## FENLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL PRESS RELEASE

## 9 February 2023

## Essential gas pipe upgrade to begin next week

Essential work to upgrade gas pipes in March town centre is due to get under way next week.

Cadent, which manages the local gas network, is replacing aging under-ground gas mains to ensure the network is fit for the future and ready to keep energy flowing safely in the town for decades to come.

Work is due to start on Monday (Feb 13) and should last 12 weeks.

With a multi-million pound improvement project also now under way in the town centre, the vital gas pipes work has been carefully planned in consultation with Fenland District Council and the local highways authority, Cambridgeshire County Council, to minimise disruption.

Cllr Chris Seaton, Fenland District Council portfolio holder for social mobility and heritage and lead member of the March Future High Streets steering group, said: "We know the short-term disruptions related to these huge improvements will pose challenges.

"We want to assure residents and businesses that every effort has gone into carefully coordinating these essential works with the rest of the upgrade and improvement to March town centre to keep disruption to a minimum."

The initial gas works are due to be in the area of Dartford Road, Darthill Road and Robingoodfellow's Lane. A sign-posted diversionary route will be in place.

The southbound carriageway of Broad Street is due to be closed to traffic from the middle of next month (March), when the northbound carriageway will become two-way to ensure traffic can still use Broad Street in both directions.

The works are to allow the gas main on Broad Street and Dartford Road to be moved.

Some gas supplies local to the area may be disrupted. Those most likely to be affected have been informed by Cadent.

The multi-million pound transformation of March town centre is a combination of projects by many partners. It will create a more open, social and pedestrian-friendly environment and increase traffic flow through the town centre.

The March Market Place regeneration part of the project is already under way and expected to be complete next month (March).

- For questions about the gas works call: 0800 151 2404 or email <u>CustomerCareEastern@cadentgas.com</u>
- For more details on the partnership project to transform March town centre see: <u>www.fenland.gov.uk/article/17221/Multi-million-pound-transformation-of-March-town-centre-is-under-way</u>

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