



# Cambridge Labour City Council Report 2023

**Labour in Cambridge is all about taking actions and this report outlines our top 40 achievements in the past year.** Despite difficult times financially, we've consistently delivered against our four key pledges: tackle poverty and inequality and promote food and fuel justice; achieve a net zero council by 2030 and address the climate and biodiversity emergencies; build a new generation of sustainable council homes and reduce homelessness; protect local services despite Tory cuts, modernising the council and helping the most vulnerable during the pandemic and beyond.

**We aim to be compassionate, forward-thinking and ambitious for Cambridge whilst managing our finances prudently.** The Cost of Living Crisis has been our biggest priority this year in ensuring our residents have been fully supported.

**We want all our communities to thrive.** To be able to do that, they need enough to live on; safe, warm, decent, genuinely affordable homes; to have access to good food and green, open spaces; and to have clean air and safe streets. **We're proud of our record.**

However, we don't do all this alone. We are so lucky in Cambridge to have so many charities, faith groups, voluntary groups and businesses who contribute so much to our community. I want to thank them and I commit to continuing to work cooperatively with them to serve our city.

The next few years are not going to be easy for any of us. But what I can promise is that we will continue to work tirelessly as councillors, with and for our whole city and those who live and work here. **Cambridge deserves a compassionate, principled council with a strong track record and a clear vision for the future.** One that understands the links between social, economic, and environmental justice. **It's only by voting Labour on May 4th** that you can guarantee that the work we've been doing can continue, and that we can continue to work together to create One Cambridge, Fair for All.



Cllr Anna Smith,  
Leader of Cambridge City Council

**VOTE LABOUR  
ON MAY 4TH**

  
**LABOUR**  
**VOTE**

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# Top 40 Cambridge Labour Achievements in 2022-23



We were recognised as joint 14th best local authority for our work tackling climate change- in the top 10% of all authorities nationally and 5th greenest city centre in the UK

Supported **510** refugees arriving from Ukraine



Funded 42 warm spaces across the city and pop up events to address the cost-of-living crisis



Continued the consultation process for our Draft Local Plan with over 9000 comments received and 30 online or in-person events held at community centres, forums, and webinars

Provided 20 rooms this winter for people who may otherwise be sleeping rough

Delivering 800 electric charging points in council car parks

Secured **£1.3m** package to help support people, communities and businesses under the Govt Shared Prosperity Fund



Ran a 5-week summer holiday programme, with free activities for primary school children every day

Ran a successful grant scheme across the city, delivering environmental improvements in all wards



Supported food hubs to distribute over 200 tonnes of food



Supported healthy living with 46,644 concessionary swims for those on low incomes

Funding secured from Green Recovery Fund in partnership with Cambridge Nature Network to trial grassland restoration techniques on our commons

Confirmed our ongoing commitment as a Real Living Wage Employer, with employees receiving the new uplift



Provided new facilities for young people, including a pump track at Chesterton Recreation Ground and a new 15-metre slide at Abbey Leisure centre

**£30,000** in sustainable city grants for projects reducing waste and carbon emissions



Provided free hot lunches with local partners to low-income families in 7 wards during the school holidays



A trial of 8 bin lorries fuelled by vegetable oil saw their net carbon emissions cut by 90% and a second electric bin lorry was introduced



Future Business Centre operated by Allia opened, supporting start-ups, charities, and enterprises



Completed **1,857** emergency repairs & **12,000** responsive repairs to council homes



Awarded over **£1 million** in community Grants



Started work on the first Passivhaus council homes at Fen Road

Successful Domestic Abuse Conference at the Guildhall



Set up a Private Renters' Forum and are working to support private tenants

Our equalities programme supported Black History Month, Refugee Week and Holocaust Memorial Day, GRT History Month and Cambridge Pride



Secured Govt funding to undertake a study to explore the feasibility of developing a City Centre Heat Network with Cambridge University



Planted over **1,400** trees, cleared **2,392** cases of fly-tipping and collected over **43,000** tonnes of materials for recycling and composting



Doing research to create a place-based, social investment organisation



We received purple flag reaccreditation recognising our efforts to promote night-time safety



Provided **£20,000** in energy vouchers to our residents in urgent financial need



Completed **8** Cambridge Investment Partnership developments, with work underway on a further **11** sites, beating our target of starting **500** new council homes on site a year early with **694** council homes either completed or underway

Music in the Parks programme with **7** free concerts across the city



Working to reduce energy consumption in council homes & low-income homes after securing **£6.46m** with other Cambs local authorities from Govt



Brought back the City Bonfire and Fireworks event



Administered **£36m** of Covid business grants and rate relief

Provided **700** Christmas hampers with our partners for families struggling at Christmas



**28,000** eligible Cambridge households received their **£150** energy rebate



Reduction in reported cycle theft by **58%** since 2019



Prevented homelessness for **394** households

Supported rough sleepers with self-contained accommodation & **£324,000** in grants to voluntary groups supporting homeless people



Region of Learning programme was launched promoting learning, training, and work opportunities for young people

