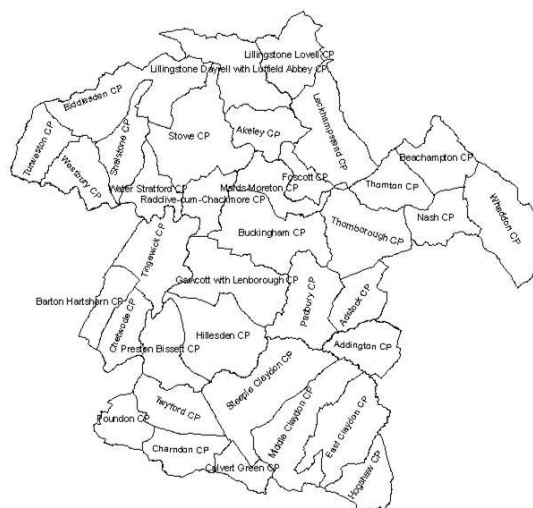


## BUCKINGHAM LOCAL AREA FORUM



|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>DATE:</b>     | 28 June 2012  |
| <b>TIME:</b>     | 7.00 pm   |
| <b>LOCATION:</b> | Jubilee Hall, The Buckingham School, London Road, Buckingham MK18 1AT |

***There will be a drop-in session from 6.30pm-7pm for Members and Members of the Public to ask transport related questions to the Local Area Technician and officers from Transport for Buckinghamshire.***

### AGENDA

| Item |   | Time         | Page No        |
|------|---|--------------|----------------|
| 1    | <b>Confirmation of Chairman</b>   | <b>19.00</b> |                |
| 2    | <b>Appointment of Vice-Chairman</b>   |              |                |
| 3    | <b>Apologies for Absence / Changes in Membership</b>  |              |                |
| 4    | <b>Declarations of Interest</b><br>To declare any personal or prejudicial interests   |              |                |
| 5    | <b>Action Notes</b><br>To confirm the notes of the meeting held on Thursday 29 March 2012.  |              | <b>1 - 10</b>  |
| 6    | <b>Chairman's update</b>  | <b>19.05</b> |                |
| 7    | <b>Petitions</b><br>Petition received from Aylesbury Vale Transport Users Group in relation to the proposed bus changes in Buckingham from 23 April 2012.<br><br>Response from Andy Clarke, Passenger Transport Contract Manager attached.  | <b>19.10</b> | <b>11 - 12</b> |
| 8    | <b>Transport for Buckinghamshire Update</b>   | <b>19.15</b> | <b>13 - 18</b> |
| 9    | <b>Local Priorities Update</b>  | <b>19.25</b> | <b>19 - 28</b> |
| 10   | <b>Question Time</b><br>There will be a 20 minute period for public questions. 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>19.35</b> |                |

Visit [www.buckscc.gov.uk/democracy](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/democracy) for councillor information and email alerts for meetings, and decisions affecting your local area.

|           |  |              |                |
|-----------|--|--------------|----------------|
| <b>11</b> | <b>Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults</b><br>Presentation by Karen Adamson, Adult Social Care.   | <b>19.55</b> | <b>29 - 36</b> |
| <b>12</b> | <b>Domestic Violence</b><br>Sue Burke will present to Members on Domestic Violence.  | <b>20.05</b> | <b>37 - 48</b> |
| <b>13</b> | <b>Thames Valley Neighbourhood Police Update</b><br>Inspector Emma Garside will provide Members with an update of police activity in the local area.   | <b>20.15</b> |                |
| <b>14</b> | <b>Fire &amp; Rescue Update</b>  | <b>20.25</b> |                |
| <b>15</b> | <b>AVDC Update</b>   | <b>20.35</b> |                |
| <b>16</b> | <b>Open Forum</b>  | <b>20.45</b> |                |
| <b>17</b> | <b>Information items</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fostering and Adoption summary attached for information.</li> </ul>  |              | <b>49 - 50</b> |
| <b>18</b> | <b>Date of Next and Future Meetings</b><br>The next meeting is due to take place on Thursday 27 September 2012. Venue to be confirmed.<br><br><b>Future meetings:</b><br><br>Thursday 13 December 2012 | <b>21.00</b> |                |

## Members

County Councillors and District Councillors:

David Polhill, Buckinghamshire County Council (Chairman)  
Derrick Isham, Aylesbury Vale District Council (Vice-Chairman)  
Hedley Cadd, Buckinghamshire County Council  
John Cartwright, Buckinghamshire County Council  
John Chilver, Aylesbury Vale District Council  
Patrick Fealey, Aylesbury Vale District Council  
Pearl Lewis, Aylesbury Vale District Council  
Tim Mills, Aylesbury Vale District Council  
Llew Monger, Aylesbury Vale District Council  
Howard Mordue, Aylesbury Vale District Council  
Jackie Phipps, Aylesbury Vale District Council  
Susan Polhill, Aylesbury Vale District Council  
Susan Renshell, Aylesbury Vale District Council  
David Rowlands, Buckinghamshire County Council  
Sir Beville Stanier, Aylesbury Vale District Council  
Robin Stuchbury, 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](mailto:ewheaton@buckscc.gov.uk)

If you would like to attend a meeting, but need extra help to do so, for example because of a disability, please contact us as early as possible, so that we can try to put the right support in place.



**ACTION NOTES**

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>MEETING:</b> | <b>Buckingham Local Area Forum</b>   |
| <b>DATE:</b>    | <b>29 March 2012 7.00 pm to 9.05 pm</b>                                      |
| <b>LOCATION</b> | <b>Jubilee Hall, The Buckingham School, London Road, Buckingham MK18 1AT</b> |

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Present:</b>       | Terry Bloomfield (Buckingham Town Council), Graeham Bowles (Calvert Green Parish Council), Hedley Cadd (Buckinghamshire County Council), John Chilver (Aylesbury Vale District Council), Mark Cole (Thornborough Parish Council), Patrick Fealey (Aylesbury Vale District Council), Derrick Isham (Aylesbury Vale District Council), Pearl Lewis (Aylesbury Vale District Council), Mr P McHenry (Padbury Parish Council), Howard Mordue (Aylesbury Vale District Council), Jackie Phipps (Aylesbury Vale District Council), David Polhill (Buckinghamshire County Council), Susan Renshell (Aylesbury Vale District Council), John Riches (Middle Claydon Parish Council), David Rowlands (Buckinghamshire County Council), Graham Stewart (Whaddon Parish Council), Robin Stuchbury (Aylesbury Vale District Council), Lesley Taylor (Charndon Parish Council) and Barry Wyke (Nash Parish Council) |
| <b>In Attendance:</b> | Ann-Marie Davies, Simon Dudley, Inspector Emma Garside, Mark Grindall, David Hedley, Paul Hirons, Tim Parkins, Stephen Townsend, Sara Turnbull and Liz Wheaton  |
| <b>Apologies:</b>     | Ivy Cakebread, Terry Cavender, Ann Kiceluk, Roger Landells, Alex Matthews, Llew Monger, Tom Morrison, Lady Scott, Sir Beville Stanier and Warren Whyte  |

| <b>Item</b> | <b>ISSUES RAISED</b>  |
|-------------|---|
| <b>1</b>    | <b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE / CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP</b><br><br>Apologies were received from Mike Smith, Sir Beville Stanier, Warren Whyte, Lady Scot, Alex Matthews, Roger Landells, Llew Monger, Ann Kiceluk, Tom Morrison, Terry Cavender and Ivy Cakebread.   |
| <b>2</b>    | <b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b><br><br>Patrick Fealey declared an interest in agenda item 9 as he is the Director of the Youth Club in Buckingham.  |
| <b>3</b>    | <b>ACTION NOTES</b><br><br>The action notes of the meeting held on Thursday 15 December 2011 were agreed as a correct record.<br><br>Mark Grindall, Localities Manager, clarified the position in relation to item 4 at the last meeting. He said that the issue in relation to the church parking is a local matter between Buckingham Town Council and the Church. It is not a priority of the LAF and he recommended that the costs of the consultation are not funded by the LAF.<br><br>David Rowlands updated Members on the 20mph speed limit and said that no policy has yet been set by the County Council on this but he said that he would circulate the information to the LAF once it is formulated. |
| <b>4</b>    | <b>CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE</b><br><br>The Chairman welcomed Sara Turnbull, the new Lead Area Officer from Bucks County Council.   |

She replaces Amanda Brooke-Webb and Ann Cobban.

The Chairman also welcomed Tim Parkins from Bucks Fire and Rescue to the meeting.

The Chairman reminded Members that the Better Healthcare in Bucks consultation is due to end on Monday 16 April. Copies of the consultation document were circulated for Members to take with them.

Simon Dudley provided Members with an update on the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the London 2012 Olympics and Paralympics

#### **Queen's Diamond Jubilee**

2012 beacons will be lit on 4 June 2012 across the UK. 60 of these will be in Buckinghamshire (56 beacons had now been registered). The beacons would be included in a book which would be presented to the Queen.

A toolkit has been prepared for parties (street parties or beacon celebrations). Bunting will be delivered to parishes throughout May. Parishes can apply for a grant towards the costs of public liability insurance. Information on road closures is available on the website.

There was also an events calendar – link below:

<http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/sites/bcc/leisure/jubilee.page>

Vanessa King is leading the events team and the team's number is 01296 386813.

#### **London 2012 Olympics and Paralympics**

The Olympic torch will be going through Buckinghamshire and the website provides details of the timings of when the torch will be arriving at the various locations across the County.

Further information on the Olympics and Paralympics in Buckinghamshire:

<http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/sites/bcc/london2012/london2012.page>

A Member raised concerns about only closing one side of the road in Buckingham as traffic will still be flowing on one side of the road. He asked why both sides are not closed so as to make it safer. Simon Dudley explained that the plans are not set in stone but the main aim is make sure there is a safe passage for the torch to proceed through. There is a Hospital in Buckingham so access to this has to be factored into the discussions about which roads to close.

A Member asked whether parishes can borrow "Road Closed" signs. Simon said he would look into this.

**Action: Simon Dudley/Ann-Marie Davies  
(Action completed – response below)**

**Mike Chilton, Street Works Co-ordinator provided the following response.**

"We are advising applicants to contact Traffic Management companies for any signing required.

The depots will have a number of signs they may be willing to lend out, but with the number of parties coming through I very much doubt if they will have sufficient to issue out to everyone. We will have to ensure that enough are kept in reserve in case of any emergencies."

**5 QUESTION TIME**

**The following questions were sent in advance of the meeting and read out by the Chairman at the meeting.**

**Question 1**

Nash Parish Council would like to have details of the implementation of the Area 14 Speed Review. That will be covered in the transport update but I keep getting asked about when it will happen! It would be good to have it confirmed that the money is in the 12/13 budget and an idea of when the work will be done. Margaret Hedges, Clerk, Nash Parish Council

**Response - Ann-Marie Davies, from TfB, responded by saying that the funding for this project is in the 2012/13 budget and will be implementation in Summer of 2012.**

**Question 2**

Following a meeting with Simon Dudley today I would like to raise the subject of public safety along Main Street in Padbury. We have a stretch of road that has no pavement and this is used regularly by families to and from school. We have a problem with speeding along this stretch of road and the lorries are causing adjacent houses to shake quite considerably when they pass through.

Padbury Parish Council

**Response – Simon Dudley, from TfB, responded by saying that he attended a site visit about 4 weeks ago and met some of the local residents who are experiencing their houses shaking. The road is due to be re-surfaced soon. He suggested that the parish council could submit a bid for money from the delegated budget to harden the verges along the Main Street.**

**Question 3**

A question was submitted by Whaddon Parish Council which has been withdrawn as a response has been discussed with the representative from Whaddon Parish Council prior to the meeting.

**Question 4**

We were advised by Transport for Buckingham that our application for an allocation from the delegated budget in respect of the Vision splay at the Water Stratford crossroads would be considered at the next LAF meeting. Is this not the case? Chris Benton, Water Stratford Parish Meeting

**Response – Ann-Marie Davies explained that she has spoken to the parish council about this issue to clarify the current position with the budget and the bids.**

**Question 5**

Can TfB confirm that the work will be carried out to repair the road either side of the bridge at Water Stratford, and the road will be properly repaired before the surface dressing is applied as planned. Patrick Fealey, Gawcott-with-Lenborough

**Response – Simon Dudley responded by saying that that the work is due to start on 19 April.**

**Question 6**

That the A422 is in the programme to be resurfaced this year and that the cat's-eyes will be

upgraded before this work is carried out. I pointed out the need for this work to David Cairnley as a result of complaints from parish councils. Patrick Fealey, Gawcott-with-Lenborough

**Response – Simon Dudley explained that the A422 is not included in the capital maintenance budget list this year. There will be money available in future and he suggested the parish council speaks to their local county councillor to try and include it next time.**

Mr Fealey asked whether the cat's eyes could be put back as it is dangerous. Simon said he would take this back and look into it further.

**Action: Simon Dudley**

Derrick Isham asked who should be contacted out-of-hours to report cars which are parked inappropriately.

Simon said that he would speak to Steve Kenton and ask him to respond directly to Mr Isham after the meeting. If a vehicle is parked in an obstructive way, then Thames Valley Police should be informed.

**Action: Simon Dudley/Ann-Marie  
(Action already completed)**

A Member expressed concern regarding the changes to the number 32 bus route and he said that there is a petition underway.

There is a Transport User Group meeting on Tuesday 3 April at 2pm at Buckingham Town Council. Mark Grindall explained that Stephen Townsend and Mike Smith will be attending this meeting as representatives of the LAF as the local champions for the transport priority. He went on to say that it is a public meeting so anyone from the LAF is welcome to attend.

6

## PETITIONS

There were no petitions.

The Chairman asked County Council David Rowlands to provide Members with an update on East/West Rail.

During his presentation, David made the following main points.

- EWR western section is now part of the National Infrastructure Plan. The Chancellor's announcement is basically a prior approval to proceed, subject to two conditions:
  - A satisfactory business case;
  - A satisfactory local contribution is agreed with Government.
- The Government is now committed to seeing the project through.
- The rail industry are working with the Consortium and Department of Transport to ensure the conditions are met by Spring 2012 and beyond this, to move forward with practical detailed steps to plan and deliver the railway on the ground.
- The Consortium is developing a funding package to enable delivery of the scheme through both the public and private sector.
- Iain Stewart MP for Milton Keynes South has established an 'All party Parliamentary Group' (APPG) to assist with the Westminster campaign.
- Within the business case, the Consortium is forecasting that within the initial 5 years of operating the new train services, a positive income stream will be generated through the farebox leading to the train services no longer requiring public subsidy.
- The announcement regarding the High Level Output Specification for CP5 (2014-19) is due



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|   | <p>in July. Between now and then, the Consortium is looking at the planning process which also involves looking at which parts of the railway can be permitted for development and which bits are not.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Joint Delivery board has been set up with local council members and it will be charged with the overall governance of the project.</li> <li>• County Councillor David Rowlands is on the Delivery Board.</li> <li>• A new station will be built at Winslow which will serve as a key location for commuters in North Bucks wishing to travel both east to Bedford or west to Bicester, Oxford and Reading as well as to Milton Keynes and down to Aylesbury, Princes Risborough and Wycombe.</li> </ul> <p>During discussion, Members asked the following questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Member asked whether there was any benefit to be had in building a single track. David Rowlands explained that the Delivery Board are due to meet soon and he agreed to report back to the LAF at a future meeting.</li> <li>• A Member expressed concern about residents not being told about road closures and the planned diversions. The Member asked that parish councils be kept informed and he raised concerns about HGVs being diverted through the villages. Ann-Marie Davies thanked the parish councillor for letting her know about the HGVs and she said she would let the central communications team know so that they could let parishes know about future closures.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action: Ann-Marie Davies</b></p> |
| 7 | <p><b>TRANSPORT FOR BUCKINGHAMSHIRE UPDATE</b></p> <p>Ann-Marie Davies started by explaining that there are changes taking place in the way the delegated budget will work in this financial year and she will be writing to all parishes who have submitted schemes to ask them to confirm the details.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action: Ann-Marie Davies</b></p> <p>The representative from Thornborough parish council expressed concern about the lack of the speed limit signs on the approach to Adstock as it is unenforceable without the signs. David Hedley said he would look into this.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action: David Hedley</b></p> <p>The Chairman thanked the officers for their update.</p>   |
| 8 | <p><b>THAMES VALLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE UPDATE</b></p> <p>The Chairman introduced Tim Parkins, Response Manager at Buckingham Fire Station. Mr Parkins started by saying that he is intending to come to future LAF meetings to provide an update on the work of the Fire &amp; Rescue team in the local area.</p> <p><b><u>Fire &amp; Rescue Update</u></b></p> <p><b>Home Fire Risk Visits</b></p> <p>Between April 2011 and April 2012, 600 home fire risk visits have been undertaken. The visits are carried out by a Community Safety Officer who provides advice to the homeowner on fire safety and will install smoke alarms if required. Mr Parkins asked Members to promote this service within their own areas.</p>   |

Telephone number – 01280 812133  
Website – www.bucksfire.gov.uk

### **Supporting Schools**

The fire team has been working with local schools, handing out leaflets regarding being considerate when parking near schools. This initiative will continue.

### **Flooding**

Mr Parkins explained that he recently attended the Buckingham Flood Forum to highlight the work of the Fire service and to describe the equipment the fire service uses in flood situations, including the boat crew who are based at Pangbourne.

### **Recruitment**

Mr Parkins explained that the service is on a recruitment drive in terms of retained crews, particularly to cover day-time shifts.

During discussion, Members asked the following questions.

**A Member asked whether fire extinguishers can be checked as part of the home safety check.** Mr Parkins said that fire extinguishers are not part of the check.

**A Member asked whether Buckinghamshire should have two boats as there are two rivers.** Mr Parkins responded by saying that there are two boats – one in the North of the County and one in the South.

### **Thames Valley Police update**

Inspector Garside started by reporting to Members that the non-emergency telephone number (101) is now operational. There has been no increase in policing costs in the council tax for this financial year. Rural Crime and Metal theft have both been written into the Force Delivery Plan which is a very positive step. In terms of the front counter opening times, the proposal is to reduce the times to Monday-Friday, 10am-2pm. The Moreton Road site will be sold.

Inspector Garside went on to say that Ringmaster and the Community Messaging system are being updated with a new system called Thames Valley Alert. In terms of staff, PCSO Denise Grayburn has now left and PCSO Rob Jackman has replaced her. PCSO John Webb is still off sick with a neck injury and other officers are currently covering the Claydons.

Inspector Garside reported the following crime rates for the area and provided a general update on police activity in the area.

- In Buckingham North, serious acquisitive crime is down 32% (from 62 offences to 42); vehicle crime has decreased; and the figures for all crimes are down – 361 offences to 201 offences.
- Arson has increased and the police officers are working closely with the fire officers to find out more about this.
- In Buckingham Town, serious acquisitive crime is down 43% and overall crime is down 7% (from 554 offences to 517).
- The police are undertaking targeted work around petrol station and people leaving without paying.
- Anti-social behaviour has significantly increased in some areas and extra police patrols have been introduced to tackle the issue.

- There will be mobile CCTV provision in Buckingham Town later this year.
- The media stories relating to a minority group of University students were blown out of proportion. Inspector Garside went on to say that she was concerned about what she saw and said that there is a direct correlation between people who drink too much and rises in criminal damage and assaults.
- The District Council's licensing team are looking into taxi checks.
- The police are working with partner organisations to increase the signage for HGVs.
- There are regular speed enforcement activities taking place in the area and there is a big push to promote Community Speedwatch. Equipment can be loaned to parishes, free of charge.

A Member asked for clarification in relation to what is meant by inappropriate HGV activity? Inspector Garside explained that around 20 HGV vehicles were stopped on a recent operation and some were found to be over their weight restrictions and in some cases, their load was coming off.

The Chairman thanked Mr Parkins and Inspector Garside for their updates.

## 9 LOCAL PRIORITIES UPDATE

This meeting focused on the "Insufficient Public Transport in Rural Areas" priority. Stephen Townsend and Mike Smith are the champions for this priority.

Stephen started by saying that there is a need to engage with the Transport User Group as a transport related questionnaire was sent to parishes and local residents but there was concern that there was not as much information included in the questionnaire as was initially hoped.

A Member expressed concern about the changes in the bus routes as the proposed times meant that it was not possible to work in Milton Keynes and use the buses. There is no Sunday service and a limited Saturday service. The Member asked whether they could introduce Village Hoppers. Mark Grindall, Locality Manager, explained that there would need to be evidence in terms of demand for such a service before it could be considered. He went on to suggest that the LAF could fund a commercial survey.

A Member said that they would rather pay a bit more money to travel on the buses and asked whether a private firm could take on a commercial bus route.

Stephen Townsend explained that there are lots of examples of successful Community buses and he urged Members to respond to the questionnaire.

David Rowlands said that he is the Chairman of Dial-a-Ride and the Winslow Community Bus is very successful but one of the main pitfalls of setting up any community bus scheme is finding a dedicated co-ordinator, volunteers to drive the buses and also the increased fuel costs will have a financial bearing on the running costs.

A Member mentioned the school buses and asked whether they could be used for community purposes when they are not being used for the school runs.

Mark Grindall asked Members to send their suggestions to him and said that the proposals need to be inventive.

**Action: All Members**

Mark Grindall then took Members through the budgets and explained that the proposal is to combine the Transport for Buckinghamshire budget and the Local Priorities budget and the total for the Buckingham LAF will be £46,000. This money is not ring-fenced so the whole amount can be used to fund transport related schemes. The final decision on how the budgets will work going

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|                  | <p>forward will be made at the end of April. Mark went on to explain that the LAF is in a period of transition and he said that the LAF will need to decide how much of the budget to apportion to transport related schemes. He recommended no more than 25% of the budget to be used on transportation schemes.</p> <p>Mark asked Members to consider adding child poverty as a priority for the LAF so that funding can be allocated to this in future. There are opportunities which the LAF can get involved in.</p> <p>The Chairman asked Members to vote on whether to add child poverty as a priority.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Members AGREED</b></p> <p>Mark referred Members to the Local Area Priorities Budget Allocation report included in the agenda pack and he took Members through the proposed schemes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A priority for the LAF is “access to leisure facilities to be improved” and the Buckingham Youth Film Club, at a cost of £5,838, will help to address this priority.</li> </ul> <p>The Chairman asked Members to vote on whether to support this scheme.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Members AGREED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional support from Carers Bucks for carers living in the area covered by the Buckingham Local Area Forum at a cost of £10,000.</li> </ul> <p>The Chairman asked Members to vote on whether to support this scheme.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Members AGREED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The provision and promotion of a dedicated website for Young Carers in the Buckingham area at a cost of £3,000. <b>This request for funding has since been withdrawn.</b></li> </ul> <p>A Member asked whether this funding could be added to the £10,000 for the support for carers project outlined above. Mark said that he would look into this but he said that the business case for the project has already been completed.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action: Mark Grindall</b></p> |
| <p><b>10</b></p> | <p><b>AVDC UPDATE</b></p> <p>Members were asked to note the update from AVDC. Any questions should be directed to Ann Kiceluk at AVDC (akiceluk@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk).</p>  |
| <p><b>11</b></p> | <p><b>FUTURE MILTON KEYNES EXPANSION AND THE IMPACT ON BUCKS COUNTY COUNCIL INFRASTRUCTURE</b></p> <p>The Chairman welcomed Graham Stewart, representative from Whaddon Parish Council, who read the following statement to Members.</p> <p>“It is undeniable that Milton Keynes has been hugely successful, however, its relentless growth has had an on-going and detrimental impact on neighbouring communities, and many people argue that they have derived little or no benefit from the development, but have had to suffer its consequences..... particularly in regard to traffic and highway infrastructure.</p> <p>Residents of Whaddon, and I'm sure they are not alone, have endured year after year of increasing vehicle numbers - and they are slowly witnessing their quality of life being eroded and</p>   |

their road infrastructure deteriorating. HGV's now compete with agricultural traffic and rat-running vehicles on roads that, by Bucks County Council's own admission were never designed - nor are safely capable of accommodating this amount and type of traffic. More accidents are inevitable as volumes of traffic increase, footpaths are damaged, grass verges disappear and road edges gradually sink into the ditches alongside them.

Despite this MK expansion continues unabated. Another 9,000 homes, plus industry, retail, commercial, leisure and schools - are about to be built alongside the two roads that lead through Whaddon village to the A421 and most points west. To put this in context, these new settlements will have a combined population larger than Buckingham and Winslow put together. Whaddon cannot close our roads, MK tell us that all roads in and out of the city are crucial, if they are to achieve their regional status ambition, - and in any event Bucks CC tell us they would not support any closure.....so what should we do - or what more can be done?

For every home built in MK, about £19 - £20,000 goes into a tariff 'pot' that is used for community facilities and infrastructure....and more money comes from the ancillary commercial and retail development. It is safe to say that MK development, still to be built close to Whaddon on the western flank of the city, will produce in excess of £200 million pounds of tariff revenue. Like every authority this money will be in huge demand and almost certainly will not be enough to meet all projects.

After many years of consultation and careful negotiation Whaddon Parish Council has persuaded not just Milton Keynes council and the Homes and Community Agency, but also the Developers, that a traffic calming scheme is urgently required in Whaddon. Our elderly residents need safe access to the church and village hall, our children and parents need to be able to get to our school, playgroup and recreation ground and to be able to cross the road without fear. To their great credit the MK authorities have recognised our genuine concerns and have set aside, a not inconsiderable sum, to help us achieve our goal..... but there is always a problem, and in this case they have set a 75% contribution cap, which is why, on behalf of our 450 residents, Whaddon Parish Council will, following tonight's discussion, be resubmitting their bid for some 'top-up' funding, to be allocated from the new Priorities Fund. Obviously we hope our bid will be supported.....but this is not just about Whaddon's predicament.

So, let me finish by saying we are not 'having a go' at Transport For Bucks.....who incidentally have given us great support during our campaign..... or Bucks CC, because we fully understand the pressure they are under and the financial constraints imposed on them..... but, and I choose my words very carefully as I do not want to jeopardise the funding already promised or the relationship that we have built up with the MK authorities..... we do wonder whether enough is being done by Bucks CC to tap into the huge revenue stream produced by the continuing MK growth.

Sadly, detailed traffic impact studies were never demanded nor undertaken on the rural road system outside MK – had they been things might be completely different - but it is MK growth that is, in the main, causing the traffic/HGV problems in the north of our district, so surely that authority must be persuaded to contribute towards the maintenance and future upkeep of the infrastructure? Yes, they facilitate and help pay for capacity increasing improvements, but surely this is no reason or excuse for the existing road infrastructure requirements outside the city boundaries to be disregarded?

So, tonight, we urge Elected Members to take a clear message back to Officers, asking them to engage at the highest level in meaningful discussion with the MK authorities, and requesting that they assist with funding to improve our roads and make them safe, where it can be demonstrated that their growth has caused specific problems.

Having just listened to David Rowlands explanation on why the A421 repairs have been delayed, our request seems particularly pertinent. The A421 between the Whaddon Roundabout and the

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
|           | <p>Bottledump corner, that David refers to, is the very last stretch before you cross the County boundary and enter MK, and without doubt the volume of MK traffic has exacerbated, if not caused the 'edge of road' problems.....so surely MK must help pay for the urgent repairs?"</p> <p>The Chairman thanked Mr Stewart for updating Members on this issue.</p>   |
| <b>12</b> | <p><b>OPEN FORUM</b></p> <p>District Councillor Pearl Lewis updated Members on the planning application which has been submitted by the Buckingham Canal Society. She asked Members to submit their comments via the AVDC website. The deadline for comments to the application is 21 April 2012.</p> <p>Beverley Trevitt, Outreach Officer at Buckinghamshire Community Foundation, asked Members to participate in the "Go Green for Bucks Day" on 15 June – people will be asked to make a £1 donation and the money raised will support the work of local charities. Further information will be circulated to Members after the meeting for them to distribute in their areas.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action: Beverley Trevitt<br/>(Action already completed)</b></p> |
| <b>13</b> | <p><b>INFORMATION ITEM</b></p> <p>The Chairman asked Members to note the "All Change for Buckinghamshire's Recycling Centres" update.</p>  |
| <b>14</b> | <p><b>DATE OF NEXT AND FUTURE MEETINGS</b></p> <p>The next meeting will take place on Thursday 28 June 2012. Venue to be confirmed.</p> <p><b>Future meetings</b></p> <p>Thursday 27 September<br/>Thursday 13 December</p>  |

Communities &  
Built Environment

**Buckinghamshire County Council**

**Place Services**

**Transport for Buckinghamshire**

New County Offices, Walton Street  
Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP20 1UY

**Place Services**

**Service Director: John Lamb**

Telephone 0845 3708090

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

Colin Richardson  
The Secretary  
Aylesbury Vale Transport Users Group

Date: 13 June 2012

Dear Colin

### **Petition regarding changes to bus services in Buckingham**

Thank you for the petition regarding the recent changes made by Arriva and Buckinghamshire County Council to the 32 and 32A bus routes.

Due to changes in Home to School transport policy and loss of cross boundary support from Milton Keynes Council the amount of subsidy we have available for service 32/32A has reduced by around £40,000 p.a. and in addition bus operating costs have risen sharply due to fuel prices and central government reducing the amount of Fuel Duty Rebate for public transport. The revised timetables which took effect from 23 April sought to balance the amount of travel actually being made by passengers with the resources we have available.

Following the public meeting held on 3<sup>Rd</sup> April we agreed to revise the proposals and introduce a temporary additional timetable, Service 130 to replace previously withdrawn sections of route. We held a positive meeting with County Councilors, John Berrow and other local representatives in late May and agreed to present revised long term proposals in Buckingham at a drop-in event at 09:00 – 13:00 on June 19<sup>th</sup> and at a second public meeting at 10:30 on June 21<sup>st</sup>.

We understand the strength of feeling expressed in Buckingham and hope that our revised proposals will show that we have listened and that the new timetables will represent an acceptable compromise given the financial constraints imposed on us,

Yours sincerely

Andy Clarke,  
Passenger Transport Contract Manager, 01296 383468, [aclarke@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:aclarke@buckscc.gov.uk)

national  
transport awards  
Transport Local Authority of the Year  
2008 Winners







## **Buckingham Local Area Forum**

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**Title:** Update report from Transport for Buckinghamshire

**Date:** 28 June 2012

**Author & Contact officer:** Ann Marie Davies  
Transport Localities Team Leader  
Aylesbury Vale, Missendens & Chesham and Chiltern Villages

**Electoral divisions affected:** Parishes within the LAF

### **Summary**

1. From 2010 this standard report will be issued to each Local Area Forum (LAF) / Local Community Partnership (LCP) from Transport for Buckinghamshire.
2. It will aim to provide a comprehensive update on current and relevant Transportation issues which are tailored to each individual LAF / LCP.
3. Standard topics to be covered will be:
  - Dates of when Local Community Gangs will visit parishes
  - Major issues likely to affect parishes within the LAF / LCP
  - Update on ongoing local issues
  - Policy Development
  - Any other information
4. In addition, it will cover any emerging issues which could or will affect Local Area Forum / Local Community Partnership areas.

**WE'RE WORKING ON IT (DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION/AREA MAINTENANCE)**



As part of the We're Working On It capital works programme County Councillors have identified their Top 5 priority sites as have your Local Area Technicians.

Transport for Buckinghamshire's engineers have then been out to visit and assess each site to confirm both the extent of the works required as well as the most appropriate carriageway treatment, with the intention of extending the life of the road by at least 7 years.

The following explains the various types of treatment available.

Surfacing: Replacement of the existing road surface

Slurry Seal: A form of surfacing that smooth's out minor imperfections and gives a clean road finish

Plane & Patch: This involves planing out sections of road and replacing with a new surface

Surface Dressing: Spraying the road with hot bitumen and then covering with stone chippings

Please note that the treatments noted above are weather dependant and whilst we have provided an anticipated start date these may change.

The table below shows the current list of streets, sections of which are expected to receive one of the treatments (noted above), over the next two years.

| <b>Carriageway Works – Buckingham LAF</b> |             |                       |                               |
|---|-------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Street Name</b>                        | <b>Town</b> | <b>Treatment Type</b> | <b>Anticipated Start Date</b> |
| Western Avenue                            | Buckingham  | Micro surfacing       | Proposed June 2012            |
| Stowe Castle Road                         | Stowe       | Surfacing             | August 2012                   |
| High Street/<br>Silverstone Road          | Dadford     | Surfacing             | July 2012                     |
| London Road                               | Buckingham  | Surfacing             | Proposed 2012-2013            |
| Barracks Hill                             | Hillesden   | Surface Dressing      | Proposed 2012-2013            |

### Carriageway Works – Buckingham LAF cont.

| Street Name                | Town            | Treatment Type   | Anticipated Start Date |
|----------------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------------|
| Main Street                | Radclive        | Slurry Sealing   | Proposed 2012-2013     |
| Water Stratford Road       | Water Stratford | Surface Dressing | Proposed 2012-2013     |
| Buckingham Road (A412)     | Whaddon         | Surfacing        | March 2012             |
| Warren Road                | Little Horwood  | Surfacing        | Proposed 2012-2013     |
| Main Street/Service Road   | Padbury         | Slurry Seal      | Proposed 2012-2013     |
| Bletchley Road (A412)      | Buckingham      | Slurry Seal      | Proposed 2012-2013     |
| Calvert to Botolph Claydon | Botolph Claydon | Surfacing        | Proposed 2012-2013     |

#### Area Maintenance

##### Winter

The winter period has now passed. As you will know we recently suffered from tempestuous weather experienced from the beginning of April to date. TFB will have had to deal with an impact on schemes that was programmed to be delivered during that month and are working hard to reschedule works.

##### Golden Jubilee

To those parishes that requested bunting, your Local Area Technician David Hedley, by the time you receive this report, will have delivered it – hope it was useful!

##### Village Walkround

David Hedley will be contacting parishes in the Buckingham LAF area over the next few weeks to offer a village walkround. Look out for his email.

#### Traffic Management

Moveable Vehicle Activated Signs (MVAS) - The reviewed VAS policy has now been approved and includes a new initiative referred to as MVAS. When a request for MVAS is approved, the Parish Council will then be responsible for the purchase and installation of the equipment themselves. More information about this initiative, as well as contact details of companies who can supply and install this equipment for you, is available in a factsheet which will be sent out to all Parish Councils in the first week of May and also made available on the Service Information Centre website.

#### Road Safety

##### Update regarding 20mph limits

Recently there have been an increasing number of requests for 20mph speed limits and zones. Transport for Buckinghamshire is currently developing a new 20mph policy to ensure that it will have a fair, consistent and constructive response to demands for 20mph limits in the future. This policy will be directly affected by emerging national

developments relating to speed limit policy, legislation and signing, which are expected to be finalised during 2012.

2. In October 2011, the Department for Transport published its Traffic Signs Policy Paper "Signing the Way".

(<http://assets.dft.gov.uk/publications/signing-the-way/signing-the-way.pdf>). Amongst many planned changes to traffic signs, the DfT proposes to allow more flexibility for the provision of 20mph schemes by changing the regulations for the location and number of required terminal and repeater signs/markings. We are awaiting the specific details of these changes from the Department for Transport, including proposals for increased community involvement in determining 20mph limits and a new 'Speed Limit Appraisal Tool' from the DfT to help assess the full costs and benefits of any proposed 20mph schemes. An update of Traffic Advisory Leaflet 9/99 "20mph speed limits and zones", due in 2012, will provide more clarity on where and how 20mph schemes should be installed.

3. The government has recently (Spring 2012) carried out a public consultation on changes to the way that Traffic Regulation Orders are advertised. At present any new speed limit orders have to be published in local newspapers and this can be an expensive process. The consultation proposes that the public may be made aware of the changes in other ways which could be more effective and potentially less expensive. The consultation papers can be seen at:

<http://www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/dft-2012-06>

4. Because these various changes at a national level will directly affect the County Council's new 20mph policy, Transport for Buckinghamshire will not be finalising its new 20mph policy until the national policy and legislation details have been clarified.

5. It is not anticipated that there will be any change in the current national policy that all 20mph limits should be self-enforcing and should not require any enforcement by the Police.

6. It is not expected that the county council will receive any additional funding from DfT to accompany the guidance therefore any new limits will need to be funded from the within the local community

## **Passenger Transport**

### **Revisions to Bus Service 32 and Buckingham Town Service**

**23 April 2012**

**UPDATE: 13TH APRIL** - This proposal is being revised following public feedback, and details are being finalised for commencement on 23rd April.

Arriva MK is making some changes to Service 32 between Buckingham and Milton Keynes and to journeys on service 32A within the town. These changes are needed to improve reliability and punctuality and to reflect the travel actually being made on different sections of the routes.

There has been a loss of revenue and patronage following the County Council's withdrawal of subsidised travel to colleges last year and we need to balance resources with the amount of travel actually being made.

Service 32 will now follow the more direct route in both directions; via the A422 to Milton Keynes and then on to the Hospital and Bletchley. There will be a later bus from Buckingham to Central MK at 18:13 and a later return from Central MK back to Buckingham at 18:45.

Patronage data for the various sections of the Buckingham Town service is attached and shows that many parts carry very few passengers, with most travelling into town in the morning to shop at then returning around lunchtime.

The better used sections of the current 32A service (Maids Moreton & Burleigh Piece) will remain as part of the 32 route and the new timetables will now give a direct service to Milton Keynes and Bletchley. Western Avenue will have a daily link into Buckingham on the Countyrider 151 with Hilltop Avenue, Badgers Way and Bourtonville being served on the Tuesday "market day" 133 route.

Concessionary bus passes will be accepted on the 08:55 from Burleigh Piece.

Arriva MK intends to introduce revised timetables from 23 April 2012, please contact me if you have any comments or queries.

Andy Clarke  
 Passenger Transport Contract Manager  
[aclarke@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:aclarke@buckscc.gov.uk)  
 01296 383468.

#### **Asset Management – Street Lighting**

Nothing to report

#### **Local Priorities Bids 2012-13**

| <b>Parish/Town</b>   | <b>Scheme/Location</b>  |
|----------------------|---|
| <b>Buckingham</b>    | Install lay by on Burleigh Piece next to Bourton Meadow School  |
|                      | Page Hill flooding intervention   |
|                      | Installation of pedestrian crossing at London Road, approximately 100m from the A421 by the bus stop, at the crossing point from Meadway to Hare Close  |
| <b>Stowe</b>         | Installation of footpath along main road to the High Street   |
| <b>Maids Moreton</b> | VAS – approach to Maids Moreton from Towcester A413   |
| <b>Tingewick</b>     | VAS for entry points to Tingewick village   |
| <b>Adstock</b>       | Demolition of bus shelter then relocation and erection of new bus shelter at North bound side of the A413   |
|                      | Repair kerbstones at two locations in Adstock – junction of West Street with Main Street – on the corner approximately a two metre length and stretch approximately four metres on Min Street opposite the Old Punch Bowl |
| <b>East Claydon</b>  | TSID for East Claydon for first two weeks of each school term   |

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>Water Stratford</b>  | Improve vision splays at the Water Stratford Crossroads on the A422                      |
| <b>Whaddon</b>          | Contribution of £10,000 towards traffic calming (lesser amounts will be also acceptable) |
| <b>Padbury</b>          | New footpath for Main Street   |
| <b>Newton Longville</b> | 2 salt bins – St. Faiths Close & Lilac Close/Ivy Lane                                    |

## Buckinghamshire County Council

Visit [www.buckscc.gov.uk/democracy](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/democracy) for councillor information and email alerts for local meetings

# Report to Buckingham Local Area Forum

|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Title:                        | LOCAL AREA FORUM BUDGETS   |
| Date:                         | 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2012   |
| Author:                       | Phil Dart, Service Director, Localities and Safer Communities<br>Tel: 01296 382398 |
| Contact officer:              | Mark Grindall, Locality Manager<br>Tel: 01296 387542                               |
| Electoral divisions affected: | Buckingham North<br><br>Buckingham South<br><br>Winslow<br><br>Grendon Underwood   |

### Summary

1. This paper describes the arrangements for the funding delegated to Local Area Forums (LAFs) in 2012/13.
2. In previous years, this funding has been made up of the Local Priorities revenue budget to be allocated in line with the priorities agreed by the LAF in its local area planning process, plus its share of the Transportation budget. From April 2012, these two budgets have been merged to form a single Local Priorities budget. This provides full flexibility to each LAF to spend its budget as it determines according to its agreed local priorities and can include transportation schemes as previously, where such a priority has been identified in the local area plan.

### Recommendation

3. The Buckingham Local Area Forum is recommended to note the arrangements in 2012/13 for its delegated budget as described in the report
4. The Buckingham Local Area Forum is also recommended to agree an allocation of **£26,603.27** for previously submitted transportation schemes with the balance reserved for non- transportation schemes. A decision on how to manage the proposed transportation schemes in following years should be made as soon as practicable.



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## Background

5. A key element of the locality strategy is “genuine and increased influence by residents over local decisions and budgets”. LAFs play a central role in achieving this (although this is not the only mechanism for working at a more local level).

## Delegated budget allocation 2012/13

6. The total amount delegated by Buckinghamshire County Council to LAFs in 2012/13 is £880,000. This year, LAFs will receive the same allocation as previously. For the Buckingham LAF, this is **£46,603.27**, plus **£16,000** unspent budget from 2011/12 providing a total of **£62,603.27**. **£17,338** has already been allocated to projects within this financial year (please see previous reports), providing **£45,265.27** available for allocation
7. Due to the specific issues experienced by the Buckingham LAF in the year 2011/12 in allocating the available budget; a carry over of the unspent funds (£16,000) was requested and approved. This process will not be available in following years and full allocation of funds, with a requirement that they are spent and invoiced, within this financial year is necessary.
8. The Cabinet Member is considering revising this apportionment in subsequent years in the light of the local population, vulnerable individuals, the aging population, carers and other considerations as well as transportation issues.

## Management and Decision-Making of the Local Priorities Delegated Budget

9. The Local Priorities budget is to be used to commission activities to meet the local priorities identified in The Buckingham LAF’s Local Area Plan to support community needs and the well-being of the area in line with the criteria below:
  - Proposals meeting more than one of the LAF’s priorities or addressing a well-evidenced community need will be prioritised for funding.
  - Proposals enabling capacity-building or those with match-funding – financial or in kind e.g. with community volunteer input – will be given priority over proposals with no additional funding or those with little community support.
  - Priority will also be given to proposals which cannot be undertaken by an individual Parish Council, either because an activity is not within its remit or funding capability.
10. The Local Priorities budget is not the catch-all to fill service budget cuts or short-falls. Similarly, it should not be used for activities normally funded by Parish precepts.
11. Allocations can be made on schemes which span 2 financial years (or more), but funding can only be assured for the current year. This should be borne in mind if making such an allocation i.e. what value can be achieved in the 1st year should funding not be available for the remainder of the scheme in subsequent years.
12. The Locality Manager will evaluate potential proposals, whether commissioned or unsolicited, and make recommendations in due course to the LAF.
13. Proposals for Local Priorities budget support can be submitted by any organisation. Such proposals should be sent to the Locality Manager who will evaluate the proposal and also assess potential proposals to see whether there are other funding opportunities or if ‘quick wins’ can be identified to enable specific proposals/issues to be resolved quickly through other means.



14. To ensure that sufficient information is provided for the evaluation, a proposal form is available online and also directly from the Locality Manager. LAF members who have particular ideas should raise these directly with the Lead Area Officer or Locality Manager.
11. Standard conditions apply to schemes receiving LAF financial support. In addition, the Locality Manager may recommend additional conditions for any specific scheme. The standard terms and conditions are:
- The LAF's financial contribution may only be used for the purposes agreed by the LAF and detailed in the submissions held by Buckinghamshire County Council. Any variations must be agreed by the Head of Service and any significant changes will require reconsideration by the LAF.
  - Payment will be made upon invoice with proof of expenditure e.g. relevant paid invoices/receipts at completion of the scheme. (Advance or staged payments can be made by separate agreement with the County Council should this be necessary).
  - The LAF's support for the project must be acknowledged in relevant publicity.
  - The funding should be utilised during the financial year that it relates to.
  - The recipient must provide monitoring information requested by Buckinghamshire County Council and may also be required to attend a subsequent LAF meeting to speak on the outcomes of the project.
12. The funding must be spent within the financial year for which it is allocated and for this reason, LAFs are urged to allocate their budgets as early as possible in the financial year:
13. In November, in consultation with the LAF Chairman, the Service Director will take a view on the likelihood of unallocated and unspent monies being used that year. If there is budget that is unlikely to be spent that year, the Service Director will allocate it to activities that will benefit the area during the remainder of 2012/13.
14. As in 2011/12 and previous years, in terms of formal decision-making, the LAFs will be advising the relevant Service Director on how to spend the devolved budget who will then implement that advice.

## **Transportation schemes**

- **2012-13**

15. Most LAFs will already have submitted transportation proposals to be funded from the 2012-13 transportation delegated budget. Transportation has already begun costing these schemes.
16. Subject to the availability of the costings from Transportation, it will be up to each LAF to decide when to consider these proposals:
- Delay making allocations until a range of proposals (both Transportation and non-transportation) is assembled and consider them together. However this could impact upon the delivery of schemes in this financial year
  - Or
  - Make allocations as and when proposals come through.
  - Or
  - For this transitional year only (2012-13), as transportation scheme proposals have already been submitted in anticipation of a ring-fenced transportation budget, a similar amount could be set aside for this purpose. The LAF will then be able to decide later this year how to manage the single budget in subsequent years. This is the recommended option.

- **Subsequent years**

17. Each LAF will need to work with its Transportation officers to agree how ideas for transportation projects should be submitted and the timetable. The implication of many late allocations is that such schemes may not be deliverable until the following financial year.

- **Other considerations**

18. If parishes and town councils wish, they can appoint an external contractor for delivery of transportation schemes. However, they should be aware that only contractors with the required accreditation approvals needed to work on the public highway will be permitted to undertake the works.

**Report Ends**

# Buckingham Local Area Forum

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|                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Title:</b>                        | <b>Local Area Priorities Budget Allocation</b>   |
| <b>Date:</b>                         | 13 <sup>th</sup> June 2012   |
| <b>Author:</b>                       | Phil Dart Head of Service  |
| <b>Contact officer:</b>              | Mark Grindall Locality Services 01296 387542<br><a href="mailto:Mgrindall@buckscc.gov.uk">Mgrindall@buckscc.gov.uk</a> |
| <b>Electoral divisions affected:</b> | Buckingham North<br>Buckingham South<br>Winslow<br>Grendon Underwood   |

## Summary

1. The Local Priorities Budget may be used for any purpose which supports local community priorities and the well-being of the area identified by the Local Area Forum (LAF) through its local area planning process. Following on from the successful local area priorities ranking process the below listed projects are considered suitable for consideration.

## 2. Recommendation

**Members of the LAF are recommended to consider the funding for the project detailed below.**

**There is £18,662 available for funding projects in this financial year if the LAF decide to approve the earlier report recommendation on transportation projects. If the LAF chooses not to follow that recommendation, then there is £45,265.27 available for allocation. The below listed eligible project amounts to a funding request of £10,000**

**Eligible Project:**

## 3. Whaddon Traffic Calming Initiative £10,000

Long standing priorities for the LAF concern speeding on roads throughout the area and the restriction of heavy goods vehicles from inappropriate roads..

The bulk of this report has been compiled from information provided by Whaddon Parish Council and edited by M Grindall.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



On the 27<sup>th</sup> December 2011, Whaddon Parish Council (WPC) submitted a request to the Transport Delegated Budget Fund, following an informal discussion with the Chairman of the LAF and the Localities and Communities Manager for the area this was not progressed due to the merger of available budgets and a change in the budget allocation process. Following attendance at the Buckingham Local Area Forum meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> March WPC were asked to resubmit their request for funding to the newly merged budget. This new request from WPC is based on identical, but updated information contained in their earlier request letter dated 27<sup>th</sup> December 2011, but due to Bucks County Council (BCC) and Local Area Forum (LAF) funding constraints the amount being requested has been reduced from £30,000 to £10,000 (ten thousand pounds). Due to the special circumstances surrounding this request WPC would hope to be awarded the amount requested, but it is understood that this may not be possible and that a lower award may be made.

Before outlining the request, it is prudent to set out the 'background scene' as far as Whaddon Village Traffic Calming (WVTC) is concerned. Whaddon is a community of around 200 homes and some 450 residents, and being linear in form, most of these homes stand alongside or very close to the vehicular rat-run route from North and West Milton Keynes to the A421 and all points beyond, to the West. Accordingly, should this request be successful and it helps fund a traffic calming scheme, then the entire community would benefit substantially, from environmental, health and safety points of view.

To appreciate Whaddon Village traffic problems, it is firstly important to understand the geography of the area which creates the underlying cause, and this is best demonstrated by the below plan which graphically illustrates this community's 'somewhat unique' problem, and how the traffic generated by an ever-growing Milton Keynes impacts on the Bucks CC rural road network that runs directly through Whaddon Village and immediately past the Whaddon First School, Village Playgroup, Church and Chapel. Following some 30 years of year-on-year increases in traffic volumes and with parts of the original Milton Keynes still to complete (1,750 homes approx. in Kingsmead and Tattenhoe), Whaddon Village now faces a further 15-20 years of uncertainty and increased traffic pressure, as an additional 6,500–7,000 homes, together with employment, schools, industry, retail and leisure facilities are constructed at the MK Western Expansion Area (WEA). This is one of the largest new communities currently planned in the UK, and to put this into an understandable context – it equates to a new sustainable community, larger than the size of Buckingham to be built.

One of the longest running and vigorously debated topics within the Whaddon community is *“How can Whaddon best deal with its ongoing MK created traffic problems, which not only creates a serious risk to the health and safety of residents but also impacts on their quality of life and presents an ongoing physical threat not only to the condition of the highway infrastructure, but also to the properties standing within the village's two Conservation Areas?”* The Parish Council together with residents has over recent years explored various solutions, including Vehicular Activated Signs, Community Speed Watch, etc but such measures, although valuable in their own way will not, they believe, begin to properly address the real and specific problems of increasing traffic volumes (including HGV's) and rat-running. Whilst many other villages suffer similar traffic problems, WPC believes that Whaddon, due to its location next to MK and its immediate proximity to minor roads that only serve the West side of the City, has an exceptional case which can only be overcome by 'physically built' traffic calming measures to help provide a permanent solution to the problem.

It is for these reasons that WPC has been campaigning over the last 10 years for a properly planned village traffic calming scheme, which once constructed (alongside other measures proposed - including the agreed diversion of Calverton Lane in 7/8 years time, as part of the Western Expansion Area Development Plan) should help alleviate a problem that will only worsen unless urgent action is taken as soon as possible.

WPC places the 'traffic generation' responsibility on Milton Keynes Partnerships (MKP) as the Planning Authority, and Milton Keynes Council (MKC) as the relevant Highway Authority.

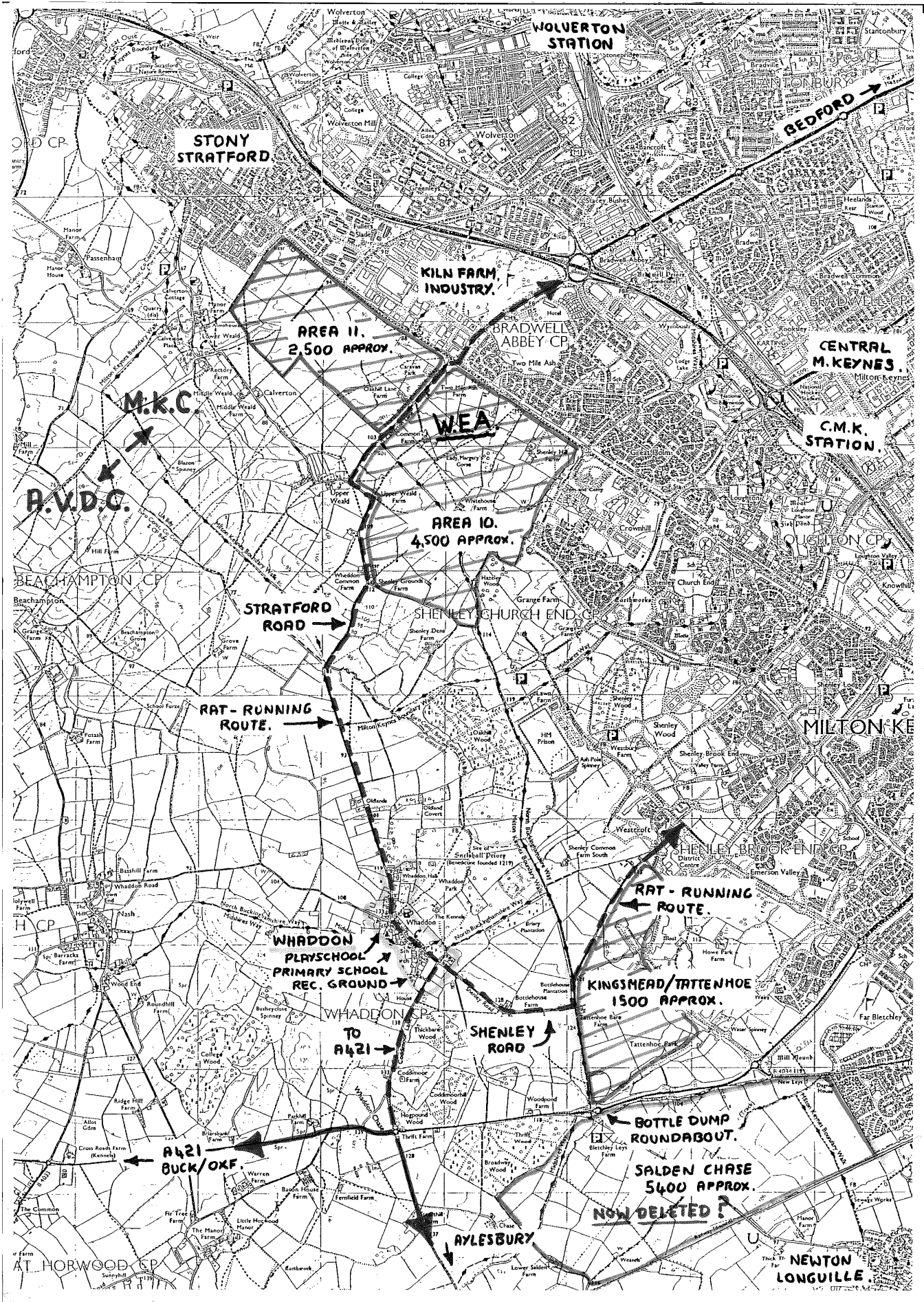
Accordingly the main discussions and negotiations over recent years have been with them, but throughout the process WPC has tried to keep BCC and Aylesbury Vale District Council (AVDC) closely advised, because the affected community and roads lie within their jurisdiction, and accordingly future maintenance costs of these roads will be BCC's responsibility.

As this submission is for a complex scheme, please see below a brief explanation of what has occurred to date and what the objectives are for the immediate future:-

- After several years of consultation, WPC persuaded MKP in 2005 to undertake and monitor (at their expense) Traffic Counts for a period of five years, along the Stratford and Shenley Roads leading through Whaddon village to the A421. The purpose was to create a “trigger point” above which increasing traffic levels would lead to a Traffic Calming Study in Whaddon Village. Neither MKP nor MKC had previously undertaken detailed traffic impact assessments, that would have demonstrated the impact that MK growth would have on the surrounding rural road network. This, in WPC's opinion was a clear and inexcusable failure by all the authorities involved.
- After two years of traffic counts in 2006 and 2007 and by mutual consent, the monitoring exercise was suspended due to the fact that the recession had drastically cut house-building numbers. However, by this time it was clear that a traffic problem did exist, and at MKP's suggestion it was agreed that if AVDC would contribute a similar financial sum, then the remaining three years monitoring budget (approx. £5,000) should be spent undertaking a Whaddon Village Traffic Calming Feasibility Report (WVTCFR). AVDC were persuaded to contribute towards this report because at that time a development of approx. 5,400 homes was planned at Salden Chase, close to Newton Longville. As this site was in AVDC District as opposed to MKC, it was recognised that when developed it would also have an impact on the Whaddon traffic problem. The WVTCFR was accordingly commissioned by Transport for Bucks (TfB) in early 2009. Copies were circulated to all stakeholders, and although accurate costings were not detailed within this report, it was estimated that the approximate cost of implementation could be in the region of £100,000. This document has subsequently been used as evidence when WPC has responded through the consultation process to major MK Expansion Planning Applications, in an attempt to demonstrate that not only should MKP pay for any traffic calming works due to historic growth, but also that the development companies involved in the next phase of the WEA major expansion should contribute towards any traffic calming scheme as the existing traffic problem can only be exacerbated as a direct result of their planned development. The WVTCFR has also proved to be an invaluable document when WPC have responded to MK consultations on the MK Core Strategy, Local Investment Plan, etc – responses supported by BCC.
- WPC and TfB have been directly involved with MKP, MKC, and Gallagher Estates (the master developer of the WEA) in the preparation of the Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP), and following this documents' recent approval not only will construction traffic be banned from routes through Whaddon, but Gallagher Estates will fund some of the “easy win” items from the WVTCFR, which includes, signage, white lining, gateways and new village signs. The permanent, longer term, physical traffic calming measures including highway 'build-outs' will follow once funding sources have been identified and secured, and hopefully after the results of a public consultation confirms acceptance. It remains to be seen whether or not the construction vehicle ban through Whaddon will be successful, because 'policing' the ban will be dependant on the efforts of Whaddon residents providing photographic evidence of any contraventions, and placing such evidence before the developers, enabling them to impose financial penalties on the sub-contractors who choose to ignore carefully placed direction signs.
- In recent years since the emergence of the MK Infrastructure Tariff (approx £20,000 for every new home built), WPC has lobbied both MKP and MKC to set aside funds, derived from its Tariff income from the major housing developments, to assist with Whaddon traffic calming. This has proved difficult because although Tariff monies are essentially designed to help fund community facilities and infrastructure, historically

these funds have only been allocated within the MK designated area. Unfortunately however, worthy infrastructure projects made necessary by MK growth, but outside the MK designated area, have not been considered. WPC have reported that this case has now received support from the MKC Management Board, and the WVTC Scheme has been included within the MK Local Investment Plan (LIP). This document is updated annually, with the next version expected to be published in June 2012. A figure of £70,000 has been provisionally set aside, but as the Tariff normally only funds up to a maximum of 75% of the capital costs of any agreed project. Now that MKC have included the WVTC project within their LIP, and by agreement with MKP, TfB have commissioned Jacobs Consultants to prepare a final Design and Costing Feasibility, at a cost of approximately £10,000, to fully investigate the best and most cost effective traffic calming scheme for Whaddon Village. This latest feasibility, which will also include a necessary Public Consultation exercise on the traffic calming proposals is expected to commence soon, once the cost and details have been presented to MKC/MKP for approval in the next week or so. Further information on the timing and implementation of this next stage of works can be requested from Sian Thomas at TfB.

- Whilst there is general acceptance that a WVTC Scheme is necessary, funding remains the only obstacle. It is highly likely that when the final costings are 'worked through' and finally agreed, there will be a funding shortfall of some £30,000 (the difference between the £100,000 likely costs within the initial report and the £70,000 figure set aside in the MKC LIP). WPC believes that MKC/MKP do not accept full responsibility for the increase in traffic/HGV's and that 'natural organic growth' from adjoining district Authority areas comes into play! It is for this reason that WPC is looking at other funding sources to bridge this gap. Many of the available grants (ie Wren, AV Community Chest, etc) specifically exclude highway works/road improvements and as an earlier request to the Transport Delegated Budget Fund for £30,000 (thirty thousand pounds) was unable to be considered due to budget re-organisation and merging, WPC now seeks from the LPP a contribution of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) which is the subject of this formal submission. Without this additional funding it is unlikely that a full and appropriate traffic calming scheme can be designed and implemented. If this request were successful, then it would help enable the Authorities to move quickly to the formal planning application and consultation stage, hopefully leading to the implementation of a traffic calming scheme before, the major development at the WEA commences, and the expected 20,000 new residents with their 10/12,000 cars move in over the next 15 years. WPC believes, that a 'build-out' based traffic calming scheme would have the necessary impact on the perception and driving habits of rat-running vehicles, deter HGV traffic, and reduce speeds leading to a safer and healthier environment for Whaddon residents and those passing through the area.



#### **4.Funding Conditions**

Where funding for a project is granted; the involvement of the Local Area Forum and Buckinghamshire County Council shall be acknowledged in all communications and in the case of fixed assets by some form of visible notice.

The funds provided must be spent before the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013.


Payment from the local priorities budget will be made on submission of the relevant forms where appropriate and proof of expenditure or via invoice also where appropriate.

The funds provided must only be used for the approved project.




#### **5. Report Ends**

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## Don't let somebody vulnerable be abused

**CARELINE : 0800 137915**

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**Adult Abuse  
Speak up  
0800 137 915**

## Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Partnership










*... and YOU  
because safeguarding is  
everybody's business*










**CARELINE : 0800 137915**





**Don't let somebody vulnerable be abused**

## **Don't be abused!**

Do you know your rights?

Do you understand how you have the right to be treated?

Do you know how to protect yourself from abuse?

Do you know how to protect your loved ones from abuse?

Do you know how to decide if a risk is worth taking?

**Do YOU know where in your community  
you could find answers to these questions?**

**CARELINE : 0800 137915**



**CARELINE 0800 137915**

## **What is CARELINE?**

- Careline is the number to call if you are concerned about a vulnerable person.
- Call 999 if the person is at immediate danger
- Call Careline 0800 137915 to report your concerns
- According to the nature of your concern Careline will pass the information on to the best people to deal with it.

**CARELINE : 0800 137915**





## Don't let somebody vulnerable be abused

### Where does it happen?

In Buckinghamshire there were 1050 referrals that came to the safeguarding team. (April 2010-March 2011):

- 318 referrals were received about **physical abuse**
- 74 referrals were received about **sexual abuse**
- 178 referrals were received about **financial abuse**
- 216 referrals were received about **psychological abuse**
- 188 referrals were received about **neglect**
- 71 referrals were received about **institutional abuse**
- 5 referrals were received about **discriminatory abuse**


**IN YOUR AREA**

**23 referrals were made in this period: Buckingham North 8 Buckingham South 4 Luffield Abbey 3 Marsh Gibbon 1 Steeple Claydon 4 Tingewick 7**

**Abuse is happening here!  
And these are only the ones people told us about!**

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**CARELINE : 0800 137915**





## Don't let somebody vulnerable be abused

## Change it

- Safeguarding vulnerable people is everybody's business
- Don't leave it to others, they might be leaving it to you

**It *is* your business!**

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**CARELINE : 0800 137915**



**Adult Abuse  
Speak up  
0800 137 915**

**Don't let somebody vulnerable be abused**



**Change this!**

Neglect is degrading,  
undignified and can  
endanger life.

**CARELINE : 0800 137915**

Buckinghamshire Safeguarding  
**SVAB**  
Vulnerable Adults Board

**Adult Abuse  
Speak up  
0800 137 915**

**Don't let somebody vulnerable be abused**

**Call Careline**

**0800 137915**

**CARELINE : 0800 137915**

Buckinghamshire Safeguarding  
**SVAB**  
Vulnerable Adults Board

**Adult Abuse  
Speak up**  
0800 137 915

**Don't let somebody vulnerable be abused**



**Prevent this!**

Financial abuse  
can lead to  
deprivation,  
humiliation and  
starvation

**CARELINE : 0800 137915**

Buckinghamshire Safeguarding  
**SVAB**  
Vulnerable Adults Board

**Adult Abuse  
Speak up**  
0800 137 915

**Don't let somebody vulnerable be  
abused**

**Call Careline**

**0800 137915**

**CARELINE : 0800 137915**

Buckinghamshire Safeguarding  
**SVAB**  
Vulnerable Adults Board



Don't let somebody vulnerable be abused

## How?

- Tell the police if you think a crime has been committed
- Tell Careline **0800 137915** if you become concerned about someone
- Tell your managers if you work with vulnerable people and are worried
- Tell someone you trust if you are being abused

CARELINE : **0800 137915**



Don't let somebody vulnerable be abused



## Stop this!

Physical abuse causes injury, fear, intimidation and sometimes death

CARELINE NO: **0800 137915**





**Don't let somebody vulnerable be abused**

## Get involved!

Do you want to be part of helping people in your community to be safe and have better lives?

Do you have any ideas how we might do this?

Do you or any organisation you are part of feel they would like to play a role in this campaign?

Do you have time you could contribute?

*If so contact: [bsvab@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:bsvab@buckscc.gov.uk)*

**CARELINE : 0800 137915**



**Don't let somebody vulnerable be  
abused**

**Call Careline**

**0800 137915**

**CARELINE : 0800 137915**





**Don't let somebody vulnerable be abused !**

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**CARELINE : 0800 137915**





# Domestic Violence in Bucks



# What is Domestic Abuse?



- “Any incident of threatening behaviour, violence or abuse (psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional) between adults who are or have been intimate partners or family members, regardless of gender or sexuality”

» Home Office

- Domestic abuse is a pattern of behaviour which is designed to control and intimidate partner or family member. Each situation is unique; it is the combination of behaviours that can be so intimidating. It can occur both during a relationship or after it has ended.

# How much Domestic Abuse is there in Bucks?

- 2011
- Approx 3000 recorded crimes
- Approx 3000 non-recorded crimes
- **1 in 4** women will be a victim of DA
- **1 in 10** men will be a victim of DA
- DA does not discriminate



# What is the cost to Bucks?

- Based on Prof Sylvia Walby calculations
- CJS                    £9,216,590
- Health                £12,903,226
- Social Care        £2,304,147
- Housing             £1,474,654
- Civil Legal         £2,764,977
- Employer           £24,884,793
  
- **Total                £53,546,387**
  
- **WARNING – does not include voluntary sector and the human cost**





# Vision

- *To promote a **zero tolerance** and **coordinated** response to people at **risk** of DVA in Buckinghamshire, ensuring that those who are affected are **identified, supported, protected and empowered***



# What is Domestic Abuse?



- Hitting
- Spitting
- Shouting
- Kicking
- Stabbing
- Arson
- Forced Marriage
- Putting down
- Making feel worthless
- Unwanted sexual acts
- Female Genital Mutilation
- Using children against victim
- Controlling everything the victim does
- Threatening
- Not allowing access to money
- Isolating from family and friends

# What are the signs?

- Change in personality
- Physical evidence of abuse
- Depressed
- Hyper-alert
- Use of substances to cope
- Partner always with them, aggressive or dominant
- Withdrawn
- Low self esteem
- Self harm or suicide
- Gynaecological problems





# What to do if you suspect?



- Believe
- Non-judgemental
- Listen
- Offer Support
- Don't assume
- Let know about local support services
- Help with safety planning
- Get support yourself

# What services do we have in Buckinghamshire?



- Support services – Wycombe Women's Aid, Victim Support, RELATE
- Refuges – including national network
- Link into national organisations – Broken Rainbow & Men's Advice Line
- Child Therapy Groups
- Freedom Programme and Young Persons Freedom Programme
- Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference
- Independent Domestic Violence Advisors
- Specialist Domestic Violence Court
- Training for Professionals
- Media and Awareness Raising
- Fresh Start - Perpetrator Programme
- Sanctuary Scheme
- Domestic Abuse Champions
- Schools Work



# Any Questions?



# Contacts Details

Sue Burke  
Domestic & Sexual  
Violence Co-ordinator  
[Sburke@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:Sburke@buckscc.gov.uk)  
01296 387374



## ***Local Area Forum.***

### ***Buckinghamshire County Council Family Placement Service.***

#### **Introduction**

Buckinghamshire County Council Family Placement Service sits within the Safeguarding division of the Children Services Department. There are six teams in the service; Fostering, Adoption, Adoption Support, Take a Break, Family & Friends and Carer Recruitment. I would like to talk to you this evening about the need we have for an increased number of foster carers in this community.

#### **Statistics**

There are currently in the region of **380** children and young people currently 'looked after' by Bucks County Council. Some of these are living in residential care homes, some live with family members and others with foster carers. Approximately **280** children and young people are living with foster families. We do not have sufficient 'in house' foster carers to meet demand and so some children and young people are placed with foster carers from the independent sector. This can mean they are living a distance away from their home community, family, friends, school and social activities. For most children and young people it is preferable if they can remain living in their locality. We are therefore continuing with our campaign to recruit more foster carers from all parts of the Buckinghamshire community.

Over the last two years we have successfully recruited **33** new foster carers. They have provided us with a total of **43** new fostering placements. However, we need more. We need more foster carers who can provide temporary short term homes for babies, teenagers and sibling groups. We need foster carers who can provide homes for primary school aged children and teenagers on a longer term basis, until they reach independence.

#### **Types of Fostering**

There are three different types of fostering we are able to consider applicants to undertake:

Respite – Can be overnight or up to a couple of weeks to support another carer or to minimise chance of family breakdown and a child coming into the care system

Short term – Overnight or up to three years, until the court have made a decision on the child's long term plans.

Long term – Once the court has decided a the long term plans for a child, if not returning to birth family or to be adopted a child will need a long term, permanent foster placement.

## **Process – Five Steps**

The process to become a foster carer is a rigorous one. We need to ensure applicants are motivated to care for children and young people for the right reasons, that they are well prepared for the task ahead of them and are well supported and trained once they are caring for a looked after child or young person.

The process begins with an **initial enquiry** from a member of the public. Should they meet our initial criteria, we arrange to make an initial **home visit** where a preliminary assessment is undertaken. If both parties agree to progress, the applicants are invited to a three day **prepatory training** course. Following the initial training they are allocated to a social worker for a fostering **suitability assessment**. This involves a number of meetings with the applicants in their own home, assessing their skills, experience and motivation for the fostering task. We undertake a range of background checks and take up personal references.

The assessment process typically takes six months to complete and to present to our **fostering panel** who will make a decision as to whether or not the applicants are recommended for approval. A senior manager will then make the final decision as to whether or not approval is granted.

## **Support & Training**

Once a fostering family is approved, they are allocated a supervising social worker who will support them through their fostering career. Becoming a foster carer is demanding, it can be challenging but it can also be one of the most rewarding things an individual or a family will ever do. All foster carers are encouraged and expected to undertake ongoing training to support them with developing new skills to meet the needs of the children they are caring for. We operate a payments for skills scheme where foster carers are given a financial incentive to reward them for developing their skills and knowledge. All foster carers receive a fostering allowance which is provided to meet the cost of caring for a child or young person.

We need your help to raise the profile of foster carers. To talk to members of the public about fostering. What it entails. The rewards. The benefits.