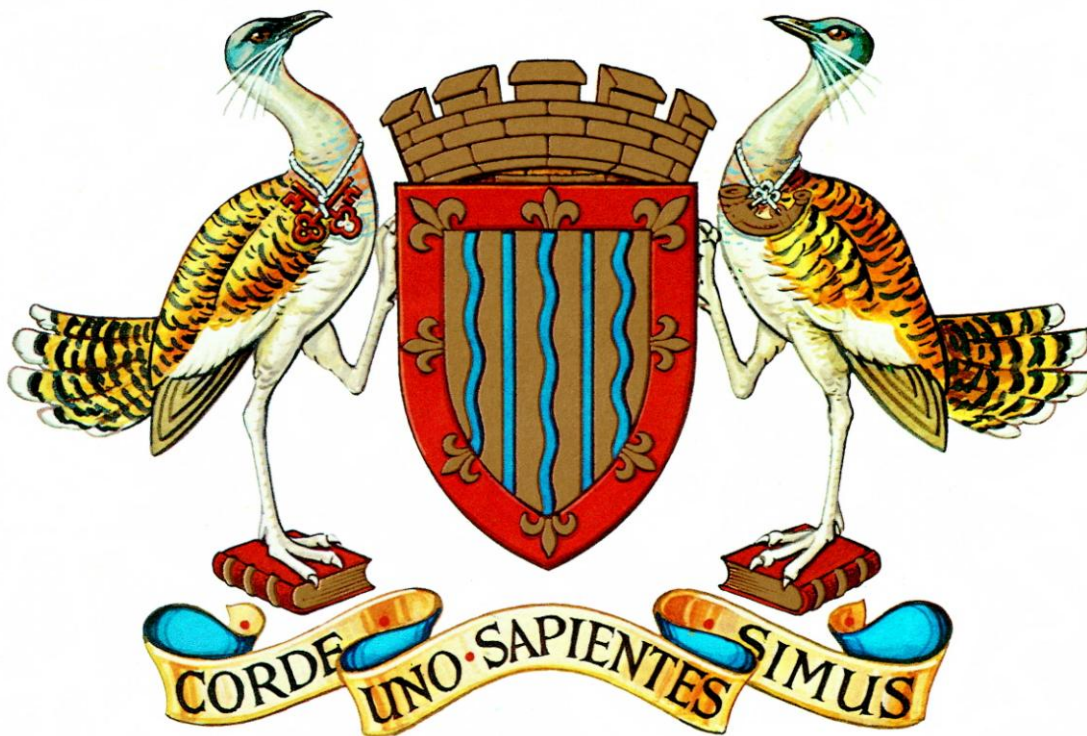


Cambridgeshire District & County Council Coats of Arms
CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ARMS



Heraldic Description:

ARMS: *Or three Palets wavy alternating with two Palets Azure a Bordure Gules flory on the inner edge Or; the Shield ensigned by a Mural Crown Or.*

SUPPORTERS: *On either side a Great Bustard proper the exterior leg resting on a closed Book Gules garnished Or pendent from the neck of the dexter by a Cord Argent two Keys in saltire wards uppermost and outwards Gules and from the neck of the sinister by a like Cord a Hunting Horn mouth to the dexter Or.*

BADGE: *Within an Annulet ensigned by a Coronet a Bar Or between two Bars wavy Azure.*

MOTTO:

'CORDE UNO SAPIENTES SIMUS'

With one heart let us be men and women of understanding.

Granted 1st November 1976.

The County of Cambridgeshire was formed in 1974 by the amalgamation of the County of Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely and the County of Huntingdon and Peterborough. These two former counties had in 1965 been formed from the former County of Cambridgeshire, the County of Isle of Ely, the County of Huntingdonshire, and the County of Soke of Peterborough (geographically in Northamptonshire).

EXPLANATION OF IMAGERY:

The three wavy vertical lines represent the three principal rivers of the County, the Cam, the Nene, and the Ouse, while the two straight lines represent the many man-made drains of the

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Fens. The arms of the earlier authorities did not include such vertical lines, but a diagonal wavy line appeared in the arms of the old Cambridgeshire CC and in the arms of Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely CC, horizontal wavy lines were in the arms of the Isle of Ely CC and the arms of Huntingdonshire CC, and multiple horizontal straight lines were in the arms of the Soke of Peterborough CC. In every case either the bend or bar or its background were blue, indicating the rivers of the fenland, though in the case of the Soke of Peterborough the bars were derived from the arms of the Cecil family. The border of the shield with fleurs-de-lys extending into it from the gold of the shield is reminiscent of the "double tressure flory counter flory", which appeared in the former Cambridgeshire and Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely arms, and which came from the Royal arms of Scotland. This recalls the fact that in the twelfth and early thirteenth centuries the earldom of Huntingdon and Cambridge was held by successive kings of Scotland. The mural crown appeared in both the Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely arms and in the Huntingdon and Peterborough arms, and before that in the arms of the Soke of Peterborough. It represents the castles which formerly guarded the principal towns of the county, and is a customary emblem over the shield of a local authority.

The great bustards, which appeared in the arms of the old Cambridgeshire and of Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely, were birds of the fens, but became extinct in England in the mid-19th century. Books first appeared in the arms of Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely and represent the learning of the University. The two keys around the neck of one great bustard are taken from the arms of the Soke of Peterborough and before that from the arms of the See of Peterborough. They also appeared in the crest and the badge of Huntingdon and Peterborough. They represent the keys of St. Peter. The hunting horn was in the crest of Huntingdonshire and is a play on the name of that county.