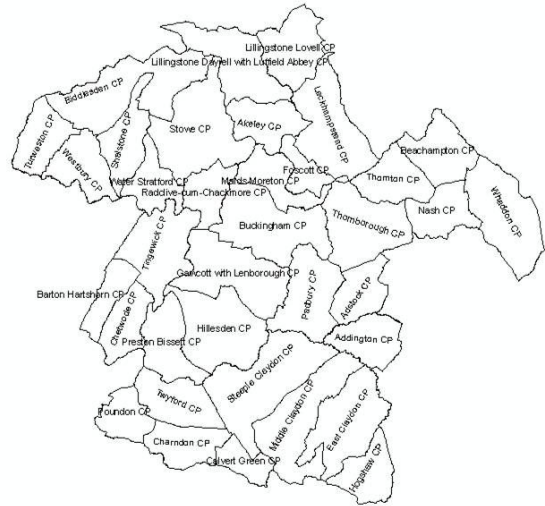


## BUCKINGHAM LOCAL AREA FORUM



<b>DATE:</b>	25 June 2009
<b>TIME:</b>	7.00 pm
<b>LOCATION:</b>	Buckingham Community Centre

***Please note: between 5.45-6.45pm there will be an opportunity for Members and Members of the Public to discuss local issues with the Local Area Technician and officers of Transport for Buckinghamshire and the Adult Social Care co-ordinator for the Buckingham Community Area.***

### AGENDA

Item		Page No
<b>1</b>	<b>Appointment of Chairman</b>	
<b>2</b>	<b>Appointment of Vice Chairman</b>	
<b>3</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence / Changes in Membership</b>	
<b>4</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> To declare any personal or prejudicial interests	
<b>5</b>	<b>Action Notes</b> To confirm the notes of the meeting held on 26 March 2009.	<b>1 - 12</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Chairman's Update</b>	
<b>7</b>	<b>Question Time</b> Question Time can be for up to a period of 30 minutes. Members of the public are encouraged to submit their questions in advance of the meeting to facilitate a full answer on the day of the meeting. Questions sent in advance will be dealt with first and verbal questions after.	
<b>8</b>	<b>Petitions</b> None received	
<b>9</b>	<b>Community First Responders</b> A member of the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Ambulance Trust will present to Members on the role of a Community First Responder.	
<b>10</b>	<b>Delegated Budget</b>	

	<p><b>a Update on Transportation Delegated Budget items agreed at the last meeting</b> See item 8 of the Action Notes.</p>	
	<p><b>b Local Area Forum Budgets</b> Please see attached report which also includes the Positive Activities for Young People (PAYP) application form.</p>	<b>13 - 20</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Transportation Update</b>	
<b>12</b>	<p><b>Aylesbury Vale District Council Core Strategy/Local Development Framework</b> The Core Strategy has been published for public comment. The period for comment runs from 10 June 2009 to 22 July 2009. The Forum may wish to discuss whether to make any comments to the Core Strategy.</p> <p>If you wish to see the series of consultation documents relating to the Core Strategy, please access the Aylesbury Vale District Council website (<a href="http://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk">www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk</a>).</p>	
<b>13</b>	<p><b>Buckingham Canal Society Update</b> Terry Cavender to report back to Members. Report attached.</p>	<b>21 - 22</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>Police and NAG Update</b>	
<b>15</b>	<p><b>PCT issues</b> Please see attached the news release from the Buckinghamshire Primary Care Trust about the temporary suspension of the services of the Minor Injuries Unit at Buckingham Hospital.</p> <p>This issue is going to be discussed at a public meeting of the Public Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (PHOSC) on Friday 3 July starting at 10am in Mezzanine Room 1, County Offices, Walton Street, Aylesbury. The Chairman of the Committee is aware of the concerns of the community in Buckingham and would welcome representatives of the Local Area Forum to attend this meeting. Any questions raised at the LAF meeting will be reported to the PHOSC prior to the 3 July meeting and representatives of the PCT will be invited to respond to the questions.</p> <p>If you have any questions regarding the meeting, please contact Liz Wheaton (<a href="mailto:ewheaton@buckscc.gov.uk">ewheaton@buckscc.gov.uk</a>).</p> <p>The "Hospital" direction highways signs located in and around Buckingham were provided less than 18 months ago at a cost of approximately £42,000. The part of the sign relating to the Minor Injuries Unit will be covered up.</p>	<b>23 - 24</b>
<b>16</b>	<p><b>Open Forum</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to essential services (Health Car Scheme). Malcolm Godwin, Market Town Co-ordinator, will update the LAF on this exciting new project which is being launched in the Aylesbury Vale area.</li> <li>• The following questions have been received in advance of the meeting. Apart from question one, the rest of the questions will be dealt with at the meeting. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Buckinghamshire Transport Strategy - how does it relate to AVDC Core Strategy? Submitted by Warren Whyte,</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	<b>25 - 26</b>

	<p>Buckingham South Ward (Town Council).</p> <p>Transport for Buckinghamshire has prepared the 'Aylesbury Vale Rest of District Transport Strategy' which forms part of the AVDC LDF Evidence Base. Attached is a response from TfB to respond to the recent Buckingham Town Council press release on this matter.</p> <p>TfB would point out that the strategy does not contain anything new, and it is simply pulling together existing proposals from Local Transport Plan 2 (LTP). LTP3 will advance our strategy for Buckingham further, and taking consideration of the distribution of Local Development Framework growth in the town, when this is known. A response is attached.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Flood Group update - errors in the Buckingham EA/Core Strategy Flood Map. Submitted by Warren Whyte, Buckingham South Ward (Town Council)</li> <li>3. The LTP 2 Transport Strategy evidence presented in the AVDC Strategy documents. Submitted by John Riches and Marc Linton, Middle Claydon</li> <li>4. Some form of communication updating Parish Councils on the progress on Road Repairs. Submitted by John Riches and Marc Linton, Middle Claydon</li> <li>5. Indifferent performance on achieving progress on previous issues raised in LAF meetings. Submitted by John Riches and Marc Linton, Middle Claydon</li> </ol>	
<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>Information Items</b></p> <p>In the absence of a newsletter this month, see the following information items.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1940s Day</li> </ul> <p>On Friday 5th June Buckingham Library was transported back to the 1940s. Customers found themselves being served by a land girl, a 1940s housewife and even an evacuee. We had a very enjoyable day chatting and reminiscing with our customers while they enjoyed our tea and cakes. The cakes were made by staff and friends to wartime recipes. The staff also raided their attics for items from the era. Many interesting items were unearthed including photos newspapers and even a RAF uniform.</p> <p>In the afternoon, following their wartime menu lunch, the evacuees (clients) from the local Red Cross centre were given their name tags and evacuated to the library. A pleasant hour was spent with them while they tucked into our tea and cakes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult Social Care forthcoming events</li> <li>• Opportunities for external funding of schemes (See attached report).</li> <li>• Buckinghamshire Network Hierarchy – A Reference Document</li> </ul>	<p><b>27 - 34</b></p>

	<p>Consultation (See attached a copy of a consultation letter which includes links to the reference document and executive summary).</p>	
<b>18</b>	<p><b>Date of Next and Future Meetings</b> The next meeting will take place on Thursday 17 September 2009 at the Villiers Hotel in Buckingham from 7pm.</p> <p>Future date(s):  3 December (provisional date)</p>	

## Members

County Councillors and District Councillors:

David Polhill, Buckinghamshire County Council (Chairman)  
Stefan Balbuza, Aylesbury Vale District Council (Vice-Chairman)  
Hedley Cadd, Buckinghamshire County Council  
John Cartwright, Buckinghamshire County Council  
John Chilver, Aylesbury Vale District Council  
Derrick Isham, Aylesbury Vale District Council  
Huw Lewis, Aylesbury Vale District Council  
Tim Mills, Aylesbury Vale District Council  
Jackie Phipps, Aylesbury Vale District Council  
Susan Polhill, Aylesbury Vale District Council  
David Rowlands, Buckinghamshire County Council  
Lindsay Rowlands, Aylesbury Vale District Council  
Sir Beville Stanier, Aylesbury Vale District Council

Parish and Town Councils:

Addington  
Adstock  
Akeley  
Barton  
Beachampton  
Biddlesden  
Buckingham  
Calvert Green  
Charndon  
Chetwode  
East Claydon  
Foscote  
Gawcott with Lenborough  
Hillesden  
Hogshaw  
Leckhampstead  
Lillingstone Dayrell with Luffield Abbey  
Lillingstone Lovell  
Maids Moreton  
Middle Claydon  
Nash  
Padbury

Poundon  
Preston Bissett  
Radclive-cum-Chackmore  
Shalstone  
Steeple Claydon  
Stowe  
Thornborough  
Thornton  
Tingewick  
Turweston  
Twyford  
Water Stratford  
Westbury  
Whaddon

Partner Agencies : Thames Valley Police, Bucks Fire and Rescue, Buckinghamshire PCT,  
Voluntary Sector representatives

Democratic Services Contact : Liz Wheaton, Tel 01296 383856, Email  
ewheaton@buckscc.gov.uk  
Please contact me if you have any special requirements e.g. hearing loop



## ACTION NOTES

<b>MEETING:</b>	<b>Buckingham Local Area Forum</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>26 March 2009 7.00 pm to 9.10 pm</b>
<b>LOCATION:</b>	<b>Thornton College, Thornton, Milton Keynes, MK17 0HJ</b>

<b>Present:</b>	M. L. Beck (Maids Moreton), Chris Benton (Water Stratford), Hedley Cadd (Buckinghamshire County Council), Ivy Cakebread (Stowe), Stuart Chaplin (Thornton), John Chilver (Aylesbury Vale District Council), Geoff Culverhouse (Nash Parish Council), P J Fealey (Gawcott with Lenborough), Christine Hutton (Preston Bissett Parish Council), Derrick Isham (Aylesbury Vale District Council), Roger Landells (Twyford Parish Council), Mark Linton (Middle Claydon Parish Council), Jean Pallister (Beachampton Parish Council), Jackie Phipps (Aylesbury Vale District Council), David Polhill (Buckinghamshire County Council) (Chairman), Susan Polhill (Aylesbury Vale District Council), John Riches (Middle Claydon Parish Council), Kim Shepherd (Calvert Green), Mike Smith (Buckingham Town Council) and Sir Beville Stanier (Aylesbury Vale District Council)
<b>In Attendance:</b>	Karen Adamson, Mrs J Beckett, Amanda Brooke-Webb, Ann-Marie Davies, Simon Dudley, James Fox, Steve Goldensmith, Lynne Kuschel, Ian Reed, Liz Smith, Mrs E Sparrows, Liz Wheaton and Anne Wilson
<b>Apologies:</b>	Hugh Carey, Terry Cavender, Tim Mills, David Rowlands and Lady Scott

Item	ISSUES RAISED
<b>1</b>	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE / CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP</b>  Apologies were received from Rima Scot (Foscote Parish Meeting), Councillor Tim Mills (AVDC), Terry Cavender (Akeley Parish Council), Mike Mortimer (Akeley Parish Council), Councillor David Rowlands (Bucks County Council), and Turweston Parish Council.
<b>2</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>  There were no declarations of interest.
<b>3</b>	<b>ACTION NOTES</b>  The action notes of the meeting held on 4 December 2008 were confirmed as a correct record.
<b>4</b>	<b>PETITIONS</b>  There were no petitions.
<b>5</b>	<b>CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE</b>  The Chairman explained to Members that no decision has yet been made regarding the Energy from Waste proposal. He went on to say that in the present economic climate, a number of the tenders for the work have had to be reviewed.
<b>6</b>	<b>QUESTION TIME</b>  <b>Question from Padbury Parish Council</b>

“What is happening with the speed limit review through Padbury?”

**Response**

Ann-Marie Davies, Transport Local Area Co-ordinator said she would respond to Padbury Parish Council after the meeting.

**Action: Ann-Marie Davies**

**Question from East Claydon**

“In terms of section 106 funding - How much say does the local community have in the use of funds arising from developments in their own parish? Is this enough?”

**Response**

The Chairman introduced Sue Polhill, Aylesbury Vale District Councillor, who took Members through Section 106 (s.106) arrangements. She explained that s.106 arrangements were originally set-up as a way of giving something back to the Community. The grant can only be used to provide, or enhance, leisure facilities for a community where more than 4 houses have been built. Sue explained that the District Council acts like a bank and holds the money on behalf of the parish/town and once the project has been approved then the money can be held for up to 10 years. Sue said that all parish and town clerks should have received a leaflet with further information about s.106 arrangements and how to apply for funding. She asked Members to contact her if they wanted further copies of the leaflet.

Sue’s email address is [spolhill@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk](mailto:spolhill@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk).

During discussion, the following questions were asked.

A Member asked why the funding was only available where four or more houses have been built. Sue replied that four houses would require more leisure facilities than just one house so it is based around the needs of more than one house.

A Member asked why the money could only be used to provide leisure facilities and not used to introduce traffic control measures, for example. Sue explained that s.106 funding is part of the national framework and this is what Central Government have considered necessary and there is no deviation in terms of what it can be used for.

The Chairman thanked Sue for her presentation and then introduced James Fox.

James Fox, the s.106 activity co-ordinator for Bucks County Council, explained that his role is to be the focal point for developers and the public to ensure that applications do not get overlooked. He went on to explain that there is a two-tier system and the District and County Councils share responsibility in terms of planning. The Districts are responsible for affordable housing and the County Council is responsible for education, highways and libraries. There are rules and tests which have to be met and there needs to be a geographical link between the development and the need for the service.

A Member asked about the Mount Pleasant development in Buckingham in terms of the traffic calming. The Chairman asked the Member to email him the details and he would forward them to the relevant person.

**Action: Derrick Isham/David Polhill**

James went on to explain that the economic downturn has meant that the number of 106



	<p>applications has started to drop away as housing development has slowed down. James is monitoring the activity closely and commitments for funding must be honoured.</p> <p>A Member asked for a definition of “leisure”. James explained that there is not a set list of what is classed as recreational. The Chairman went on to say that section 106 funding can only be sought from a developer where there is a proven project underway.</p> <p>A Member asked whether it would be possible to have an opportunity to be involved in the s.106 process. The Member spoke from personal experience as they had asked to get involved in the negotiations but had not received a response and they then found out that the application for funding had been approved. The Member felt that the process should be more transparent and should provide an opportunity for people to get more involved. The Chairman agreed that the process is not as transparent as it should be. James went on to say that it is vital to get involved early as applications can not be negotiated retrospectively. He explained that, in terms of transparency, the information is available on the website. He said that until the document is signed, it is not a public document. Once it is signed and sealed, then it becomes a public document in the same way as any planning decision.</p> <p>Sue Polhill explained that every two years’, all parish and town councils should be written to and asked what their needs are in terms of leisure facilities.</p> <p>Attached is a briefing note which James Fox prepared on s.106 funding.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked both Sue and James for their presentations.</p>
<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>BUCKINGHAM TOWN CENTRE</b></p> <p>The Chairman introduced Pat Ward who is the Group Manager for Economy and Enterprise. She started by explaining that a number of retailers in market towns are coming under pressure and small industrial estates are also suffering in the economic downturn. She said that there are a number of initiatives around to help businesses through difficult times, including a Food Group which supports and encourages locally grown foods. There is also a Leader Programme which supports growers and foresters.</p> <p>Pat said that there are a number of events taking place around the County to support people including an event on 2 April at Beales Hotel in Buckingham which is focussing on re-skills for people. There is also an event on 28 April at the Civic Centre in Aylesbury which is entitled “Fresh Start” and this will focus on how to overcome the difficulties faced by redundancy. On 12 May, local developers will be meeting at Beales Hotel to hold a roundtable discussion about the most pressing issues they are currently facing.</p> <p>A Member asked whether anything was being done to assist retailers with their business rates. For example, monthly rather than quarterly rates. Pat responded that this is a matter for the District Councils to consider but she explained that it is difficult to offer incentives. The Chairman went on to say that the business rates are set by Central Government so the issue would need to be lobbied upwards to them.</p> <p>Pat concluded her presentation by asking Members to contact her should they require further information on any of the initiatives currently underway.</p> <p>Her email address is <a href="mailto:pat.ward@buckscc.gov.uk">pat.ward@buckscc.gov.uk</a></p>
<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>DELEGATED BUDGET</b></p>

	<p>Simon Dudley reiterated that the delegated budget for the Buckingham Local Area Forum is £21,000. He took Members through the bids which they had received and explained how each bid had been accessed and an estimated cost attached to each bid. The proposed schemes were circulated to Members to consider.</p> <p>It was agreed that the following schemes should be undertaken in 2009-2010. These were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide salt bins in the Hillesden area (£1,350).</li> <li>• To provide an extension to the existing footway in Nash High Street (£19,000).</li> </ul>
<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>THE FLOOD GROUP</b></p> <p>Derrick Isham provided Members with an update on the Flood Group meeting which took place at the Winslow Centre on 20 January. He explained that Terry Cavender's idea about clearing out the canal and redirecting the flood water was discussed but the view of the Environment Agency was that it would not work. He went on to say that there had been two further meetings with Buckingham Town Council and the meeting on 24 February was attended by Gary Dawson, the Emergency Planner Officer at Aylesbury Vale District Council. Gary Dawson explained that a bid had been submitted to DEFRA although it was recognised that there were limitations to the proposal – it relies upon the goodwill of neighbours to plug in the drainage system if the main landowner is not in residence.</p> <p>Derrick concluded by saying that Members must still keep the pressure on the Environment Agency.</p> <p>Attached is the Buckingham Flooding Newsletter which was produced by Gary Dawson. His contact telephone number is 01296 585370.</p>
<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>TRANSPORTATION UPDATE</b></p> <p>Simon Dudley, Area Manager in Transportation, answered Members questions relating to transportation issues.</p> <p>Ivy Cakebread from Stowe Parish Council asked for an update on the Speed Limit Review for Dadford. Simon explained that the review is due for implementation at the end of 2010. She then asked about the missing road signs (particularly the ones at Stowe crossroads) as this was her third time of asking. Simon said that David Kearney has been redesigning the signs and they should be ready at the end of May 2009. Simon will speak to David to confirm this.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action: Simon Dudley</b></p> <p>Ivy Cakebread also asked for an update on the repair of roads and potholes in and around Stowe. Simon explained that they have put a gully in place and transportation has acknowledged that there is a need to repair the road surface. He went on to say that the budgets have not been confirmed for this year.</p> <p>John Riches and Mark Linton from Middle Claydon Parish Council asked for an update on the road signs at Verney Junction. Simon said that the signs are with David Kearney and will be ready at the end of May 2009. Again, Simon said he would follow-up with David after the meeting.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action: Simon Dudley</b></p> <p>Representatives from Middle Claydon then went on to ask about the procedure for road condition</p>

	<p>inspecting. Simon explained that inspections are carried out within three months.</p> <p>A Member said that the community gang had visited Gawcott a number of times recently but the jobs which had been requested in that area had not been done. The Member wanted to know why the job list is not adhered to. Simon apologised for this and explained that the system is still relatively new and there are a number of improvements being made to the system so, in future, the service should improve.</p> <p>A Member explained that a number of faxes and emails had not been acknowledged. Again, Simon apologised for this and explained that communications will improve in future as this has been acknowledged as an area for improvement.</p> <p>Water Stratford Parish Council asked about the Speed Limit Review for Area 14. Simon responded by saying that the consultation period will be taking place in early 2010 and it will be implemented at the end of 2010. The Member also asked about general road resurfacing in their parish. Simon explained that there are budget constraints to consider and all jobs are being prioritised.</p> <p>Simon told Members that the Salting programme will be reviewed extensively over the Summer. He emphasised that there can't be major changes to the programme due to resource limitations but he asked Members to let him know of any roads which they felt should be considered.</p> <p>Simon went on to explain to Members about the changes occurring within Transportation. Certain roles, including Simon's, have been transferred over to Ringwood Jacobs who will be delivering a number of services across the County. Simon explained that this should result in more efficient processes over time and more control over the budgets. He said that the Community Gangs will continue and, hopefully, improve their service level in future.</p> <p>Simon said that the service area has been re-branded and is to be known, in future, as "Transport for Buckinghamshire". A Member asked how much the re-branding exercise had cost. Simon explained that Neil Gibson had been involved in the costs associated with changing the signs. Simon said he would follow-up on this after the meeting and report back to Members.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action: Simon Dudley</b></p>
<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>POLICE AND NAG UPDATE</b></p> <p>Wendy Taylor provided Members with an update on the Youth Event which is taking place at the Winslow Centre on Saturday 25 April. She said that publicity posters are currently being printed and will be available shortly and she reported that over 60 companies/organisations are involved in the event, including Sports 2012, Aylesbury College, Extended Services, the Voluntary sector and the local Youth Centres. She encouraged everyone to get involved and to spread the word amongst their local parishes. Wendy said that she is developing a "Tool kit" which contains all the contact details for the event so that other areas can run similar events in future.</p> <p>Wendy also updated Members on the priority areas for the Police and NAGs. These are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Speeding</li> <li>• Anti-Social Behaviour</li> <li>• Farm theft.</li> </ul>
<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>OPEN FORUM</b></p> <p>Karen Adamson, from Adult Social Care, reported to Members that over 260 people had been</p>

referred to the "In-Touch" service as a result of the surgeries held across the County. The next surgery is due to take place on 7 April at the Buckingham Community Centre. Karen then introduced Steven Goldensmith, who is a Voluntary Services Manager within Adult Social Care. Steven explained that his main aim is to increase the contact his team has with vulnerable people and to help everyone access services for elderly people.

Steven's email address is [sgoldensmith@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:sgoldensmith@buckscc.gov.uk) and his telephone number is 01296 383148.

The Chairman introduced Lynne Kuschel who is the Bucks 50+ co-ordinator. She explained that they are a not-for-profit organisation and they meet regularly to discuss service providers and, where appropriate, to challenge service providers. For example, Post Office closures, transport to and from hospital and proposed A&E closures. If anyone is interested in knowing more about the organisation, please contact Lynne Kuschel at [sugarchick@btopenworld.com](mailto:sugarchick@btopenworld.com).

Liz Smith from the Families Information Service provided an overview of the new Buckinghamshire Family Information Service which is being set-up by Bucks County Council. The main aim of the new service is to provide all families with a source of up-to-date information and advice. Liz explained that the Government decided in April last year to provide this information service for families and the Bucks service is due to launch in September 2009 in line with the national programme. Liz said that the service will be available via a telephone helpline as well as a web presence.

There is a consultation period at present where all families are being asked for their feedback on the new service. Liz asked all Members to actively encourage the new service within their parishes.

Attached is a copy of the questionnaire which everyone is being encouraged to complete. If anyone would like to know more about the new service, please contact Liz Smith on 01296 383870.

**13 DATE OF NEXT AND FUTURE MEETINGS**

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 25 June 2009 at the Buckingham Community Centre. There will be a drop-in session between 5.45-6.45pm for the members of the LAF and members of the public to raise transportation issues.

Future dates:

17 September 2009

3 December 2009 (provisional date).

The chairman thanked everyone for attending and asked Members to encourage more parishes to attend the next meeting.

**Briefing Note on Section 106 Issues**  
**for Buckingham Local Area Forum 26 March 2009**

**Context**

Current basis for seeking provision from developers for physical and social infrastructure is set out in Government Circular 05/2005 (Planning Obligations). These obligations, or developer contributions, are normally secured through an agreement under S106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and as such they are often referred to as “S106 agreements”. S106 are usually negotiated in the context of planning applications, between local planning authorities and persons with interests in land (or “developers”).

New developments including residential or commercial schemes should be supported with the necessary infrastructure i.e. roads, water and sewerage infrastructure, public transport, schools, libraries, recreational and health facilities and open spaces. A S106 will usually be required to secure these matters, although a local planning authority may use planning conditions where appropriate.

**General Principles**

Where existing infrastructure is inadequate to deal with the extra demands placed upon it as a result of new development, developers are expected to ensure that the necessary additional provision is made at no extra public cost.

Contributions are normally secured by way of a S106 between developers, Parish/Town, District and/or County Councils as service providers and facilitators. In addition to covering matters such as the scale and phasing of provision or contributions, a S106 will also cover trigger points for payments of contributions and arrangements for security bonds to provide financial guarantees.

Planning obligations are intended to make acceptable development which would otherwise be unacceptable in planning terms and contributions towards provision may either be in kind or in the form of a financial contribution. The latter can be made in a lump sum, or as phased payments. Their use however, is governed by the fundamental principle that planning permission may not be bought or sold.

In order for developers to predict the likely contributions they will be asked to make and anticipate the financial implications for their schemes, local authorities are advised to include as much information as possible in their Local Development Frameworks (LDF). General policies relating to the principles of planning obligations should be set out in the new-style Development Plan Documents (DPD), whereas more detailed policies applying to specific localities and the likely quantum of contributions should be included in Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD).

In Buckinghamshire’s case, relevant Development Plan policies currently include saved policy IN1 of the Buckinghamshire County Structure Plan (1991-2011) together with supporting policies in each of the four District Council Adopted Local Plans. Detailed requirements are also set out in various Supplementary Planning Guidance notes, (SPG).

**Protocol/liaison with Districts**

BCC welcomes consultations from the four Districts in their roles as determining authorities, as well as approaches from developers to identify the potential need for contributions at the earliest opportunity.

Consultation may be through the Plan making process (i.e. consultation on DPD and SPD), and also at the pre-planning application and planning application submission stages. This is

in order to identify the potential need for contributions, thereby enabling developers to build those needs into their land costs and negotiations; and so requirements can be identified enabling a clear policy background for the requirements to be a material consideration in the determination of any application.

S106 requirements do not necessarily need to be in a local plan/DPD for them to be a material consideration; some may arise through Environmental Assessment, Transport Assessment, or the public consultation process. It is advised that consultations should take place at pre-application stage whenever possible, however the need for transportation infrastructure will depend on issues identified through the Transport Assessment process and any assessment may need to be completed and agreed before the form of obligations can be defined.

For major developments where multiple services are involved, the BCC Developer Contributions Co-ordinator acts as the central point of contact for arranging S106 and project meetings with BCC staff. Where discussions between BCC and a developer result in agreement being reached in principle to S106 terms copies of correspondence and information on the agreement reached are passed to the relevant District Council.

Where a lack of infrastructure provision for BCC services is a major issue in the consideration of development proposals at Development Plan Inquiry or planning appeal, BCC provides evidence in support of its requirements where appropriate.

AVDC is to establish a Developer Contributions SPD in partnership with BCC and pre-production of the draft document is to be completed by August 2009, with a public consultation exercise scheduled for September/October 2009. BCC will seek to ensure that the SPD is consistent with any evolving County Council approaches and policies on S106.

#### **Scale and Type of Contributions**

Initial estimates of the likely demand for services/infrastructure maybe based on the size or impact of a proposal, typically floor area in the case of commercial development, and, number of dwellings in the case of housing developments. This enables key parameters such as additional population, workforce, pupil numbers and traffic movements to be calculated.

In determining any needs arising from additional demand, BCC and the Districts will usually take into account any surplus capacity where available within existing infrastructure. Individual cases must be judged on their merits and this will be done in light of the County and Districts' service standards.

In line with Government advice, where the combined impact of a number of developments creates the need for infrastructure, it may be reasonable for local planning authorities to "pool" the associated contributions to enable infrastructure to be secured fairly and equitably.

#### **S106 Monitoring**

BCC and AVDC monitor compliance with individual County/District S106 provisions and ensures adherence to the terms of agreements. To assist with this process at BCC the Developer Contributions Co-ordinator monitors agreements and developments to ensure payments are both collected and spent in accordance with the terms of the S106 and maintains a database for those purposes.

**James Fox, Developer Contributions Co-ordinator,  
Planning and Environment, Buckinghamshire County Council  
Email: [jfox@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:jfox@buckscc.gov.uk) Tel: 01296 382745**

## Buckingham Flooding Newsletter

April 2009



When there is extreme flooding predicted, the third level or 'Severe Flood Warning' will be issued which still applies to the areas listed above but also includes 'Fishers Field, Nelson Street, Hunter Street, Well Street, Ford Street, Stratford Road and Wharfside'. Residents in these areas should not receive the Flood Warnings.

For more information on flood warnings or to register to receive them, please visit the Environment Agency's website at [www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk) or call Floodline on 0845 988 1188.

### DEFRA flood protection grant scheme

The Department for the Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) have launched a pilot scheme of grants to assist in the installation of property level flood protection. This is a small-scale promotional scheme aimed at increasing the number of inspectors able to survey properties and to advise on suitable protection measures and the range and quality of protection products available.

AVDC has submitted an application in respect of 114 Buckingham properties which are known to have flooded in either 1998 or 2007. We should know whether we have been successful by the end of April. The potential grant monies are in three sections. For each qualifying property, the council could get a grant of £500 to cover the cost of a survey, £4,500 towards the cost of implementing the identified works and £700 towards the councils costs in administering the scheme.

Our application for more than 100 houses is therefore seeking funding of more than £600,000. However, there is only £2 million available nationally for this round and £3 million for the second round in the autumn. Since this scheme is aimed at creating pilot, or demonstration, projects DEFRA are likely to fund more, smaller, projects rather than just three or four larger ones.

One of the major elements of the grant scheme is that there has to be significant community engagement throughout the process, that is, encouraging flood victims to work together and with the council to find appropriate solutions. We have started this through discussions with Buckingham Town Council and by getting in contact with a number of flood victims who are now working to promote the creation of a flood action group. Such a group is essential to facilitate the decision making process and to help disseminate information about the scheme.

### Flood Warnings – Recent Changes

Those of you who have registered to receive flood warnings from the Environment Agency (EA) should have received information from them about the recent changes to the warning areas.

The first level of warning is **Flood Watch**. This means that flooding of low lying land and roads is expected. It continues to cover the whole of the Upper Great Ouse in Buckinghamshire & the River Tove in Northamptonshire. That is, everywhere in the river catchment upstream (north and west) of Newport Pagnell. This service is normally only provided to riverside land owners, boat owners, etc if explicitly requested.

The second level of warning is **Flood Warning**. This means that flooding of properties is expected. The old 'Upper Ouse' warning area has been split and there are now separate flood warning areas for two small parts of Brackley (east and west) and for Buckingham town. The Buckingham area covers the full length of the town and is described as 'from Brackley Road to Bourton Park, including Chandos, Ford Street, Cornwalls Meadow and the Wharf'.

If the application is successful, the next step is for AVDC to work with the residents' group to employ surveyors to inspect the properties which flood. They will report to residents and AVDC identifying the specific flood risks and advising on the appropriate protective measures for each property. These may be door boards, air brick covers, etc.

Throughout the process we need to maintain contact between residents, the community group and AVDC. Through this process a decision will be reached on which equipment to purchase before the council places orders for their supply and installation. After the works, a further inspection is required to ensure that all the advised works have been satisfactorily completed. Only after all this can AVDC claim the grant funds from DEFRA.

It is possible that any grant received will be insufficient to fund all the required works. Additional funds may need to be found from other sources. The Regional Flood Defence Committee (RFDC) (which would have paid for the upstream storage works had that been a viable proposition) have already committed to investigating the feasibility of funding a complementary scheme irrespective of the outcome of our application to DEFRA. With 114 potential properties to protect and limited funding available, residents may also be asked to contribute to the cost of works to their property. The overall cost of works and the source of funds will only become clear as the project proceeds.

There may be some properties which it is not possible to protect from flooding, probably because of the way in which they are constructed. For these properties the appropriate action would be to make them more resilient so that they are easier to clean and repair after they have been flooded.

### Residual Risk

It is important to emphasise that even if all the at-risk properties are protected with the recommended measures it does not mean that the properties will never flood again. Firstly, measures such as door boards have to be erected when flood warnings are issued. Secondly, the equipment will need to be properly looked after, cleaned, stored and maintained by the householder as the



manufacturer recommends. Lastly, there is always the possibility of an extreme flood which exceeds the design limits of the protection measures.

### What if there is no grant?

Should the application be unsuccessful this time there is a second opportunity in the autumn when a further £3 million is available for grant aid. Should we still be unsuccessful the community group would become even more important in pressing for other flood defence funding in the future. In other parts of the country it is the tireless efforts of local groups that have teased out funding for flood protection measures. The same could be achieved here.

### Flood Action Group

The purpose of having a community flood group is to promote self protection and to lobby for help and funding in the way that only affected residents can. It can also bring people together to offer assistance to one another during an incident. A number of your neighbours have already started working together to encourage you to take part in this initiative. If no one has contacted you yet then maybe you need to start discussing it with your immediate neighbours and then to speak with:  
Liz at [izad@btinternet.com](mailto:izad@btinternet.com) 01280 817137 or  
Lewis at [mail@buckinghamfloods.org](mailto:mail@buckinghamfloods.org) 01280 824998.

The district and town councils are able to assist but this needs to be a community initiative acting on behalf of residents rather than a council led group. Have a look at websites such as [floodforum.org.uk](http://floodforum.org.uk) and [floodplanuk.org](http://floodplanuk.org) to see what others have done and what help and guidance is available.

An active local group will be essential to progress a successful grant aided scheme or to lobby for other funds. After any works are completed the community group should continue to meet to share experiences, provide mutual support and to educate new residents.

Gary Dawson

Emergency Planning Officer

Aylesbury Vale District Council

01296 585370

Photos courtesy of Cllr Derrick Isham

This leaflet was compiled by AVDC with assistance from the Environment Agency and delivered by Buckingham Town Council.





# Wii ARE FAMILY

Complete a short questionnaire  
and enter for a chance to WIN  
a Nintendo Wii\* for your family

\*Or the equivalent value in Wii software.



Family Information Service



# CARING FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

The Buckinghamshire Family Information Service is a new service being set up by Buckinghamshire County Council so that everyone in your family can find the information and advice they need.



## Family Information Service

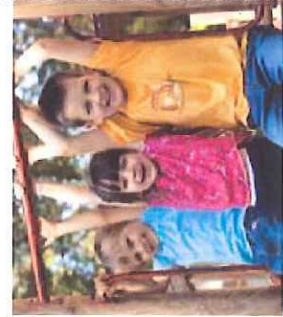
You will be able to search for anything from sporting or leisure activities or after school clubs to parenting advice, family support networks or how to find a child-minder.

We are asking all children, young people, parents, carers and people who work with families what they want from the Buckinghamshire Family Information Service.

### WIN A Wii!

By completing this questionnaire or completing it on-line you can help to make the service into something that will be useful to you. Go to:

[www.buckscc.gov.uk/fis](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/fis)



# COMPLETE THIS QUESTIONNAIRE FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A NINTENDO Wii\*

- Are you (please tick all that apply):  Aged 0-12 yrs  Aged 13-19 yrs  A parent/carer  
 Working with children and/or families  Other
- What is your postcode: \_\_\_\_\_
- Which way would you most like to find out information from the Buckinghamshire Family Information Service? (please tick one)  
 Website  Telephone  Face-to-face  None
- Is there another way that you would like to be able to find out information - a way that we have not mentioned in the list in Question 3? (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_  No
- What sort of information would you look for? (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- How often would you be likely to use the Family Information Service?  
 Once a week  Once a month  Every few months  Once a year  Never
- What are the biggest problems you have found in getting information about things for children or families? (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- How did you find out about this survey?  
 Leaflet  Bucks Times  Article in the paper  Word of mouth  Can't recall  Other  
 Email (please specify from which organisation) \_\_\_\_\_
- Please tick if you DO NOT want to be contacted by the Family Information Service
- Please tick if you DO NOT want to enter the free prize draw to win a Nintendo Wii

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Closing date for entries 1st June 2009. One free prize draw entry per person. \*\*Your contact details will only be used to enter the free prize draw unless you have indicated otherwise in question 9, we may also contact you for research purposes in relation to the family information service.

For a copy of the full terms and conditions, please email [familyinfo@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:familyinfo@buckscc.gov.uk)



# Report to Buckingham LOCAL AREA FORUM

**Title:** LOCAL AREA FORUM BUDGETS

**To:** Buckingham Local Area Forum

**Date:** 25 June 2009

**Author & Contact Officer:** Ian Reed, Area Co-ordinator  
Tel: 01296 383406 or email [ireed@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:ireed@buckscc.gov.uk)

## Recommendation

1. Buckingham Local Area Forum is recommended to note the arrangements for its devolved budgets as described in the report.

## Introduction

2. This paper describes the arrangements for the allocation of the funding devolved to Local Area Forums (LAFs) in 2009-10.
3. Further information about devolvement of budgets for 2010-11 and beyond will be advised later this year.

## Background

4. A key element of the Getting Closer to Communities (GC2C) Vision is "Genuine and increased influence by residents over local decisions and budgets". LAFs are central to achieving this (although this is not the only mechanism for working at a more local level). This is included as one of the three key roles of LAFs:
  - Agreeing priorities for the LAF local area plan
  - Shaping service delivery
  - Taking devolved decisions
5. To take forward these objectives, discussions have taken place over recent months with Heads of Service and Strategic Directors to identify opportunities for increasing devolved budgets and direct influence over budgets. Proposals for each Portfolio were then signed off by the Cabinet Member.
6. We now have an increased range of decisions, services and budgets that can be influenced within the framework of the 19 community areas and via the LAFs. The report illustrates the range of ways in which Local Area Forums can influence investment in their local areas. This paper focuses on the budgets that will be

devolved to the LAFs and the proposed arrangements for how decisions are made.

### **Budgets Devolved to LAFs in 2009-10**

7. The devolved budgets for 2009-10 are set out in the table below. N.B. It is anticipated that there will be further budget devolution from a wider range of services in subsequent years.

<b>Service area</b>	<b>County-wide total</b>	<b>Buckingham LAF</b>
Transportation local improvements	£500,000	£21,000
Positive Activities for Young People	£95,000	£5,000
"Early Years" grant	£95,000	£5,000
Local Priorities budget	£152,000	£8,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£842,000</b>	<b>£39,000</b>

### **General Principles for the Management and Decision-Making of Devolved Budgets**

8. All funding must be spent in line with the specific criteria associated with the budget (see below).
9. The funding must be spent within the financial year for which it is allocated.
- For 2009-10, in consultation with the LAF Chairman, each Head of Service concerned will take a view in November 2009 on the likelihood of unspent monies being used that year. If there is budget that is unlikely to be spent that year, it will revert back to the service concerned and be allocated to activities that will take place during 2009-10.
  - Whilst it is anticipated that this should not be a problem in future years, the same principle will apply.
10. In July 2008, Buckinghamshire County Council adopted the arrangements that were in place for the County Council's Transportation Local Improvements budget for Local Committees. Under this arrangement the Local Committee advised the Head of Transportation who then implemented the decision. This is the simplest and most effective model which from past experience works effectively. Therefore in terms of formal decision-making, the LAFs will be advising the relevant Head of Service on how to spend the devolved budget who will then implement that advice.
11. To allow for the occasional unforeseen opportunity that requires a swift decision, funding may be agreed in between LAF meetings subject to the approval of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman and other LAF members for the neighbourhood concerned.

## **Positive Activities for Young People**

12. This must be used to engage young people (age 13-19) in positive activities (open youth club provision is not acceptable unless there is a structured programme). It can be used for a one-off event, equipment or be given to a voluntary organisation. Young people must be consulted on any planned activity.
13. The LAF can involve its nearest Youth Opportunity Fund (YOF) panel to get additional money if it wishes. The YOF is young people led so that would also help with consulting young people.
14. The availability of the funding will be promoted via the LAF membership, community newsletters and direct to community organisations over the next couple of months. The Youth Service will evaluate applications and make recommendations to the LAF.
15. It is hoped to get publicity out soon in order that LAFs will have the opportunity to fund some summer activities.
16. The accountable Officer is the Head of Community and Youth Engagement (from June 2009 the Officer designated to manage the Youth Service).

## **"Early Years" grant**

17. This must be used to fund local nursery provision - specifically ICT improvements, disability access, extended flexible provision for 2, 3 and 4 year olds.
18. Within each category, there are further detailed criteria which must be satisfied. There are also strict criteria for who can qualify for funding which includes registration with BCC Children's Services.
19. The BCC Early Years & Childcare Service will promote the availability of funding, assess all applications for eligibility and evaluate the merit of the application. In the autumn, the Early Years & Childcare Service will evaluate applications and make recommendations to each LAF.
20. The Accountable Officer is the Divisional Director, Commissioning and Business Improvement.

## **Local Priorities Budget**

21. This budget can be used for any purpose which supports local community priorities and the well-being of the area identified by the LAF through its local area planning process. The Local Area Planning process will provision or initial priorities by the LAF at the local Area Plan Workshop
22. The Lead Area Officer and Area Co-ordinator will evaluate proposals and make recommendations in due course for how this budget may be spent in 2009-10.

LAF members who have particular ideas should raise these directly with the Lead Area Officer or Area Co-ordinator.

23. The accountable Officer is the Locality Services Manager.

### **Transportation Local Improvements Budget**

24. This budget is to fund minor transportation improvement schemes. Schemes for 2009-10 have already been decided by Buckingham LAF and are listed below.

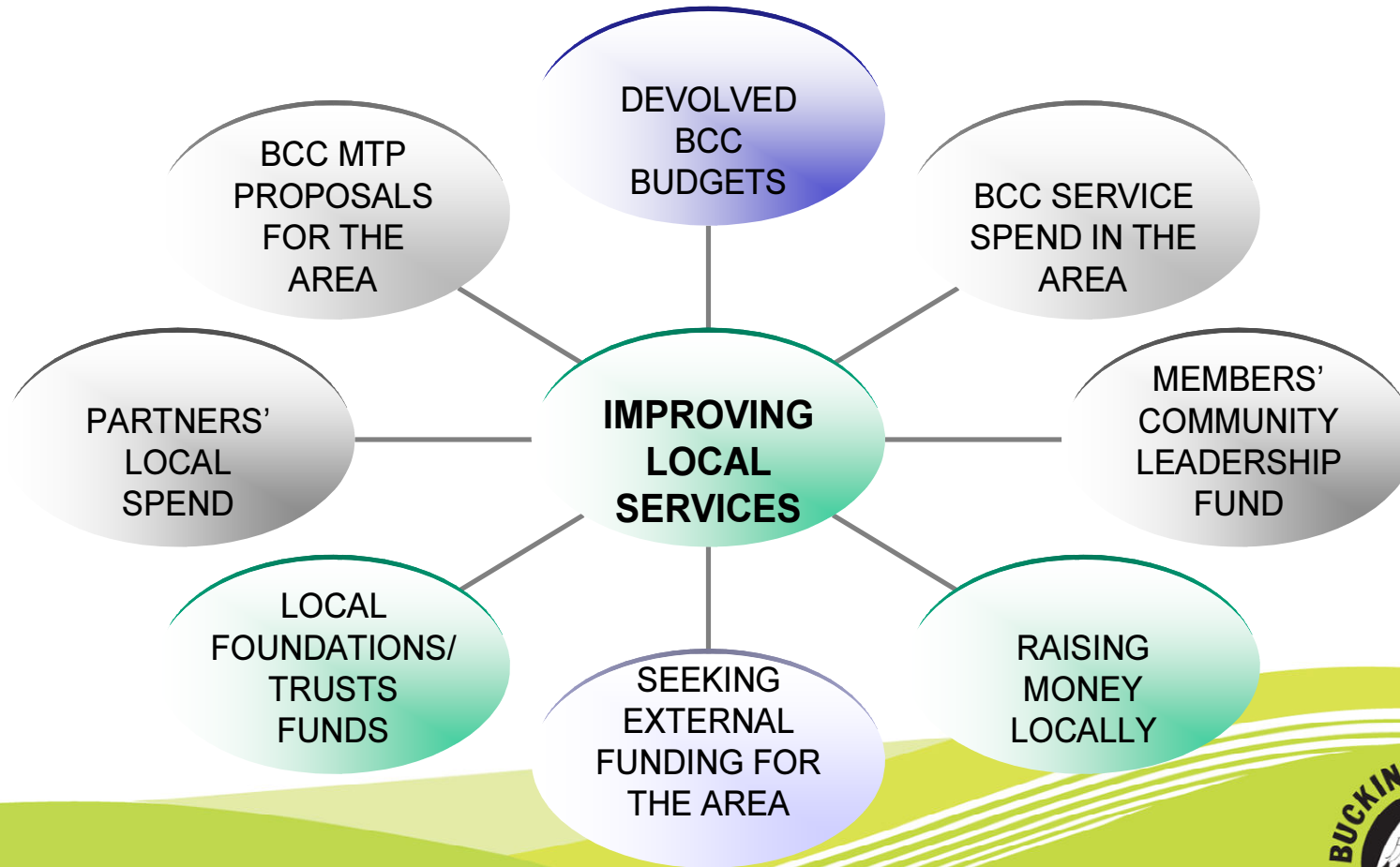
<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Value</b>
Salt bins in the Hillesden area	£1,350
Extension to existing footway in Nash High Street	£19,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£20,350</b>

25. The accountable Officer is the Head of Transportation.

### **Monitoring and future planning arrangements**

26. At the end of the year, officers will prepare a review of the work for Buckingham Local Area Forum and put forward proposals for the allocation of the next year's budgets. Projects which have benefited from Buckingham LAF support will be invited to report on progress to the LAF, either as part of the annual review or at some time during the course of the year.

# LOCAL AREA FORUMS OPPORTUNITIES TO INFLUENCE LOCAL SPEND







# Buckingham

## Local Community Partnership

### Support for youth activities in the Buckingham Local Community Area

**Buckingham Local Community Partnership (LCP) has a budget of £5000 to support youth activities in the local area in 2009/10.**

**Who is eligible to apply?**

Any organisation providing support and services for young people. The organisation must have a constitution and a bank account.

How much will this project cost?

.....

.....

How much of this cost are you seeking from Buckingham Local Community Partnership?

.....

.....

How will the balance of required funding be found (please be as specific as possible)?

.....

.....

.....

How have young people been consulted on this proposal?

.....

.....

How many young people do you expect to take part in the project/event and, on average, how many hours do you expect young people to be involved in the project for?

.....

.....

Please confirm that the applicant/organisation holds a bank account

Please confirm that the applicant/organisation has a constitution. Please attach.

**Please return your completed application to:**

Christine Cooper, Resource Manager, Community and Youth Engagement, Children & Young People Services, Buckinghamshire County Council, County Hall, Aylesbury HP20 1UA

Deadline for summer activities (subject to funding availability) Buckingham 24 June 2009. Final deadline for 2009 activities is 30th September 2009.

**What can this be spent on?**

To provide positive activities for young people aged 13-19 (up to 25 years with special educational needs). Please note that general youth club provision is not acceptable unless it is within a structured programme.

Young people must be involved on a voluntary basis and must have been consulted on the project.

The funding can be for activities, staffing, an event/activity, or small items of equipment relevant to an event (eg. hi-fi purchase to enable a disco to take place) or as a contribution towards an ongoing programme.

Activities can include sports, arts and cultural events; community events; or trips, leisure and recreational activities. They can also include courses and residential to help young people raise their life chances, eg. raising self-esteem and awareness on issues such as drugs, sexual health, gang and knife crime.

The funding must be spent in 2009/10 and not commit the County Council to any ongoing expenditure, unless this has been previously agreed.

**How can you apply for funding?**

Please complete the attached application form and return it to:

- Christine Cooper, Resource Manager,
- Community and Youth Engagement
- Children and Young People Services,
- Buckinghamshire County Council,
- County Hall, Aylesbury HP20 1UA

**Deadline:** Applications for summer 2009 activities will be accepted until 24 June 2009,

... getting closer to communities

subject to available funding. Applications can be submitted at any time up until 30th September to allow sufficient time for the LCP to approve schemes. Activities must be invoiced for and undertaken by 31st March 2010.

### What will happen to my application?

Following assessment by an experienced youth worker, a recommendation on your proposal will be made to the Local Community Partnership. You may be contacted for further information. You will be informed by your area coordinator of the date your application will be considered by the LCP—and of the LCP's subsequent decision.

### Monitoring requirements

After approval, and your project has taken place, you will need to provide us with information on the numbers of young people and levels of participation that we are being asked to fund.

Under normal circumstances funding will not be given until after the event/activity has taken place. However, staged payments can be arranged if necessary or, in exceptional circumstances, an upfront payment may be made.

After the application has been approved and the activity has taken place, an invoice should be sent to Christine Cooper.

We may also request that you make a short presentation at the Local Community Partnership about the activities of the project.

If you need funding for youth provision, to provide positive activities for young people in the area and your proposal satisfies the criteria, please complete the application form opposite.

You may also like to discuss your proposal with the Buckingham area coordinator Ian Reed on [ireed@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:ireed@buckscc.gov.uk) or telephone 01296 383406.

Alternatively, contact your local Senior Practitioner (youth worker) Mary Lewis by telephone on 01296 382889 or email [mylewis@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:mylewis@buckscc.gov.uk)

### Useful hints

Including young people in the decision making process about things which involve them, gives a sense of pride and ownership.

- Listening to young people enables a better delivery of services
- Providing activities at times when young people want them ensures a greater participation, e.g. Friday and Saturday night activities.

There is also a Youth Opportunities Fund and a Youth Capital Fund for projects. Please contact Michelle Ball on 01296 382448 or email [mball@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:mball@buckscc.gov.uk) for more information.

# Buckingham Local Community Partnership

Contact name: .....

Name of organisation: .....

Address: .....

Contact address if different from above: .....

Daytime telephone number: ..... Email: .....

Please confirm the following are in place:

Staff and volunteers for the project have a valid CRB check:  Yes  No

Your organisation has the relevant insurance:  Yes  No

Please describe the project for which you are seeking funding:

When will the project take place and how long will it last?

Where will the project take place?

# BUCKINGHAM CANAL SOCIETY

June 2009 – Briefing Document for Buckingham Local Area Forum  
Meeting June

There was a meeting of councillors and interested parties on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2009 at which the possibility of using the Buckingham Canal as a means to alleviating floods in the Buckingham area was considered. Following discussion with those in attendance including the environment agency, the restoration of the canal was agreed to not be the full solution. It was however concluded that the Buckingham Canal Society (BCS) should seek help in terms of grant funding for a feasibility study for the canal restoration to contribute as it would act as a downstream flood reservoir.

At the February meeting of the BCS committee it was agreed that the time was now appropriate for the Society to move forward to requesting quotations for a detailed feasibility study for restoration of the canal. Work is now being undertaken by committee members to prepare a full specification for that study, which will include the contribution to flood alleviation measures. However, investigation into possible sources of funding for a full feasibility study has been unproductive as the criteria for funding bids seem to exclude such studies.

There are therefore limited possibilities for grant applications and it appears unlikely that, even were these all to be successful, that sufficient funds would be raised to augment the Society's currently earmarked funds up to the level which would meet the costs of a full feasibility study which are currently estimated at around £60,000.

As a result, the BCS committee has been looking into other possibilities of approaching this problem. It has been suggested that a "scoping study" could be carried out by a consultant with experience in waterway based engineering, as a first step towards a full feasibility study. It would look at the key restoration issues, inform the viability of the proposed restoration and set a framework for future detailed studies. It could include an economic baseline review and identify the key next steps to take the restoration forward. The cost of this study might be within the resources of the Society's current funds and, in the event of a positive outcome, would put the Society in a better position to make applications for grant-funding to move the project forward. Discussions are at an early stage.

Meanwhile the Society continues to raise awareness of the canal whilst maintaining and improving extant sections of the de-watered canal with regular work parties of volunteers at Bourton Meadow, Hyde Lane Nature Reserve, Little Hill Farm, and from Cosgrove to the A5. Work also continues towards the goal of re-watering the Bourton Meadow section in the next few years.



**STATEMENT**

Ref: 010.09

5 May 2009

**Temporary suspension of Minor Injuries Service at Buckingham Hospital**

A minor injuries service has been provided at Buckingham Hospital for a number of years, however, the nature of the service has changed over the years in terms of its throughput and hours of operation. In recent years, the service has operated during GP surgery opening hours (8am-6pm, Monday-Friday) with staffing provided from the in-patient ward nursing establishment. During 2008 the average number of attendances per month was 20.

Buckinghamshire Primary Care Trust (PCT) has a number of concerns about the viability of the minor injuries service into the future.

The service does not have its own dedicated nursing or medical staff. Medical cover is provided by GPs from three surrounding practices and nursing cover comes from the in-patient ward.

Many patients attending the minor injuries service have to be redirected to other more appropriate services. An audit conducted over a four month period last year showed that on average more than half of patients attending the minor injuries service were redirected to A&E, while another 25% were redirected to their GP, leaving extremely small numbers of patients actually treated by the minor injuries service.

The service does not operate out of hours and does not deliver improved patient access outside core GP hours. In Buckingham the service is closed on weekday evenings from 6pm to 8am and it is closed all weekend. During this time patients access alternative local services.

The service has had to close in exceptional circumstances. The staffing on the in-patient ward is adequate if the bed occupancy remains at 12 beds, however when there are severe staff shortages on the ward (for whatever reason), provision of the minor injuries service has been compromised.

**more...**

## **Minor Injuries Service at Buckingham Hospital: 2**

The low level of attendances and the number of patients who have to be redirected to other services calls into question the viability and effectiveness of the minor injuries service.

In light of these issues, it is the considered opinion of the PCT that the minor injuries service is not viable and should temporarily suspend the service. With three GP practices in the very local vicinity, Milton Keynes and Stoke Mandeville hospitals to the north and south of Buckingham, the PCT considers that there is good access to safe and effective services for the very small numbers of patients who may have used the minor injuries service. Therefore with effect from 8 May this service will be temporarily suspended at Buckingham Community Hospital, until the long-term future of service is considered in more detail by the Buckinghamshire County Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee in July. When a decision has been made we will publicise this widely.

**ENDS**

The Aylesbury Vale Rest of District Transport Strategy:

- Is a draft officer report and has not been formally adopted by the Council.
- Draws on existing strategy and policy to demonstrate that the Local Development Framework is deliverable and that land use and transport policy are integrated.
- Is a precursor to LTP3 which will advance the strategy for Buckingham much further, with consultation and stakeholder engagement in this process planned for the near future.

**As such the document contains no new policy.**

A highway improvement scheme from Tingewick bypass to the edge of Milton Keynes is identified and this already features in the LTP2. BCC are actively seeking funding for this, and until such funding is secured will be unable to programme any scheme.

The growth to be accommodated in Aylesbury Vale including Buckingham is referenced throughout the document, and this consideration will feature heavily in the development of the LTP3 and our transport strategies for the next 20 years. The transport proposals featured are from our LTP2 which was produced before significant growth in Aylesbury Vale was made certain, and it is inevitable that there will be a lag between identifying the scale and precise location of growth and the transport schemes and interventions required to deliver this sustainably. Aylesbury Vale District Council are yet to consult on their allocated sites for growth in Buckingham, and until more is known on where this growth will be BCC are not in the position to produce a more detailed town transport strategy. Proposals for key junctions such as the A421/A413 highlighted, can only be confirmed when the precise location of growth in Buckingham is known.

The strategy does however state that: “Central to the transport strategy for Buckingham will be improvements to the walking and cycling environment in the town, as well as passenger transport provision in the town and between the town, outlying villages and other urban centres. These modes will be promoted and travel planning techniques used to encourage their take up.”

In terms of parking provision in the town this is a matter for AVDC to address in their role as the parking authority, although BCC will support them in any way they can.

Given the concerns over environmental impact and funding availability for any new bypass schemes in Buckingham, the further investigation into the downgrading of the A413 north of Buckingham and A422 towards Brackley are potential options in any package of measures to relieve the impact of traffic on sensitive town centre area. Coupled with efforts to encourage more sustainable modes, a downgrading which would see through traffic discouraged from these routes and onto the A421 for east-west movements around the town, and the southern A413 and eastern A422 for north-south links could help divert traffic flows away from the town centre. This is already reflected in the congestion section of our LTP2, where neither the A413 north of Buckingham and A422 west of Buckingham are defined as strategic inter urban corridors, and so are already routes of less strategic importance.

Further investigation of downgrading does not mean these roads will not be maintained to a high standard, but rather BCC will look at further means to encourage through traffic off these routes.

BCC would like to assure the Town Council that they have read with interest their 'Buckingham Plan', and look forward to engaging with them on the matters raised in both this, and our own strategic documents in the next 12 months whilst we develop LTP3.



## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### **Secret Millionaire Fund Opens for Business (UK)**

The Big Lottery Fund (BIG) and Channel 4's TV programme, The Secret Millionaire have teamed up to give viewers of the programme a chance to act on the charitable inspiration fuelled by the show. Lottery funding worth £1 million has been made available for people to apply for, or nominate projects to apply for grants of between £300 and £10,000 (£5,000 in Wales) from the Secret Millionaire Fund. Viewers can propose a community project or organisation that they think would benefit from BIG funding. BIG will then contact the organisation to see if it is eligible to apply for this small grants scheme and send out the relevant information. Alternatively if viewers have an idea for a project that can bring real improvements to the lives of communities, and can pass a simple eligibility test they can apply to Secret Millionaire Fund. In both cases the same eligibility criteria as Big Lottery Fund Awards for All programme apply and Lottery grants are awarded following an application and assessment process which takes up to 8 weeks. The Fund will be open until the 21st December 2009 but applications can be submitted at any time up to this date..

[http://secretmillionaire.channel4.com/fund\\_info.shtml](http://secretmillionaire.channel4.com/fund_info.shtml)

### **Standard Life Charitable Trust (UK)**

Standard Life has announced the proposal to establish the Standard Life Charitable Trust later on in the year. The initial investment of around £5 million will come from the company's unclaimed assets trust, while the remainder will come from funds left over after a change to shareholder cash dividend payments. The Trust will be used to enable Standard Life to continue its approach to corporate responsibility and to support their community investment programmes..

[http://ukgroup.standardlife.com/content/news/new\\_articles/2009/agm\\_2009.xml](http://ukgroup.standardlife.com/content/news/new_articles/2009/agm_2009.xml)

### **The Free Childcare for Training and Learning for Work Scheme (England)**

The Learning and Skills Council (LSC) has announced the launch of a new £75 million initiative to help lift low-income families out of poverty. The Free Childcare for Training and Learning for Work scheme will offer 50,000 eligible parents help through childcare support, while they train or learn and to support them into employment. The scheme is open to half a million families in England with one partner in work; an annual household income of £20,000 or less per year; a child or children aged 14 or under; and a child or children aged 18 or under with disabilities. Eligible parents can choose which course is going to give them the right skills to get back into work. Courses could range from a short refresher in maths or a more formal qualification in a range of subjects from social care to teaching. An advisor will help parents to enrol for their chosen course and will advise parents on the childcare options available to them. Parents have the choice from a range of Ofsted childcare, with the LSC paying up to £175 per child per week, or £215 in London. To apply for Free Childcare for Training and Learning for Work, or to find out more about the scheme, you can call the Learner Support helpline on 0800 121 8989, at select option four...

[http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/EducationAndLearning/AdultLearning/FinancialHelpForAdultLearners/DG\\_172003](http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/EducationAndLearning/AdultLearning/FinancialHelpForAdultLearners/DG_172003)

### **Time Running Out to Apply for Local Food Grant (England)**

The Local Food Programme, a part of the Big Lottery Fund's Changing Spaces programme and managed by the Royal Society of Wildlife Trust (RSWT) will be suspended to new applicants from the 21st August 2009. The programme supports not for profit community groups and organisation such as schools and funds a range of activities from local food schemes and farmers markets, to education projects teaching people about the local environment. In just 14 months the Local Food programme has received enough applications to potentially fully utilise the £50 million grant funding available and they are currently in the process of assessing these applications. A number of schools have successfully applied to the programme. These include; West Hill Primary School, Devon, which received a grant of £3,500 to develop a Mediterranean Fruit, Herb & Vegetable Garden; and Wirksworth Regeneration and Development Board Ltd, East Midlands, which received a grant of £9,878 to develop a Farmers Marke! t..

<http://www.localfoodgrants.org/news?aid=1558>

### **Neighbourhood and Home Watch Fund (England)**

The Neighbourhood and Home Watch Fund is a £500,000 fund available for new and existing Neighbourhood and Home Watch groups in high crime areas to receive grants of between £1,000 and £50,000. The aim of this fund is to support Neighbourhood and Home Watch schemes to reach more people in helping them to secure their homes, warn them about crime in their area and take action to prevent it, and know how to prevent distraction burglary. They will work closely with Neighbourhood Policing teams to distribute the government's crime prevention advice and use local meetings and engagement opportunities to provide crime prevention information to the public. This fund is being managed on behalf of the Home Office by Tribal's Community Development Team. The final closing date for receipt of applications is 12pm Friday 31st July 2009..

<http://grantsadmin.co.uk/neighbourhoodwatch/>

### **Cracking the Code (England)**

Cracking the Code is a bursary Scheme from the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) to improve governance within Third Sector infrastructure organisations . The scheme offers up to £500 to improve to improve the way that community and voluntary organisation are led and governed. The type of activities that could be funded include; organising a Board Away day; attend training on the latest legal updates or the roles and responsibilities of board members; improving an organisation's recruitment and induction systems; holding a stakeholder forum to improve strategic planning; and or carrying out a governance review. In return for the bursary the NCVO will ask organisations to write a case study and develop a method to share the knowledge and experiences with other in the local area. The deadline for applications is the 30th June 2009..

<http://www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/governanceandleadership/?id=13148>

## **Village SOS**

Village SOS is an exciting new initiative from the Big Lottery Fund (BIG) and the BBC. It is searching for six UK villages with a great business idea and six enterprising individuals to act as Village Champions and help them achieve their ambitions.

Together they will create a brand new venture that will bring new life and energy to the village with funding of between £100,000 and £400,000 from BIG.

The journey of the six successful villages and their Village Champions will be filmed for a major prime time BBC One series in winter 2010.

[http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog\\_village\\_sos.htm](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_village_sos.htm)

## **Red Nose Days Funding Programme (UK)**

Following the review of its grant making programme, Comic Relief has announced that it is now accepting applications for grants through its Red Nose Day Programmes (2009 -12). Grants are available through a number of programme areas such as Mental Health; Domestic and Sexual abuse; Refugee and Asylum Seeking Women; Sport for Change; Young people aged between 11 and 25 in areas such as Sexually Exploited and Trafficked Young people, Young People and Alcohol, Young people with Mental Health Problems, and Local Communities; and Local Communities. Comic Relief has also announced two new programmes coming soon in the areas of; Young Carers (managed by the Princess Royal Trust for Carers); and Older People. There are no minimum or maximum grants in most of these programmes, but on average grants are of between £25,000 and £40,000 per year. Funding can be used to cover running costs and capital costs. However building costs are given a very low priority, and they will only fund these in exceptional circumstances. The funding is available to a wide range of community and voluntary organisations including; constituted voluntary and community groups, charities, social enterprises, co-operatives, faith organisations, and community interest companies. Comic Relief are keen to make sure that the funding reaches all parts of the UK, especially areas which often miss out, such as rural communities. The next deadline for applications is the 24th July 2009..

[http://www.comicrelief.com/apply\\_for\\_a\\_grant/uk](http://www.comicrelief.com/apply_for_a_grant/uk)





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Clerk to District/Town/Parish Council

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**Email:** [stwatson@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:stwatson@buckscc.gov.uk)  
**Ref:** Network Hierarchy  
**Date:** 12<sup>th</sup> June 2009

Dear Sir/Madam

### **Buckinghamshire Network Hierarchy – A Reference Document**

Buckinghamshire County Council's Policy and Strategy Team are carrying out this consultation to seek your views on a proposed reference document.

The document has been produced as part of the Network Management Duty placed on the Transportation Authority by the Traffic Management Act 2004.

It brings together into one reference point an overview of existing key policies and functions of the transport network in the County. The primary audience for the document are transport and planning practitioners but it may be of general interest to the wider general public who are also being invited to comment through the County Council "Have Your Say" web page - [http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/bcc/about\\_your\\_council/Have\\_your\\_say.page?](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/bcc/about_your_council/Have_your_say.page?)

The executive summary is attached and the full document can be found at [http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/assets/content/bcc/docs/transport/Draft\\_BCC\\_Network\\_Hierarchy\\_Document.pdf](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/assets/content/bcc/docs/transport/Draft_BCC_Network_Hierarchy_Document.pdf). If you would like a printed copy please contact your Local Area Coordinator who will be happy to provide one for you on request.

I welcome your comments and look forward to receiving these by no later than 24<sup>th</sup> July 2009 at [stwatson@bcc.gov.uk](mailto:stwatson@bcc.gov.uk) or by post to the above address if you would prefer.

Yours faithfully

Steve Watson  
Project Manager  
Transport for Buckinghamshire Policy & Strategy Team

## 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. Commissioned by the statutory Traffic Manager for Buckinghamshire County Council (BCC), this document seeks to bring into one reference point the key policies and features of the transport network within Buckinghamshire.
- 1.2. The primary purpose of the document is to support the Traffic Manager and other transportation professionals in developing and delivering effective, efficient and co-ordinated transportation services in the County. This can for example range from prioritising maintenance arrangements to better co-ordination of hedge cutting and sweeping of key cycleways.
- 1.3. It builds on the published work within the Second Local Transport Plan (LTP2) by cross referencing existing policies and initiatives into a structured format. The document also points up the potential to bring together network maps into one Geographic Information System (GIS) based resource that can be more readily accessed. If taken forward this would be via the existing MAPviewer and Bucks Maps facilities in the short term. The longer term aim would be to make map based transport network information more easily available via the BCC web site in due course when the corporate infrastructure is in place as part of a wider BCC GIS strategy.
- 1.4. A transport network is a complex and dynamic resource. It is different things to different people in different locations and settings. It can range from a rural Right of Way for a rambler to a section of high volume motorway for an inter city heavy goods delivery vehicle. As such, different considerations are needed for different users, for different aspects of the network. This is where the use of an appropriate hierarchy is helpful. Drawing on existing national and local policies and guidelines, the situational nature of the network is reflected within the document and provides a building block towards the development of a more detailed Network Management Plan.
- 1.5. The primary audience for this product are local authority and other public service officials seeking to integrate transport network considerations into their particular service portfolio. It may also be of interest to the general public to provide them with a helpful overview of the entire network and alternative ways of getting about – be that walking, cycling or making greater use of public transport.



