for small electricals?

- Gwydir Street car park, Cambridge
- Lammas Land car park, Cambridge
- Abbey Pool car park, Cambridge
- Chesterton Road public toilets, Cambridge
- Morrisons car park, Cambourne
- Tesco car park, Bar Hill
- Village car park, High Street, Melbourn
- Tesco car park, Fulbourn

There are existing banks at Glebe Farm Drive, Fawcett Road and Hawkey Road in Cambridge, as well as Milton and Thriplow Household Recycling Centres. Small appliances can also be handed in for recycling in-store at Curry's on Newmarket Road in Cambridge.

What kind of small electrical items can I recycle?

Anything up to 29cm in its largest dimension, which has a plug, battery or cable. If batteries are removeable, take these out and recycle them separately. Some examples of suitable items include:

- Kettles, toasters, sandwich toasters, stick blenders
- Games consoles, DVD players
- Hand-held vacuum cleaners, electric toothbrushes
- Mobile phones, tablets and smart devices
- Cables and headphones
- Printers and scanners
- Laptops, keyboards and IT accessories

Please note that smoke detectors, light bulbs, e-cigarettes, batteries, paints, chemicals or aerosols are not accepted in these banks.

Fine issued for fly tipping

Recently a family in South Cambs were fined £550 for being responsible for fly-tipping within Milton. This was following them paying someone to remove waste from their residential property. The judge in this case was clear that the relevant paperwork had not been given the relevant due diligence, thus a fine was issued. Often, if someone offers to remove your waste for a very low fee, with no paperwork, it is too good to be true and you could end up being fined in the long run.

I would strongly encourage residents to check before allowing people to take away their rubbish, advice can be found on the link below.

[Waste carriers, brokers and dealers \(data.gov.uk\)](https://data.gov.uk)

Safer communities fund

A new Safer Communities Fund has been launched by the Police and Crime Commissioner Darryl Preston where Community Safety Partnerships in the county will be able to bid for up to £5000 for initiatives which will provide swift responses to crimes such as fly-tipping, bike theft, road safety and anti-social behaviour.

Community Payback Scheme

This scheme is to encourage members of the public to nominate potential projects for the community payback scheme. The Government's scheme allows members of the public to suggest what unpaid work is carried out by offenders in their area.

"Community payback is a punishment that is visible to the public," Darryl Preston said. "It is designed to rehabilitate people on probation while giving back to the local area harmed by their crime."

Payback teams around the country have been making a difference in their communities from clearing graffiti to re-decorating community centres. Darryl Preston has visited The Green Backyard in Peterborough, a community garden which has been cleared and maintained during the pandemic by Community Payback Teams.

"In my Police and Crime Plan I pledged to work with partners to tackle re-offending and the community payback scheme does that," Darryl added. "I am keen that the unpaid work carried out by offenders benefits our community. Nobody knows the needs of the area more than local people and I am therefore appealing to you to propose local projects."

Courts will order an individual to carry out community payback in cases whereby the offender can be better rehabilitated in the community. This can include first time offenders or where health issues have been an influencing factor.

To be considered the work must benefit the local community, not take paid work away from others and not make a profit. Nominations can be made on the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/nominate-community-payback-project>

Council launches online toolkit to help villages to set up markets

This toolkit will hopefully provide guidance and inspire villages to consider local markets within their village. Markets are a great way to bring communities together, promote local produce and businesses.

[Market Toolkit - South Cambs District Council \(scambs.gov.uk\)](https://scambs.gov.uk)

New Interim Chief Executive Officer appointed at the Combined Authority

The Combined Authority Board held on Monday 27th June approved the recommendation from the Employment Committee to appoint Gordon Mitchell as the interim Chief Executive Officer (CEO). I am pleased to see that a new CEO has been appointed, as it is important to have leadership at the top of the Combined Authority. It is clear to me that there are problems at the Combined Authority that need addressing asap. The following letter was sent to the Combined Authority at the end of last month indicating that funding will be stopped unless relevant plans are put in place to show that the money is being spent wisely and the relevant due diligence has been carried out.

"As you know, we are aware of issues regarding the governance and leadership capacity within the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) which have prompted your external auditors to write to the Chair of CPCA's Audit and Governance Committee setting out a series of concerns.

While CPCA has now formally approached the Department for assistance in driving improvements in these areas, we will be taking a precautionary approach to the transfer of funding to CPCA until we have assurance that there are appropriate plans in place to reach a resolution. In the first instance, the Department will therefore be pausing the payment of 2022/23 Mayoral Capacity Funding and 2022/23 Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Core Funding to CPCA.

If you consider that the pause poses any financial risk to the authority, or its local investments, then you should advise the area team at the earliest instance, who will work with you to understand the issues and to identify potential mitigations.”

To see a copy of the external auditors report for the Combined Authority click the link below.

[Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority - VFM Significant Risk Letter \(cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk\)](https://www.cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk)

£4 million funding plan to boost numeracy skills

I am pleased to see the Combined Authority allocating £4 million funding through Multiply, a £559m Government-funded initiative aiming to transform the lives of hundreds of thousands of adults across the UK through adult numeracy programmes, boosting confidence to help support people’s careers and wider life skills.

The £4m funding will run for three years and is subject to Government approval of a plan being developed by the Combined Authority to help tailor the Multiply offer specifically for the region. The plan will contribute to The Combined Authority’s wider skills strategy to build a better skilled workforce to improve lives and wellbeing, support employers’ needs, and to attract more national and global investment into the area.

Improving numeracy skills helps people unlock new job or training opportunities, achieve higher wages and support with everyday living like bills and budgeting or helping children with homework. Developing better life skills at work and home can create a better sense of wellbeing and overall quality of life.

Strike action threatened by South Cambs Bin workers

Unfortunately like many others we found out from the press that strike action was being threatened at South Cambs over an ‘insulting’ pay offer. A link to the article is below, I have raised concerns about this with senior officers at the council and will feed back any updates in due course.

[South Cambridgeshire bin workers threaten strike over pay after receiving 'insulting' offer - Cambridgeshire Live \(cambridge-news.co.uk\)](https://www.cambridge-news.co.uk)

Cllr Heather Williams

SCDC The Mordens Ward

Tel: 07885 774 775

Email: cllr.williamsh@scambs.gov.uk

Twitter: @Cllr_H_Williams

Facebook Page: Cllr Heather Williams

Website: www.cllrheatherwilliams.co.uk