

Mike Sole

Kent County Councillor -Canterbury South

Canterbury City Councillor – Nailbourne

July 2023 Update



The on-going dispute with the GMB union staff at **Canenco** continues to impact bin collections. I am involved in regular meetings to keep abreast of the situation and working to make sure that bins are collected. I know that many garden waste bins in our area have missed two collections in a row due to the strike and I am working to ensure that this does not happen for the third time. Black bins should now all be being collected as usual but there is currently no collection of food waste or recycling.

I attended parish council meetings at **Barham** and **Bridge** this month. If there are issues that parishes wish to discuss and I am unable to attend their meetings due to diary clashes, I am also happy to arrange to meet up at other times, particularly if seeing issues at first hand on the ground would be helpful.

Work has now begun on re-drafting the **Local Plan** and I am hopeful that the revised version will be much less controversial.

At **KCC Council** I raised the issue of water shortages, the hosepipe ban and the impact of this on council services and huge housing developments across Kent.

At **Canterbury City Council** I took questions as the cabinet member for finance on Canenco and the re-opening of **Sturry Park & Ride**. The city council also agreed to start the process of declaring a **bio-diversity emergency**.

I was very pleased to be able to address students at **St Alselm's** school about campaigning.

I continue to have helpful conversations with **Kent Police** on a number of local issues that has resulted in action being taken.

The KCC budget is going to be especially tough this year with significant savings (cuts!) required to balance the budget. We've already seen the reduction in subsidised bus services, and now there is a consultation on reductions to the community warden service and the total budget for the council, as well as other that can be completed at <https://letstalk.kent.gov.uk>

I am delighted to see the 40mph limit and resurfacing now completed at **Stone Street, Petham**.



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