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[Michael O'Toole becomes CCF's new CEO](#)



Kate Nation and members of Turtle Dove Cambridge receiving their certificate from Richard Pemberton, High Sheriff of Cambridgeshire

Michael O'Toole, one of the UK's most experienced social enterprise champions, has been appointed Chief Executive Officer of the Cambridgeshire Community Foundation, only the second in its history. He replaces Jane Darlington who was responsible for setting up CCF in 2004.

Michael says "I am thrilled to be joining the CCF team. I want to build upon CCF's strong foundations and the incredible work of Jane Darlington to link our many community organisations with the fantastic generosity of donors to improve the quality of life for the more vulnerable, and those people facing the greatest challenges in Cambridgeshire."

Michael was the UK's first Crown Representative for the voluntary sector (2012-14), a Cabinet Office role created by the government to open up more public-sector funding opportunities for the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector.

A graduate in Business, Finance & Law, his early career was in marketing and business development. In 2010, he became Chief Executive of 3SC, an innovative consortium aiming to increase opportunities for the smaller charities and community groups to deliver public services.

He has 16 years' experience working in the charity sector and as a volunteer has been a primary school governor, chair of Home-Start Herts, a trustee of PTA-UK, and a grants advisor to the Big Lottery Fund. He was also part of Lord Young's commission to review the impact of the Social Value Act.

Father of four, Michael joins CCF from Mentor UK which works to protect children and young people from the harm caused by drugs and alcohol. As CEO there for four years, one important achievement was to persuade the Home Office in 2017 to focus the National Drugs Strategy on prevention and early intervention.

The announcement of Michael's appointment was made by Simon Humphrey, Chair of CCF's Board of Trustees. "Michael is passionate about our aims to identify local needs and inspire philanthropy," he said. "With him leading CCF, we have a great opportunity over the next 12 months and beyond to make a lasting difference all across Cambridgeshire."

Michael will take up the role at the end of June.