

Mike Sole's report

Kent County Councillor -Canterbury South

Canterbury City Councillor – Nailbourne

SEPTEMBER 2023



After last month's bus chaos, things appear to have settled down in the last few weeks, but please do let me know if there are issues that I can work with KCC and **Stagecoach** on.

As Cabinet Member for Finance, The City Council Budget has kept me extremely busy over the last few months, but I am pleased that we will shortly be going out to consultation on proposals for 2024/25. The proposals include, re-opening the Sturry park & ride, bringing back the city centre market, investing in biodiversity and climate change initiatives, bringing back three hours free blue badge parking, introducing a residents' rate at some car parks, recruiting a tree officer, supporting struggling families by extending the council's early intervention work, and investing in systems to get the best out of the council's property portfolio. Once the consultation is launched, please do take the time to make your views known.

I attended the parish council meeting at **Bishopsbourne** and the **Adisham** Big Breakfast with Cllr Lee Castle, where it was good to catch up with residents' issues.

At the city council I have attended meeting of the Cabinet and full Council, as well as the special Council meeting to appoint new alderman of the city to acknowledge their public service.

With the KCC Growth & Economic Development and Communities Committee I visited Dover District to see the changes that they are making to their area.

I was very pleased to have the opportunity to meet up with the German Deputy Ambassador to the UK to discuss how we might be able to boost the profile of the district and attract tourists and businesses to the area.

I had a meeting about the **Wincheap** gyratory scheme with KCC, who are adamant that the scheme will proceed, albeit with some minor tweaks.

Road closures have continued to keep me busy, in particular those in **Bridge** and **Wincheap**.



(KCC) : mike.sole@kent.gov.uk

(CCC) : mike.sole@councillor.canterbury.gov.uk