

Cambridge & Peterborough Combined Authority Mayor Candidate Transport Ready Reckoner

Source of policies: *Cambridge Independent* newspaper, accessed 19 April 2017



Candidate	Party	Candidate statements on improving transport/infrastructure	Cambridge Connect policy assessment
James Palmer	Conservative	<p>I am fully aware that the City Deal has so far failed to live up to the expectations that we all had when the deal was announced...Whilst I will be prepared to work with the City Deal to improve congestion in Cambridge, the Combined Authority will not be looking to take over or control the City Deal. The Combined Authority will stand alone and be able to act more quickly and implement infrastructure improvements without the need to go through the complicated process of the City Deal.</p> <p>Debilitating congestion...MUST be addressed and I believe the only practical answer is an underground and light railway...Only an underground will transport people safely and quickly...</p>	<p>Policy views Combined Authority working in parallel with, rather than replacing, the City Deal. The Combined Authority is positioned to bring leadership to “act more quickly and implement infrastructure improvements”. Policy shows commitment to light rail and tunnelling to help address transport challenges in Cambridge and the region.</p> <p>CC Assessment: Commitment to light rail and tunnelling is a positive vision for the future. The policy is bold and long-term with real potential to make step-change differences.</p>
Rod Cantrill	Lib Dem	<p>It is sad that City Deal leaders have ignored residents’ views. The way it has been run illustrates how devolution should not be done. As Mayor, I will look to put party politics aside – as I did in the EU referendum – and work with the City Deal to find long-term solutions, particularly on transport issues. I will be a strong voice encouraging short-term measures like scrapping Park and Ride parking charges, enabling us to look at answers such as tunnels or light rail.</p>	<p>Policy acknowledges shortcomings of City Deal, though believes the best approach is to work with the City Deal to find long-term solutions on transport. Policy commits to “look at answers such as tunnels or light rail”.</p> <p>CC Assessment: Good aspirations, and policy shows commitment to long-term solutions and assessing light rail and tunnels.</p>
Kevin Price	Labour	<p>The mayor will have an important role to play in determining transport strategy across the whole area ... The mayor can ...highlight the lessons to be learned from the City Deal in how we involve, communicate with and listen to residents about decisions that impact their communities, to encourage thinking ... about innovative solutions such as light rail and to make the case to the Treasury for substantive investment.</p> <p>Rail links are vital for freight and passengers...and I want to look at radical solutions for the region such as light rail.</p>	<p>The policies express support for a long-term transport strategy and acknowledge lessons from the City Deal and the need to improve it. Price encourages thinking about innovative solutions such as light rail and commits to make the case to Treasury for substantive investment.</p> <p>CC Assessment: Good aspirations and support for long-term strategy, although encouraging “thinking...about innovative solutions such as light rail” seems lacking in commitment to implementation.</p>

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Julie Howell	Green	It's painfully obvious that the deal is deeply unpopular with those it affects. The protests about the proposed busway at the West Fields has caused many residents and their supporters to rise up in protest. I'm keen to add my voice to theirs. I would work with all communities to deliver the infrastructure they so urgently want and need and will help people living and working in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough to develop their communities in ways which are both sustainable and healthy. I will work hard to ensure all parties get the type of development that supports their needs and acknowledges their wishes.	Green Party opposes creation of the Combined Authority, although is still fielding a candidate. Policy supports "sustainability" and offers to provide "infrastructure they so urgently want and need", but vague about what that means in practical terms for transport. No policy on light rail or tunnelling for Cambridge. CC Assessment: Policy vague about practical transport solutions or actions. A Mayor that opposes the Combined Authority they would nominally head is unlikely to result in positive improvements.
Peter Dawe	Independent	We need a 21st-century transport system that is zero emissions, accident free, fast, comfortable and accessible to all. Last-century trains, buses, cars and bicycles cannot do this. Electric autonomous vehicles optimised for short, medium and long distance can. City Deal and the county council have to design the transition from the current failed systems to the system of the future.	Policy supports a modern transport system. Rail meets the Dawe criteria, yet is also criticised as "Last-century". Electric autonomous vehicles seen as answer for the future. CC Assessment: Worthy aspirations but adding more vehicles – albeit electric and autonomous – to our roads seems at odds with capacity constraints. Policies do not recognise light rail as a practical solution that meets policy criteria now. It seems unlikely the City Deal / County will design the "system of the future".
Paul Bullen	UKIP	I am well aware that partnership working is the only way to get things done and I will work closely with everyone involved in transport and infrastructure in Cambridgeshire. However, improving road maintenance will be my priority and mending potholes is more important than council vanity schemes. I will upgrade public transport, especially maintaining and reinstating rural bus routes that many communities depend on and which feed town centre businesses and markets. I will increase the provision of free parking to regenerate town centres and boost business. Notwithstanding the above, I will fight to reduce local government and bureaucracy whenever possible.	UKIP opposes creation of the Combined Authority, although is still fielding a candidate. Policy supports road maintenance, mending potholes, rural bus routes, free parking (cars) and reducing local government and bureaucracy "whenever possible". CC Assessment: Policies outmoded, lack vision, will not address congestion, and will fail to deliver modal shift from cars to public transport. Policy lacks understanding of climate change or sustainability. A Mayor that opposes the Combined Authority they would nominally head is unlikely to result in positive improvements.